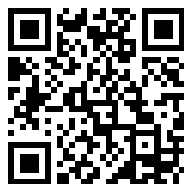
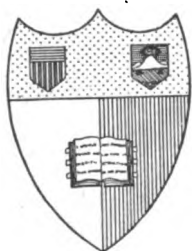

This is a reproduction of a library book that was digitized by Google as part of an ongoing effort to preserve the information in books and make it universally accessible.

GoogleTM books

<https://books.google.com>



ASIA



Cornell University Library
Ithaca, New York

CHARLES WILLIAM WASON
COLLECTION
CHINA AND THE CHINESE

THE GIFT OF
CHARLES WILLIAM WASON
CLASS OF 1876
1918

The date shows when this volume was taken.

To this book copy the call No. and give to
the Librarian

CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



3 1924 074 821 319

C O M M E R C I A L R E P O R T S B Y H E R
M A J E S T Y ' S C O N S U L S I N C H I N A

1 8 7 8 - 1 8 8 1

THE PRIVATE COLLECTION OF CHARLES.W. WASON

CLEVELAND: 1918

1

W6044

HC4

RS11872-1-1-1

W6044

CHINA. No. 3 (1881).

(TRADE REPORTS.)

9.

COMMERCIAL REPORTS

FROM

HER MAJESTY'S CONSULS

IN

CHINA:

1878 AND 1880.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1881.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

1881.

LIST OF REPORTS.

								Page
Amoy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hankow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Ichang	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Kiukiang	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Kiungchow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	74
Newchwang	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	83
Ningpo	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	93
Pakhoi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Swatow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	108
Tamsuy and Kelung	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	115
Wenchow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	123
<hr style="width: 10%; margin: 10px auto;"/>								
GENERAL REPORT	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	131

Commercial Reports from Her Majesty's Consuls in China: 1878 and 1880.

AMOY.

Acting Consul Giles to Earl Granville.

My Lord,

Amoy, February 10, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith my Report on the trade of Amoy for the year 1880.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. A. GILES.

Inclosure.

Report on the Trade of the Port of Amoy for the Year 1880.

1. TRADE AND COMMERCE.

The gross value of the Amoy trade for the year 1880 amounts to 3,652,135*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, showing a steady increase over the gross values of previous years, *e.g.* :—

						£	s.	d.
1878	..	..	..	..	..	3,227,358	4	0
1879	..	..	..	..	..	3,497,323	4	6

The net values of the trade for the past three years, *i.e.*, foreign and native imports (less re-exports) and native exports of local origin, present the following comparison:—

						£	s.	d.
1878	..	..	..	..	..	2,495,381	18	0
1879	..	..	..	..	..	2,483,015	19	6
1880	..	..	..	..	..	2,759,235	12	0

The total value of imports is 1,488,229*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, against 1,273,506*l.* 17*s.* in 1879.

Among these, cottons stand for 289,596*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, or a considerable increase over the 215,703*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* of the previous year. Grey and white shirtings, T-cloths, Turkey red cloths, and cambrics, yarn and thread, and jean and twills, contributed chiefly to this result; while there was a comparative falling-off in English, Dutch, and American drills, and in dyed and plain shirtings.

[565]

Woollens have decreased from a value of 18,465*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* in 1879 to 15,904*l.* 18*s.* in 1880, the decrease being in English camlets, flannels, broadcloth, lastings, and long ells, while the importation of blankets, bombazettes, and Spanish stripes has shown a slight tendency to increase.

Miscellaneous piece-goods have gone up from a value of 1,898*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* to 3,104*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*, canvas alone standing for 1,249*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, against 512*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* of the previous year.

Metals have similarly risen from 49,435*l.* 13*s.* to 84,820*l.* 9*s.*, pig lead showing a rise from 6,565*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 25,880*l.* 16*s.*

Imported sundries have, as a whole, slightly decreased in value, namely, from 305,447*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* to 248,389*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* The decrease is chiefly in raw cotton, grain and pulse, and rice, the latter of which stands for only 377*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*, against 25,352*l.* 16*s.* in 1879. The import of matches, however, has nearly doubled.

The following Table shows the increase in the quantities and values of the import of opium of various kinds, exclusive of a small quantity arriving from Chinese ports, for 1879 and 1880 :—

			1879.			1880.		
			Quantity.	Value.		Quantity.	Value.	
			Lbs.	£	s. d.	Lbs.	£	s. d.
Malwa	..	..	..	..	..	800	817	11 6
Patna..	..	..	278,533	194,641	8 6	334,533	262,317	11 0
Benares	..	..	606,800	411,753	7 6	663,600	495,183	8 6
Other kinds	..	..	94,667	76,063	1 6	111,600	88,096	5 0
Total	..	..	980,000	682,457	17 6	1,110,533	846,414	16 0

It will be noticed that Persian opium still continues to play an unimportant part in the Amoy market, included as it is in the minimum total assigned to "other kinds;" nor, on account of an objectionable after-taste, does the demand seem likely to increase.

EXPORTS.

The total value of the exports for 1880 amounts to 1,000,529*l.* 4*s.*, against 1,110,483*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* of the previous year. Re-exports stand for a value of 11,742*l.* 10*s.*, against 34,052*l.* 3*s.* for the same periods; of which beans and beancake increased from a value of 6,324*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* in 1879 to 20,890*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; hemp falling from 2,867*l.* 14*s.* to 233*l.* 4*s.*

Tea to the amount of 18,065,200 lbs., chiefly Oolong and destined for the United States, at a value of 715,812*l.* 19*s.*, was exported or re-exported during 1880, as compared with 21,853,067 lbs., at a value of 874,282*l.* 4*s.*, in 1879. Prices ruled very high throughout the early part of the season; foreign purchasers refused the rates asked; and finally, the native teamen, losers to a large amount, were glad to settle upon far more reasonable terms. The consequence was a heavy decrease in the export; but there is now a considerable stock remaining to go forward, upon the result of which the success or failure of the season of 1880 will in a great measure depend.

The total amount of sugar, brown, white, and candy, exported to foreign countries in 1880, was 7,516,449 lbs., and to Chinese ports 32,491,973 lbs., making a grand total of 40,008,422 lbs.

[Three special Tables dealing with (1) opium, (2) tea, and (3) sugar, are attached.]

A *li-kin* difficulty occurred here in the month of December which is perhaps worthy of note. Several boat-loads of cargo about to be shipped on board one of their own steamers by Messrs. Lloyd Khoo Teong Poh and Co., were suddenly seized by the Taotai on the grounds that the said goods were not provided with proper *li-kin* clearances, and were, further, not protected by payment of the 2½ per cent. transit dues as stipulated in the Treaty. It turned out that a large portion consisted of re-exports from Shanghai, which were simply in process of transshipment, and these were shortly afterwards released; but the balance of local produce was detained for the reasons above given until the Taotai had ascertained from what Amoy merchants Messrs. Lloyd, Khoo Teong Poh and Co. had obtained the same. Meanwhile, Messrs. Lloyd Khoo Teong Poh's agent at this port made an affidavit that the whole consignment was the *bonâ fide* property of his firm; though the Taotai subsequently informed me that at an investigation held into the circumstances of the case, the local native merchants interested had admitted that the goods under detention were their own. The Taotai therefore declared that it was an attempt on the part of the native merchants to evade the payment of the *li-kin*, and fined the said native merchants four times the amount originally leviable before he would consent to release the cargo, of which so far delivery has not been taken by the British firm, the matter being under reference to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking.

II. SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.

During the year, 1,450 vessels of all nationalities entered and cleared at the port of Amoy. Of this grand total, 1,045 were under the British flag, comprising 952 steamers and 92 sailing-vessels. The balance of 405, total number of foreign ships entered and cleared, is made up of 142 steamers (including 61 Chinese) and 263 sailing-vessels. British tonnage amounted to a total of 761,655 tons, against foreign tonnage 165,296 tons, the values of cargo carried under these two headings being 3,548,457*l.* and 996,577*l.* respectively. These numbers, with the exception of values, show a slight decrease from last year's returns.

The Customs statistics give a total of 20,628 Chinese emigrants from the port, against a similar total of 20,512 for last year; and a total of 23,820 returning Chinese passengers, against 20,067 for last year. The experience, however, of the past six or eight months proves that these returns have been hitherto totally unreliable, and that it is only in the future that we can look for anything like accuracy, especially with regard to the number of Chinese emigrants to the Straits. At a rough guess, I should say that to the official Returns as given above, an increase of more than 50 per cent. must be added for the period from January to July 1880; subsequent to which date the numbers may be accepted as fairly, if not actually, accurate.

On the 18th August a Proclamation was published by his Excellency Sir John Pope Hennessy, Governor of Hong Kong, under which the voyage for Chinese passenger-ships from Amoy to Manila would in future be rated as one of less than seven days' duration, and consequently without the meaning of the Chinese Passengers Act of 1855.

On the 4th May the Dutch steamer "Graaf van Bylandt" entered the port. She was the first of a new line called the "Nederlandsch Indische Stoomvaart Mat Schappy," to trade between Hong Kong, Macao, Amoy, Manila, and Java.

The principal casualty of the year was the loss of the steam-ship "Douglas," a fine steamer belonging to the well-known line of Douglas, Lapraik, and Co., on the 14th November. She struck on a very small undiscovered pinnacle rock in the northern channel between Passage and Red Yit Islands, and subsequently became a total wreck. The Chinese authorities exerted themselves to their utmost to protect the vessel after she had struck from the depredations of pirates, who swarmed round her in immense numbers, and even went so far as to fire into them, killing and wounding several.

A severe typhoon on the coast in the month of September brought into port half-a-dozen dismasted vessels, some in an almost sinking condition.

The master of the British barque "Auguste" rescued eleven Chinese sailors from a disabled junk, and later on received, by order of his Excellency the Viceroy of Fohkien, a present of 110 dollars (say 20*l.*) in recognition of his humane conduct.

The following men-of-war, exclusive of Chinese gun-boats, visited the port during the past year:—

British: "Frolic," "Sheldrake," "Encounter," "Albatross," "Pegasus," "Swinger," "Iron Duke," and "Magpie."

French: "Kerguelen."

German: "Luise," "Wolf," and "Iltis."

Japanese: "Hi-yei."

Portuguese: "Mandovi."

Russian: "Morge."

Spanish: "Dona Maria de Molina."

United States: "Richmond" and "Swatara."

The capabilities of the Amoy Dock Company, full particulars of which were given in my last Report, amply met the requirements of steamers and sailing-vessels disabled by stress of weather or needing only ordinary repairs; the work done in all cases, including some of a more serious character to the machinery of the steam-ship "Tien-tsin," giving, I have reason to believe, full satisfaction to the parties concerned.

It may be noted here that of the total trips by all kinds of vessels of all nationalities to and from this port during 1880, Great Britain stands for 72·07 per cent.; her share of the total tonnage was 82·15 per cent.; of the foreign trade 83·12 per cent.; of the coast trade 71·90 per cent.; of the transit trade 76·32 per cent.; and of the duties paid to the Chinese Government 78·32 per cent. Germany is next on the list with a general average of about 10 per cent. on the above, and the small remainder is distributed among eight other nationalities, exclusive of non-Treaty Powers.

III. AGRICULTURE AND NATIVE OPIUM.

Last year was an eminently successful one for agriculturists in the neighbourhood of Amoy. Crops of all kinds turned out extremely well, with the single exception of the native opium grown at T'ung-an, and the price of food was cheap.

With regard to the T'ung-an opium, I stated in my Report for 1879 that nearly seven-tenths of the crop sown in the autumn of that year for collection in the spring was believed to have been destroyed by unusually heavy rains. This turned out to be almost literally the case, only 95 piculs, equal to 12,667 lbs., of a very inferior article, valued at about 350 dollars per picul, representing the season's out-turn. Immediately upon the conclusion of the harvest in May last, I reported details of the same to the Indian Government, forwarding at the same time some specimen poppy-heads and one of the leaden cylinders full of opium in which this native drug is usually preserved, "being then buried in the earth, with the double object

of concealment from the local officials and improvement of the flavour of the contents." In reply to this communication, I was informed by the Under-Secretary to the Government of India that the cylinder in question was found, when opened for official analysis, to contain some animal substance, probably some Chinese delicacy in the shape of salted shark's fins. The explanation is of course only too simple. I had not taken the precaution to see the drug put into the cylinder and the cylinder soldered down before my eyes; consequently, the opium was abstracted by a dishonest tinker and something of no value substituted. With the light of that experience I have since dispatched two cylinders of native Amoy opium to the same destination, one containing the juice of the poppy as it is taken raw from the plant, and the other some of the drug ready prepared for smoking.

The crop sown at T'ung-an in the autumn of 1880 will not be gathered for some two months to come. Hopes are, however, entertained that this year the yield will be quite equal, if not superior, to the average of past years. The Mandarins do not interfere with its growth in any way, nor, as far as I can learn, do they pocket anything for connivance. The thing is wholly ignored; some say because the people of the district are a turbulent lot and will not brook restrictions upon their commercial enterprises, others, because the entire management of the crop from seed-time to harvest is in the hands of women, who resent with all the characteristics of feminine warfare any undue interference on the part of avaricious Yamèn runners. Even the Mandarins themselves object to prosecutions involving women, who, by the laws of China, may not be committed to prison except for capital offences or for adultery. At any rate, the growth of native opium is suffered to be quietly carried on under the walls of the city of T'ung-an; just as quietly, in fact, as the consumption of foreign opium is permitted to go on in the Yamèn of, with rare exceptions, every Mandarin in the eighteen provinces.

IV. POPULATION.

The Chinese population of Amoy is again estimated in the Customs Returns at a total of 88,000; but this is merely guess-work, there being no reliance to be placed upon the official census, even were its statistics, as is not the case, to be fully available for consultation by the foreigner.

Of the twenty-four firms of all nationalities doing business at the port, Great Britain monopolizes exactly two-thirds, while the United States has only one, Germany three, and Spain two. Similarly, of the 285 total foreign residents, 157 are British, 20 American, 40 German, and 34 Spanish, leaving a small balance to be distributed under several other European flags.

V. PUBLIC WORKS.

The ruins of the Bund intended to face the British Concession at Amoy, the destruction of which was alluded to my Report for 1879, are still *in statu quo*. A voluminous correspondence has passed between the Municipal Council and myself on the one hand, and between the Chinese authorities and myself on the other, on this subject; and all possible arguments have been exhausted to induce the latter to take some steps to remove the property of lot-holders on the Concession in the immediate neighbourhood of the collapse from its present state of jeopardy. Nevertheless, nothing has been done, and the Council now think of applying to the Viceroy for authority to do the repairs themselves, defraying the cost out of an estimated revenue from certain wharfage dues to be imposed for that purpose.

VI. GENERAL.

The Chinese newspaper mentioned in my last Report as about to be started by a British subject at this port was formally published for the first time on the 29th July, having been preceded by an advertisement in Chinese, which was circulated through the Amoy and Chang-chow districts, setting forth the advantages of a public press, such as was to be found in all European countries, from every point of view, political, social, and commercial alike. The contemplated journal was to be issued daily at 8 cash (say $\frac{1}{4}$ d.) a copy, or at an annual subscription of 2 dollars (say 7s. 4d.), except on Sundays, when, in accordance with foreign custom, there would be no issue. It was to contain, in addition to items of local and other news, extracts from the "Peking Gazette," &c., original articles on philosophical and scientific subjects, and was further to serve as an advertising medium for the people of Amoy and the surrounding neighbourhood, to whom it was to be supplied gratis for the period of a month. Under these auspices the first number was issued, as I have stated, on the 29th July, headed by an ominous notice, that in consequence of the non-arrival of contributions expected from correspondents, the paper would only be published, at the beginning, every other day. There was an interval, however, of two days between the second, third, fourth, and fifth numbers, when an effort was made to keep up to time, but without very great success. There was an interval of a whole week between Nos. 20 and 21, and with No. 22, which appeared on the 16th October, fourteen days after No. 21, the enterprise collapsed, and the "Egret River (Amoy) News" was suffered quietly to expire. Yet even during this brief existence it had not failed to attract the attention and excite the animosity of the Mandarins. In fact, I was on one occasion formally requested to notify the proprietor that he should avoid meddling with matters which concerned only the Local Administration; so that when the paper died a natural death but little regret was felt; the people of Amoy were, as they are in all such matters, indifferent, and the Mandarins very glad. The paper itself had possessed so far very little influence either for good or for evil. It was a fairly well-printed sheet, but of over-assuming proportions. With the assistance of an energetic foreigner, success might have come in time; but unless a speculation shows signs of immediate returns, the Chinese as a rule throw it up. The last number, No. 22, was printed at the request and expense of a Chinese resident merchant who wished to state publicly the rights and wrongs of a case in which he was interested. Since then the fount of type has been unused, and is now to be sold by public auction.

On the 15th May the Senior Governor of Renong and Langsuan called, with his son, the Assistant-Governor of Renong, the latter having a certificate of British naturalization from the Lieutenant-Governor's office, Penang, dated the 27th April, 1880, and bearing a letter of introduction from Her Majesty's Consul-General and Diplomatic Agent at the Court of Siam. The Governor asked my assistance with the Chinese authorities towards recovering some valuable title-deeds which had been taken from his daughter-in-law, then residing in the Chang-chow district; and without committing myself to any undue interference in a transaction in which this Consulate was in no way concerned, I was able to obtain for him the ultimate restoration of his property. He was 84 years of age, and had, I believe, undertaken the long journey to Amoy solely for this purpose.

The following singular Chinese letter to my address was handed in at the Consular offices by a passing stranger, of whom I heard no more:—

"To his Honour the British Consul.

"Sir,

"The immense activity of this port, which greatly strikes me, a traveller, is undoubtedly due to its free commercial relations with foreign countries.

"I have heard that your trade is carried on upon equitable principles, and that it is of great benefit to China; that you bring with you reformation of public morals in your train; and that, in the establishment of missions for the amelioration of men's hearts, no less than in the foundation of hospitals, at a great outlay, for the cure of men's bodies, although there is the territorial distinction between you and us of the Middle and the Outside nations, yet in point of good intention there is no difference whatever. Those, however, who are ignorant of the truth, fear your presence, either as being injurious to our commerce or as likely to exert an unhealthy influence upon our national manners and customs. But this is really only the vain talk of men who have not seen for themselves; for the first thing the people of your honoured country do on settling themselves in a new port is to build jetties, and carry out similar public works involving great trouble. I would gladly have seen you long ago in my own Province of Kiangsi, from which you were repelled through the shortsightedness and avarice of those who were afraid lest you should monopolize the profits of their trade. Such policy is, in my opinion, most perverted. Were foreign hong's to be opened there without reserve, then, by steamer in spring, by sailing-craft in autumn, there would be a far wider dispersion of produce than is now the case, Kiangsi being the central point in communication with the four quarters of the Empire. The difficulty is that our languages are not mutually intelligible, and that the acquiescence of the people is not to be guaranteed. Some earnest man would be necessary to conduct the undertaking and bring it to a successful issue. As for me, I am devoid of any ability, and only know that your nation has received the holy doctrine (Christianity), and that there is no need to apprehend injury at your hands in the selfish pursuit of your own interests, unlike as the English are to men of other foreign lands. And if it should be possible for you to come and open a port in my province, and lead us together with you along the true path, through the dark ford, to the realms above, then I say that this would be no slight benefit to confer; and although we may not be able to settle the matter definitively between us, still I would gladly confer with you on the subject.

"Awaiting your reply, &c.,

(Signed)

"CHUNG HUA-TA, of Kiangsi."

The relations of this Consulate with the Chinese authorities reached a point during 1880 quite unprecedented during former years. No less than 143 cases of various kinds occurred, in all of which it was incumbent on me to invite either the aid or the co-operation of the Mandarins, involving a correspondence of 306 official despatches forwarded in Chinese and English, as provided by Treaty, and of 303 received, irrespective of numerous semi-official notes. These numbers stand against 157 sent and 169 received in 1879, which year also showed a great increase over 1878. Of the above 143 cases, 108 have been written off, leaving a balance of 35 to be carried on in the coming season. Among the more important were four claims for over 34,000, 33,000, 37,000, and 67,000 dollars respectively, the second of which was satisfactorily disposed of by arbitration, the last two of which are still pending, and the first of which was settled in a manner that is worthy of record as illustrative of the great difficulties attendant upon mixed cases in China, where a British subject is the plaintiff, and his object is to recover money. This case was origi-

nally filed in October 1879, when Messrs. Elles and Co., of Amoy, informed me that the head partner of a certain Sek Hoon firm had just died, and they had reason to apprehend that the surviving partners 'would repudiate indebtedness to them on a very heavy transaction in guano. It is unnecessary to give the details, beyond saying that Messrs. Elles and Co.'s presentiment turned out only too true, and that the Sek Hoon cause was warmly espoused by the late Taotai, who absolutely refused to grant the joint investigation provided for by Treaty. Under these circumstances, I left on the 31st January for Foochow, and, at a personal interview, laid the whole matter before his Excellency the Viceroy of Fohkien. The result was so far successful that his Excellency consented to appoint a Special Commissioner, of the same rank as, but over the head of, the Taotai of Amoy, to try the case in conjunction with myself; and on the 5th March the investigation was duly held, in the presence of a large number of witnesses, judgment being delivered for the plaintiffs to the full amount claimed. The Special Commissioner now set to work to induce Messrs. Elles and Co. to accept a very small sum in liquidation of the debt, alleging that the Sek Hoon firm was bankrupt, and that there were really no more funds forthcoming. All kinds of obstacles were thrown in the way of execution of the judgment, which was itself subsequently impugned, and then actually denied. Endless negotiations and protestations ensued, until at length a definite offer was made on the part of the Sek Hoon firm of 10,000 dollars in full payment; less, in fact, than one-third. Finally, partly to get rid of a long-standing nuisance, and partly in view of a second claim for a much heavier amount, Messrs. Elles and Co. accepted a sum of 14,000 dollars, payment of which in October last brought this case to a termination, most unsatisfactory, of course, for the British merchant, a whole year after the date of filing.

The "second claim" above mentioned against the Sek Hoon firm is for a further sum of 67,000 dollars, but although four months have elapsed since I laid it formally before the Taotai, I have so far been unable to obtain the usual judicial investigation into its rights and wrongs.

With reference to the question of British subjects of Chinese descent, I had occasion towards the close of 1879 to report to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking certain proposed interference on the part of the Chinese authorities with the liberties of a British-born British subject, named Yang Poh-lin, whose ancestors had been natives of the Hai-ch'êng district, near Amoy. The case went so far that the Magistrate of Hai-ch'êng issued a warrant for his arrest, as also did a military official who had a few days previously been appointed to a small military station in the neighbourhood. Yang Poh-lin managed, by a ruse, to get the latter document into his possession, and handed it over to me, when I found that, besides being a regularly issued warrant to arrest the person of a British subject, we were further mentioned therein as "I" (barbarians), contrary to Article LI of the Treaty of Tien-tsin. The result was that the military official who issued the warrant was promptly cashiered, and although the Chinese authorities would not retire from the position they had taken up in regard to Yang Poh-lin's nationality, he was suffered to remain unmolested during the rest of his stay at Amoy, and has now left the port.

Since then, a similar case has occurred, with almost similar results. Late in the spring of 1880, a British-born British subject, named Lin Tsu-p'ing, arrived here from the Straits to prosecute a claim for about 4,000 dollars against an absconding Chinese debtor. The case was duly forwarded to the Chinese authorities, but before there had elapsed suffi-

cient time for the latter to reply definitely to me on the subject, Lin Tsu-p'ing filed a charge against another man of stabbing him severely with a knife. The authorities now declared that Lin Tsu-p'ing was a Chinese subject, and refused assistance to him in the matter unless he should apply personally, and, in accordance with local custom, at the Yamén of the Magistrate whose business it would be to try the case. Finally, after a long and tedious correspondence, I was notified that the stabber had been punished, as provided by law, for his attack on Lin Tsu-p'ing, but up to this date I have not been able to induce the Chinese officials concerned to have anything to do with the claim for 4,000 dollars above mentioned, and on the 15th September last I reported to that effect to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking.

In reply to our argument that persons born on British soil, even though of alien parents, may now demand, on attaining their majority, the rights and privileges of British citizenship, the Chinese urge that, under Sir Rutherford Alcock's Notification of the 6th October, 1868, such persons are still bound to discard their Chinese dress, and further, to remove their names from the District Registers in which they are alleged to be enrolled. In this the authorities know their strength. British citizenship, with all its tempting immunities from the personal and pecuniary risks of Chinese nationality, would be dearly purchased by a large majority of the parties interested at the loss of the costume and coiffure which, apart from its associations, now enables the honest ones to glide about undistinguishable among their friends, or, in the crowds of a Chinese city, the dishonest ones to avail themselves of certain advantages which are pointedly hinted at in the Chinese expression applied to such cases, of "sailing in two boats at once."

One more point of importance in dealing with British subjects of Chinese descent, is the question of their marriages, either with women of British nationality, but also of Chinese descent, a combination of comparatively rare occurrence, or with women of purely Chinese extraction. As a rule, such marriages are solemnized among themselves, without Consular intervention, according to the rites and ceremonies of China; and so long as they are conducted with due formalities, specially in regard to the worship of Heaven and Earth and of their ancestral tablets by the newly-married pair, there can be no doubt that, were the contracting parties Chinese, they would be firmly bound to one another in the eyes of their own authorities, and unable to shake off the alliance except for one of the seven reasons justifying divorce to be found in the Penal Code. As, however, it has been ruled that there is no *lex loci* bearing upon the marriages of British subjects in China, it would appear that the performance of the ceremonies above mentioned cannot entitle a British subject of Chinese descent to have the names of his "wife and children" endorsed on the annual Consular certificate of registration as participating in the privileges of his British nationality.

The state of Koolangsu, the island in the Amoy harbour upon which are situated the Consulates and the private residences of merchants and other residents, became during the past year subject for serious consideration. Robberies had been gradually increasing in number; and from being allowed to commit unrestrained petty acts of an annoying nature towards foreigners, the Chinese population had begun to follow these up with somewhat more violent demonstrations. On two occasions members of the Road Committee had been assaulted in the discharge of their functions and the process of their work interfered with; but the climax was reached when a wealthy Chinese resident collected a band of over thirty rowdies and pulled down a wall that Messrs. Elles and Co. had just raised to inclose a piece of land newly added to their property. The

individual in question is said to have made up his mind that foreigners shall make no further acquisitions of land upon Koolangsu; and whenever any proprietor is about to conclude such a transfer, he steps in with the pressure of his local influence accompanied by an offer on his own part of the same or even a larger sum than the price agreed upon, and the negotiations usually fail. In the present instance it would appear that the transfer to Messrs. Elles and Co. had been concluded without his knowledge, and he was compelled to fall back upon some insufficient plea connected with ownership and Fêng-shin combined. By securing, however, the co-operation of the other foreign Consuls, I managed to enter in this case such a strong protest that the Chinese authorities became alarmed and arrested the person indicated who had caused all the trouble, keeping him in gaol several days and finally mulcting him to a considerable amount, while Messrs. Elles and Co. rebuilt their wall without further opposition.

At length, the Consular Representatives held a meeting to discuss what measures could be taken to meet the emergency of the case, and a joint communication was forthwith addressed to his Excellency the Viceroy of Fohkien, pointing out that Koolangsu, originally a small fishing-station for the due government of which no provisions had been made in past times, had of late years grown into an important centre of a mixed population, and asking for several local reforms, among others the appointment of a resident official with more extended powers than those now wielded by a certain deputy from the Taotai's Yamèn, generally supposed to control the affairs of the island on behalf of the proper authorities of the Amoy district, but really without any power or status whatever. The reply to this communication was not couched in very conciliatory or even courteous terms, the authorities declining to admit in so many words that any reforms were necessary; but in almost every other way the result has been of a decidedly satisfactory character. A far more efficient native police has been established, with a corresponding decrease under the heading of theft; the congregating of Amoy roughs at a temple situated centrally in regard to the private dwellings of foreigners has been stopped by the prohibition of theatrical performances there; the objectionable custom of carrying night-soil at all hours of the day in open buckets has been effectually checked; and the wanton destruction of, and encroachment upon, the roads planned and executed with foreign money by the Chinese who contribute nothing to any public works of the kind is no longer tolerated as before. I may here mention that the Taotai who had for several years governed the circuit in which this port is situated in a manner most distasteful to Chinese and foreigners alike, by whom he was justly regarded as no light incubus, was removed in the month of October last, and was succeeded by an official of whose administration more favourable hopes are entertained.

In the projected establishment of a new and more commodious hospital for native patients, considerable disappointment has been experienced. From lack of sufficient funds it has been necessary to modify the plan as sketched in my Report for last year, and to defer execution of the original scheme until larger subscriptions are forthcoming. This fact is greatly to be deplored, for many reasons. Apart from the purely charitable character of such an institution, a native hospital in China is one of the most splendid fields imaginable for the investigation of disease and the extension of medical science. It was further anticipated that the total dissociation of this particular hospital from anything connected with religion of any kind would at any rate partly disarm the well-to-do Chinese opponents of Western civilization, and might eventually lead to the most beneficial results. As a matter of fact, the attendance has been steadily increasing, the

number of patients treated during 1880 exceeding 4,000, in spite of the insufficient accommodation; but unless this accommodation can now be extended, the ultimate limit of attendance must be considered to have been already attained.

In this work Dr. Manson is assisted by three independent Chinese practitioners, formerly students at the hospital, who act under his orders, and are generally of the utmost service. The diseases chiefly treated are malarials, leprosy, and those of an elephantoid character arising from imperfect nourishment, and surgical operations of all kinds. The applicants, it need hardly be stated, are almost entirely of the poorer classes, who are only too glad to be successfully treated without being called upon to pay; and to the belief in the superiority of Western surgery, long since extorted from the Chinese at the point of the scalpel, confidence in Western pathology is now being surely, if slowly, added.

The general health of foreign residents at the port during 1880 was good. A small epidemic of typhoid fever occurred, but all the patients recovered.

Towards the end of March a subscription list for the benefit of the sufferers by the Irish famine was circulated, and a sum of over 400*l.* collected in a few days and remitted by telegram to the Duchess of Marlborough.

On the 18th August the establishment of the Japanese Consulate at this port was withdrawn.

During the year 139 British subjects were registered at the Consulate, and nine births, and four deaths; two marriages also were solemnized.

(Signed) H. A. GILES, *Acting Consul.*

(Table No. 1.)—Import and Re-export of Opium for the Year ended 31st December, 1880.

IMPORTED.

From—	Patna.		Benares.		Persian.		Malwa.		Turkey.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
Straits	640	483	..	..	..	..	..	..	640	483
Hong Kong	..	334,560	663,040	494,700	109,246	86,067	817	818	2,460	2,029	1,110,123	845,932
Foochow	908	727	..	..	..	..	908	727
Shanghai	744	552	..	..	..	..	744	552
Newchwang	809	668	..	..	..	..	809	668
Takow	1,120	859	128	95	..	..	..	..	1,248	954
Tamsuy	1,468	1,211	..	..	..	..	1,468	1,211
	334,560	262,318	664,800	496,042	113,302	89,320	817	818	2,460	2,029	1,115,940	850,527

RE-EXPORTED.

To—	Patna.		Benares.		Persian.		Malwa.		Turkey.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
Manila	480	388	480	355	..	..	..	..	..	..	960	743
Hong Kong	9,280	7,480	..	..	2,787	2,186	..	..	..	..	19,067	9,616
Foochow	21,120	16,515	1,280	923	270	222	..	..	..	..	22,870	17,660
Shanghai	2,240	1,771	..	..	2,056	1,697	..	..	..	..	4,296	3,398
Takow	4,800	3,773	110,240	81,323	21,862	17,272	..	..	264	218	137,166	103,936
Tamsuy	..	..	157,120	117,263	13,529	10,460	..	..	..	..	170,649	127,713
Newchwang	..	..	..	..	..	..	541	537	..	..	541	537
	37,920	29,927	269,120	200,364	40,504	31,667	541	537	264	218	349,349	262,703

(Table No. 2.)—EXPORTS of Tea for the Year ended 31st December, 1880.

EXPORTED.

Destination.	Congou.	Oolong.	Souchong.	Mixed.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Great Britain	118,139	155,562	..	..	273,701
United States	175,328	3,804,763	..	..	3,980,091
Singapore and Straits ..	224,321	225,329	4,504	..	454,154
Java	301,423	207,544	5,639	..	514,606
Siam	129,348	88,772	373	..	218,493
Manila	26,811	4,292	257	..	31,360
Saigon	36,029	82,384	85	..	118,498
Hong Kong	136,839	697,203	1,690	..	835,732
Total to foreign countries.	1,148,238	5,265,849	12,548	..	6,426,635
„ Chinese ports ..	53,116	26,412	..	..	79,528
Grand total ..	1,201,354	5,292,261	12,548	..	6,506,163

RE-EXPORTED.

Great Britain .. ..	..	178,548	..	..	178,548
United States	140,624	9,381,943	87,048	13,436	9,573,951
Singapore and Straits ..	..	1,152	..	..	1,152
Java .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Siam .. ..	..	1,067	..	..	1,067
Manila .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Saigon .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Hong Kong	9,134	1,873,601	664	505	1,883,904
Total to foreign countries.	149,758	11,436,311	88,612	13,941	11,638,622
„ Chinese ports ..	133	112,031	..	..	112,164
Grand total ..	149,891	11,548,342	88,612	13,941	11,750,786

Tea.	To foreign Countries.	To Chinese Ports.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Congou	1,297,995	53,249	1,351,244
Oolong	16,702,160	138,443	16,840,603
Souchong	51,160	..	51,160
Mixed	13,941	..	13,941
Grand total ..	18,065,256	191,692	18,256,948

(Table No. 3.)—EXPORT of Sugar to Foreign Countries for the Year 1880.

To	Sugar, Brown.	Sugar Candy.	Sugar, White.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Kong Kong ..	914,159	2,016,773	65,042	2,995,973
Straits .. ..	..	465,475	920	466,395
Java .. ..	..	2,580	..	2,580
Siam .. ..	..	6,833	..	6,833
Manila .. ..	..	533	..	533
Saigon	1,632	2,400	..	4,032
Japan .. ..	..	66,933	23,660	90,593
London	3,949,509	..	..	3,949,509
Total ..	4,865,300	2,561,527	89,622	7,516,449

EXPORT of Sugar to Chinese Ports for the Year 1880.

To	Sugar, Brown.	Sugar Candy.	Sugar, White.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Foochow ..	309,145	719,139	11,386	1,039,670
Shanghai ..	4,214,000	5,750,300	1,008,212	10,972,512
Chefoo ..	1,070,813	626,440	608,451	2,305,704
Tien-tsin ..	2,857,649	2,627,897	687,907	6,173,453
Newchwang ..	9,068,494	1,308,048	1,620,660	11,997,202
Swatow ..	..	320	..	320
Tamsuy ..	..	1,595	1,517	3,112
Total ..	17,520,101	11,033,739	3,938,133	32,491,973

(A.)—RETURN of the Trade at the Port of Amoy in Foreign Vessels for the Year 1880.

No. 1.—TOTAL Trade of the Port in Foreign Vessels (excluding Treasure).

					£	s.	d.
Imports .. ..	..	..	..	..	2,864,939	0	0
Exports .. ..	..	..	..	..	1,680,095	0	0
Total .. ..	..	..	..	..	4,545,034	0	0

Including re-exports.

No. 2.—IMPORT and Export of Treasure.

	Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To and from foreign ports .	240,157	0	0	44,969	0	0	285,126	0	0
To and from native ports ..	106,178	0	0	313,706	0	0	419,884	0	0
Total	346,335	0	0	358,675	0	0	705,010	0	0

Not including 500 strings copper cash exported to native ports.

No. 3.—DIRECT Trade with Foreign Countries (excluding Treasure).*

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	1,488,230	0	0
Exports	..	..	..	..	1,012,272	0	0
Total	..	..	..	..	2,500,502	0	0

Including re-exports.

* This Return includes the trade with Hong Kong.

No. 4.—TRADE with other Treaty Ports (excluding Treasure).

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	1,376,709	0	0
Exports	..	..	..	..	667,823	0	0
Total	..	..	..	..	2,044,532	0	0

Including re-exports.

No. 5.—RETURN distinguishing the respective Amounts of Foreign and Native Trade in Foreign Vessels with other Treaty Ports, without distinction of Flag, forming the Totals of No. 4.

				Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Foreign	..	..	..	17,262	0	0	292,746	0	0	310,008	0	0
Native	..	..	..	1,359,447	0	0	375,077	0	0	1,734,524	0	0
Total	..	..	..	1,376,709	0	0	667,823	0	0	2,044,532	0	0

Including re-exports.

(B.)—RETURN of British Trade for the Year 1880 at the Port of Amoy.

No. 1.—VALUE of Direct Trade with Great Britain and British Dependencies (excluding Treasure)* under any Flag.

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	1,498,868	0	0
Exports	..	..	..	..	300,274	0	0
Total	..	..	..	..	1,799,142	0	0

Foreign re-exports to British dependencies, 10,983*l.*, excluded from imports and exports.

* This Return includes the trade with Hong Kong.

No. 2.—VALUE of Direct Trade with Great Britain and British Dependencies (excluding Treasure) under any Flag.

	Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
British Isles	2,031	0	0	31,771	0	0	33,802	0	0*
Hong Kong	1,438,156	0	0	168,502	0	0	1,606,658	0	0†
India	58,681	0	0	100,001	0	0	158,682	0	0‡
Other British Dependencies									
Total	1,498,868	0	0	300,274	0	0	1,799,142	0	0

Hong Kong includes 1,555*l.* for Chinese ports.

* Foreign re-exports excluded. † Foreign re-exports, 10,953*l.*

‡ Foreign re-exports, 30*l.*

No. 3.—RETURN of Trade under British Flag with other Treaty Ports.

Imports	£	1,034,271
Exports		435,863
Total		1,470,134

Includes re-exports.

No. 4.—RETURN of Value of Imports of British, Indian, or Colonial origin (excluding Treasure) from other Treaty Ports, carried under any Flag.

[No Return.]

No. 5.—RETURN of Exports destined for Great Britain, India, or the Colonies, carried to other Treaty Ports under any Flag.

[No Return.]

No. 6.—RETURN of Import and Export of Treasure from and to Great Britain and British Dependencies.

	Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
	£			£			£		
Direct	238,177			44,511			282,688		
Indirect .. ..	..			..			..
Total	238,177			44,511			282,688		

(C.)—SHIPPING RETURN of the Port of Amoy for the Year 1880.

BRITISH.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
118	101,700	No {	£	132	99,928	No {	£	..	..	No {	£
405	279,313	Return {	1,357,196	390	280,714	Return {	435,863	1,045	761,655	Return {	3,548,457
523	381,013	..	1,034,271	522	380,642	..	1,156,990	..	..	..	..
			2,391,467								
Foreign trade											
Coast "											

FOREIGN.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
60	26,325	No {	£	67	29,042	No {	£	..	..	No {	£
144	57,045	Return {	131,033	134	52,884	Return {	291,145	405	165,296	Return {	996,577
204	83,370	..	342,439	201	81,926	..	523,105	..	..	..	..
			473,472								
Foreign trade											
Coast "											

. HANKOW.

Report on the Trade of Hankow during the Year 1880.

IN considering the trade of Hankow it is convenient to divide it into its several branches.

The Tea Trade.

The Trade in Miscellaneous Produce.

The Trade in Imports; and

The Carrying Trade.

The first is, so far as foreigners are concerned, the branch which gives Hankow its importance, and without it it would be but a third-rate port, for the other branches of the import and export trade are so monopolized by Chinese that the share in foreign hands scarcely covers the expenses of the foreigners concerned, and, but for the annual tea fair, three or four shipping and insurance agents would alone be able to maintain establishments on the costly scale of foreign life in China. Indeed the tendency is more and more every year towards the entire closing of the various establishments or leaving them in charge of a junior clerk during eight of the twelve months of the year, the partners coming out for the tea season only, and when it is over returning to England to look after the sale of their purchases. There is, however, no sign of any decadence in the tea trade, fortunes may be more rarely made and ruinous losses more common than formerly, but there is the same supply of tea, one year larger, one year less, and the same number of people ready to speculate in its importation into England, and for three or four months in the year Hankow is and will continue to be a brisk and busy port.

The total supply of Hankow district teas for the 1880-1881, amounted to 997,000 half-chests, 150,000 more than last year, and more than has been produced since 1876 (when the supply reached 1,071,000 half-chests); of which 651,000 half-chests or 65 per cent. of the whole were settled on the local market, the balance being shipped to Shanghai, on native accounts for sale there; the bulk of the tea settled here was first-crop tea, nearly the whole of the second and third crop being shipped to Shanghai, the Shanghai buyers who annually visit the port having mostly left before the second crop teas came in, and political difficulties preventing any great Russian demand; and nearly twice as much tea being consequently sent to Shanghai for sale there as last year.

Less tea also was shipped direct to London, being 33,000,000 lbs. only against 36,000,000 lbs. last year, but as will be noticed further on, this does not necessarily denote that the market is shifting elsewhere, year by year the trade with Russia in English hands will decrease, but in the past year, although two Russian steamers took cargoes hence to Odessa direct, the larger portion of the continental purchases were shipped via London.

Prices ranged high, as an instance, Seangtams opening at 1s. 2d. per lb., against 1s. per lb. for the same class tea last year and never going below 9½d. per lb., whereas last year they were easily obtainable at 8½d., the highest price paid being 2s. 10½d. per lb. for fine Ningchow tea, against 2s. 6½d. in 1879.

The highest prices as usual were given by Russian firms or agents buying for the Russian market, the whole of the purchases ranging over 2s. 5d. per lb., some 9,536 half-chests being bought by them, while the largest purchaser of the lowest class teas ranging under 10d. per lb. was also a Russian firm. There was a small falling-off in the business done in Kiukiang teas, the bulk of which are placed in this market, as compared with last year, being 206,000 half-chests, against 236,000 half-chests in 1879, but it compares favourably with the previous two years in which the settlements were 190,000 half-chests and 147,000 half-chests respectively.

There was also a noticeable falling-off in the shipments *viâ* Tien-tsin and Siberia, to be accounted for partly by apprehension of war and partly by the fact that there are large stocks, already in course of transport, detained *en route* by want of camels of which it appears the supply is not equal to the demand, and a larger amount going therefore *viâ* Odessa.

The year on the whole is said not to have been a satisfactory one to the foreign merchants, but I gather that if the gains have not been large the losses have not been excessive, and, although producers have this year appropriated the greater percentage of what profit has been made, there are not the loud complaints heard, four out of every five seasons, of universal ruin. Appended is a summary of the statistics of the season:—

SUPPLY.

	1880-81.	1879-80.	1878-79.	1877-78.	1876-77.
	Half-chests.	Half-chests.	Half-chests.	Half-chests.	Half-chests.
First crops	608,000	533,000	433,000	658,000	608,000
Second crops	170,000	167,000	192,000	172,000	288,000
Third crops	219,000	147,000	125,000	125,000	175,000
Total	997,000	847,000	750,000	955,000	1,071,000

EXPORT.

	1880-81.	1879-80.	1878-79.	1877-78.	1876-77.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Hankow district teas	67,883,020	56,835,984	48,489,921	58,033,724	63,749,474
Kiu-kiang district teas	13,327,181	14,890,472	12,003,036	8,946,432	9,806,526
Total	81,210,201	71,726,456	60,492,957	66,980,156	73,555,000
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Export to Great Britain direct ...	32,828,758	36,030,829	39,900,847	30,927,703	34,376,519
Export to Odessa direct <i>viâ</i> Shanghai ...	4,845,453	1,587,949	Nil	Nil	4,692,007
Export to Tien-tsin <i>viâ</i> Shanghai ...	10,385,733	14,922,640	14,922,640	8,558,760	5,202,191

Brick Tea.—The manufacture of brick tea steadily increases, 152,339 piculs having been exported, against 144,756 piculs last year, and 83,402 piculs four years ago, the introduction of steam presses greatly facilitating the manufacture, although the cumbrous native presses are not yet entirely superseded, owing in measure to a series of untoward accidents with which, as was natural in the introduction of a new system, the manufacturers have had to contend.

There is still room for improved machinery, both in steaming and pressing the tea, and probably before many years the entire system will be changed, as under that employed at present not only is there great loss in flavour consequent on the steaming to which the leaves and dust are subjected, but a more serious waste of time, space, and material in the necessity at present found of having the bricks in the moulds for a

considerable period, and in allowing time for the moisture to evaporate slowly afterwards.

An experiment is being tried by one Russian firm with the Goudron process and the manufacture of convenient tablets by pressure of dry leaf, but the tablets require to be covered with foil to preserve them, and are therefore more costly.

Probably the true system will prove to press the unfired leaf and then fire the brick, but the experiment does not appear to have been yet made.

The greatest difficulties, however, that the trade has to contend with are insufficiency of dust and difficulty of transport, the first insuperable, though it must not be assumed that all brick tea is made of tea dust, leaf being largely, and in some cases, entirely used in their composition, it being the cheaper kinds that are made of dust and refuse only, but the difficulties of transport will probably be overcome with the development of the Siberian route.

We have, however, practically no share or interest in the trade, and save that it increases the prosperity of our Settlement here, for the chief factories are in the British Concession, no concern with it, unless it be to see whether the establishment of similar factories in our Indian tea districts might not enable us to compete advantageously in the markets of Thibet, which would seem to be more accessible from them.

Of the other articles of export the most important are given in the comparative Table of exports annexed.

From this it will be seen that the export of tobacco is steadily increasing, and as the local exporters become better acquainted with the staple, it is likely to increase still more. So far it has been used for very different purposes, at one time being exported to America for the manufacture in Virginia of Havana segars, at another, to London for the manufacture of Turkish and of cavendish tobacco, but it has not yet been used abroad under its own name, whether that it deteriorates on the voyage from bad packing, or that it is too light for foreign tastes, or that no one has thought of trying it, most probably from the former reason.

The export of hides also is increasing in importance, not only for use in the tanneries in Shanghai, but for export abroad, it has not, however, yet reached the amount to which it rose in 1877, due to two causes: first that the accumulated supply, consequent on the indiscriminate slaughter of animals in the famine districts, has ceased; and secondly, that the measures instituted to check the continuance of the slaughter and the decimation of the cattle needed for agricultural purposes has had the natural effect of protective measures, *i.e.*, made the article more costly. Animals are slaughtered just as much when and where it pays to slaughter them, but as inspectors and deputy inspectors, watchers, and informers have to be fed, the price is enhanced without benefit to the producer and to the positive injury of the consumer.

There is also an increase in the export of Szechuan silk which is likely to increase as the difficulties in manufacturing it at home are now practically overcome in great measure, but although it passes through Hankow it is only on its way to Shanghai, and it is not likely that there will ever be much business done in it here.

The export of nutgalls has been about normal, and the same may be said of the export of musk.

The export of medicines has largely increased, reaching this year, exclusive of rhubarb, the amount of 118,791 piculs, or 15,799,203 lbs. of drugs, enough, it would be thought, to physic the world, but of this amount the whole is for native consumption and in native hands. Dr. Porter

Smith drew attention to the drugs found in the market here some years back, but the want of a chemist has prevented any attempt being made to test their value in the home markets, the doctors have too much to do with their practice to do more than now and again test the value of some native drug medicinally, and have neither time nor inclination to look into the mercantile question, but it stands to reason that out of the large number of medicinal roots, herbs, seeds, and barks, some must be of value to the foreign chemist, and as no nation in the world takes greater delight in dosing themselves than the Chinese, a chemist who could tell what to export would at the same time find a profitable market for the foreign drugs he imported, there is no prejudice on the part of Chinese in this matter, and, although they prefer to get their medicines for nothing by resorting to the missionary hospitals, they buy genuine and patent medicines freely notwithstanding their undue cost. Among the principal drugs figuring in the Returns are the roots of the *Aralia edulis*, the *Rehmannia Chinensis*, a variety of *Levisticum*, the *Uvularia grandiflora*, the *Sophora tomentosa*, and *Ophiopogon Japonicus*, all of which seem to be aromatic tubers possessing, or supposed to possess, tonic properties; besides this, the shoots of a variety of campanula are in demand, and the bark of the *Euonymus Japonicus* the virtues of the principle of which are already acknowledged in foreign medicine, and which might be introduced with advantage into India, the wood being as valuable to the wood engraver as the bark is to the druggist.

Rhubarb is, however, at present the only drug to which foreigners give their attention, and although the export compares unfavourably with last year it is larger than previous years, probably when the information obtained by Prejavalsky and other Europeans as to the routes by which the more valuable variety, that which reaches us via Shanghai, become utilised, and foreigners visit the district themselves, the export may be stimulated, but under present conditions it is too speculative an article for the local merchants to embark in it with confidence, requiring special knowledge not easily maintained.

The Szechuan rhubarb seems inferior in quality to that coming from farther west, ranging between 8 taels and 28 taels per picul, whereas what is known as Shenhai rhubarb rises to 50 or 60 taels, and unless damaged does not fall below 25 or 30 taels.

In native opium there has been a considerable increased export, chiefly, if not entirely for adulterating Malwa, and not as a drug, some 927 piculs figuring in the Returns against 120 last year, owing, as noted elsewhere, to an abundant native crop and consequent low prices, but the Custom-house Returns are not, it is said, a just guide in this matter, as the greater part of the export is smuggled in native boats.

The export of dye stuffs, principally vegetable, is somewhat under that of last year, but as they are merely for native use and the trade is entirely in native hands save as affording freight, foreigners are not interested in it. Many years ago great interest was taken in the production of green indigo at this port, but although a Commission was sent to investigate the matter and several books written on the subject, the interest in the question has died out, probably that the green is too dull to compete with the more brilliant arsenical dyes in use at home.

Of the other dyes the chief are safflower buds, and a husk produced on a small shrub which has not yet been identified from which a very good grey dye is extracted.

The other chief articles of export are, fungus, for native consumption, gypsum, the export of which this year reaches 116,675 piculs, used partly for manure, and also for the manufacture of powder so extensively used by Chinese women as a foundation for the rouge they lay on so plentifully,

the increase probably being caused by the fact that it afforded a suitable cargo for the so-called "chartered" junks which could be filled up cheaply therewith, and so qualified for a pass to enable them to evade the native dues.

Lily seeds, or rather lotus seeds, a favourite article of native consumption.

Wood oil, which has again risen to its normal quantity, the heavy stocks at Shanghai and Chinkiang which reduced the export last year having found their way into consumption. Little attention appears to have been paid by foreigners to this article, which might be valuable at home for varnish, the chief use to which the commoner varieties are devoted.

Paper, which has decreased, and which is chiefly of interest to foreigners as the basis of a future manufacture, entirely hand-made, and consequently badly finished, there is room for the introduction of foreign machinery in the abundance of raw material and the enormous demand for the manufactured article.

Vegetable tallow and wax which are exported to Shanghai and other Chinese ports for the manufacture of native candles, in the manufacture of which also there is room for the introduction of foreign appliances, some of the wax is exported eventually home for the coating of ordinary beeswax candles, it being very white and burning slowly.

And lastly, hemp, or China grass, which still goes to Europe, although it is not so well suited for manufacture as the European product, and loosely packed as it is in the absence of hydraulic presses, it takes undue space and costs more in freight than it can in ordinary times afford.

I have not touched on the other articles of export, for so far they are not of importance as far as foreigners are concerned, but as the competition in the tea trade makes merchants look more and more to new fields of industry, more attention is being paid to the capabilities of new articles of trade, and as the prejudice against wandering beyond the limits of what is called legitimate trade are wearing off, or in other words, people are finding that they cannot depend for a livelihood on the easy beaten roads, new articles of export will be discovered, and venturers will not be, as has hitherto been too often the case, discouraged by the ill-success of their first or second speculation, but go on until the right market is found. When this is done, and more still when foreigners learn that in lending their names and selling for a trifle all the advantages they have by Treaty or connection to Chinese, they are but cutting their own throats, and measures are taken to root out the men who make a scanty living by doing so, Hankow will once more become a profitable field for the foreign trader; but the lesson is not yet fully learnt, and people are paying the penalty of their carelessness and unwisdom, to call it by no harsher name, in days gone by, and the local trade is almost entirely in the hands of the Chinese, or the Compradores of the foreign hong, who get all the advantages of a foreign name and foreign knowledge for mere nominal payment.

IMPORTS.

The natural result of the prevailing prosperity of the last few years is shown in the increased demand for imports which figure in the Returns, though it is well to bear in mind that this demand is almost entirely in goods passing through Hankow, not goods brought here for sale.

There is scarcely any market in Hankow for foreign goods so far as foreigners are concerned, for the native buyers find it cheaper to go to the large market at Shanghai, and with greater financial advantages supply their needs at the auctions there, for there is a larger assortment to

choose from; the sales are open and public, and competition gives them guarantee against being squeezed more than the market value or delayed higgling and haggling for reasonable rates, and the up country buyers, who have faced the dangerous passage of the Gorges and travelled down in discomfort so far as this by native boat, are rather pleased to take the three days farther journey in luxury and ease, and have the opportunity of combining business and pleasure at what is becoming the Paris as well as the London of China.

The goods are brought here by foreign steamers or by the vessels of the native Company, and after repacking are sent on to Szechuan, Shanhsi, and the far West under transit pass as foreign-owned goods; but ninety-nine hundredths, nay, nine hundred and ninty-nine thousandths, are entirely native owned from the hour they left Shanghae; the foreign steamer owner gets freight on them; the class who live by lying and prosper on perjury get a small sum for representing them to be their property and applying for passes for them, and the Consul may be brought into correspondence regarding them, if stopped at the inland barriers, for careless or wilful irregularities, but foreigners have no real concern further with them, not even the manufacturer at home, who has to look to his market, and that alone and Shanghae is his market, not Hankow. Nor is there immediate prospect of change, there is not sufficient business during nine months of the year to keep banks open, and banks will not maintain costly agencies merely with a view to future business. There never can be so large an assortment of goods here as at Shanghae, seeing that that place supplies a dozen other ports as well as this, and the facilities of travel there are daily increasing; it is to the export trade foreign merchants must look, simply keeping small stocks of goods for occasional barter.

Nor can they look long to the scanty prospects derived from taking out passes for natives, which has been the livelihood of some half-dozen foreigners for some years past, the battle of the transit pass is over, and while on the foreign side concession has been made to the extent of ceasing to dispute the imposition of local dues and taxes on the arrival of our goods, at the inland markets the Chinese have abandoned all attempts to levy anything on them *en route*, and although the native merchants are willing still to pay a small percentage to obtain a foreign name, and thus conceal the nature and extent of their transactions, the China Merchants Company have set the example of taking out passes themselves and the foreigners now engaged in the business are merely clerks, and very ill-paid ones, of Chinese principals.

The net import of grey shirtings, of drills and brocades, and damasks, fall short of last year, but the deficiency is more than made up by the increase in white shirtings, T-cloths, sheetings, chintzes, and velvets, and it is the more surprising that it is accompanied by an enormous increase in the import of cotton, plentiful crops and a large importation of the raw material being generally compensated by falling-off in the demand for manufactures.

It is worth noting also that though there is an apparent falling-off in the quantity of drills imported the deficiency is not so large as shown in the Tables, some of the goods which appear under the heading of sheetings being what have hitherto figured in the Returns as drills, and it is further accounted for, that at one time during the year the Shanghae market was absolutely bare as regarded American drills of which there were only 184,888 pieces imported there, against 530,761 in 1879, and 496,798 pieces in 1878.

It is interesting here also to note that although the American cloths are as well liked as ever and as they well desire to be, it is beginning to be seen that they cannot profitably compete with our products, and the

large imports stimulated by the idea current a year or two ago, that English manufactures had so deteriorated that the Chinese would not take them, and that a combined effort would lead to their being supplanted by American products, are being discontinued.

Fraud is never permanently profitable, and when and where size and clay are used to make inferior goods pass for first-class articles ultimate loss is certain to result in the avoidance by the once deceived dealer of that class goods in future, but it is a mistake to think that flimsy fabrics have not their uses as well as substantial ones, for many purposes they are better adapted, and the native consumer with his eyes wide open will prefer the clayed cloth when it answers all his purposes equally well with one all cotton.

I have, however, heard this year complaints that the chemicals of late used in Manchester to fix the size interfere with the subsequent dying of some of the shirtings imported, and it would be well for manufacturers to bear this in mind, though in some cases loose texture is rather a recommendation in Chinese eyes, as it facilitates the application of their rude system of dyes, the presence of chemicals in the cloth which prevent it absorbing the indigo will prove a fatal objection in many instances.

So far it will be seen from the Returns, that while 231,284 pieces of drills, and 89,730 pieces of sheetings satisfied the demand for heavy substantial cloths, the buyers of lighter goods took 1,334,904 pieces of white shirtings, and 462,550 pieces of T-cloths, or, roughly, 300,000 pieces of substantial as compared with 2,000,000 pieces of lighter fabrics.

The importation of velveteens was probably stimulated by the increased use of this article in the uniform of the irregular troops, large levies of which have been raised during the year in view of the anticipated war with Russia.

Woollens show a falling-off though not to any very large extent, although the enormous increase in the import of cotton would naturally have led to a decrease, for when wadded cottons are cheap woollens fall into disfavour; but as with velvets, the equipment of the braves has probably caused the demand to be in some measure maintained.

It is useless contending with natural conditions. Woollens suit the European climate and are cheaper there than cottons, silks, or linens, but in China for six or nine months of the year woollens are an impossibility, and the secret has not been found of easily preserving them when laid by from the destructive ravages of moth, white ant, or cockroach, whereas they have discovered the way to preserve furs, which when the bitter cold is over are laid by in the pawnshops until next required, while wadded silk and cotton garments which defy the devouring insect are warm and comfortable, and if clumsy, are at the same time light and easy, and for a slow moving dignified race like the Chinese are as convenient as our woollen cloth, and in the long run infinitely cheaper.

For the clothing of troops, however, the advantage of woollens are acknowledged, suffering less from weather and being less cumbrous than wadded cottons, and the demand is visibly affected by the military movements, new levies of troops, or the recurrence of the triennial inspections always causing an inquiry for lustres, camlets, lastings, and long ells.

A market might be found in the far West where woollens are more suited to general use than in Central and Eastern China, and part of the import here finds its way thither, but the market is more conveniently reached by the Russian traders than by ourselves.

An attempt is being made to supply the local needs there by the establishment of woollen mills at Lan-chou-Fu in Xansuh by Governor-General and Generalissimo Tso, so far with success that although it

seemed impossible that the heavy machinery required could possibly be conveyed there, the difficulties in the way of doing so have been overcome and the factory is already working and turning out some twenty pieces of coarse blue cloth per diem, a beginning which may lead to great results, for the quantity will of course be soon increased, and the cost is said to be so low, that if the manufacture can be maintained European competition could have no chance were the supply equal to the demand.

Foreign manufacturers may, however, console themselves that if for a time, at least there is a prospect of losing one of their markets, it never has been a very important one, and if the experiment be successful it will cause a demand for foreign engineers and superintendents which will amply compensate foreigners for the loss, and may probably prove a strong lever in overcoming the difficulties in the way of the extension of foreign ideas and appliances in China.

It could have been wished that the mills had been started by Englishmen instead of, as has been the case, by Germans, but it is a step in the right direction, and when we notice the untiring efforts of foreign officials to push the interests of their countrymen, it is not to be wondered at that we see foreigners brought forward, and it could be wished that the strict rule which prevents British officials mixing themselves in any way in commercial enterprises could be in measure relaxed.

It is no doubt desirable that they should not be personally interested in trade, as they have to sit as Judges in the disputes which trade gives rise to, but if a way could be found of encouraging them in finding new outlets for the industry of their countrymen, it would be advantageous.

Opium.—The net imports of opium during the year show a decrease on the preceding year as follows:—

			1879.	1880.
			Pic. c.	Pic. c.
Malwa	..	..	2,678 62	2,303 64
Patna	..	..	579 22	584 51½
Benares	..	..	..	4 80
Persian	..	..	36 00	61 00
Total	..	..	3,293 84	2,953 95½

Or, 339 pic. 88½ c. in all.

This is accounted for by the fact that in 1879 the opium crop in Honan and Shenhsi was reduced to a minimum by the anti-opium Decrees being rigorously executed, this raised the price of Szechuan opium where the cultivation was not interfered with to an average cost of 300 taels per picul and brought Malwa into demand, good prices, 560 to 580 taels, being maintained during the year, but in 1880 the native crop proved an abundant one, the prohibition having been practically relaxed, and the price of native opium sinking to 230 taels per picul, while the prices of Malwa in India were maintained, and the demand for Malwa fell off over one-eighth.

In Patna there was an increased demand owing to an increase in the *k-kin* at Canton leading some of the districts supplied thence to find it cheaper to procure their drug in the Hankow market.

The Benares opium figuring in the Return appears to have been an isolated consignment, for there is no demand for it in the market.

The increase in the import of Persian opium from 36 to 61 piculs is unaccounted for, as it is unsaleable in the market in Hankow, and the native importers have so far kept the secret regarding its destination,

probably it is forwarded to Szechuan and sold there as foreign drug. What has been imported by foreigners it has been impossible to dispose of.

Metals.—The import of nail-rod iron has steadily increased during the past four years, cheap freights enabling it to be brought into the market at sufficiently low rates to make it profitable for the native manufacturers to invest, and the same may be said of tin, the import of which has increased in nearly the same ratio. Lead shows a larger import than last year, but does not exceed the usual quantity, the annual demand being ruled by the needs of the tea market, and in this connection it might be worth while inquiring whether it would not be profitable to import sheet lead instead of, as at present, pigs. Our mechanical appliances for rolling are so far superior to the Chinese, that there should be a margin of profit in the transformation of the pigs into sheets, if care were taken that the sheets were of sufficient thinness and of a width making them suitable for lining the tea chests to which purpose nine-tenths of the lead imported are devoted.

And in the same way I have been surprised that no attempt seems to have been made by foreigners to supply the very large demand which exists in every port in China for brass and copper wire, which is so far all hand-drawn with the aid of very rude appliances.

In quicksilver there is a very large falling-off, due probably to excessive stocks remaining from last years import which nearly trebled that of previous years.

Manufactured iron and brass ware still makes little or no show in the Returns, and until manufacturers take the trouble to learn the conditions of the country, they will not materially increase. Penknives are no use where there are no pens to cut or nails to pare, nor is table cutlery in demand among a race who eat with chopsticks. Nor are steel pens of value to a people who write with a brush, but very slight modifications in form to suit it for native use would cause much of our hardware to come at once into demand, for Chinese smiths are the rudest of the rude, and when articles they can employ are imported by chance they invariably sell rapidly and well.

Matches have risen from 42,980 gross in 1877 to 324,317 gross in 1880, and the demand still goes on increasing, but the chief matter to note in this connection is the need of some protection for foreign manufacturers against fraudulent imitations of their wares which under present conditions are counterfeited with impunity, and not only counterfeited, which while the market is far from fully developed would scarcely matter, indeed a good imitation would help the sale of the goods by advertising them, but counterfeited so vilely that the genuine article loses its reputation. Bryant and May had overcome the competition of the cheap but useless Norwegian matches, but they have a more dangerous foe in a new variety of "Tandstickor" put up in boxes similar to theirs, for the Chinese purchaser has no longer the certainty of a good article when he buys what are held out to him as their matches.

Adulteration cannot be contended with, for all things are adulterated, even to the air we breathe, but the protection of trade marks is the dependence of the honest man who through it inevitably in the end reaps the reward of his honesty, and their unauthorized appropriation should be punished more severely than simple robbery, for the injury done is greater, and in China at present there is no protection whatever.

A similar enormous increase is shown in kerosine oil, which in the same period has gone up from 27,976 to 185,157 gallons, the oil being not only better, but cheaper than native oils, notwithstanding the cost of freight, and with all the disadvantages of comparatively dear lamps and

difficulty in supplying glasses for them, it is coming into increased use, and hundreds of miles from the open ports the traveller now finds kerosine lamps and foreign matches.

By-and-by the demand will probably lead to the working the oil country in Szechuan, but so far the Chinese have not learnt the art of refining the crude petroleum, which they utilise simply as fuel in the salt works which adjoin the oil pits, and America has no rival to fear, and the firm which has practically obtained the command of the market in Shanghae realises large profits out of the import, outside speculators so far having as a rule burnt their fingers over their ventures. The demand is, however, getting too large for any one syndicate however powerful to control, and with a free market this branch of trade will probably soon afford an opening for English as well as American operators.

The import of sugar shows an increase, a mark of the general prosperity, for when the crops are good there is more money to spend in feasting and the sweet cakes the Chinese delight in, but entirely in native hands. Foreigners are not affected by it so far, the only demand for sugar or its compounds prepared by foreigners being the increased sale for foreign sweetmeats, bottles of which are to be seen in every native store and which now regularly find their place among the dessert it is customary to offer visitors. Foreign jams and preserves have not yet come into demand, probably owing to the fact that the retail price so far has been too high, 25 cents or 1s. being charged for a 4d. pot of jam, which naturally places it beyond the reach of the native consumer, but in this article also in the future there may be an outlet for foreign industry.

Cuttle-fish, pepper, sandal-wood, sapan-wood, and seaweed, which figure also among the principle imports, are of little interest to foreigners except the last, the demand for which an attempt is being made to supply from the coasts of Russian Siberia, where it grows in abundance, and probably the line of steamers it is proposed to run to the Amoor to take the brick tea will find in it a return freight; the present supply comes from Japan, and it is largely used in native cookery, the demand varying with the cost of salt whose place it to some extent takes.

The import of tea is the balance left over of that brought from Kiukiang, &c., for re-export.

Among the unenumerated articles are the infinite variety of foreign articles which form the stock in trade of the foreign stores opened by natives for the supply of native customers. Toys, photographs, lamps, hearthrugs, &c., for which, judging by the number of these establishments there must be a large and increasing demand, supplied by the auction sales at Shanghae, where the refuse and rubbish of the London market seems sent for disposal.

SHIPPING.

Seventeen ocean steamers visited the port to obtain tea cargoes, against the same number last year, thirteen of the number being British. The imports come from Shanghae in ballast, but some 9,000*l.* value of foreign majority were brought by them against 2,500*l.* last year.

The local River Steamer Companies are naturally much opposed to the development of this branch of trade, and endeavour to discourage it by demanding excessive amounts for rendering assistance when these vessels, as necessarily from time to time occurs, run ashore, but the advantages of direct shipment still make it advantageous to take the risk, and the bulk of the first crop of teas will probably continue to be exported in this manner, it is, however, only first class steamers of a tonnage of 2,000 to 3,000 tons that can command freight, and it is doubtful whether it is

desirable ever to send either second-class vessels or vessels of greater tonnage.

The "Glen" line still continue the favourites, no expense having been spared by their owners to insure their efficiency and secure the two objects sought, speedy and safe transport of the cargoes intrusted to them.

Of the four foreign vessels that came for tea freight, two were Russian steamers belonging to the volunteer fleet, and it will be interesting to watch the success of the experiment of combining cruisers and freight vessels. The vessels are of the best description, but their success in a commercial point of view so far has not been marked, the training necessary for a naval officer, to whose command they are necessarily intrusted, rather militating against the qualifications sought in a merchant captain, and one of the two was particularly unfortunate, not only getting aground at starting, but nearly coming to utter grief on her way home from, it is said, bad storage of cargo.

So long, of course, as Government pressure is put on or special advantages are given their cargoes in Russian ports they will secure full cargoes and the greater share of the carriage sent direct hence to Odessa, but their concurrence is not so far to be feared by our shipping in other branches of trade.

The "Messageries" also sent up one of their steamers for a cargo, but it can scarcely be profitable to derange a regular service by dispatching vessels for a cargo once in the year, and the experiment was probably with a view to trying to get shippers to send tea by the mail steamers from Shanghai and secure a portion of the carrying trade at present in the hands of the "Holt's line," and Peninsular and Oriental Companies, which at present are in too strong a position to fear opposition.

The first steamer, the "Glencoe," obtained 6½ 10s. per ton, the last 2½ 10s. to London.

A more dangerous opponent to the local English and Chinese Companies is the projected Russian line of merchant steamers between this and the Amoor, which will probably secure the greater portion of the brick tea freight, if the difficulties of navigation of the fog-shrouded and dangerous northern seas be overcome, attempts were made to inaugurate this line in the commencement of the year, but there was a difficulty in obtaining suitable vessels, and before this had been overcome the probability of war led apparently to the scheme being temporarily postponed.

The local river steamers continue, it is said, to flourish, although a new line, consisting so far of two steamers started under the British flag by Messrs. Jardine Matheson and Co. has threatened the prosperity experienced since the China merchants and Messrs. Butterfield and Swire abandoned their fruitless attempt to run each other off the river and agreed to act in concert, and freights have only averaged 1 t. 5 m. per ton. The new line together with the small steamers owned by Mr. McBain now competing seriously with the larger Companies, the advantages of considerable concealed native interest in these Companies placing them at an advantage with the one line which is entirely British owned, and with the other which is under official supervision, facts which counterbalance in some measure the strength perfect management gives the China coast, and native, private, and official interest affords the China merchants. Both small lines were, however, much crippled during the latter portion of the year by a collision placing the chief vessel of each *hors de combat*.

The lorcha trade neither develops nor decreases in any sensible manner, while the steamers as the greater lines wisely do decline dangerous freights such as gunpowder, kerosine, matches, and sulphuric acid, there is a need for this class of vessel, but as it is said that it is to smuggling that they have to look for their chief support, and as with few exceptions,

although running under foreign flags, they are entirely native owned, this branch of the shipping trade does not much interest us.

If measures could be taken to prevent natives owning vessels running under foreign flags the lorchas now running would be supplied by *bond fide* foreign owned vessels and an honest livelihood would be open to a certain number of foreigners, but so far all attempts to enforce this rule have merely led to the lorchas being, as the majority of them now are, placed under foreign flags which they obtain with facility.

The remaining class which have figured in previous Reports as largely swelling the number of British vessels, *i.e.*, the so-called "chartered junks" flying the British flag will, I trust, in future disappear.

When the port was opened there was lack of means of carriage of the vast export of native produce then conducted by foreign merchants, and provision was made that they should be allowed to charter junks for the purpose of carrying their cargo to Shanghai, &c., and that these junks should come under the foreign custom-house and pay dues and duties according to the foreign Tariff, and a large number of junks legitimately flew a foreign flag.

But with the extinction of the rebellion, the increase of steamers and consequent reduction of freights, and a series of other causes unnecessary here to mention, it ceased to become profitable for a foreign merchant to ship by native vessels, and chartered junks should have disappeared from the Returns.

It had, however, been discovered by the junk-owners, that by obtaining a foreign flag and paying tonnage dues according to the foreign Tariff, they escaped the very much heavier imposts levied on native craft at the various customs stations on the river.

They, therefore, when foreigners ceased to charter them, resorted to foreigners themselves to obtain a flag, paying the foreigner a certain sum to misrepresent that he had chartered the junk, and obtain a pass for it.

The practice has been notorious for years, and had at length become a regular business, foreigners making a living by selling their name to Chinese to enable them to defraud the native Customs, and although various attempts have been made to discountenance the practice, they have hitherto been without effect until this year, when a quarrel between one of these foreigners and his native employer exposed the whole *modus operandi*, and the native authorities were enabled to take practical steps to put a stop to it by the prosecution of those concerned, and although every effort has been made to continue the practice in a different form, so far as the British flag is concerned, it has come to an end.

In manufactures there has been no development, save in the tea factories, the establishments which were started here some years ago for the extraction of gold from syree having come to an end for want of material, but the establishment of the woollen mills at Lan-chow Fu and the official patronage of the cotton mill scheme at Shanghai will give an impetus to the establishment of similar industries throughout the country, and as I have pointed out in former Reports, there is no place better suited than Hankow for the establishment of a manufacturing centre; cheap coal, abundant water, and workmen accustomed to factory life are all found here, and the Yangtze and Han afford the means of bringing down the raw material and carrying away the products of the factories; all that is needed is a little enterprise, for the capital could probably be obtained from native sources, and when the day does come foreigners will for years reap a golden harvest in the supply of machinery and in the organization and establishment of the mills.

GENERAL.

Of political events the most noticeable have been the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa in the "Vittor Pisani" in the early portion of the year, which was noticeable in the change observable in the attitude of the high officials, who instead of holding themselves aloof, or insulting His Royal Highness by treating him with lack of courtesy as some years ago they probably would have done, did everything in their power to show that they recognized the duty of local authorities to treat distinguished visitors with attention.

Later on the most noticeable event was the levy of some 20,000 troops for the anticipated war with Russia, and their dispatch by native steamers to the north, which was accomplished without any foreign assistance whatever. The men were enlisted, equipped, gathered together in Hankow, and shipped off in the steamers of the China Merchants Company and the Foochow transports with wonderful promptitude and absence of confusion, and it shows a wonderful advance on the part of the Chinese that they could so rapidly and easily transport an army some 1,200 miles. It is true that the equipment was, to European eyes, rude, that there was far too large a proportion of flags, and halberds, and spears to rifles among the troops, that their baggage was too cumbersome, and that their commissariat was limited to a supply of rice, pork, and cooking pans, that they had no medical staff, or transport corps, or Ordnance Department, but they kept the raw levies in order while quartered here, and they got them to their destination without accident in wonderfully short time.

The Central Government were probably very right in coming to the conclusion that they were not in a position to fight Russia, as things turned out, but they have made a wonderful advance in the last twenty years, and had foreign nations guaranteed them as they hoped from attack on the sea-board, it is probable that Russia would have found the task of reducing China to terms more difficult than was to be expected from the experience of the Anglo-French expedition to Peking.

Noticeable also was the attitude of authorities and people at Hankow during the most exciting period when war seemed imminent; the desire for war was general, and the greatest confidence was expressed by natives with whom foreigners came in contact as to the result, but although the sole defence of this Settlement, 600 miles in the interior of China, was one small English gun-boat, no insult of any kind was offered to Englishmen, Americans, or Russians; business went on as usual, and foreigners could move about as freely and unrestrainedly as in the most peaceful times; the *mot d'ordre* appeared to have been given to avoid cause of offence and to be implicitly obeyed.

Of missionary matters there is nothing to record save, and it is worthy of being noted, that although the agents of the China Inland Mission have gone far afield, and the representatives of the other missions have visited the surrounding country freely, and it is to be presumed that the missionaries generally have been as zealously engaged in their work as in other years, the constantly recurring missionary questions and missionary difficulties seem to have come to an end during the year 1880 at least. No complaints were made either by or against the missionary body at this port.

(Signed) CHAL. ALABASTER, *Consul*.

Hankow, March 15, 1881.

Tables attached to Mr. Alabaster's Trade Report for Hankow 1880

1. Export of Tea.
 2. Comparative Statement of Export Trade.
 3. Comparative Statement of Import Trade.
 4. Imports of Treasure and Opium.
 5. Shipping Table.
 6. Values of the Trade of the Port.
-

(Table No. 1.)—TEA Exported and Re-exported during the Year 1880.

Destination.	Hankow Tea.		Kinkiang Tea.		Wuhu Tea.		Tea, Sundry.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
To foreign countries— Great Britain Odessa	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.
	176,099 69	4,456,720	66,024 23	2,238,540	430 42	14,779	520 25	9,365	248,074 59	6,709,404
	24,917 65	642,088	8,609 79	291,954	...	...	...	...	33,527 44	934,042
	201,017 34	5,098,808	74,634 02	2,520,494	430 42	14,779	520 25	9,365	276,602 03	7,643,446
To Chinese ports— Ichang Kinkiang Wuhu Chinkiang Shanghai	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	11 48	324	...	...	34	6	34	6
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 48	324
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	2
Total Grand total	...	...	24,135 67	622,473	213 02	5,557	20 82	303	340,614 91	5,097,003
	...	...	24,147 15	622,797	213 02	5,557	21 16	309	840,627 28	5,097,944
	...	...	98,981 17	3,143,291	643 44	20,386	541 41	9,674	617,229 31	12,741,390

Brick Tea.										
Destination.	Black.		Green.		Total.					
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.				
To foreign countries— Great Britain Odessa	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.				
	15 80	129	...	...	15 80	129				
	21 25	163	...	...	21 25	163				
	37 05	292	...	...	37 05	292				
To Chinese ports Grand total	...	...	...	...	...	...
	152,302	1,029,246	15,936 65	80,573	168,238 65	1,109,819				
	152,339 05	1,029,588	15,936 65	80,573	168,275 70	1,110,111				

EXPORT TRADE.

(No. 2).—COMPARATIVE Table of the Export Trade for the Years 1877 to 1880.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Dye stuff	Piculs ...	7,827 50	8,161 45	9,734 21	8,930 85
Fungus	" ...	11,258 22	14,653 85	13,479 12	13,739 11
Gypsum	" ...	42,604 00	61,283 00	112,172 74	116,675 00
Hemp	" ...	62,283 08	73,010 82	72,701 60	77,885 15
Hides, cow	" ...	50,565 17	35,265 28	21,063 32	22,288 88
Lily flowers, dried ...	" ...	10,012 26	8,488 50	20,973 64	10,085 93
Medicines	" ...	101,922 80	94,808 23	109,255 80	118,791 81
Musk	" ...	24 18 ¹ / ₂	32 32 ¹ / ₂	81 96	32 85 ¹ / ₂
Nankeens	" ...	2,066 76	3,554 85	3,752 63	3,450 07
Nutgalls	" ...	26,585 53	24,742 53	28,391 82	26,604 30
Oil, wood	" ...	241,627 88	336,052 94	203,820 63	261,544 76
Opium, Szechuen ...	" ...	1,107 80 ¹ / ₂	680 86 ¹ / ₂	130 08 ¹ / ₂	927 46 ¹ / ₂
Paper	" ...	16,199 90	12,784 94	13,078 34	11,586 08
Rhubarb—					
Shensi	" ...	2,095 89	2,697 11	3,660 97	3,669 69
Szechuen	" ...	3,384 89	3,245 08	3,380 77	3,376 08
Safflower	" ...	6,036 82	6,543 90	5,152 47	4,914 76
Silk, Szechuen	" ...	1,965 70	3,257 24 ¹ / ₂	6,849 78 ¹ / ₂	7,471 33
Steel	" ...	6,549 14	5,869 95	5,323 45	3,455 26
Tallow, vegetable ...	" ...	58,900 70	89,269 16	90,413 64	102,166 13
Tea—					
Black	" ...	435,798 58	365,233 30	423,161 63	517,263 29
Kiukiang	" ...	67,097 22	90,256 73	111,831 91	98,791 17
(Re-exported) ...	" ...				
Wuhu ... ..	" ...	...	177 73	1,493 14	643 44
(Re-exported) ...	" ...				
sundry ... ..	" ...	...	36 43	218 33	541 41
brick	" ...	83,402 09	101,695 08	144,756 26	152,339 05
Green	" ...	6,962 59	15,946 36	26,650 80	15,936 66
(Re-exported) ...	" ...				
Tobacco	" ...	118,241 49	111,312 55	121,273 92	133,983 40
Wax, white	" ...	18,186 14	5,316 13	6,943 44	8,891 94
Varnish	" ...	7,126 48	5,796 51	6,489 18	6,150 31

IMPORT TRADE.

(No. 3).—COMPARATIVE Table of the Net Import Trade for the Years 1877 to 1880.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880
Cotton goods—					
Shirtings, grey ...	Pieces ...	1,063,784	941,065	1,411,168	1,334,904
" white ...	" ...	185,766	151,538	233,997	326,991
T-cloths ...	" ...	372,176	333,042	434,886	462,554
Drills ...	" ...	313,425	174,247	283,617	231,284
Sheetings ...	" ...	9,350	37,325	40,496	69,730
Chintzes ...	" ...	30,695	38,403	50,707	55,150
Brocades ...	" ...	6,928	7,299	10,230	9,275
Damasks ...	" ...	8,514	5,023	6,091	5,336
Velvets and velveteens ...	" ...	20,541	21,496	19,049	25,090
Woollen goods—					
Lustres ...	" ...	48,600	43,201	56,096	53,595
Camlets ...	" ...	47,501	47,155	57,106	58,292
Cloths, medium, &c. ...	" ...	12,675	16,591	20,353	16,429
Lastings ...	" ...	16,932	22,561	31,957	29,053
Long pills ...	" ...	53,584	50,730	69,340	44,038
Spanish stripes ...	" ...	10,838	10,633	13,882	12,540
Metals—					
Iron, nail-rod ...	Piculs ...	14,979 90	23,611 65	26,019 17	30,169 06
Lead ...	" ...	25,530 28	29,728 85	19,450 32	22,335 40
Fin ...	" ...	2,591 04	2,944 84	3,251 36	3,705 06
Quicksilver ...	" ...	820 55	876 77	2,146 28	1,190 32½
Opium—					
Malwa ...	" ...	2,274 00	1,905 00	2,678 62	2,302 64
Patna ...	" ...	182 38	218 63	579 22	584 51½
Sundries—					
Cotton, raw ...	" ...	160,983 25	143,638 87	150,893 66	375,648 90
Cuttle fish ...	" ...	13,929 41	16,693 63	22,183 46	20,741 24
Matches ...	Gross ...	42,980	129,527	274,933	324,317
Medicines ...	Piculs ...	33,163 46	33,425 12	38,816 40	40,347 82
Oil, kerosene ...	Gallons ...	27,976	76,370	149,320	255,157
Pepper ...	Piculs ...	18,001 44	21,801 33	25,054 71	21,319 74
Sandal wood ...	" ...	14,325 83	19,211 60	15,582 49	21,855 33
Sapan wood ...	" ...	27,300 35	19,120 24	35,263 22	27,099 60
Seaweed ...	" ...	33,289 30	101,553 76	126,295 99	101,573 24
Silk piece goods ...	" ...	1,000 73	1,150 40	1,261 94	1,363 76½
Sugar, brown ...	" ...	132,711 24	198,758 08	179,886 76	207,655 32
" white ...	" ...	79,807 61	85,157 82	105,080 50	100,114 15
Tea (imported) ...	" ...	742 27	1,174 16	1,223 72	58 61

(Table No. 4).—TREASURE and copper cash Imported and Exported during the year 1880.

IMPORTED.

Port.	Copper cash.	Sycee.	Total.
Ichang .. .. .	..	4,812	4,812
Kiukiang .. .. .	..	22,050	22,050
Wu-hu	1,488	44,450	48,938
Chinkiang	25,629	87,600	113,229
Shanghai .. .. .	..	3,211,667	3,211,667
Total	27,117	3,370,579	3,397,696

EXPORTED.

Port.	Copper cash.	Sycee.	Gold bars.	Total.
Ichang .. .. .	..	1,400	..	1,400
Kiukiang .. .. .	..	1,030,620	..	1,030,620
Wu-hu .. .. .	..	100	..	100
Chinkiang .. .. .	..	22,050	..	22,050
Shanghai	28,500	205,518	91,090	325,108
Total	28,500	1,259,688	91,090	1,379,278

(Table No. 5.)—Gross and Net importation of Opium during the year 1880.

Description.	Gross Import.		Re-export.		Net Total.	
	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.
Malwa	2,464 14	1,357,979	160 50	87,630	2,303 64	1,270,349
Patna	606 91½	275,813	22 40	10,164	584 51½	265,649
Benares	4 80	1,649	...	...	4 80	1,649
Persian	62 00	21,664	1 00	330	61 00	21,334
Total... ..	3,137 85½	1,657,106	183 90	98,124	2,953 95½	1,558,981

(Table No. 6.)—SHIPPING.

Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared under each Flag for the Year ended 31st December, 1880.

STEAMERS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.						Cleared Outwards.						Total.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British steamers—	266	222,079	..	..	266	222,079	259	218,179	7	3,900	266	222,079	532	444,158
Under river pass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Under Chinkiang pass, for Great Britain direct	4	5,972	7	10,973	11	16,925	11	16,925	..	..	11	16,925	22	33,850
Under ditto, for Shanghai	1	1,240	..	..	1	1,240	..	..	1	1,240	1	1,240	2	2,480
Under ditto, for Shanghai and Great Britain	..	..	1	2,114	1	2,114	1	2,114	..	..	1	2,114	2	4,228
Chinese steamers under river steamer pass	153	154,546	22	17,488	175	172,034	156	157,419	20	15,636	176	173,050	351	345,089
French steamers, under Chinkiang pass, for Great Britain direct	..	..	1	1,151	1	1,151	1	1,151	..	..	1	1,151	2	2,302
German steamers, under Chinkiang pass, for Great Britain direct	..	..	1	1,136	1	1,136	1	1,136	..	..	1	1,136	2	2,272
Russian steamers, under Chinkiang pass, for Odessa direct	1	2,502	1	1,693	2	4,195	2	4,195	..	..	2	4,195	4	8,390
Total steamers	425	386,319	33	34,555	458	420,874	431	401,119	28	20,776	459	421,895	917	842,769

SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.						Cleared Outwards.						Total.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.			
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
American lorchas, under Chinkiang pass	61	8,970	1	146	62	9,116	63	9,230	..	..	63	9,230	125	18,346
British lorchas, under ditto	33	6,056	1	210	34	6,266	34	6,322	..	..	34	6,322	68	12,588
British hulks, under ditto .. ..	..	..	3	788	3	788	..	..	3	788	3	788	6	1,576
Danish lorchas, under ditto	20	3,258	..	..	20	3,258	20	3,269	..	..	20	3,269	40	6,527
German lorchas, under ditto	16	2,306	1	135	17	2,441	18	2,539	..	..	18	2,539	35	5,000
Spanish lorchas, under ditto	3	555	..	..	3	555	1	142	..	..	1	142	4	697
Chinese junks, under special junk pass	49	3,047	..	..	49	3,047	293	19,916	..	..	293	19,916	342	22,963
Total sailing vessels	182	24,192	6	1,279	188	25,471	429	41,438	3	788	432	42,226	620	67,697

TOTAL STEAMERS AND SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	With Cargo.			In Ballast.			With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.	
	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.		
	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.		
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
American	61	8,970	1	146	62	9,116	63	9,230	..	..	63	9,230	125	18,346
British	304	235,327	12	14,085	316	249,412	305	243,540	11	5,928	316	249,468	632	498,880
Chinese	202	157,593	22	17,488	224	175,081	449	177,335	20	15,636	469	192,971	693	368,052
Danish	20	3,258	..	..	20	3,258	20	3,269	..	..	20	3,269	40	6,527
French .. ..	..	..	1	1,151	1	1,151	1	1,151	..	..	1	1,151	2	2,302
German	16	2,306	2	1,271	18	3,577	19	3,695	..	..	19	3,695	37	7,272
Russian	1	2,502	1	1,693	2	4,195	2	4,195	..	..	2	4,195	4	8,396
Spanish	3	555	..	..	3	555	1	142	..	..	1	142	4	697
Grand total	607	410,511	39	35,834	646	446,345	860	442,557	31	21,564	891	464,121	1,537	910,466

(Table No. 7.)—Gross and Net Values of the Trade of Hankow, 1878 to 1880.

	1878.		1879.		1880.	
	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.
<i>Foreign Goods.</i>		H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Imported from foreign countries and Hong Kong	30,558		8,545		27,541	
Imported from Chinese ports	7,819,090		10,960,482		13,303,494	
Total foreign imports	..	7,849,648	..	10,969,027	..	13,331,335
Re-exported to foreign countries and Hong Kong	..		..		..
Re-exported to Chinese ports (chiefly to Shanghai and Ichang)	76,959		254,811		1,144,219	
Total foreign re-exports	76,959		254,811		1,144,219	
Net total foreign imports	7,772,659		10,714,216		12,187,116	
<i>Native Produce.</i>						
Imported (chiefly from Shanghai)	..	7,287,383	..	8,795,261	..	13,513,967
Re-exported to foreign countries	2,358,072		2,582,353		2,544,638	
Re-exported to Chinese ports	296,986		973,409		1,520,807	
Total native re-exports	2,655,058		3,555,762		4,065,445	
Net total native imports	4,632,325		5,239,499		9,448,522	
Native produce of local origin exported to foreign countries.	4,081,172		4,510,462		5,099,638	
Native produce of local origin exported to Chinese ports..	13,002,358		15,730,317		15,549,933	
Total exports of local origin	..	17,083,530	..	20,240,779	..	20,649,571
Gross value of the trade of the port	..	32,220,561	..	40,005,067	..	47,494,873
Net value of the trade of the port (i.e., foreign and native imports, less re-exports, and native exports of local origin)	29,488,544		36,194,494		42,285,209	

ICHANG.

Report on the Trade of Ichang for the Year 1880.

THE trade statistics of the port for the year 1880 are given in a series of Tables annexed to this Report. They comprise:—

1. Direct Trade.
2. Indirect Trade, coast and river.
3. Shipping.
4. Foreign Goods Imported.
5. Chinese Produce Imported.
6. Chinese Produce Exported.
7. Inland Transit, inwards and outwards.

Trade has increased rapidly during the year under review, showing a total, for imports and exports, of 2,094,000 taels, as against 612,000 taels in 1879 and 71,000 taels in 1878. The following Table, compiled from the Returns of the past three years, shows that this expansion is common to all branches of the trade :—

		Year—		
		1878.	1879.	1880.
		Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Imports of foreign goods	..	19,207	223,716	1,010,756
Ditto of native produce	..	13,836	35,143	225,089
Exports of native produce	..	38,092	353,849	859,053

The revenue of the port has of course increased in like proportion, being 68,627 taels, as against 27,751 taels in 1879 and 3,498 taels in 1878. Nearly the whole of this trade is in goods destined for the Province of Szechuen, or in native produce which has come from Szechuen to Ichang, and the figures do not indicate the creation of a new trade so much as the gradual transfer of the old trade into that new channel which the opening of Ichang as a Treaty port, and the running of steamers between Ichang and Hankow, have provided for it. To drive or coax a trade out of a channel in which it has been conducted from time immemorial into a new one is in all countries difficult so long as the advantages and profit of the change are not clearly demonstrable, and Ichang has proved no exception to the rule. The Szechuen trade, it is hardly necessary to say, had, up to the opening of the port, been entirely conducted in junks. Shortly after the port was opened a steamer was put on the river between this port and Hankow, and it was anticipated with confidence that Szechuen traders would eagerly avail themselves of the expeditious transit thus afforded. Although it was made evident that goods which formerly took forty days to come to Ichang by junk could be brought by steamer in five, the Chinese merchants engaged in the Szechuen trade held back. Vested interests in junks induced some to hold aloof; but the great majority were kept back by the uncertainty whether the steamer would be able to run regularly in winter, when the

river is low, and by the risk they would incur, if she stopped running, of having their cargo shut out of junks by the irritated junk owners. A junk "ring" was formed too of up-river carriers, and threats of penalties were made to traders shipping by steamer on the lower river. As a matter of fact, the steamer was unable to run during the winter, and the Chinese were consequently confirmed in their resolution to make no change in their employment of junks as carriers. From want of support the steamer was ultimately withdrawn.

A second attempt, however, was made, this time by the Chinese Steamer Company. The steamer obtained some support, and as merchants got bolder in proportion as the junk ring grew weaker, this support increased during 1879. In the winter of that year the Company kept communication open by means of a light draught stern-wheel steamer, and this changed the whole complexion of affairs. As soon as it was demonstrated that steam navigation was possible between this port and Hankow all the year round, the Szechuen merchants became eager to take advantage of it, and from being a complete failure, the Ichang trade sprang at once into a success. Indeed, in the course of 1880 freight has had constantly to be shut out, and on some occasions the steamer might have been loaded two or three times over. Unfortunately, in November last the river fell greatly, and the steamer has been again withdrawn. It is unlikely that the Chinese, who have now experienced the advantages of steamer transit, will ever go back to junks when a steamer is offering, especially as they are now numerous enough to disregard the threats of the owners of the forsaken junks. But British merchants will have strangely changed their natures if adequate steam tonnage for the whole of the trade of this port, and through it of Szechuen, is not shortly forthcoming. A steamer's earnings is by no means the only element of advantage in this trade. Incidentally, it has given a new impulse to production in Western Hupei. But the great advantage of steam communication between Hankow and Ichang is, that it brings English goods thirty days nearer the great Szechuen market than they have hitherto been. Szechuen is a province of rare fertility, of immense extent, and of great production, and this increase in the facilities for traffic will give a direct and decided stimulus to the consumption there of English goods, and to the export of her own surplus products. It is already one of our best China markets, taking over 900,000 pieces of cottons and 120,000 pieces of woollen goods per annum.

SHIPPING.

The steamers frequenting the port have been those of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company. A British boat of feeble power was chartered for the winter of 1879-80, and it struggled up here four times, taking ten days to cover the 390 miles from Hankow. This was a sufficient triumph over the junk, however, to change the whole current of the trade, and when the water rose in March and the steam-ship "Kiang Tung" was put on, she ran throughout the year until November, doing a most profitable trade. This was materially assisted by the establishment of a native agency at Chungking, the commercial centre of Szechuen, and of through rates of freight by junk and steamer to Hankow. The withdrawal of the steamer owing to the want of water, without being replaced by a boat of lighter draught, was regarded by all classes of the Chinese with great regret, for large numbers of passengers, both merchants and officials, had learnt how comfortable and expeditious travelling could be made. There was no opposition by any of the British river steamer Companies. The non-success of one Company in the past had made all sceptical of the present. But there is now no doubt that Szechuen

merchants, whether at Hankow, Ichang, or Chungking, are most anxious for regular steamers, are prepared to employ them when they appear, and are in a position to give such steamers profitable employment.

Two or three boats would find, I believe, a remunerative trade at once. They will ultimately get the most valuable portion of the through Szechuen trade into their hands, so far as conveyance between this port and Hankow is concerned. It is of vast extent. Some 7,000 junks of a carrying capacity, ranging from 1,500 to 3,500 piculs (133 lbs.), are yearly loaded at Shashih and Ichang for Szechuen, and the cargoes of this great fleet come to these ports mostly by way of the Yangtze from Hankow. Foreign goods to the value of over 3,000,000 taels are sent yearly to Szechuen under transit pass; and the carriage of the single article of raw cotton from Hankow to Ichang and Chungking gives employment to hundreds of junks. The estimate of 200,000 bales given in 1869 by the Delegates of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce is less than half what the Szechuen import is now; last year it was quite half a million bales. That the Chinese are anxious to ship this by steamer is proved by the fact, that in October last a full cargo of from 8,000 to 10,000 bales, through from Shanghai to Ichang, was offered to one of the largest river steamers. The London underwriters declined to allow the steamer to go, although there was plenty of water in the river. The Chinese willingly pay 1 dol. 40 c. per bale for its carriage here by steamer from Hankow. Large as the up-river trade to Ichang is, it is quite equalled by the down-river trade in Szechuen products. Although one of the main articles, salt, is, both in manufacture and carriage, a monopoly beyond the sphere of foreign influences, and, of late, contraband beyond Shashih, a large share will ultimately be carried of other Szechuen products from Ichang by steamer. White wax is exported from Szechuen to the value of 2,000,000 taels yearly, and Tung oil to the value of 4,000,000 taels: most of this comes down the Yangtze. Large quantities of tobacco, sugar, hemp, coal, safflower, and rhubarb are also sent to Hankow, and there is a yearly increasing production of yellow silk in the west which finds its way east in the same channel.

The important point is to put on a steamer suited to the conditions of the section of the river between Hankow and Ichang. These conditions in the main are an intensified form of those of the Lower Yangtze, a strong current with floods in summer, and very low water, not more than 5 feet at Hope Island, Sunday Island, and one or two other shoals, during the winter months. Her draught should be suited to this minimum, as it is essential to success that she should run throughout the year. Indeed, the largest trade is done in the winter months. She should at the same time be full powered, so as to make three trips a month at least, whatever the state of the current. Those best acquainted with this part of the river pronounce the best kind of boat to be a paddle-wheel iron steamer of the type similar to the British built boats on the lower river; length not to exceed 250 feet; with beam, depth, and 'tween decks so proportioned as to carry 600 or 700 tons on a maximum depth of 5 feet, minimum 3 ft. 6 in., with engines sufficient to drive her 14 knots in smooth water. In addition to being short for handiness, she should be fitted with the most powerful steering gear, such as Captain Knight's patent. Information of the most valuable kind for any firm proposing to run steamers between Hankow and Ichang could be got at Rangoon, for, on the Irrawaddy, steam communication is maintained regularly along the course of that river as far as Bhamo, although it is beset by currents and shallows as bad as anything in the Yangtze. However, of the nature and construction of the best steamer for the Ichang trade I write without possessing the requisite technical knowledge. I content myself with indicating roughly what is required, and pointing out where

the difficulties of a river with shoals and currents are successfully contended with by a steam navigation Company.

IMPORTS.

The marked increase on the quantity of foreign goods imported into Ichang in 1880 over previous years is shown by the following Table:—

				Imports in—		
				1878.	1879.	1880.
				Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Grey shirtings	..	..	..	1,000	33,100	153,394
T-cloths	..	..	..	300	9,350	36,019
Drills	..	..	..	1,040	6,260	54,079
Camlets	..	..	..	..	520	3,832
Long ells	..	..	..	2	1,600	5,306
Lastings	..	..	..	180	620	4,660
Lustres and orleans	..	..	..	..	515	6,410

The import trade is at present in the hands of Chinese. That this is likely to be the case in future is a matter of small moment to the English exporter, the Shanghai merchant, or indeed to the British Consul here. The welfare and numbers of British importers resident at the outports which draw their supplies from Shanghai has long ceased to be any index to the value of the China trade to Great Britain as a manufacturing nation, and the absence of this class from Ichang proves nothing. The import of British goods at Ichang promises to increase rapidly, giving the necessary carrying facilities, and the trade will be equally a benefit to our manufacturing interests, whether the goods are "handled" here by Chinese or British firms. Chinese merchants, as far as regards imports, have in theory nearly all the facilities and advantages that foreigners are entitled to, by simple payment of the Tariff duties. But for various reasons they find it convenient to employ foreigners to pass their goods, and to style their firms "foreign," and, in course of time, there will probably be a sphere of activity here for a few British merchants of this class. Such "merchants" may not represent, as a rule, the highest type of our national character, but in procuring facilities for their Chinese employers, to which the Chinese by law and Treaty are themselves entitled, or in pestering the Consul with their claims, or even denouncing him for indifference to the "British interests" which they represent, they are doing no more than, as British subjects, they are at perfect liberty to do.

A much more questionable practice amongst the Chinese traders in British goods was brought to light here in June last. Amongst the smuggled goods of a Chinese merchant travelling by steamer seized by the officers of the Maritime Customs was found a package of labels or chops by which certain English shirtings of a known class and weight are distinguished. They bore the Chinese style of the well-known British firm of Holliday, Wise, and Co., of Shanghai, and on being sent to Shanghai for inspection, they were discovered to be forgeries. I am told that the practice of passing off inferior makes of English piece-goods as of good quality, by means of forged labels, is on the increase.

A very small amount of the total foreign import is consumed locally; the ultimate destination of nearly all is Szechuen. The people here, as they are in the other parts of China that I have visited, are clad in home-stuffs. The short staple Chinese cotton only spins into coarse yarns of a size

corresponding to our No. 16 to 20 yarn, and this, when woven without admixture of more size or paste than is necessary to stiffen the warp, makes an admirable cloth, coarse, but stout, exactly suited to a poor agricultural population. It will patch and repatch, and hold out in all weathers. Although the ordinary Chinaman, when living, does not find himself comfortably clothed in light weight English goods, he has no hesitation in shrouding his dead in them, and, in time, a Chinese outfit for the other world will be here, as it is elsewhere in China, clothes of T-cloths, and money, and an opium pipe of paper. The prospect of a local demand for our goods is not affected, therefore, by the excellence of the native cloth.

Conspicuous by its absence from the foreign import list is the item of opium, whether Indian or Persian. Although the habit of smoking is far more prevalent in the West than in the seaboard provinces, no foreign opium is consumed. In the city of Ichang itself, containing a population, inclusive of boat coolies and sailors in the junks anchored off the city wall, of not more than 30,000 inhabitants, there are more than 600 opium shops. These shops, or rather dens, sell from 3 to 5 ounces of opium each a-day, and at the low average of $3\frac{1}{2}$ ounces this gives a total consumption per annum for this small city of 475 piculs (each of 133 lbs. avoirdupois). It is paid for by the smokers at rates varying from 270 to 320 cash an ounce, or 480 dollars a picul, so that Ichang expends per annum in this vice 220,000 dollars. Other towns and villages in Western Hupei consume opium in like proportion: the air of every hamlet is tainted with its fumes. The opium used comes either from Yün Nan, Kweichow, Szechuen, or is grown locally. The Szechuen opium is the cheapest, and that grown in Hupei the best and dearest. The best opium growing districts in Hupei are in this and the neighbouring prefecture of Shih Nan Fu. In these the cultivation of the poppy is yearly increasing. No restraint is imposed by the authorities, and in districts like Patung and Kuei it is the only valuable source of revenue. It is mostly grown in hill country, on land ill adapted for cereals, and it pays, Chinese farmers say, seven times as well as cereals, even where cereals are grown on well watered good bottom land. A continuous increase in the yearly production of this part of the country may be looked for. In this prefecture the opium harvest last year was the largest and best on record. The Patung opium, especially that produced at a place called the Lung-chia Bridge, and known as "bridge opium," is in high repute both for excellence of flavour and for the large percentage of drug yielded by the crude product. Of this some 3,000 lbs. were produced last year and smoked by the producers; it is hardly obtainable elsewhere, being too good to sell. Very little is produced in the district proper of Ichang or in Hsing-shan, but in Patung, Changyo, Changyang, Huofêng, and Kuei opium of good repute and in great demand is produced in quantity. The production of opium in the prefecture of Shih Nan Fu has been reported to me as over 1,000 piculs. But in the hill regions of this part of the country a system of excise or supervision in revenue interests is impossible; indeed, it is not attempted, and statistics of the local production which might approximate the truth could only be obtained by a visit to the opium country itself. The 2,500 piculs generally given as the production of Western Hupei is much too low. Of the amount produced in Szechuen, I speak too from hearsay, but I have it on the best authority that Mr. Davenport's estimate of 50,000 chests in 1876 does not apply now, and that it is at present as large as our whole Indian supply. Recent travellers from Yün Nan report to me that that province is rapidly recovering from the desolation in which rebellion left it, and that it is already difficult to recognize the waste and solitude described by the members of the Grosvenor Mission. The universal form of the new

cultivation they found to be a winter crop of opium, and in February last the parts of the province traversed by these gentlemen were ablaze with poppies. Of the Western provinces this much is certain, that the conditions of opium culture, so far as the officials are concerned, are perfect freedom from interference except for revenue purposes, and often in revenue interests open encouragement. The Proclamations against it which are fulminated from time to time are either in obedience to commands from Peking, issued in the first instance for diplomatic or superstitious purposes, or are a well-understood signal to all concerned that the proportion of smuggled opium to duty paid opium is getting too large. Statistics of consumption are also difficult to obtain except in cities where the method I have adopted with respect to Ichang will give fairly accurate results. Although, when obtained, such statistics are worthless, for the most unworthy reasons, they are of some use as indices, on the assumption that the amount of opium smuggled into consumption is in a moderately constant ratio to the amount on which duty is paid. I am told here for example that for every picul which pays duty there are $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 which either pay none, or only small illegal squeezes; and applying this to the official estimate of the amount of Hupei grown opium, it being mostly smoked in the province itself, it would raise both production and consumption to about 7,000 piculs. The habit of smuggling opium is universal in the West by all who have occasion to journey from west to east, or from country to town. In November last the youth of the prefecture assembled here for the triennial examinations, there being 1,300 candidates in the civil schools and 1,000 in the military. The great majority of these young literates came here with their pockets and baggage full of smuggled opium, some of which they smoked, and the rest they sold to defray the expenses attending their examination. This is the school in which Chinese officials are nowadays trained in the West.

To sum up, opium cultivation in the West is free, and its product is regarded as a fertile source of revenue to the exchequer, of pelf to officials, and of profit to all. Everybody smokes it, and everybody smuggles it when he has the chance. In these matters there is no difference between rich and poor, lettered and unlettered, governing and governed. The amount produced is rapidly increasing; it fully supplies the immense local demand, and from it are sent large supplies eastward, in contraband channels at present. No Indian opium is consumed anywhere. It is hardly the province of a Consular officer to draw morals from the facts which come to his knowledge, but I think it only right to say that so long as China not only tolerates but encourages this state of things, to say, as many do, that "England forces Indian opium upon her, and compels her people to poison themselves," is perilously like nonsense. The good and earnest people who, from a sense of duty which must command respect, preach these views throughout England, in season and out of season, are preaching what the actual state of things in the West forces me to say are pure delusions. In judging of the present attitude of this country towards opium production within its own borders, and in drawing reasonable conclusions therefrom, men who prefer fact to prejudice, and who are guided by intelligent discretion, not by blind zeal, should give more weight to the acts of the rulers of China than to their words.

The imports of native produce into Ichang have risen from 13,715 taels in 1878 and 35,143 taels in 1879 to 224,471 taels in 1880. The principal item was raw cotton, which is brought here to be transhipped into up-river junks for Szechuen. The district of Tung Hu, in which Ichang is situated, is itself a cotton country, and, after supplying all local demands, it has a considerable surplus, which joins the general stream of raw cotton to Szechuen. Cotton cultivation is extending, and, owing to its superior quality, it fetches a good price—18 to 20 dollars per picul.

EXPORTS.

The gradual creation of an export trade here is thus shown :—

				Exported in—		
				1878.	1879.	1880.
				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Coal	..	..	..	2,318	8,279	54,494
Medicines	..	..	..	471	4,631	12,457
Rhubarb	..	..	..	..	387	1,215
Silk	..	..	..	..	766	1,656
White wax	..	..	..	59	438	1,392

This is not exclusively a Szechuen trade, as the Ichang import trade is. But, in the main, it is so; and the remarks I have made regarding the nature and future of the import trade will apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the export. These I may shortly repeat. The trade is mainly in Szechuen produce; it is a trade which already exists, only it is carried on in junks between this port, or Shashih, and Hankow; and those engaged in it will adopt steamers, provided they are run regularly and continuously throughout the year. The change from junk to steamer has already commenced, and even with the imperfect communication maintained last year, the value of the exports has risen from 38,092 taels in 1878 and 353,849 taels in 1879 to 859,053 taels in 1880.

Coal is found in abundance in many districts of the prefecture of Ichang, particularly in Changyo and Patung. In the latter district the seams outcrop on the banks of the Yangtze, on the face of steep cliffs, and boats could be loaded by a shoot. The Chinese use it mixed with earth and water, sun-dried into little bricks, like a patent fuel.

Inland Transit of Certificated Goods and Produce.—The value of foreign goods sent inland from Ichang under transit pass increased from 15,223 taels in 1878 and 194,272 taels in 1879 to 989,188 taels in 1880. Szechuen was the destination of all. Although the Chefoo Convention provides that *bonâ fide* foreign imports are entitled, by payment of transit dues, to protection from further charges, either by way of duty or *li-kin*, from a port to a specified inland destination, irrespective of the nationality of the person conveying or possessing them, the Chinese here have not yet to any extent availed themselves of the permission. They still prefer to make their applications for transit passes in the name of some foreign firm. Although there are none such here, the Chinese Steamer Company's Agency, and one or two other leading Chinese firms, profess to be branches of foreign houses in Hankow, and take out, in their names, the transit passes which they or their customers may require. To this piece of juggling the Chinese authorities make no objection. The privilege of commuting inland charges which foreign goods are entitled to, simply in virtue of their foreign origin, is hardly yet a recognized and well-understood right. The last steps, however, to put this right on a satisfactory footing, have been taken in Ichang. A Proclamation was issued towards the close of 1880, giving the fullest publicity to the privilege of commutation, which the Chinese now have in respect to the foreign goods in their hands. A new form of transit pass, too, has been adopted, which, in its preamble, recites the clause of the Chefoo Convention alluded to above. Whether the custom of employing foreigners will long survive these reforms or not will depend more on the acts of the inland Customs barriers than upon the fair promises of the port officials.

There is only too good reason to fear that claims and remonstrances regarding the detention of certificated goods, put forward by Chinese merchants, will be subject to all the delays and inconveniences of ordinary Chinese law-suits, and in all probability will be made pretexts for exactions. The Chinese, therefore, will be slow to give up the protection which the foreign name seems to give their goods. In the employment of foreigners there is no fraud or deception, and nothing can be said against it, except that it is a humiliating position for a foreigner to assume; on the other hand, the non-employment of foreigners will entail this disadvantage, viz., that the rights which British goods have by virtue of a British Treaty will be dealt with in Chinese Courts, according to Chinese Court customs, by Chinese officials, and the Consul whose duty it is to see that the Treaty is respected will have no voice in the matter.

The principal barrier between Ichang and the great Szechuen entrepôt of Chungking is Kweichow. It is the first important Szechuen city on the Yangtze after passing the east boundary of the province. It is one of the great barriers of the Empire, and as the demands made upon it by the provincial exchequer and for metropolitan contributions are very large, its management is characterized by excessive rigour, in order to meet them. The present Superintendent is, by common report, more than ordinarily rapacious. The privileges of certificated goods he has, of course, to respect, but, being naturally an enemy to a method of transit which interferes with his revenue, he finds two ways of harassing it; one is in punishing by the extreme penalty of confiscation trivial mistakes by shippers, instead of allowing them to be rectified. To this course the terms of some of the Tariff rules, notably those appended to the United States' Treaty, have lent themselves, and in the most harsh construction of these the Superintendent finds the measure of his rights and duties. However, by a clause appended to the new form of transit pass, which comes in force on the 1st January, 1881, provisions are made for the rectification in transit of errors, and it will no longer be possible to visit them with the outrageous penalties hitherto levied. The other is by unnecessarily strict examination. By Treaty certificated goods are only allowed to pass a barrier free after examination, and, acting on this, the Kweichow officials find a means of showing their ill-will to the trade in foreign goods under transit pass. Bales of cotton goods whose marks and numbers are complete, and whose component pieces can be counted without breaking bulk, cannot be interfered with. But a large part of the Szechuen trade is in woollens packed in cases, and these cases are opened at Kweichow on the most trivial pretexts. Even boxes containing foreign books, and whose contents have been accurately declared, have been wrenched open. By this excessive zeal much unnecessary delay and trouble are caused, and it is a zeal whose motives are to be suspected. However, the officials, in this matter, are acting within their strict legal rights, and it is difficult to suggest a check which would not at the same time open the gate to fraud.

Cotton piece goods are not sent up river to Szechuen in the form in which they are imported. The bales are divided and re-packed, for convenience of storage, in native boats. This packing has to be done here, where go-down accommodation is limited and bad, it being necessary for goods to be sent here in their original coverings, marks, and numbers, in order to entitle them to exemption from import duty. Delay and expense are the result, and permission to repack Ichang goods at Shanghai and Hankow would assist the trade considerably. I may add that the classes of piece goods of all kinds sent to Szechuen are of a much more varied kind now than when the Tariff was drawn up. On this and other grounds a revision of the Tariff would be a boon to all concerned in the import trade.

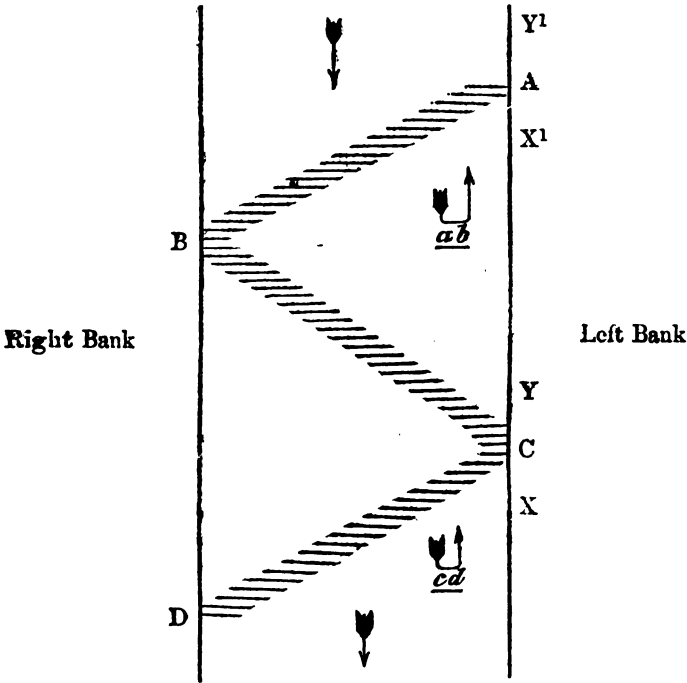
The amount of native produce brought down from Szechuen to Ichang for export abroad under transit pass has increased from 580 taels in 1878, and 243,000 taels in 1879, to 689,000 taels last year. Such produce, with regard to the privilege of commutation of inland dues, is on quite a different footing from foreign imports, for it is confined in this case to the foreign owner of the produce, and applications for passes have to be endorsed by a Consul as a guarantee, presumably, of *bona fides*. Even under these onerous conditions, there has been a gradual increase in the transit under pass of exports. Yellow silk, medicines, musk, rhubarb, and many other valuable Szechuen products are ultimately sent to foreign markets, and, unless protected by a transit pass, they are liable to heavy barrier duties on their way to Ichang. The passes under which native produce is brought here at present are taken out by foreign merchants in Hankow.

Junk Trade generally.—This comprises a world of commerce between east and west China, as roughly divided into two equal halves by the 110th meridian, the volume and nature of which were, until the other day, if not unknown, at least outside foreign influences. Szechuen and the West are cut off from the eastern half of the country by a close succession of precipitous mountains, through which the Yangtze breaks in a series of wild gorges and rapids, extending from Kweichow in Szechuen to this port. Of roads fit for traffic over these mountains there are none. Difficult as the navigation of this part of the Yangtze is, it is the main artery, indeed the only channel of commerce, between the divisions of China I have named. The number of junks engaged in this through traffic may thus be roughly estimated: about 6,000 arrive at Ichang yearly from Szechuen bound down river, and about 7,000 from Shashih bound up river. All these are large craft, carrying from 75 to 150 tons of cargo. The crews, which are very large, are paid by the trip, each man getting 3 to 4 dollars for the run to Chungking, with food and small allowances from time to time of tobacco, wine, and other luxuries. Rations are supplied on the most liberal scale as to quantity. The contract of service ends at Chungking, and the men find their way back as best they can, generally working their passage back in return for food. The junks are of two classes: one is the large Szechuen junk, with high stern, single mast, and bow-steering sweep, a heavy cumbersome craft, of great carrying capacity, requiring a crew of from sixty to eighty trackers and sailors; the other is the "sparrow tail" junk, with biped or tripod mast, sharp low stern, and stern steering sweep, a narrow craft, sailing close to the wind, with small carrying capacity in proportion to length, and requiring a crew of from forty to fifty hands. Owing to the dangers of the passage up and down this part of the river freights are high; there is, of course, no system of insurance, and junk owners are not liable to damage to cargo caused by the constant mishaps. Freights vary with the dangers, and dangers vary according to the height of the river; during the short season of summer freshet traffic is suspended. Cargo is mostly contained or made up in packages of a recognized size, from 16 to 18 cubic feet. The freight on each is 3 dollars to 3 dols. 60 c. up river, and 2 dols. 60 c. to 3 dols. 20 c. down river, per package, according to the season. The up-river passage takes from 30 to 40 days, and the down from 6 to 8 days. Up-river freights barely pay expenses, and the profits of the trade are made either on the return journeys or by smuggling.

All junks anchor at night, whether bound up or down. The river, and the traffic on it, are under the jurisdiction of two squadrons of the Yangtze patrol force, whose head-quarters are at Ichang and Chungking. The Ichang squadron is composed of some fifty gun-boats and dispatch vessels, mostly engaged in the vicinity of the rapids, in guarding wrecked

property, and in life-boat service. About 600 men are employed in the force, under the Ichang Admiral, and their service is performed with great efficiency. Their duties about the rapids are much lightened by the friendly and kindly relations which exist amongst the junk men themselves. They help each other along, and out of difficulties, with the utmost goodwill and readiness, and the community of danger and toil, in which they live, has had a softening and civilizing effect on a class of men who, in happier and more favoured parts of China, are the rowdiest part of the community.

The up-River Voyage.—Goods and produce for Szechuen are brought to Shashih and Ichang from all parts of China for transshipment into Szechuen junks. The greater part comes from Hankow, a long and tedious journey of from thirty to forty days, by junk, and it is this section of the trade which steamers will so much benefit. At Shashih and Ichang cargoes are shipped, crews engaged, new tow ropes and hawsers laid on, and all preparations made for the ascent of the rapids. Most of the transshipment is at present done at Shashih, but when steamers come regularly to Ichang, Ichang will become the great point of departure. Junks are tracked all the way to Chungking, except on the rare occasions when a fair wind is sufficient to enable a junk to overcome the current, or when there is no foothold for the trackers on the precipitous banks. Trackers number thirty to eighty, according to the size of the junk, and at the principal rapids 100 to 150 additional trackers are hired. With the exception of the Niukan and Metsang gorges, where the water, hemmed in by stupendous walls of rock, lies placidly 60 fathoms deep, the river from the upper end of the Ichang gorge to the boundary of Szechuen is one succession of rapids. The amount of energy, muscle, and shouting expended in dragging the junks up is incredible, and the scene along the banks of this part of the river is no less animated and stirring than the natural surroundings are impressive. The junkmasters show great skill in taking advantage of the eddies that exist everywhere. Wrecks are of constant occurrence. The shipwrecked crew or owners dig out a dock for themselves on the spot, patch up their vessel the best way they can, using the cotton part of the cargo to caulk the strained seams, and put forth again in a month or two. Time is no object to Chinamen here, and an occasional shipwreck is recognized by all concerned as an ordinary risk of the trade. The three most dreaded rapids are the Tatung Tan, at the head of the Ichang gorge, the Ching Tan, at the head of the Lukan gorge, and the Yeh Tan, above the small town of Kuei. Of these the Ching Tan is most formidable when the river is low, and the Yeh Tan when it is high, and Szechuen mariners have an adage which says, "When there is no Yeh there is sure to be Ching," meaning, in its literal sense, that one or other of these rapids is at all times dangerous. When I visited them in November last, for the purposes of this report, the water was about midway between summer and winter level. The Tatung Tan was not a difficult rapid to ascend, and fifty extra trackers added to my own crew of thirty dragged my junk up it with a single tow line. The Ching Tan is a succession of three rapids, extending for $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, called the Upper Ching, the Middle Ching, and the Lower Ching. They have a set from bank to bank alternately, with very strong eddies, which so assist upward-bound junks that the tracking is reduced to two short risky hauls, over what is almost a clear drop of a foot or two. Thus—



A B is the upper rapid, with a set from left bank to right, and causing eddy *ab*; B C is the middle rapid, which surges back to the left bank; and C D is the lower rapid, setting to the right bank, and causing eddy *cd*. Ascending the river close to the left bank, the eddy *cd* carries a junk to the position X, where it is confronted by the joint force of the middle and lower rapids. Three hawsers are laid out, and manned by half the population of the Ching Tan village, young and old, men and even women, and after a haul of half-an-hour position Y is attained. There the hawsers are coiled up, re-shipped, and the crew taken on board; the junk is caught by the eddy *ab*, and carried without any assistance to the position X¹, where the same tactics are repeated, and, with the aid of the other half of the village, position Y¹ is attained. The rule of the road is this: only one junk is allowed between X and Y, or between X¹ and Y¹, at a time. Hawsers are constantly breaking, and if several junks were being hauled up simultaneously, and one broke loose, she would crash into the others, and the whole of them would be swept down the rapid together in common ruin. On attaining X or X¹ a junk anchors. Laying out the tow ropes, which are sometimes a quarter of a mile long, takes some hours, and that done, the junk has to wait her turn. If, in being hauled over, the ropes break, she is carried down the rapid, generally in perfect safety, and at the foot of it a few vigorous strokes of the bowsweep sheer her into the eddy, and she takes her place at the foot of the row of waiting junks, to try her luck another day. Sometimes they have to wait ten days in the winter, when the traffic is large. Whole towns of mat sheds then spring up in the dry rocky bed of the river, where the crews of the blocked junks find restaurants and opium shops for their gratification. The Yeh Tan seemed to me to be the worst of the rapids. It is a single rapid, where the whole current of the Yangtze sweeps down a channel of not more than 75 yards wide with extraordinary velocity. At the time I visited it

only eighteen or twenty junks could pass a day. Below the rapid there was a block of the up-river traffic, there being some 190 junks at anchor. I counted fifteen wrecked junks at different places immediately below, the owners of which were busy repairing them. Here and there were stacks of shipwrecked cargo, bales of cotton, Manchester goods, and packages of produce. Lounging about in enforced idleness, smoking, sleeping, and gambling, were the crews of the detained junks, who must have numbered over 10,000 men. Yet in this wild region, remote from authority of any kind except an occasional unarmed patrol boat, under the most favourable conditions for robbery and riot, there was perfect order. With the exception of these three rapids, where special preparations have to be made, the navigation of up-river junks is a steady haul from point to point, now on the right bank, now on the left. By keeping close in shore, the shelter of rocks and the assistance of eddies is gained. The average rate of progress is ten miles a day.

Down-River Voyage.—Crews are made up at Chungking, and consist of as many men as the junk will hold comfortably. No wages are paid. The junk is oared out into the middle of the stream, Buddha is invoked, and she is allowed to drift down to Ichang. The efforts of the crew are confined to keeping the junk where the full force of the current is, from getting broadside on or stern foremost, and, as usual, to shouting. There is no danger of collision with up-river junks, as they are all inshore; but a considerable danger of striking rocks, of which there are many in parts of the mid-channel.

Along this river between Ichang and Chungking an immense shipping trade is thus carried on, under conditions of toil and hardship which have no parallel in any other part of the world. The question has more than once been discussed, whether this part of the river is practicable for steamers. Steam navigation, however, cannot be thought of until by careful survey at different seasons the position of the mid-channel rocks, and of the few safe anchorages, is ascertained by careful survey at different seasons. That done, a full powered, short, handy, wooden, stern-wheel steamer, with exceptionally strong guards and upright fenders, would not find difficulty anywhere in going up river, except in steering clear of a constant succession of unmanageable junks drifting down river at great speed. As for the rapids, I cannot think that there is any difficulty there, given sufficient water; for a rapid over which 200 men can haul a junk of 150 tons cannot be an obstacle to a steamer. But the passage down will, in my opinion, be attended with some risk, owing to the strength of the main and side currents. As it is a question, however, of steerage way which requires more technical knowledge than I possess to decide, I hesitate to give a purely *a priori* judgment. This much is certain—all the difficulties and dangers to which junks are exposed are the result of their being compelled to hug the shore going up river, or to drift in a helpless manner down. A steamer, on the contrary, will ascend in the middle of the river, and, except at one or other of the great rapids, she will have sufficient way of her own power to make steering perfectly easy. Whether steering down the rapids is possible or not experts must come here and see for themselves.

GENERAL.

Ichang, apart from its importance as the eastern terminus of the Szechuen trade, is not a commercial centre of any magnitude. It supplies, and is the outlet to, an agricultural community cultivating the narrow valleys of the hill regions of Western Hupei. The soil is a stiff, tenacious clay difficult to work, being like brick in dry weather and putty in wet. The rice grown is of poor quality, but the leguminous crops are excellent.

The people either own the land they till subject to the Government land-tax or rent it from land-owners, holding as metayer tenants, paying rent in grain. From various grains edible and other oils are expressed in small manufactories in Ichang. In the city itself houses, shops, and go-downs, are being erected by native traders, and the dawning prosperity of the place is already visible in the number of buildings in progress.

The people are either indifferent to the presence of foreigners or well-disposed. Within the last two years there has been a marked change in this respect, to judge by the reception which the first Consul met with here. Travelling all over the Western provinces is now perfectly safe, except, of course, in the regions of the independent tribes. The attentions of officials to all travellers holding passports, by way of guarding them from every possible danger, are almost irksome.

Ichang is an active missionary centre, being the head-quarters of the China mission of the Scotch Church. They have here two missionaries, one doctor, two colporteurs, a mission house, and the nucleus of a dispensary and hospital. There are also one or two missionaries of the roving society known as the Taylor Mission, several members of which are also located at Chungking, Kuei Yang Fu, and Yün Nan Fu. They travel about under passport, and, in this province and Szechuen, be they never so unassuming or unostentatious, they have to put up with the constant presence of official protectors in the shape of policemen, known or unknown to themselves. While their movements are in no way interfered with, the local officials take an almost unnecessary care to have them escorted from town to town. Toleration of religion can surely go no further than this.

The country round Ichang is not only romantic, as the scene of many well-known Chinese legends, but its scenery is varied and beautiful. The climate is neither better nor worse than similar latitudes to the eastward. The city of Ichang is exceedingly dirty, and the few foreigners resident here, including myself, live in Chinese houses, surrounded by filth and noisome stench. All mason and carpenter work is bad in material, rude in workmanship, and excessive in cost.

The Tables given below, on which this Report is based, were placed at my disposal by Mr. Edmund Farago, Assistant in charge of the Imperial Maritime Customs here, and to him I have to record my indebtedness also for kindly assistance and information with regard to more than one of the subjects treated herein.

(Signed)

WILLIAM DONALD SPENCE,

Acting Consul.

(Table No. 1.)—DIRECT TRADE. Imports and Exports.

Nil.

(Table No. 2.)—INDIRECT TRADE. Coast or River Trade. Imports and Exports.

General Imports, in British and Foreign Vessels.	General Exports, in British and Foreign Vessels.	Total General Imports and Exports, in British and Foreign Vessels.	Imports in British Vessels, as distinguished from Foreign.	Exports in British Vessels, as distinguished from Foreign.	Total Imports and Exports in British Vessels, as distinguished from Foreign.	Remarks.
£ 345,357	£ 237,234	£ 582,591	£ 71,190	£ 39,500	£ 100,690	Totals at 5s. 6d. Compiled from Mari- time Customs Re- turns.

Treasure.

No accurate Returns.

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE, Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Ichang, March 31, 1881.

(Table No. 3.)—SHIPPING Return of the Port of Ichang for the Year 1881.

BRITISH.

(Compiled from Maritime Customs Returns.)

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
4	2,224	100	£ 71,190	4	2,224	100	£ 39,500	8	4,448	200	£ 100,690

FOREIGN (CHINESE).

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
18	9,124	..	£ 274,167	18	9,124	..	£ 197,734	36	18,248	..	£ 471,901

British Consulate, Ichang, March 31, 1881.

(Signed)

WM. DONALD SPENCE, *Acting Consul.*

(Table No. 4).—IMPORT Trade in Foreign Goods.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.	Imports from Hong Kong and Treaty Ports (chiefly Hankow).	
			Quantity.	Value.
Cotton piece-goods—				Taels.
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	Nil ..	152,663	264,103
„ white, plain	„ ..	„ ..	4,833	9,912
„ dyed	„ ..	„ ..	411	1,258
„ white, spotted, and brocaded	„ ..	„ ..	150	405
„ Dyed, spotted and brocaded	„ ..	„ ..	320	897
T-cloths	„ ..	„ ..	36,019	54,892
Drills, English	„ ..	„ ..	50,599	94,905
„ American	„ ..	„ ..	2,880	6,274
„ Dutch	„ ..	„ ..	600	1,140
Jeans, English	„ ..	„ ..	920	1,840
Sheetings, English	„ ..	„ ..	90	180
„ American	„ ..	„ ..	5,390	16,128
Chintzes and twills	„ ..	„ ..	5,291	9,226
Turkey-red cloths or cambrics	„ ..	„ ..	435	1,047
Damasks, dyed	„ ..	„ ..	1,117	4,299
Velvets and velveteens	„ ..	„ ..	1,455	9,105
Taffachelass	„ ..	„ ..	400	650
Cottons, unclassed	„ ..	„ ..	400	567
Cotton handkerchiefs	Dozens ..	„ ..	5,076	3,298
„ yarn	Piculs ..	„ ..	9 36	279
Woollen piece goods—				
Blankets	Pairs ..	„ ..	49½	198
Camlets, English	Pieces ..	„ ..	3,800	48,895
„ Dutch	„ ..	„ ..	32	628
Lastings	„ ..	„ ..	4,660	54,165
„ imitation	„ ..	„ ..	200	1,240
Long ells	„ ..	„ ..	5,306	42,024
Spanish stripes	„ ..	„ ..	996	15,694
Lustres and orleans, plain and figured	„ ..	„ ..	6,410	24,861
Cloth, habit, broad and medium	„ ..	„ ..	89	2,554
„ Russian	„ ..	„ ..	3,297	98,780
Metals—				
Quicksilver	Piculs ..	„ ..	253 68	14,844
Sundries—				
Aniseed, star	„ ..	„ ..	75 31	1,156
Bêche-de-mer, black	„ ..	„ ..	280 50	15,450
Birds' nests, 2nd quality	„ ..	„ ..	2 31	4,355
Brass buttons	Gross ..	„ ..	5,034	5,443
„ foil	Piculs ..	„ ..	23 60	739
Cardamoms, superior	„ ..	„ ..	15 12	988
„ inferior	„ ..	„ ..	118 47	2,592
Cassia lignea	„ ..	„ ..	152 20	2,108
Clocks	Pieces ..	„ ..	301	664
Cloves	Piculs ..	„ ..	30 86	1,025
Cuttle fish	„ ..	„ ..	1,460 64	22,662
Dyes and colours	Bottles ..	„ ..	127,507	39,142
Fans, palm, trimmed	Pieces ..	„ ..	138,800	4,488
„ paper	„ ..	„ ..	10,950	657
Fish maws	Piculs ..	„ ..	101 59	3,775
Ginseng, American, clarified	„ ..	„ ..	100 61	29,787
„ „ crude	„ ..	„ ..	6 00	1,200
Glass ware	„ ..	„ ..	156 46	3,209
Isinglass	„ ..	„ ..	634 98	15,678
Lamps, kerosine	Pieces ..	„ ..	11,122	1,430
Mats	„ ..	„ ..	11,600	2,32

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.	Imports from Hong Kong and Treaty Ports (chiefly Hankow).	
			Quantity.	Value.
				Taels.
Mussels, dried	Piculs ..	Nil ..	45 02	747
Paint, green	" ..	" ..	43 75	781
Peel, orange	" ..	" ..	405 86	4,578
Pepper, black	" ..	" ..	1,213 85	9,081
Prawns, dried	" ..	" ..	103 41	2,021
Rattans, split	" ..	" ..	75 87	865
Sandal wood	" ..	" ..	266 73	2,160
Sapan wood	" ..	" ..	623 05	2,285
Seaweed	" ..	" ..	8,704 98	28,823
Sharks' fins, white	" ..	" ..	74 45	7,002
Umbrellas, silk and cotton	Pieces ..	" ..	918	1,377
Sundries, unenumerated	Value ..	" ..	..	7,880
Total .. ..	..	..	..	*1,010,756

* Of this total 500 taels was re-exported.

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE,
Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Ichang, March 31, 1881.

(Table No. 5.)—IMPORT of Chinese Produce.

Goods.	Classifier.	Imports from Chinese Ports.	
		Quantities.	Value.
			Taels.
Alum, white	Piculs ..	69 00	152
Bamboo ware	" ..	27 92	335
Brass buttons	" ..	42 06	3,077
" foil	" ..	44 10	1,465
" ware	" ..	3 10	108
Clocks	Pieces ..	73	190
Cotton, raw	Piculs ..	12,477 92	156,019
Cuttle fish	" ..	567 13	8,738
Dye stuffs	" ..	6 88	699
Fans, fancy	Pieces ..	4,341	362
" paper	" ..	91,912	5,512
Fish maws	Piculs ..	4 56	164
Fish, salt and dried	" ..	28 51	368
Glassware	" ..	207 99	4,066
Gold thread, imitation	" ..	18 29	3,067
Grass cloth, fine	" ..	3 16	144
" coarse	" ..	11 68	351
Hornware	" ..	3 83	113
Isinglass	" ..	41 40	1,041
Ivoryware	" ..	2 51	1,255
Joss-sticks	" ..	38 27	383
Lamps, kerosine	Pieces ..	19,981	3,305
" opium	" ..	14,875	2,230
Lungugens, dried	Piculs ..	14 88	115
Mats	Pieces ..	722	144
Medicines	Piculs ..	219 37	2,158
Mirrors	Pieces ..	18,067	1,735
Mother o'pearl ware	Piculs ..	5 96	119
Nankeens	" ..	8 32	297
Ornaments	Pieces ..	411,191	1,944
Paper, first quality	Piculs ..	72 62	1,025
Pearls, false	" ..	23 55	1,911
Prawns	" ..	15 96	271
Rouge	" ..	8 75	166
Sharks' fins, white	" ..	8 18	777
Sea blubbers	" ..	322 37	1,048
Shoes	Pieces ..	819	819
Silk piece goods	Piculs ..	4 25	2,284
Silk ribbons	" ..	23 32	9,751
Silk and cotton mixtures	" ..	3 75	328
Spectacles	Pieces ..	40,429	1,422
Tin foil	Piculs ..	21 91	653
" plateware	" ..	50 26	556
Umbrellas, cotton	Pieces ..	220	301
Woodware	Piculs ..	22 15	443
Sundries .. .. .	" ..	..	3,173
Total .. .. .	..	..	225,089*

* Of this amount 618 taels was re-exported.

(Signed)

WM. DONALD SPENCE,

Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Ichang, March 31, 1881.

(Table No. 6.)—TRADE in Native Produce.

Description.	Classifier.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.	Exports to Chinese Ports.	
					Quantity.	Value.
						Taels.
Silk—						
Yellow Szechuen	.. Piculs ..	Nil	.. Nil	..	1,514 74	373,023
White	.. ..	..	..	..	25	6,725
Refuse	.. ..	..	..	..	112 18	4,161
Piece-goods	.. ..	..	..	..	1 53	415
Yellow Hu Pei	.. ..	..	..	..	4 40	900
Sundries—						
Pear galls	.. ..	..	..	..	0 03½	175
Chillies	.. ..	..	..	..	39 65	198
China-root	.. ..	..	..	..	157 02	1,602
Coal	.. ..	..	..	..	54,494	17,018
Copper ore	.. ..	..	..	..	47 29	1,900
Dye stuff	.. ..	..	..	..	18 30	146
Fungus	.. ..	..	..	..	399 54	10,878
Hemp	.. ..	..	..	..	1,079 83	5,663
Hides, cow	.. ..	..	..	..	67 92	393
Lamps, kerosine	.. Pieces ..	..	..	..	..	..
Lead, yellow	.. Piculs ..	..	..	..	370	150
Leather	.. ..	..	..	..	327 88	4,257
Medicine	.. ..	..	..	..	12,457 55	139,304
Musk	.. ..	..	..	..	23 68½	139,828
Nut galls	.. ..	..	..	..	1,724 91	12,335
Pigs' bristles	.. ..	..	..	..	14	349
Rhubarb	.. ..	..	..	..	1,215 32	21,055
Safflower	.. ..	..	..	..	1,060 38	59,377
Tallow, vegetable	.. ..	..	..	..	346 70	2,086
Tea, green	.. ..	..	..	..	25 88	530
Tigers' bones	.. ..	..	..	..	40 27	1,102
Tobacco, prepared	.. ..	..	..	..	66 40	880
Wax, white	.. ..	..	..	..	1,392 20	53,849
„ yellow	.. ..	..	..	..	5 00	100
Wood, coffin	.. Pieces ..	..	..	..	35	200
Sandries	.. Value ..	..	..	..	..	454
Total	.. ..	..	..	..	..	859,053*

* Not including 618 taels re-exports.

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE,
Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Ichang, March 31, 1881.

(Table No. 7.)—TRANSIT Trade.

(a.) Foreign Goods conveyed to the Interior during the Year 1880.

Goods.	Classifier.	Destination.	Quantity.	Value.
Cotton goods—				Taels.
Shirtings, grey ..	Pieces ..	Szechuen ..	151,213	257,255
„ white ..	„ ..	„ ..	4,582	9,388
„ dyed ..	„ ..	„ ..	470	1,450
T-cloths ..	„ ..	„ ..	35,384	54,358
Drills, English ..	„ ..	„ ..	49,839	93,135
Jeans, „ ..	„ ..	„ ..	1,400	2,480
Drills, American ..	„ ..	„ ..	2,865	6,630
„ Dutch ..	„ ..	„ ..	600	1,140
Chintzes and twills, printed ..	„ ..	„ ..	5,320	9,485
Brocades, dyed and white ..	„ ..	„ ..	470	1,315
Damasks ..	„ ..	„ ..	1,112	4,180
Muslins ..	„ ..	„ ..	100	200
Sheetings, English ..	„ ..	„ ..	30	60
„ American ..	„ ..	„ ..	5,390	14,816
Taffachelass ..	„ ..	„ ..	600	897
T.-R. cloths and cambrics ..	„ ..	„ ..	435	1,060
Velvets and velveteens ..	„ ..	„ ..	1,455	8,990
Linen, Irish ..	„ ..	„ ..	100	350
Cotton handkerchiefs ..	Dozens ..	„ ..	4,972	2,912
Woollen goods ..				
Blankets ..	Pairs ..	„ ..	49	196
Camlets, English ..	Pieces ..	„ ..	3,850	48,410
„ Dutch ..	„ ..	„ ..	82	616
Lastings ..	„ ..	„ ..	4,860	49,630
„ imitation ..	„ ..	„ ..	200	1,260
Long ells ..	„ ..	„ ..	5,246	40,880
Lustres and orleans ..	„ ..	„ ..	6,400	24,170
Spanish stripes ..	„ ..	„ ..	982	15,260
Cloth, broad and medium ..	„ ..	„ ..	75	1,880
„ Russian ..	„ ..	„ ..	3,292	97,520
Metals—				
Quicksilver ..	Piculs ..	„ ..	258 96½	14,660
Sundries—				
Aniseed, star ..	„ ..	„ ..	68 09	1,066
Bêche-de-mer, black ..	„ ..	„ ..	272 45	15,065
Birds' nests ..	„ ..	„ ..	2 19	3,605
Brass buttons ..	Gross ..	„ ..	4,334	4,695
Cardemoms, superior ..	Piculs ..	„ ..	16 41	1,128
„ inferior ..	„ ..	„ ..	120 53	2,509
Cassia lignea ..	„ ..	„ ..	184 32	2,574
Cloves ..	„ ..	„ ..	40 95	1,232
Cuttle fish ..	„ ..	„ ..	1,442 03	21,346
Dyes and colours ..	Bottles ..	„ ..	131,254	41,044
Fans ..	Pieces ..	„ ..	165,850	4,318
Fish maws ..	Piculs ..	„ ..	92 90	3,390
Ginseng, American ..	„ ..	„ ..	104 21	30,550
„ crude ..	„ ..	„ ..	6	1,200
Glass ware ..	„ ..	„ ..	158 87	3,195
Isinglass ..	„ ..	„ ..	635	15,375
Lamps ..	Pieces ..	„ ..	13,523	1,836
Paints ..	Piculs ..	„ ..	70 75	1,109
Peel, orange ..	„ ..	„ ..	413 16	4,595
Pepper, black ..	„ ..	„ ..	1,387 29	10,238
Prawns, dried ..	„ ..	„ ..	100 83	1,877
Sandal wood ..	„ ..	„ ..	287 16	2,327

Goods.	Classifier.	Destination.	Quantity.	Value.
				Taels.
Sapan wood.. ..	Piculs ..	Szechuen ..	651 10	2,341
Seaweed	" ..	" ..	8,559 21	28,476
Sharks' fins, white ..	" ..	" ..	78 81	7,446
Umbrellas	Pieces ..	" ..	900	1,180
Sundries, unenumerated	Value ..	" ..	..	10,888
Total .. ..	..	..	..	989,183

Transit passes issued, 883.

(b.) Native Produce brought from Interior during the Year 1880.

Goods.	Classifier.	Place of Production.	Quantity.	Value.
				Taels.
China-root	Piculs ..	Szechuen ..	147 91	1,526
Fungus	" ..	" ..	87 70	2,329
Hemp	" ..	" ..	555 72	3,260
Hides	" ..	" ..	63 57	353
Leather	" ..	" ..	208 23	2,982
Medicine	" ..	" ..	26,020 19	112,504
Musk	" ..	" ..	23 62½	138,920
Nut gails	" ..	" ..	1,058 32	7,750
Rhubarb	" ..	" ..	966 58	16,573
Safflower	" ..	" ..	688 81	38,569
Silk—				
Yellow Szechuen	" ..	" ..	1,238 03	321,883
White	" ..	" ..	11 59	2,800
Refuse	" ..	" ..	96 85	3,951
Tigers' bones	" ..	" ..	14 84	296
Wax, white	" ..	" ..	910 23	36,044
Sundries	Value ..	" ..	..	250
Total .. ..	..	..	..	689,995

Number of passes surrendered during 1880, 295.

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE,
Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Ichang, March 31, 1881.

KIUKIANG.

Report on the Trade of Kiukiang for the Year 1880.

THE following are the Returns annexed to this Report of the foreign trade at Kiukiang:—

1. Return of British and Foreign Shipping at the port of Kiukiang during the year 1880.

2. Return of Foreign Imports.

3. Return of Native Imports.

4. Return of Exports.

5. Table showing the *Transit Trade Inland* from Kiukiang.

The year under review has been an exceptionally prosperous one, and it is gratifying to be able to record that the total value of the trade and also the amount of revenue collected has far exceeded that of any year since the opening of the port to foreigners.

What the future of Kiukiang as far as foreigners are concerned, may be, it is, however, difficult to predict, as the business, with the exception of the carrying-trade, is almost altogether in the hands of the Chinese.

The net value of the trade of the port for the past year, according to the Imperial Maritime Customs Returns, to which I am indebted for the accompanying Tables, amounted to 12,741,616 taels, against a total of last year of 11,254,458 taels, thus showing an increase of 1,516,205 taels.

The average rate of the Haikwan or Customs tael in sterling exchange for the year has been 5*s.* 9*d.* The rate fluctuates considerably from year to year, being in 1871, 6*s.* 3*d.* and 1878, 6*s.*, and I have therefore abstained from converting the figures in the following Tables into sterling as a better estimate may in this way be formed of the gradual improvement in the Returns.

The value of the tael in English currency is after all always more or less fictitious, depending entirely on the state of the Shanghai money market, and, therefore, it would be impossible to draw a reliable comparison between previous years were the Returns converted into sterling.

I give below a comparative Table of the net value of trade for the years 1878, 1879, and 1880.

NET VALUE OF TRADE.

	1878.	1879.	1880.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Foreign imports	2,514,302	2,675,778	2,954,286
Native ditto	649,109	801,054	962,364
Exports, exclusive of re-exports ..	8,924,436	7,777,626	8,824,966
Total	12,087,847	11,254,458	12,741,616

The great increase shown in foreign imports is due to a greater importation of piece-goods (shirtings and T-cloths), while the increase in the value of native imports can be traced to the unprecedented amount of cotton brought into the port.

The exports also show a considerable increase over last year's figures which is due to the large amount of hemp, green tea, and tobacco exported.

IMPORTS.

There has been a marked increase in the imports of all kinds of cotton piece-goods during the last year.

In 1879 this class of goods were imported to the value of 534,758 taels; this year the amount imported has increased in value to 712,730 taels, thus showing an increase of 177,972 taels.

Subjoined is a Table giving the amount of the principle cotton goods imported during the past five years, from which it will be seen that, with the exception of brocades which were put on the market in 1879 to an enormous extent, all the articles are considerably in excess of those imported last year.

Description of Goods.			1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
			Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Shirtings, grey	..	..	208,314	163,164	158,440	174,690	218,766
" white	..	..	10,572	10,533	11,759	12,609	15,093
T-cloths	..	..	162,152	97,249	102,723	90,362	116,185
Drills	..	..	39,575	29,804	14,880	12,997	15,428
Chintzes	..	..	4,201	4,243	3,648	3,895	4,580
Brocades	..	..	3,448	3,002	2,850	5,328	3,720
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Yarn	..	..	772	1,175	1,714	1,983	2,369

There has been a falling-off in the import of woollen goods, which in 1879 amounted to 37,682 pieces, valued at 374,511 taels. This year only 33,105 pieces valued at 339,184 taels were introduced into the market. A decrease, therefore, of 4,567 pieces, valued at 35,327 taels, has taken place.

But one cannot reasonably look for a very large importation of goods of this class into this province as but a limited demand for them exists. The Chinese are an essentially economical people, and having been accustomed for ages to the less expensive wadded garment, they have come to prefer it to cloths of all kinds. Besides, the winter in Kiukiang is neither sufficiently cold nor yet sufficiently long to induce natives to incur a large outlay on a garment which lacks the qualities possessed by the cheaper article, namely, lightness and warmth. It is only the prosperous Chinaman that can be said to fancy woollen materials, and the representatives of the class do not form a very large section of any city in the Chinese Empire.

The following Table shows that this class of goods has been gradually going out of the market for the last number of years. The decrease this year in long ells alone amounts to the very high figure of 2,000 pieces.

Description of Goods.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Camlets	9,472	9,629	9,490	9,633	8,906	9,103	3,801
Cloth, broad and medium	2,663	2,001	2,307	2,311	1,934	2,339	1,608
Coatings, plaid, and crape	3,543	3,633	3,100	3,384	2,984	3,443	3,362
Long ells	16,062	15,011	12,448	12,818	12,467	12,814	10,618
Lustres, crape and figured	7,803	6,125	4,387	6,900	3,513	3,313	3,373
Spanish stripes	6,909	5,684	7,314	5,083	4,819	5,082	5,266

In metals there is a slight decrease of 495 piculs, valued at 16,554 taels.

Lead shows an increase of 1,422 piculs, valued at 4,815 taels; and tin both in slabs and plates shows a falling-off, on last years figures, to close on 2,000 piculs.

It is surprising how rapidly kerosine oil is gaining favour with the Chinese. During the year 1879, 10,790 gallons were imported, and this year the Returns show an importation of more than double that amount, naamely, 21,500 gallons.

It is only of late years that a demand has sprung up for this class of oil, but it is now in general use all throughout the province, and may be met with in the shops of almost all the large cities and towns.

Opium.—The opium imported exceeds in amount that of last year by 138 piculs, and is only surpassed by the importation during the year 1874, when 2,906 piculs were laid on the market against 2,290 piculs this year.

The following Table gives a view of the trade in all descriptions for the last five years :—

				1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Malwa	..	..	..	2,037	1,845	1,475	1,945	2,104
Patna	..	..	..	5	5	8	6	11
Persian	..	..	..	1	1	170	201	175

It was at one time feared that the opening of Wuhu would have an injurious effect upon the trade of Kiukiang, but judging from the statistics for the last four years, during which time the port has been open, there seems to be little ground for such apprehension.

According to the Commissioner of Customs Report for the year 1879, however, Chinkiang seems to have been the port to have received the blow. In this Report Mr. Kleinwächter says, under the head of opium, "Malwa showed a steady decrease in the import during the last three years which I have been informed is caused on the one hand, by shipments going direct to Wuhu from Shanghai, whereas that port used to get its supplies from here formerly, say between 200 and 300 chests per mensem, and on the other hand, by the fact that the prices of Malwa being found by the consumer rather high, many had taken to smoking Bengal drug, or to having Persian opium mixed with it so as to make smoking cheaper."

The great obstacle to the development of the opium trade of this port is undoubtedly the heavy tax levied on the drug upon its importation; and native dealers all agree in saying that it is impossible that the trade should improve unless the tax be reduced to a less crushing figure than it is at present. Wuhu, Chinkiang, Swatow, and Canton all possess equal advantages for supplying this province, and it is known that much of the opium consumed in Nan ch'ang fu, the capital of the Province, finds its way from Canton and these southern ports. The reason for this is that the local *li-kin* levied at these ports amounts to about one-half what it does here, and that the drug can be laid down cheaper than if sent inland from Kiukiang. This local tax, generally called *lao-ti-shui* and here sometimes simply *ch'uan*, i.e., a levy made on account of the State, stands at the present moment at 30 taels per picul. It is rumoured amongst the Chinese dealers that it is to be raised to 40 taels, a figure that it has as yet never reached; but the effect of such a change would be very disastrous both to the merchants and the provincial revenue.

The opium merchants of this port have on several occasions petitioned the Taotai to reduce the tax, but without any marked success. The present holder of that office did, it is true, reduce the tax in the early part of the year to 20 taels by way of trial, and promised that the reduction should be a permanent one were it found that sufficient funds were raised at that figure to cover the yearly remittance to the Imperial Government. The time, however, for such a trial was too brief to allow of merchants taking advantage of it, and the increase in the importation which it was hoped the reduction in the *li-kin* would insure did not take place, and it was therefore made to appear, after a lapse of a little over two months, that sufficient funds could not be raised at the lower levy, and it was consequently raised to its original figure, at which it now stands.

The amount of *li-kin* levied on opium bound to the capital of the Province will be seen from the following Table, which has been supplied to me by a native merchant. The *li-kin* tax he translates by land tax, and it appears a better term than the one often used by foreigners of "war tax."

Opium sent to Nan Chang Fu from Kiukiang has to pay the following charges and duties:—

						Taels.
One full duty ("Lao-ti-shen")	..	..	per picul	..	..	30 00
Wharfage dues, Kiukiang Bund scheme	..	..	"	..	..	1 00
Kiukiang Land Tax, copper cash, 7,500 at 65 =	..	..	"	..	..	4 85
Oo-sack moon or Ngo-shi-mên Land Tax, copper cash, 5,000 at 65 =	..	..	"	..	..	3 25
Nan ch'ang fu ditto	..	..	"	..	..	8 00
Total	..	..	..	..	..	47 10

The average prices of the three kinds of drug in general demand were as follows:—

						Taels.
Malwa	..	..	..	..	per picul	560
Patna	..	..	..	..	"	500
Persian	..	..	..	..	"	420

The importation of Persian opium, as will be seen from the Tables which I attach, has decreased this year by 26 piculs.

This class of opium is superior to the native drug and inferior to the Malwa, and it is very improbable that it will ever enter into competition with them. It is bought for purposes of mixing and is not smoked alone, so far as I have been able to make out.

Although it was introduced into this market as early as the year 1865, it was only in 1878 that its importation as compared with Indian opium became of any importance. Eleven piculs were imported in that year, and every year since, except in 1867, 1873, and 1874, it has been introduced in small quantities, the year 1870 alone showing an increased importation, viz., 27 piculs. In the year 1878, however, the consumption of Persian opium rose at a bound to 172 piculs, and in 1879 it further increased to 204 piculs. This year, as has already been said, falling again to 175 piculs.

No opium is grown in the province, either the land or the climate being unfavourable to the yield of a profitable return.

It is impossible to ascertain the amount of native opium introduced into the port, as no statistics can be obtained from the native Customs, but the drug can always be purchased in the native shops in the city.

EXPORTS.

The value of exports this year amounted to 8,825,834 taels, against 7,783,821 taels in 1879.

[565]

The principal exports exclusive of tea, which forms the main feature in the trade of the port, are paper, tobacco, hemp, and chinaware, and in all of them has there been a considerable increase.

Tea shows an increase of 11,943 piculs, or 815,771 taels.

The market opened on the 12th May at rates about 4 or 5 taels over last year's prices for Ningchows. The quality of the leaf was considered good, and notwithstanding the higher range of prices the business done by foreigners was considerably in excess of 1879 though not equal to that of 1878.

The amount settled by foreigners during the season 1880 and 1881 was 30,545 half chests and 1,201 boxes; during the 1879-80 season it was 10,163 half chests and 889 boxes.

The excess of this season's exports is most marked in green teas, which is partly to be accounted for by some second and third crop Keemun teas having been re-converted into green teas; it is also owing to the very low rates of freight which ruled on the river, and which induced some native merchants to ship *via* Kiukiang, instead of Ningpo, as in former years.

The quantity of tea shipped from this to the Hankow market was not so great as last year, but the quantities shipped direct to the London and Shanghae markets exceeded last year's figures.

Three ocean-going steamers visited the port and took in cargo; the "Glenearn," on her way up to Hankow, and the "Achilles" and "Guy Mannering" on their return down river.

The following Table shows the export of this and the previous season, and gives also the amount shipped to each port:—

BLACK TEA.

				1880-81.	1879-80.
				Lbs.	Lbs.
To Hankow	..	..		13,199,060	15,041,216
Shanghae	..	..		11,666,343	10,641,233
London	..	..		1,061,736	187,735
Total	..	..		25,927,139	25,870,184

GREEN TEA.

				1880-81.	1879-80.
				Lbs.	Lbs.
To Shanghae	..	..		7,561,615	5,426,720

The following is also an interesting Table, showing the exact quantities in half chests and boxes received from the different districts around Kinkiang for the last two seasons.

Statement of teas received from the different districts round Kiukiang :—

	Season 1879-80.		Season 1880-81.	
	Half chests.	Boxes.	Half chests.	Boxes.
Ningchow	204,613	9,367	195,906	5,323
Abkow	79,558	1,359	75,229	..
Keemun	52,876	1,031	53,473	..
Kiukiang packs.. ..	56,872	2,214	51,804	846
Kut-on	4,551	..	14,049	..
Kintuck	2,906	..	5,107	..
Tong San	1,493	..	1,036	..
Kin Cheong	1,307	..	792	..
	404,176	13,971	397,396	6,169
Tea dust	6,345	..	15,336	..
Green tea	92,316	..	127,955	..

Paper and Hemp.—These two commodities show a gradual rise for the last five years, it being more especially marked in the case of the latter.

Tobacco shows an increase of no less than 31,299 piculs against last year, and 18,212 piculs against 1878.

This unusually large export is owing to the excellent crops reaped during the year, and it is not to be expected that the rise can be of a permanent nature.

The greater part of the tobacco exported is on native account, very little being shipped by foreign merchants to the home markets.

I am led to believe, however, that the tobacco produced in China is gradually finding favour with the home consumers, and there is little doubt that in course of time it will prove an important item in the list of native exports.

The great increase in the amount of chinaware exported is, no doubt, owing to the beneficial action of the Customs at this port. All chinaware is brought from the interior to Kiukiang in native boats, and for the last few years the merchants have been obliged to unpack it, in order to allow the Customs officials to inspect it, before being able to ship it on board the river steamers. This led to a considerable amount of breakage and loss, and the native merchants consequently gave up the practice of sending it by river steamers, and adopted the less expeditious, but to them more convenient, method of sending it by native boat to Shanghai. Now, however, the goods are no longer subject to this inspection, and the merchants are slowly resuming the old and safer route.

There is every reason to think that this trade will considerably increase during the next few years. The ware is improving in style and colouring, and has fetched very good prices in the home markets, whither it has been sent by private speculation in no small quantities. At present, however, the greater proportion goes to Tien-tsin and Shanghai on native account.

TRANSIT TRADE.

The total value of foreign goods sent into the interior is in excess of last year. In 1879 the total value of the trade amounted to 849,447 taels, while during 1880 the amount has increased to 879,191 taels, showing a rise of 29,744 taels.

Out of the 2,032 passes issued by the Customs, only ten were applied for by foreign merchants.

SHIPPING.

Three tea steamers flying the British flag visited the port during the year, taking cargo to the value of 269,445 taels, or 77,465*l*.

The total tonnage for the year amounted to 1,421,170, against 1,187,608 for the year 1879. Of this 889,102 belongs to the English flag, while 524,136 came under the Chinese flag.

The China Merchants' Company still continue to run their steamers in conjunction with those of the China Navigation Company.

The former Company is making three trips to the latter's two trips. The earnings, it is said, being divided into a like proportion between the two Companies.

In addition to these, Messrs. McBain and Co. have been running four small steamers, and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. two steamers, during the year.

Were it not for the great carrying-trade at present in the hands of English firms, there is every probability that Kiukiang would soon cease to exist, as far as foreigners are concerned, at least for the greater part of the year, as the amount of other business done would scarcely warrant the continuance of firms throughout the nine months or so during which no tea is sold.

The tea business alone is the salvation of the port, and it is very doubtful whether that could not be carried on at Hankow or Shanghae as well as it is here. At present far the greater portion of the crop goes either to one or other of these places, as in ordinary years the number of foreigners buying tea is not sufficient to excite that competition which goes so far towards keeping up the market.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The water in the Yangtze has been exceptionally low this season (1880-81), and about the middle of February it reached its lowest, namely, 8 inches below zero; a mark it has not reached for some twenty years past.

This gave rise to a considerable amount of trouble and inconvenience in connection with the shipping, as even as early as December it became impossible for the majority of the steamers to effect a passage over the shoal crossings situated on either side of the port. At one time no less than seven were ashore at Hunter Island, this side of Wusueh; while at the same time two were detained at Hukow, 16 miles below Kiukiang, through insufficiency of water in the usual channel. It was not until after the lapse of a considerable time that the channel round Olyphant Island was sufficiently deepened by the action of the confined current to admit of the larger steamers reaching the port.

It is greatly to be regretted that such impediments to traffic should still exist, without at least some effort being made to remove them, and, considering the value of the trade of the ports on the upper Yangtze, and the amount of duty that finds its way into the coffers of the several ports most affected by them, it becomes a matter for wonder that no outcry has arisen ere this on the part of foreign merchants, for the maintenance and conservancy of the fairway. It seems but natural that merchants should expect at least that a portion of the large revenue which they contribute in the form of duties should be expended in keeping the river in a navigable condition.

The enormous sand-bank which formerly existed immediately opposite

the Concession on the northern bank of the river is now a considerable distance below it, and is perceptibly moving down stream, so that it seems likely that the difficulties to navigation will be increased rather than diminished within the course of the next few years.

On the 20th November the steamers "Hanyang" and "Kung Wo" came into collision at Twofathom Creek. The former sank almost immediately, and only her masts were visible above the surface of the water, but the latter had time to run on shore, where she lay for over two months, in spite of every endeavour that could be made to raise her. Both the steamers, however, have eventually been patched up in such a way as to enable them to be taken to Shanghai for more complete repairs, and it is expected that they may soon take their places on the river once more.

It was rumoured that some seventy persons, all Chinese, had lost their lives in the collision, but only a few bodies were recovered, and it is now said that only a very few perished, though the exact number has not transpired.

The American Mission here has succeeded in renting a plot of ground at a place called Kuifêng, situated about 20 li from the site of the so-called "Kiukiang Bungalow," for the purpose of erecting a summer retreat for the use of the members of the Mission. I am informed that they have not met with any opposition either from the officials or from the people in the neighbourhood, and they are in hopes of completing their building before the hot weather sets in.

This speaks very plainly for the great improvement that has taken place in the demeanour of the people, and of the friendly relations which at present exist between the officials of the port and foreigners.

For many years the Kiukiang Bungalow proved a source of considerable trouble, both to the Chinese officials and to its proprietors, and it is only of late years that the opposition to its continuance has subsided into what might be called indifference.

The Roman Catholic Mission has also during the past year established a hospital in the Concession, the first institution of such a kind that has existed in Kiukiang, and it has met with great favour with the natives, who not only raised the cost of erection, viz., 11,000 taels, in a comparatively short space of time, but who have also shown themselves very ready to reap the advantages thus offered to them of scientific surgical treatment. During the short space of six months during which it has been open, no less than 1,400 separate cases have been treated, with a degree of success that will undoubtedly spread its fame far and wide throughout the province.

No troops have been raised in Kiangsi for service in the north, but many have passed through on their way thither from Hunan and Hupci. It is strange that even when the rumours of a rupture between China and Russia were most rife the people, as a rule, were utterly ignorant of what was going forward.

Table No. 2).—RETURN of Foreign Imports.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
			H. Taels.
Opium—			
Malwa	Piculs ..	2,104 00	1,183,829
Patna	" ..	10 80	4,560
Persian	" ..	175 00	79,950
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	218,766	382,977
" white, plain	" ..	15,093	38,188
" brocaded, dyed	" ..	3,720	10,920
T-cloths	" ..	116,185	186,643
Drills, English	" ..	14,048	34,792
" Dutch	" ..	180	430
" American	" ..	1,200	2,979
Sheetings, English	" ..	422	1,050
" American	" ..	3,486	8,244
Jeans and twills	" ..	1,210	2,780
Chintzes	" ..	4,580	7,081
Turkey-red cloths	" ..	670	1,493
Velvets and velveteens	" ..	2,911	20,281
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ..	23,326	14,692
Cotton goods, unclassified	Pieces ..	140	180
Cotton yarn	Piculs ..	2,369 00	60,977
Woolen goods—			
Blankets	Pairs ..	83	359
Camlets, English	Pieces ..	8,701	109,637
" Dutch	" ..	100	1,755
Cloth, broad, medium, and white	" ..	1,608	46,364
Spanish stripes	" ..	5,266	62,043
Russian cloth	" ..	80	1,420
Flannels	" ..	10	20
Lastings	" ..	3,352	35,631
Long ells	" ..	10,613	71,469
Lustres and orleans	" ..	3,272	10,486
Metals—			
Copper sheets and nails, and Muntz metal	Piculs ..	32 53	769
Iron, nail rod	" ..	436 50	1,070
" wire	" ..	959 60	6,196
" pig	" ..	674 27	2,720
Lead in pigs	" ..	14,478 16	71,039
Quicksilver	" ..	1 12	120
Tin, in slabs	" ..	4,817 27	105,650
" in plates	" ..	143 76	1,016
Sundries—			
Bicho de mar, black and white	" ..	196 84	7,344
Birds' nests	" ..	1 83	1,512
Cuttle fish	" ..	954 02	9,375
Dye	Bottles ..	14,396	3,699
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed	Pieces ..	89,330	1,200
" " untrimmed	" ..	277,930	1,458
Mangrove bark	Piculs ..	1,575 70	1,726
Matches	Gross ..	18,275	7,708
Mushrooms	Piculs ..	902 61	30,878
Oil, kerosine	Gallons ..	21,500	2,974
Pepper, black and white	Piculs ..	5,582 65	38,836
Prawns, dried, and shrimps	" ..	303 95	3,608
Sandal-wood	" ..	4,581 32	22,733
Sapan-wood	" ..	1,079 26	3,374
Seaweed, cut and long	" ..	45,952 52	123,272
Sharks' fins, white	" ..	39 34	3,694

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
Shell fish, awabi, &c.	.. ..	197 93	H. Taels. 2,514
Sugar, brown .. ..	.. ..	20,887 19	81,389
„ white .. ..	.. ..	3,382 74	16,174
Sulphuric acid .. ..	.. Gallons ..	4,602	1,318
Vermilion .. ..	.. Piculs ..	20 32	1,742
Window glass .. ..	.. Boxes ..	1,221	3,885
Sundries, unenumerated .. ..	.. Value ..	..	14,663
Total .. ..	.. ..	..	2,954,286

SUMMARY OF THE FOREGOING.

Re-exports to—					Taels.
Hankow .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	11,989
Chinkiang .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	580
Wuhu .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	3,954
Shanghai .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	11,656
Total .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	28,179
Total foreign imports .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	2,982,465
Re-exports .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	28,179
Net foreign imports .. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	2,954,286
					(= £849,357 4s. 6d.)

(Signed)

HERBERT F. BRADY,
Acting Consul.*British Consulate, Kiukiang.*

(Table No. 3.)—TRADE in Native Produce.

IMPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
			H. Tacla.
Bicho de mar, black	Piculs ..	10 73	473
Birds' nests	" ..	3 12	2,391
Brass buttons	" ..	12 95	1,020
Caps of all kinds	Pieces ..	6,167	1,094
Cotton, raw	Piculs ..	62,217 24	432,487
Cuttle fish	" ..	12,289 64	73,742
Dates, black	" ..	374 55	1,603
" red	" ..	1,942 19	6,052
Fans of all kinds	Pieces ..	87,104	1,227
Fish, dried and salt	Piculs ..	1,119 83	7,061
Fungus	" ..	62 46	1,915
Ironware	" ..	91 84	1,105
Lead, white	" ..	244 11	1,964
" yellow	" ..	250 36	2,532
Lichees, dried	" ..	1,007 81	7,617
Lily flowers, dried	" ..	202 80	1,345
Lung yans, dried and pulp	" ..	1,662 92	12,945
Medicines	" ..	538 93	3,259
Mushrooms	" ..	47 86	1,502
Nankeen	" ..	987 97	48,486
Paper, 1st and 2nd quality	" ..	91 99	1,262
Samshoo	" ..	1,029 66	3,128
Sea blubber	" ..	381 43	1,451
Silk piece goods	" ..	76 44	36,334
" pongees	" ..	14 56	3,366
" ribbons	" ..	17 20	4,555
" and cotton mixtures	" ..	5 81	1,371
Sugar, brown	" ..	22,917 48	73,239
" white	" ..	37,739 40	188,361
" candy	" ..	3,018 55	21,077
Sundries, unenumerated .. .. .	" ..	..	18,400
Total .. .. .	..	..	962,364

SUMMARY OF ABOVE.

Imports from—	Taels.
Hankow	7,453
Wuhu	15,688
Chinkiang	2,108
Shanghai	920,875
Ningpo	17,108
Total native imports	963,232
Re-exports to—	
Hankow	35
Chinkiang	200
Shanghai	633
	868
Net total native imports	962,364

(= £276,679 13s.)

(Signed)

HERBERT F. BRADY,
Acting-Consul.

British Consulate, Kiukiang.

(Table No. 4.)—TRADE in Native Produce.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Total Exports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Tea, black	Piculs	184,999 86	5,448,930
„ green	„	57,015 27	1,862,010
„ brick	„	9,448 27	76,673
„ leaf	„	1,051 75	23,920
„ dust	„	8,980 58	88,709
Sundries—			
Bamboo shoots, dried	„	694 94	7,592
China root	„	4,787 79	32,094
China ware, coarse	„	6,696 77	27,489
„ fine	„	5,444 67	51,391
Fungus	„	71 75	1,500
Grass cloth, coarse	„	5,676 35	161,175
„ fine	„	440 23	17,100
Hemp	„	40,984 68	270,482
Indigo, liquid	„	1,109 71	2,859
Lotus nuts	„	491 64	5,605
Mats, bamboo	Pieces	16,682	2,116
Medicine	Piculs	695 67	1,271
Paper, 1st quality	„	22,195 51	171,047
„ 2nd quality	„	84,046 35	318,433
Tallow, vegetable	„	7,697 43	58,574
Tobacco, leaf	„	44,252 78	179,568
„ prepared	„	376 29	3,835
„ stalk	„	2,131 64	3,306
Silk, raw Szectman	„	9 50	1,690
Sundries, unenumerated	Value	..	8,465
Total .. .. .	..	..	8,825,834

SUMMARY OF THE ABOVE.

	Taels.	£	s.	d.
Total foreign exports (to Great Britain only*)	269,445	=	77,465	8 9
„ „ to Chinese ports ..	8,555,521		549,712	5 9
„ „ to Hankow	35			
„ „ to Chinkiang	200			
„ „ to Shanghai	633			
Total re-exports	868	=	249 11	0
Total re-exports to Chinese ports	8,556,389			
Total exports and re-exports ..	8,825,834	=	2,537,427	5 6
Taels.				
* To Hankow	3,159,868			
Wuhu	33,116			
Chinkiang	345,033			
Shanghai	5,017,504			
Total	8,555,521			

(Signed)

HERBERT F. BRADY,
Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Kiukiang.

(Table No. 5).—Transit Trade.

FOREIGN GOODS INWARD.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Destination.			Total.
		Kiangsi.	Anhui.	Hupei.	
Cotton goods—					
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ...	130,930	16,850	600	148,380
„ white	„ ...	10,140	...	...	10,140
„ dyed and brocaded	„ ...	1,880	350	...	2,238
T-cloths	„ ...	81,141	12,435	...	93,576
Chintzes and cottonades	„ ...	4,260	...	...	4,260
Drills, of all kinds	„ ...	8,440	2,570	60	11,070
Sheetings, American	„ ...	1,575	1,400	...	2,975
Turkey-red cloths	„ ...	646	...	...	646
Velvets and velveteens	„ ...	1,480	60	...	1,540
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ...	9,940	...	...	9,940
Cotton yarn	Piculs ...	2,053	18	...	2,071
Umbrellas	Dozens ...	120	...	...	120
Woollen goods—					
Blankets	Pairs ...	113	...	...	113
Camlets, English and Dutch	Pieces ...	5,050	520	10	5,580
Cloth, broad medium, and Union	„ ...	1,117	54	...	1,171
Lastings, plain and crape	„ ...	1,920	20	...	1,940
Long pills	„ ...	6,380	580	...	6,960
Lastres, figured and plain	„ ...	2,570	60	...	2,630
Spanish stripes	„ ...	3,192	48	...	3,240
Metals—					
Iron wire	Piculs ...	807	...	...	807
Lead, in pigs	„ ...	8,614	3,073	39	11,726
Tin	„ ...	115	5	...	120
„ in plates	„ ...	25	...	...	25
Sundries—					
Richo de mar, black ... ..	„ ...	...	55	2	57
Buttons, brass	Gross ...	1,000	...	...	1,000
Dye	Bottles ...	13,075	...	...	13,075
Glass, window	Boxes ...	1,237	...	...	1,237
Matches	Gross ...	10,690	100	...	10,690
Mats	Pieces ...	240	...	...	240
Mushrooms	Piculs ...	...	41	60	101
Needles	Mille ...	500	...	...	500
Pepper, black	Piculs ...	...	79	70	149
Seaweed, cut and long	„ ...	19	500	1,901	2,420
Sharks'-fins, white ... ..	„ ...	...	12	...	12
Sugar, brown ... ..	„ ...	...	12,698	4,003	16,701
„ white ... ..	„ ...	...	1,120	1,139	2,259

Total value of foreign goods—		Tael.	
Kiangsi ... ..	...	717,910	
Anhui ... ..	...	131,640	
Hupei ... ..	...	29,641	
Total ... ..	...	879,191	

(Signed)

HERBERT F. BRADY,

Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Kiukiang.

KIUNGCHOW.

Report on the Trade of Kiungchow for the Year 1880.

ACCORDING to the Returns published by the Maritime Customs, the value of the trade of Kiungchow for the three previous years shows :—

	1878.	1879.	1880.
Imports—	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Foreign produce	679,361	724,067	828,114
Native „	119,498	99,280	183,149
Total	798,859	823,347	1,011,263
Exports—			
Foreign	289,780	281,508	332,595
China	127,208	268,783	334,746
Total	416,988	850,291	667,341
Giving a total of imports and exports of .	1,215,847	1,373,638	1,678,604
	£ 334,357	£ 377,750	£ 468,164

1 tael = 5s. 6d.

This increase is highly satisfactory, and arises partly from favourable crops and partly from the resumption of agriculture and commerce in the two rich districts of Tamchow and Linkao, lately overrun by Hakka rebels. The trade of the port is distributed along the coast-line of the island, commencing at Hainan Head and reaching round to the eastward to Tamchow—an area comprising the four districts, Kiungshan, Chêng Mai, Linkao, and Tamchow, and extending inland some 60 miles to Ting An district. From the large and populous district of Wênchang, north-east portion of Hainan, there are practically few exports; only a little silk and grass cloth are bartered for opium. With Hai An on the Lei-chow Peninsula the trade is insignificant; opium finds its way across concealed in passengers' baggage, while the export of native produce to Hoihow was confined to a few thousand piculs of sugar, with a little galangal, the total trade to the cognizance of the Maritime Customs being slightly over 5,000 taels in value.

IMPORTS.

In opium, piece-goods, woollens, and metals, the four leading articles of import, the increase is most marked; the amounts are :—

			1879.		1880.	
			Piculs.	Taels.	Piculs.	Taels.
Opium	..	..	1,117.77	465,371	1,305.175	589,420
Piece-goods	..	..	..	65,710	..	116,298
Woollens	..	..	..	12,905	..	18,397
Metals	..	..	..	4,630	..	14,389

In foreign sundries the value for 1880 is 89,610 taels against 175,451 taels in 1879, and the decrease arises principally in rice, grain, and raw cotton, viz. :—

				1879.	1880.
				Taels.	Taels.
Rice .. ..	..	..	..	66,324	4,036
Grain .. ..	..	..	..	19,475	5,588
Raw cotton ..	..	..	..	50,277	26,670

Giving a decrease of nearly 100,000 taels. The figures, however, are anything but unsatisfactory, as they indicate prosperous local production of bread-stuffs; while as regards the decline in cotton, considering the increased import of manufactured goods, it would appear that the natives are discontinuing their home-made articles and purchasing foreign. In Hoihow very little of this raw cotton is used up. Tamchow and Linkao are the two chief marts, the Hakkas and natives being the chief purchasers.

Of articles of native production introduced into Hainan via Hong Kong, the amount in value for 1880 is 183,149 taels against 99,174 taels in 1879. The bulk of this increased import is divided between beans, 57,653 taels, against 3,282 taels in 1879; and vermicelli, 24,066 taels, against 12,998 taels in 1879.

The *locale* of production of foreign imports may be divided approximately as under: opium and cotton from India; piece-goods, woollens, &c., from Great Britain; birds' nests, cloves, pepper, &c., from the Straits; ginseng, wheat, &c., from America and Japan; and rice from Haiphong.

EXPORTS.

As has been frequently reported, sugar forms the staple of production, and the export for the two past years comes to :—

				Piculs.	Value.
1879—					Taels.
Brown .. ..	..	..	..	47,023·59	134,674
White .. ..	..	..	..	17,225·31	71,408
Total .. ..	..	..	..	64,248·90	206,082
1880—					
Brown .. ..	..	..	..	67,663·70	162,574
White .. ..	..	..	..	24,536·42	89,804
Total .. ..	..	..	..	92,140·12	251,378

The article following next in value is coarse grass cloth, and the export of this commodity has risen from a value of 43,257 taels in 1879 to 78,825 taels in 1880, but in consequence of an alteration in the definition of coarse and fine, the present large export may be expected to diminish. The goods which hitherto were passed for years as coarse are now to be charged duty as fine, there being more than forty warps to the inch, and subject to a duty of 2 t. 5 m. instead of 7 m. 5 c. as formerly. This manufacture was largely on the increase, and gave employment to a large number of hands in the manipulation of the pine-apple fibre. An

endeavour has been made by the merchants to secure the continuance of the rating of previous years, and if this is not successful, they have a remedy in their own hands, for as the excess over forty warps is only four or five at most, they can easily reduce them to below that figure without materially altering the make of the cloth; with native shrewdness, they are certain to do this. For the present, however, the trade has been upset, and some little time must elapse before matters can right themselves. The Chinese complain, I confess with reason, that no previous intimation, say two months, was accorded them of any intended alteration in charging the duty, and many large holders have suddenly found themselves considerable losers.

Betel-nuts occupy the third place in the value of exports; the increase is fully 50,000 taels, showing that the export is passing into the hands of steamer instead of junk owners as hitherto.

Sesamum-seed comes next, but here there has been a decrease, being 45,113 taels against 69,382 taels in 1879.

In leather there has been a slight decrease, and in tallow a slight increase. This, however, was to be expected, for by comparing the returns in hides it will be found that the export has risen from a value of 2,453 taels in 1879 to 17,804 taels in 1880. The fact is that, instead of curing the hides and preparing the leather locally, the exporters, chiefly native brokers from Hong Kong and Shanghai, merely dry and partly cure the hides sufficient to admit of export, and on reaching their destination they are properly tanned.

The export of ground-nut cake has nearly doubled; not that the production has, but the bulk is now being taken away in steamers, and several direct shipments have been made to Swatow.

The production of silk fish-lines forms one of the special features of the port, and this manufacture is in high demand among the fishing population around Macao. The 36 $\frac{24}{100}$ piculs exported last year (1880) gave a value of no less than 9,625 taels.

SHIPPING.

A comparison of the shipping for the two past years shows:—

Flag.	Vessels Employed.	Entered and Cleared.	Tons.	Imports.	Exports.
1879—				Taels.	Taels.
British	6	96	28,658	323,754	252,265
Chinese	2	70	24,310	187,857	82,570
French	1	2	814	10,692	..
German	3	62	47,522	275,323	206,864
United States ..	1	18	5,058	25,615	8,698
Total	13	248	106,362	823,241	550,397
1880—					
British	7	116	37,002	327,220	290,342
Chinese	5	70	27,376	163,872	133,508
German	3	24	13,896	67,430	28,990
United States ..	2	144	51,048	452,741	214,501
Total	17	354	129,322	1,011,263	667,341

The chief feature in this Return is the increasing interest which the Chinese are acquiring in the carrying trade. Of the entrances and

clearances (116) of British vessels, only six were to the consignment of European firms. Not only are vessels flying the national flag of China under the sole superintendence of Chinese, but five of the seven British vessels trading with this port were the property of Chinese merchants trading and residing in Hong Kong; and with the facilities now granted under terms of the new Merchant Shipping Act of that Colony, Chinese-owned vessels under English colours may be soon found quite common. Out of seventeen steamers plying between these ports south of Hong Kong, direct foreign interest was limited to three, now reduced by sale to Chinese to one only, the third having been withdrawn from lack of freight.

The increase of tonnage in 1880 I attribute to the development of Pakhoi, vessels from that port stopping here *en route* to Hong Kong to complete their loading; and as there is a large passenger traffic, chiefly Hainanese bound for the Straits, Hoihow forms an important port of call to vessels trading to Pakhoi and Haiphong.

TAXATION.

Year by year it has been my duty to report increased exactions and endless irregularities in the levy of dues locally. On no single occasion has it fallen to my lot to report any reduction, or any extension of trading facilities. The sole guiding principle which would appear to actuate the authorities, territorial and provincial, is to levy as much as they can, and no matter how. The astonishing point is the quiet submission of the people. Latterly, however, a point has been reached in the taxation on opium, *li-kin*, *haifang*, &c., at which native traders declare the line must be drawn; and the last attempt of the Canton Government in trying to farm a new import *kao-li* (duty on prepared opium) has as yet proved abortive. Even here the native merchants could not have succeeded but for jealousy among the officials as to the division of the spoils, for as the *haifang* and *kao-li* dues were farmed out, the local authorities had no opportunity of augmenting their income by any petty charges always incidental to the collectorate of a new tax.

Up to October 1880 the dues payable on opium after and in addition to the Tariff at the Maritime Customs consisted of *li-kin* 16 taels; *tieh hsiang*, 7 taels; provincial *haifang*, 27 taels; and local *haifang*, 6 dollars; making a total equivalent to 76 dollars, collected at three different offices. In that month the lease of the provincial *haifang* farmers expired, and the Canton Government now made a final attempt to introduce their favourite scheme of a monopoly of levying a tax on prepared opium, or *kao-li*. The proposal, as sanctioned by the Governor-General, was that the provincial *haifang* and *kao-li* should be jointly collected under the same farmers, *kao-li* 28 taels, and *haifang* 27 taels, as formerly, a total of 55 taels per chest; and that the monopoly should remain in force at an annual rent of 900,000 dollars, the farmers paying all expenses of management. In my Report of 1879 I had to report the failure to introduce this *kao-li*, and here again it is my duty to report the second failure, for the merchants have refused to pay any *kao-li*, or any charges beyond the 76 dollars they have hitherto paid as inland taxes, in addition to the import Tariff of 30 taels.

It may here be interesting to notice that all these dues are levied in the port of import, and not only is the payment thereof exacted by the authorities from their own subjects, but on opium imported by foreign firms the officials have claimed to levy inland dues within the port area. As, however, this is a question pending settlement, I refrain from any comments, merely noting the facts.

In 1880 transit passes have finally been granted, the first since the opening of the port four years ago. Their introduction has long been under negotiation, and proposal after proposal has been made by the Superintendent of Customs to retard their issue or limit their operation. Early in 1880, however, the question took a very practical turn, for the Superintendent found himself face to face with claims for damages for failing to execute Treaty stipulations, which he had to pay, and making grace of a necessity, he gave passes, adding that he did so *en gratiâ* and to cement the *entente cordiale*. For some time matters proceeded smoothly, but gradually petty delays and vexatious annoyances began to creep up, the local Customs tried to damage the foreigners' goods, and finally their hardihood went so far as to try and intimidate the native settlers against any dealings with foreigners. Claims for compensation were lodged, and after endless shifts on the part of the native Customs to evade responsibility, they ultimately thought better of it—the cases were too clear—and paid full damages. It is sincerely to be hoped that the lesson they have learned may warn them against similar recklessness for the future.

On piece-goods in the port of import attempt after attempt has been made to levy various local octrois, and where clear cases have come to my knowledge the Taotai has at my instance had them discontinued; but it is my firm conviction that endless petty "squeezes" are paid by the traders rather than subject themselves to the all-devouring maws of Yamèn runners.

GENERAL.

The year 1880 will long be memorable in Hainan for the severity and frequency with which the island was visited by typhoons, no less than four having occurred, during the last of which, 17th October, three vessels were wrecked on the east coast, the American ship "James Bailey," the French barque "Taffarette," and the Siamese sailing-vessel "Canton." The "James Bailey" was stranded near Taya Islands on the north-east coast, and plundered by the natives, the crew managing to escape their rapacity only through the caution and foresight of the master. Within twelve hours of the ship striking the natives swarmed over her and plundered her of everything portable. Nothing was done by the local officers on the spot to assist the master to save his vessel or prevent the people from plundering her until the attention of the authorities in Kiungchow was directed to the matter on the arrival of the master and crew after a two days' journey overland to Hoihow.

The French barque "Taffarette" struck on the reefs above Tinhosa; the crew were rescued by a fishing junk and landed at Munchow. Under the guidance of a junkman, they began a long and weary march to this port along the coast. On reaching land at Munchow, the natives there stripped them of their provisions, &c., leaving them only a shirt and a pair of trousers each—this in the piercing heat of Hainan. For three days they tramped on as best they could, living on a little rice and water; no aid from any official was ever extended to them. At last, on reaching the Wênchang district, they applied to the Magistrate's office for help, and to his shame, be it said, he turned them away with a stone—figuratively certainly. Here the guide now managed to induce some barrowmen to lend assistance, promising payment on their reaching Hoihow, and after nearly three days more the crew arrived at this port utterly exhausted and destitute.

In the case of the Siamese ship, out of a crew of forty-nine men only nine reached shore in safety, and they, falling into more charitable hands

among the officials near Leong Sory, were carefully forwarded to Kiungchow, and ultimately sent on to Hong Kong at the expense of the Taotai.

During the summer of 1880 Her Majesty's ship "Magpie" was engaged in surveying the Hainan Straits, a work undertaken not a day too soon, considering the increase in the number of steamers frequenting these waters. Up to the present the new charts have not been published, but the direct passage through the Banks is now invariably adopted as presenting no difficulties impossible to a careful ship-master.

As a summary and accurate index of the trade and progress of the port, I append a Table of the dues levied during the past five years, from which it will be seen that the increase of 1880 over 1879 is not only in opium, but in exports and imports. I may here add that an increase in opium was naturally to be expected; a quantity larger than usually required to meet the ordinary consumption was imported so as to escape the *haifang* and *kao-li* dues, especially as a short breathing space was allowed, nearly three weeks, during which *haifang* was suspended pending the transfer to new farmers.

COMPARATIVE Table of Duties collected, 1876 to 1880.

	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
	T. m. c. c.	T. m. c. c.	T. m. c. c.	T. m. c. c.	T. m. c. c.
Import	6,153 8 7 8	11,800 8 4 0	11,922 6 5 1	11,295 4 6 9	15,766 2 8 5
Export	19,531 1 9 3	27,413 9 8 2	17,324 4 4 9	21,433 2 8 3	25,410 4 7 8
Coast trade	285 2 4 8	80 6 6 8	...	0 9 3 3	29 5 7 1
Opium	15,598 6 8 1	21,700 4 4 9	30,576 5 0 0	83,533 1 0 0	39,115 8 8 0
Transit ... ..	...	...	...	...	157 2 6 9
Total	43,573 8 0 0	63,150 7 2 9	61,664 4 0 0	68,989 9 8 5	83,692 6 8 3

(Signed) JAMES SCOTT, *Acting Consul.*
Kiungchow, March 10, 1881.

IMPORTS.

FOREIGN PRODUCE.

		1879.		1880.	
			Taels.		Taels.
Opium—					
Malwa	Piculs .	98 29	55,227	15 36	7,840
Patna	"	992 50	399,901	1,256 47	567,071
Benares	"	26 98	10,243	33 34½	14,509
Total		1,117 77	465,371	1,305 17½	589,420
Cotton goods—					
Shirtings, grey .	Pieces .	4,007	6,921	6,336	10,501
" white	"	11,651	24,544	21,259	48,619
" dyed	"	223	611	797	2,535
T-cloths	"	23,153	25,595	28,839	33,402
Drills	"	1,790	3,138	2,700	5,128
Chintzes	"	154	220	152	273
Turkey red cloth	"	392	433	338	400
Velvets, &c. ..	"	112	453	169	717
Cambrics	"	913	635	1,613	1,105
Handkerchiefs..	Dozen .	744	380	1,778	891
Yarn and thread	Piculs .	123,750	2,724	468,225	12,602
Unclassed	Pieces .	53	56	130	123
Total value .. ..		..	65,710	..	116,298

[565]

6

				1879.		1880.	
					Taels.		Taels.
Woollen goods—							
Blankets ..	Pairs	..	..	141	428	182	493
Camlets ..	Pieces	..	..	184	1,648	220	2,362
Cloth, broad ..	..	..	..	123	1,930	178	3,091
Spanish stripes ..	..	..	..	70	806	93	1,007
Long ells ..	..	..	..	971	5,497	1,114	6,532
Lastings ..	..	..	..	186	1,616	240	2,110
Lustres, &c. ..	..	..	..	138	497	188	678
Woollen mixtures ..	..	..	..	81	483	291	2,124
Total value ..	..	..	..	..	12,905	..	18,397
Metals—							
Copper, old ..	Piculs	..	..	16 87	282	20 05	344
Iron, nail-rod ..	..	..	..	1,102 55	1,969	2,358 30	4,618
„ manufactured ..	..	..	..	740 57	1,696	2,703 53	8,024
Lead, in pigs ..	..	..	..	34 00	88	99 39	455
Quicksilver ..	..	..	..	12 55	495	6 65	272
Steel ..	..	..	..	30 92	100	170 82	676
Total value ..	..	..	..	..	4,630	..	14,389
Sundries—							
Sugar, brown ..	Piculs	..	..	11 92	124	9 62	84
Betel-nuts ..	..	..	..	495 27	1,894	1,294 31	5,677
Birds' nests ..	..	..	..	2 80	509	3 58	1,149
Cloves, &c. ..	..	..	..	27 90	703	61 44	1,459
Coal ..	Tons	..	..	110	896	435	5,220
Cotton, raw ..	Piculs	..	..	12,598 16	50,277	5,119 12	26,670
Flint stone ..	..	..	..	927 13	456	1,080 47	557
Ginseng ..	..	..	..	55 07	16,603	47 14	14,920
Grain and pulse ..	..	..	..	11,335 07	19,475	3,776 94	5,588
Isinglass ..	..	..	..	18 17	225	34 39	377
Matches ..	Gross	..	..	2,692	967	7,616	2,549
Oil ..	Piculs	..	..	60 75	258	72 50	289
Paints ..	..	..	..	16 05	229	25 46	319
Pepper ..	..	..	..	34 39	1,287	22 77	714
Rice ..	..	..	..	46,483 90	66,324	2,477 92	4,036
Sandal-wood ..	..	..	..	15 00	54	99 43	345
Shell-fish, &c. ..	..	..	..	36 44	647	84 03	1,140
Timber ..	Value	..	..	..	1,091	..	..
Window-glass ..	Boxes	..	..	13	20	39	95
Sundries ..	..	..	..	..	14,412	..	18,971
Total value ..	..	..	..	..	175,451	..	89,610

NATIVE PRODUCTS.

Almonds ..	Piculs	..	..	61 82	660	57 58	556
Beans ..	..	..	..	2,355 93	3,282	3,224 83	4,939
Cotton, raw ..	..	..	..	1,070 57	13,974	4,575 60	57,653
Dates, red ..	..	..	..	639 74	2,426	514 39	1,699
Grass-cloth ..	..	..	..	6 97	512	8 94	656
Hams ..	..	..	..	..	..	29 97	651
Hemp ..	..	..	..	991 13	7,586	2,312 97	16,243
Lily-flowers, dried ..	..	..	..	1,183 00	6,852	2,719 62	12,524
Liquorice ..	..	..	..	194 11	1,878	130 21	939
Medicines ..	..	..	..	3,290 85	27,894	3,493 98	32,043
Nankeens ..	..	..	..	201 68	8,929	219 87	11,099
Nutgalls ..	..	..	..	..	..	55 27	640
Paper, 2nd quality ..	..	..	..	..	..	109 01	425
Persimmon ..	..	..	..	278 36	1,035	224 95	856
Shoes ..	Pairs	..	..	727	533	721	539
Silk thread ..	Piculs	..	..	..	..	2 31	869

			1879.		1880.	
				Taels.		Taels.
Silk-piece goods ..	..	Piculs .	7 81	3,872	10 93	5,499
Tobacco ..	..	..	42 83	613	27 01	442
Vermicelli ..	..	..	2,428 62	12,998	4,212 99	21,066
Vermilion ..	..	..	13 41	555	17 63	789
Wax, white ..	..	..	40 23	2,011	58 69	3,242
Woollen mixtures ..	..	..	400 00	498	543 00	648
Sundries ..	..	..	..	3,066	..	6,132
Total value ..	..	..	..	99,174	..	183,149
Imports—						
Foreign ..	..	..	..	724,067	..	828,114
Native ..	..	..	..	99,174	..	183,149
Total value ..	..	..	..	823,241	..	1,011,263

EXPORTS.

			1879.		1880.	
				Taels.		Taels.
Agar-agar ..	..	Piculs .	268 22	1,400	232 85	1,423
Bags, straw ..	..	Pieces .	56,635	1,108	264,916	5,187
Betel-nuts ..	..	Piculs .	383 02	2,252	4,969 56	52,468
Coir ..	..	..	919 64	1,729	590 51	1,133
Eggs, preserved ..	..	Pieces .	254,788	661	324,900	821
Fish, salt ..	..	Piculs .	306 85	1,517	289 91	2,048
Galangal ..	..	..	5,661 57	6,583	4,918 87	8,910
Glue, cow ..	..	..	2,800 50	13,220	2,228 05	12,814
Grass-cloth, fine ..	..	..	52 10	7,148	23 38	2,848
„ coarse ..	..	..	691 16	43,257	1,271 95	78,825
Hemp ..	..	..	786 70	17,237	445 25	11,619
Ground-nut cake ..	..	..	14,612 33	17,968	27,828 77	31,681
Hides, cow, &c. ..	..	..	490 36	2,453	2,392 75	17,804
Horns ..	..	..	472 72	2,068	514 24	3,187
Keucha ..	..	..	..	..	2,790 73	1,914
Leather ..	..	..	3,965 71	39,853	3,218 50	35,247
„ trunks ..	..	..	277 43	4,553	322 43	5,384
Lunggan, pulp ..	..	..	275 78	2,549	242 71	2,481
Medicines ..	..	..	2,421 80	22,508	1,395 13	21,421
Paper ..	..	..	..	..	368 50	1,185
Pigs ..	..	Pieces .	4,283	19,138	3,399	17,677
Rattan, split ..	..	Piculs .	..	..	499 56	1,785
Seeds, sesamum ..	..	..	21,864 38	69,382	11,815 29	45,113
Sharks'-fins, black ..	..	..	48 32	795	37 31	715
„ white ..	..	..	11 62	460	8 51	301
Shell-fish ..	..	..	64 28	2,086	66 58	1,511
Silk, wild raw ..	..	..	233 74	18,260	72 06	5,405
„ fish-lines ..	..	..	24 50	5,586	36 24	9,625
„ piece-goods ..	..	..	..	..	1 84	518
Sinews, cow, &c. ..	..	..	440 27	3,351	425 57	3,313
Skins, deer ..	..	Pieces .	17,544	1,623	21,340	2,473
Sugar, brown ..	..	Piculs .	47,023 59	134,674	67,603 70	162,574
„ white ..	..	..	17,225 31	71,408	24,536 42	89,620
Tallow, animal ..	..	..	2,688 13	18,676	3,005 74	19,804
Tobacco-leaf ..	..	..	85 44	408	278 40	761
Tung yeh ..	..	..	..	..	838 27	1,645
Wax, yellow ..	..	..	27 89	768	32 88	907
Sundries ..	..	..	..	17,628	..	5,194
Total value ..	..	..	..	550,397	..	667,341

TRANSIT PASSES, 1880.

			Piculs.	Taels.
From Hai An or Lei Chow (16)—				
Sugar, brown ..	..	..	1,792 00	3,700
Galangal ..	..	..	781 00	847
Total ..	..	..	..	4,547
To Hai An or Lei Chow (4)—				
Beans ..	..	..	98 50	165
Iron, old ..	..	..	117 00	230
T-cloths ..	..	..	Pieces. 100	127
Total ..	..	..	..	522

(Signed) JAMES SCOTT, *Acting Consul.*
Kiungchow, March 10, 1881.

NEWCHWANG.

Report on the Trade of Newchang during the Year 1880.

THE total value of the trade of Newchwang for the year 1880 is estimated at 6,824,088 taels, equal at 5s. 9d. per tael to 1,961,925*l.* against 8,344,748 taels for 1879, and 9,772,963 taels for 1878. The decrease for the year under review compared with the preceding year is, therefore, 1,520,660 taels, or about 18 per cent. I regret to have to say that although native produce imported and exported both show a decline, yet this falling-off must be mainly attributed to the decreased import of foreign goods, as the following Table shows :—

		1878.	1879.	1880.
		Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Value of foreign goods imported	..	3,739,828	3,303,100	2,170,996
Value of native produce imported	..	1,780,586	1,386,911	1,299,721
Value of exports	.. ..	4,387,116	3,654,737	3,353,371
Total	..	9,907,530	8,344,748	6,824,088

The causes of the various decreases I will endeavour to show under the heads of imports and exports respectively.

Imports.

Opium shows a decrease of more than 100 per cent. The statistics furnished by the Customs give the following figures :—

			1878.	1879.
			Piculs.	Piculs.
Malwa	.. ..	..	2,141	1,077
Patna	.. ..	..	98	30
Benares	.. ..	..	63	55
Turkish and Persian	.. ..	..	151	24
Total	.. ..	..	2,453	1,186

These 1,186 piculs are estimated as being worth 658,800 taels. The opium imported during 1879 must have been worth more than double this amount, so that some 700,000 taels of decrease in the import of foreign goods are at once accounted for. The falling-off is almost entirely due to the increased production of the native drug. I have marked in the map appended to this Report the various districts in which the poppy is grown. I infer from the amount of opium produced that the crusade on the part of the authorities against this cultivation has

slackened since the cessation of the famine. In the Kirin province, however, his Excellency Niung-an, the Military Governor, still continues to repress the cultivation with success. His declared motive in so doing is his regard for the moral and material welfare of the people. The price of native opium may be said to be always about 30 per cent. less than that of the foreign drug; 375 taels per picul is about the average price. The *li-kin* duty on Patna and Benares opium is 39.456 taels per picul, and on Malwa and Persian 32.88 taels. This frees the drug from further *li-kin* within a circuit of about 200 miles. There is also an office here called the Ch'i Li Chū, where a duty of 7 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied to pay for the provincial militia. Native opium pays a *li-kin* duty of 32 taels per picul when it pays anything, but an enormous quantity evades payment of any tax whatever. On the other hand, little or no smuggling of foreign opium takes place.

The following Table shows the amount of the various descriptions of piece-goods imported during the three last years :—

				1878.	1879.	1880.
<i>Cottons.</i>						
Shirtings, grey	Pieces	..	..	159,737	205,433	90,670
" white, plain .. ..	"	..	..	26,621	22,802	16,744
" " figured .. ..	"	..	..	1,348	400	..
" dyed, plain .. ..	"	..	..	6,038	8,545	3,454
" " figured .. ..	"	..	..	1,749	2,290	920
T-cloths .. ..	"	..	..	273,878	411,161	178,720
Drills and jeans, English	}	"	..	362,876	33,709	23,780
" Dutch						
" American						
Sheetings, English .. ..	"	..	..	19,375	12,975	31,598
" American .. ..	"	..	..	74,670	71,597	49,855
Chintzes .. ..	"	..	..	14,278	12,246	9,631
Turkey reds and cambrics	"	..	..	10,622	8,732	20,914
Velvets, velveteens, and fustians	"	..	..	5,771	3,044	2,421
Handkerchiefs	Dozen	..	..	24,090	13,393	13,170
Cotton goods, unclassified	Pieces	..	..	65,052	47,389	29,802
<i>Woollens.</i>						
Camlets, English .. ..	"	..	..	3,930	2,640	2,488
Medium cloth .. ..	"	..	..	30	200	550
Russian cloth .. ..	"	..	..	680	1,370	950
Spanish stripes .. ..	"	..	..	1,534	548	801
Lastings .. ..	"	..	..	12,090	7,753	9,621
" crape .. ..	"	..	..	3,589	2,970	2,153
Long ells .. ..	"	..	..	1,420	1,518	1,384
Lustres and orleans .. ..	"	..	..	5,240	9,079	3,450
Woollens, unclassified ..	"	..	..	810	76	..

It will be seen from this that there is a considerable falling-off in the imports of most cotton fabrics, T-cloths, English sheetings, and Turkey reds are favourable exceptions. The stocks at the beginning of the year were unusually large, and the price of cottons at Shanghai was higher than it had been for some years past. During nearly the whole of 1880, great apprehension existed of war between China and Russia, which no doubt deterred many purchasers and importers from entering into commercial speculations. Moreover, the Koreans, who formerly got all their supplies from Newchang, have opened the two ports of Fushan and Yunghshing to the Japanese, who import thither a considerable quantity of foreign goods. Mr. Acting Consul Spence, who visited both ports as

interpreter to his Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa last summer, mentions having found large quantities of English and American cottons in the bazaar at Fushan. This combination of circumstances quite accounts for the depression of the trade of Newchwang. The war scare at any rate is only a temporary evil, and the opening of Corea, though it may affect the totals of our annual imports, is an unmixed benefit to Lancashire manufacturers. There have been no complaints lately on the part of the Chinese of adulteration and sizing of cottons. The idea that American drills and sheetings will eventually supplant English fabrics, appears to be erroneous, if we may judge from the figures in the foregoing Table. The import of English drills decreased from 38,709 pieces to 23,780, or about 40 per cent., and American from 96,260 to 59,838 pieces, which gives about the same percentage, but the import of English sheetings increased from 12,975 to 31,598 pieces, while that of American sheetings decreased from 71,597 to 49,855 pieces. Stocks at the end of the year have been unusually small, whence we may expect a very active business as soon as the river opens and shipping begins to arrive. I give the prices of a few of the principal cottons at the opening, and at the close of the season.

				Opening.	Close.
				Taels.	Taels.
Grey shirtings, 8½ lb.	..	..	Per piece ..	1.38	1.45 to 1.75
T-cloths, 7 lb.	..	..	.. ..	1.26	1.35 1.45
Drills, Dutch	..	..	.. ..	2.53	..
„ American	..	..	.. ..	2.95	3.20
Sheetings, American	..	..	.. ..	2.95 to 3.00	3.00

The trade in woollens at this port is always rather an insignificant one. Foreign woollen cloths are more articles of luxury than of necessity among the Chinese. Though there is not much actual poverty in this neighbourhood, there are few of the well-dressed, well-fed gentry to be seen, who are so common in the richer districts of Shanghai, Canton, Ningpo, and Hankow, and who are the principal consumers of woollen cloths. Besides, the winters at Newchwang are so severe that woollens are not stout enough to keep the cold out. Nothing but fur or skin will do this. The figures given above do not show a decrease proportionate to the falling-off in cottons.

Metals come next in importance on the list of imports. The following Table shows the amounts imported during the three last years. Here again the decrease for 1880 is very noticeable.

				1878.	1879.	1880.
Iron, nail rod	..	..	Piculs ..	55,673	27,249	15,384
„ bar	..	..	.. ..	50,841	76,457	32,870
„ old	..	..	.. ..	..	102,438	67,162
Steel	..	..	.. ..	6,539	4,268	431
Lead	..	..	.. ..	5,147	5,584	2,209
Tin plates	..	..	.. ..	1,144	1,120	137
Copper sheathing	..	..	.. ..	2,554	1,181	331

Iron is the principal import under the head of metals. This trade has developed enormously during the past few years, although overstocks at the end of 1879 have occasioned a diminished import during the year under review. Old iron in the shape of wheel tires, horse shoes, and

fish-plates is preferred to the manufactured metal, as these articles with very little forging or alteration come in handy for various agricultural purposes. Fish-plates in particular are used to strengthen the axles of the carts peculiar to this neighbourhood. Old iron during the year fetched from 1.75 taels to 2 taels per cwt. Bar iron, a little more, the highest price being 2.10 taels per cwt. Other metals call for no special remark.

All other imports into Newchwang may be included under the head of miscellaneous. I give a comparative Table of the import of some of the more important items during the three last years.

				1878.	1879.	1880.
Window glass	..	..	Boxes	8,250	2,148	4,525
Matches	..	..	Gross	77,901	21,579	52,374
Medicines	..	..	Piculs	7,848	8,575	5,311
Needles	..	..	Mille	193,000	121,485	105,304
Paper, 1st quality	..	..	Piculs	8,725	7,747	5,192
„ 2nd quality	..	..	„	22,313	6,546	12,553
Sapan wood	..	..	„	11,832	15,536	4,847
Seaweed	..	..	„	15,241	27,441	38,438
Silk piece goods	..	..	„	1,517	943	868
Sugar, brown	..	..	„	43,506	91,117	88,757
„ white	..	..	„	17,879	16,819	41,628
„ candy	..	..	„	8,965	7,076	9,271
Tobacco	..	..	„	8,353	6,629	13,353

Window glass, matches, and needles, appear always to be the first foreign conveniences which come into use among the Chinese. The import of matches shows a satisfactory increase, and so does that of glass. Corean paper is the principal substitute for the latter in this province. All windows have to be built facing the south, as no paper that was ever made could stand the force of one of our northerly gales in winter. The import of needles has diminished. Another foreign article which annually shows an increased import in all parts of China is kerosine oil, I am not, however, furnished with statistics of its import at Newchang. The other items in the foregoing Table come under the head of native produce. Sugar is by far the most important of these. It is brought up from Swatow, Amoy, and Canton by the same ships which carry peas and bean-cake thither from here. The statistics appear to indicate that the trade (which is entirely in Chinese hands) is a sufficiently prosperous one. The same remark also holds good with regard to tobacco. The quantity of silk piece goods imported seems small, but the 868 piculs imported in 1880 are valued by the Customs at 307,191 taels. The falling-off in these imports would seem to point out a want of spare cash to spend on articles of luxury.

Exports.

Peas,* bean-oil, and bean-cake, are the staple exports of the port. The total exports for the year are valued at 3,353,371 taels. The following are the respective values of the peas, bean-cake, and bean-oil :—

* The produce in question is a species of pulse, and is called by that name in the Treaty of Tein-tsin, but the commercial name for it is peas, although the oil and the cake made from it are known as bean-oil and bean-cake.

						Taels.
Peas ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,749,384
Bean-cake	..	..	..	..	..	900,475
Bean-oil	..	..	..	..	..	69,524
Total	..	..	..	..	..	2,719,383

or about 80 per cent. of the whole export value. Although the Customs statistics show a falling-off in the value of the exports, this decrease is more apparent than real, as the actual amount of peas exported in 1880 is greater than in 1879, so that the decrease is due to the fall in price, and not to a diminished export. I give the figures for the last three years.

				Peas.	Bean-cake.	Bean-oil.
				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
1878	..	..	..	2,156,064	1,924,968	3,287
1879	..	..	..	1,853,444	1,800,523	11,630
1880	..	..	..	2,120,819	1,350,918	26,935

These peas are edible and are much eaten by the Chinese, after they have been made into a curd, but they are mainly used to manufacture an edible oil, and the refuse pulp is then pressed into cakes the size and shape of large cheeses weighing about 60 lbs., which are used either as fodder for animals, or more frequently as manure, especially for the sugar-cane grown in the neighbourhood of the southern ports. The peas are of three kinds, yellow, black, and green. The yellow are said to be the best, as producing most oil. Natives of this place boast that the oil made on the spot is much better than that made from the same peas after their arrival in the south. The harvest takes place in August or September, and the peas from the neighbouring localities are shipped away from this port before the river closes; and during the winter, when the roads are hard, and the rivers can be crossed on the ice, thousands of carts arrive from the more distant districts with produce that is shipped away the following spring or summer. In fact, the shipment of produce goes on all the year round as long as the port is open. Bean-oil and bean-cake can be kept any length of time without spoiling. Peas are more perishable, but will keep for a year or more, if preserved from damp, which is not much of a danger in this wonderfully dry climate. Water communication in this part of China practically does not exist, so that all produce has to be carried by cart. The goods-carrying carts are rough two-wheeled waggons drawn by seven animals. A pony is almost invariably placed in the shafts, and the other animals who are harnessed three abreast may either be mules or ponies. The former are the more numerous. A cart will carry as much as two to three tons of grain, and so laden will travel from the Kirin districts to this port in twenty days under favourable circumstances. The average number of carts which arrive here daily is about 700 or 800. As many as 1,500 have been counted in a day, but this is exceptional. I have made inquiries as to the expense of bringing produce to this market, and having ascertained the following particulars. A cart-load of peas is worth at Kirin about 100 tiavs, of which ten go to the tael. The farmer or his men having no other work to do in the winter turn carters and bring the peas down themselves. Carters' wages are thus saved. Fodder for the animals is reckoned at 56 tiavs. Expenses of the men 60 tiavs. Miscellaneous expenses, such as *li-kin* dues, which are 4 tiavs a cart-load, tolls at

bridges, farrieng, and so on amount to 50 tiavs more. Hence a cart-load can be laid down at 266 tiavs or 26·60 taels; and will fetch 500 tiavs or 50 taels. Bad weather, a break-down, snow, or a sudden thaw will, however, utterly upset these calculations and turn a handsome profit into a heavy loss. Carters have frequently to leave some of their beasts in pawn to enable them to reach their journey's end with the remainder. The roads are nothing but tracks, which are very fair, though rough travelling in dry weather or frosts, but become a line of pits and quagmires in wet. The carts on their return journey into the interior carry back foreign goods and metals, sugar, native cotton, and above all, salt, which is made in the salt pans on the sea coast, and is here, as in other parts of China, a Government monopoly.

The following Table give the prices of peas, bean-cake and bean-oil at the beginning and the end of 1880. The fall in price as the season advanced will be seen to be very remarkable. It accounts at once for the increased exports, and for the diminished valuation :—

				March 1880.	November 1880.
				Taels.	Taels.
Peas .. ..	..	..	per 300 catties	2·88	2·90
Bean-cake ..	..	..	per 600 lbs.	3·75	2·90
Bean-oil ..	..	..	per picul	3·35	2·35

I may note that bean-oil in November 1879 was as high 4·15 taels per picul.

Our other exports call for no extended notice. This country produces a raw silk made by the caterpillar of the ailanthus moth, which feeds on oak trees; 1031·19 piculs valued at 89,777 taels were exported in 1880. Some of this may eventually find its way to England. It is a very brown rough-looking silk by the side of the beautiful white and yellow textures of the south and centre of China, but a good strong fabric resembling a coarse pongu or tursore can be made from it. The pongus made here are exceedingly cheap, and are sometimes used by the natives instead of cottons. They can be bought as low as 6s. 6d. for a piece 65 feet long by 18 inches wide.

A good deal of cotton is grown in this neighbourhood for local consumption, but there is not enough either of the raw material, or of the cloth made from it, to form an article of export. I have obtained a piece of native cotton cloth as a specimen. It is a stout serviceable unfilled fabric, and compares well with grey shirtings or the Chinese cloth made near Shanghai.

Millet is the next crop in importance to peas. It takes the place of rice with the northern Chinaman. Very little of it is exported as grain, but a considerable quantity is made into samshoo, or native whiskey, and is shipped to other ports in China, especially to Tien-tsin, as the distillation of millit is forbidden in the province of Chihli. Samshoo to the amount of 16,288 piculs, valued at 48,900 taels, was exported in 1880.

Skins and furs of various kinds, from sable to sheep and goat are to be procured at reasonable rates, and in sufficient quantities. There is a fair supply of the more valuable furs, such as sable, sea otter and white fox, but I doubt whether they are to be bought so plentifully, or so cheaply as to tempt European furriers to open a trade here. Good sable skins average about 1l. to 1l. 5s. a-piece. Newchwang has long been noted for its tiger skins. These animals are found in the mountains near this, and in this climate the fur becomes far thicker and finer than that of the Indian tiger. The animal, too, grows to an unusual size, skins 11,

12, and even 13 feet long from the nose to the tip of the tail being not uncommon. A really good tiger skin will cost 30 to 40 taels.

The drug called ginseng is exported hence in noticeable quantities. The Customs statistics give the following figures for 1880. Native ginseng 2,533 piculs, value 127,148 taels. Corean ginseng 179 piculs, value 163,393 taels, and wild ginseng 3 piculs, value 10,053 taels. We gather from this that wild ginseng is worth over 3,000 taels a picul. Corean about 900 taels, and native only 50 taels. The curious point is that the difference in the value is purely fanciful. The drug itself is declared by European physicians to be a mild tonic without any of the wonderful strengthening qualities with which the Chinese have endowed it. But even if it had, that which is grown in gardens is just as good as that which is found among the hills, if the Chinese would only believe it.

SHIPPING AND FREIGHTS.

During the year 1880, 118 steamers of 82,398 tons, and 219 sailing-ships of 78,469 tons entered Newchwang, against 89 steamers of 64,041 tons, and 261 sailing-ships of 95,840 tons the year before. This gives an increase of about 1,000 tons for 1880. As regard steamers England heads the list with 72 of 51,547 tons, being followed by China with 34 steamers of 20,645 tons. Eleven German steamers and one Russian also entered. In sailing-ships Germany comes first with 106 vessels of 37,649 tons, England taking second place with 72 vessels of 25,172 tons. America is represented by 4,314 tons, France by 4,117, Siam by 3,568, Denmark by 1,902, Sweden by 1,221, and Holland by 526. No doubt steamers will eventually run most of the small sailing craft off the Newchwang line, but the process will be a gradual one with so conservative a people as the Chinese. Although a steamer can convey her cargo in half or a quarter of the time taken by a sailing-vessel, yet the greater number of lay days allowed the latter will often cause a Chinese charterer or shipper to prefer her to a steamer. I regret to have to confess that the Chinese look on German vessels as better than English. They say that the masters and mates are more obliging, and the men better behaved. In justice to my own countrymen I must say that no English sailors have been imprisoned for bad behaviour during 1880.

Freights were higher throughout the year and vessels had no difficulty in finding employment. The average rates ruling were:—

	D. c.	D. c.
To Shanghai	0 18 per picul	= 3 02 per ton.
To Amoy, Foochow, and Swatow ..	0 33 ..	= 5 54 ..
To Hong Kong and Canton ..	0 36 ..	= 6 04 ..

The highest freight obtained during the year was that paid to the British schooner "Mary," viz., 45 cents per picul to Amoy. This is equivalent to 7 dol. 56 c. a ton. Towards the close of the season most charterers insert a clause in the charter-party, allowing the vessel chartered to fill up at Chefoo, if there is any danger of her being caught in the ice here. We have, with one exception, been quite free from casualties during the year. The British barque "Woodville" was driven ashore in harbour by a sudden and violent gale in October last, but escaped with only the loss of a few sheets of copper. She had not even to make an average statement.

EXCHANGE.

I need scarcely say that no exchange operations between this and Europe or America take place. We are dependent on Shanghai for our banking facilities. The common currency of the country is a debased

copper cash currency. At par, 10 strings (called tiavs) of this go to the tael and seven to the dollar, but the rate varies from day to day. The local tael or ounce of silver is estimated at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium on Shanghai, and about $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. less than the Haikwan tael. Taking the Haikwan tael as worth 5s. 9d., it may therefore be considered as worth about 5s. 3d. The exchange between sycee and copper cash during the year has been high, that is, the tael has usually been worth more than 10 tiavs.

DUTIES.

The total amount of duties paid at the custom-house during the year was 304,216·503 Haikwan taels, or 87,462*l.* 2*s.*, against 333,733·254 Haikwan taels for 1879. This amount is made up thus:—

					H. Taels.
Import dues	..	..	..	..	13,499·725
Export dues	..	..	..	..	211,687·474
Coast trade duty	..	..	..	..	29,657·129
Opium duty	..	..	..	..	39,100·675*
Tonnage dues	..	..	..	..	10,271·500
Total	..	..	..	..	304,216·503

It will be noticed that no transit dues appear in the above list. So much of the import trade is done by the Chinese, and the inland dues are so light, that there is no demand for transit passes. The following Table shows the proportion paid by each flag:—

					H. Taels.
British	..	..	..	..	128,418·675
American	..	..	..	..	8,988·238
German	..	..	..	..	77,393·101
French	..	..	..	..	8,504·623
Dutch	..	..	..	..	806·960
Danish	..	..	..	..	3,295·325
Swedish and Norwegian	..	..	..	..	2,372·118
Russian	..	..	..	..	1,493·135
Siamese	..	..	..	..	5,782·406
Chinese	..	..	..	..	28,061·247
Total	..	..	..	..	265,105·828
Opium dues	..	..	..	..	39,100·675
Grand total	..	..	..	..	304,216·503

GENERAL REMARKS.

I must premise these remarks by stating that I only arrived at Newchwang at the end of October last, and that, therefore, any conclusions at which I may have arrived on the course of trade and on the prosperity of the port are based on the opinions of others, and on statistics rather than on my own observation.

The benefits which accrue to British trade from the opening of Treaty ports in China are three: (1) a market for the consumption of British manufactures; (2) a supply of commodities needed by consumers in England; (3) the employment of Englishmen and English shipping at a profit. In Newchwang the second of these is utterly wanting, nor, as long as the exports from this are confined to peas and bean-cake, do I see any chance of an alteration. The third, however, exists and flourishes. I cannot say that our foreign trade employs many merchants, nor perhaps much foreign capital at this port compared to some others, but the

* Against 72,535·950 Haikwan taels in 1879.

3°

I

99

statistics given above show how exceedingly profitable to the shipping interests of Great Britain the opening of this port has been. The great drawback to Newchwang is, of course, the freezing up of the harbour for four months every year. The only way to meet this obstacle would be to allow ships to load during the winter at one of the harbours further down the coast, such as Ta-lien-wan Bay or Port Arthur (see Map). I do not think that the Chinese would raise much objection, as fortunately those places are within this circuit, so that there would be no difficulty in regard, either to jurisdiction or to the collection of duties. Kelung, which is under the Tamsui offices, might be used as a precedent. An assistant might be sent from this Consulate, and a small staff from the Customs to take up their quarters there, as soon as the frost set in, and to return here in March. While I write this I am informed that a German officer of artillery has landed at Lu Shun-how from a Chinese vessel of war, and that he is about to construct a fort there or at Ta-hin-wan. The erection of fortifications in that district may possibly tend to improve communication between that end of the peninsular called Regent's Sword and this port. I am informed that the first part of the road out of Yingsze is level and good, but when once the hills are reached, it becomes steep and narrow.

The great feature of the year under review has doubtless been what I have called the war scare, I mean the apprehension of an approaching war between China and Russia. Towards the close of the year most Chinese and foreigners alike looked on it as inevitable. All through the autumn troops poured into the province, until we had over 50,000 Houan soldiers in this neighbourhood. The bulk of them are at Shan Hai Kuan, but some 5,000 are quartered within 3 miles of the British Settlement. They are massed in this province because we are within twenty days march of the Russian frontier, whence during the winter a force of any size might descend. The roads are easily traversed, and the supply of conveyance in the shape of ponies, mules, and carts is, as I have shown above, practically unlimited. The great Russian military station of Vladivostock is also within marching distance. Besides, Newchwang is utterly undefended on the sea face, so that if an expedition to Peking had been contemplated by the Russians, the land force and fleet might well have made this their rendez-vous with the port for a base of operations. About the time of my arrival the excitement was at its height. I applied to the Admiral for naval protection. He intended stationing Her Majesty's ship "Mosquito" here during the winter, but ice formed in the river and drove her out to sea before she could get into the dock which had been dug for her. Fortunately all alarm is now over, and the Houan soldiers, whose presence I expected from my experience at Hankow and elsewhere, would be a constant source of annoyance, have been kept under perfect control and discipline, and have not once molested or insulted a single foreigner. The fear of an outbreak of civil war between the Chinese and Tartars has not been so vivid here as at Tien-tsin. As I have stated above, these apprehensions of war had a most depressing effect on the trade of the year.

I have been informed that his Excellency Li Hung-Chang, the Governor-General of Chihli, has memorialized the throne for the construction of a railway from Tien-tsin to Peking, and that this railway is to be eventually continued to Monkden and Yingsze. Foreigners who have been any time in China have gradually got accustomed to look on the establishment of railways in the Empire as a Utopian scheme, but should such a project ever be carried out no better field for it could be found than the country between Yingsze and Monkden. It consists of flat plains of good solid soil with only one slight rise between the two

towns, and no streams of any size to cross. Beyond Moukden the country is rather more hilly, but that there are no engineering difficulties of importance between Moukden and Kirin is shown by the number of carts arriving here from the latter place. A propos of Kirin, I was lately informed by a Chinese military official who came from there, that the River Sungari has shoaled so much of late years that even small boats cannot reach the town, though it was once an important naval station, and was called by the Chinese Ch'uän Chang, "the Dockyard." Some ten years ago small Russian steamers from the Amoor used occasionally to get there, and Mgr. Dubail, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchuria, visited Kirin in one.

Coal is found pretty plentifully in this neighbourhood, and if one were to believe all reports, its quality is equal to Welsh steam coal, and its quantity to the coals of the coal measures of Pennsylvania. I have always noticed that, until a country is opened it contains every species of mineral wealth. But saying no more than I actually know, I may state that coal of a sufficiently good quality to burn in American stoves may be bought at the mines of Liao Yang to lay down here from 8 to 10 dollars per ton. I have heard of some being sold as low as 6½ dollars.

There have been but few cases of importance in which Chinese and foreigners have been concerned. A store was burnt down last winter and numbers of Chinese took advantage of the fire to help themselves. Very little of the stolen property was recovered, but two of the offenders were imprisoned for a year. I have found the Intendant of this circuit very friendly, and in the only case in which I have been brought in contact with him, very amenable to argument, and quite ready to do justice to foreigners.

The winter of 1879-80 was an average one as regards temperature. The greatest cold was 10 degrees Fahrenheit. The ice began to break up about the 12th March, and the first vessels entered on the 17th. The last merchant-vessels left on the 25th November. Her Majesty's ship "Mosquito" was caught in the ice and remained a prisoner until the 27th, when the flood tide set her free and she escaped with considerable difficulty. The health of the district has been good until November, when an epidemic of scarlet fever and measles set in. A number of Chinese have died from these diseases in Yingtze and the neighbouring town. Several European children have caught one or the other complaint, but no deaths have occurred.

The first thing that strikes a new comer here, after the depressing appearance of the scenery, is the curious absence of all sort of municipal Government. There is a British Concession, but it is not laid out, nor does the British Consulate stand on it. There is a good bund or road on the bank of the river, for which we have to thank successive Commissioners of Customs, but there are no other made roads, no street lights, and no sewers or drains. There is no Municipal Council, no Chamber of Commerce, no police, nor any committee of the residents for the good order of the Settlement. Notwithstanding this, we get on better than might have been expected. The Consulate constable and the drilled Chinese force at the custom-house are sufficient to keep order, and fortunately the Chinese roads are wide and are kept reasonably clean. Filth is removed for manure and little drainage is required in this dry climate.

In conclusion, I must express my best thanks to Captain Man, the Commissioner of Customs, for free access to the Customs statistics, and to the merchants who have aided me in the production of this Report by imparting the information which I have required.

(Signed)

CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN, *Consul*.

NINGPO.

Report on the Trade of Ningpo for the Year 1880.

THOUGH the year was a bountiful one, produce of all kinds being abundant, and peace and prosperity prevailing throughout this part of China, there has not been that improvement for trade which was to be expected. The markets for exports have not extended, and an increased demand for British woollens or other European goods is scarcely to be looked for so long as the well-to-do natives centre all desire for comfort and luxury in the fumes of the opium-pipe, and are content while they have that to eat and to clothe themselves with that their lands supply, and leisure to pursue their literary studies and to smoke.

The Returns of the Foreign Customs to which the Commissioner has been so good as to afford me access, and which are embodied in the Tables attached to this Report, show the value of the goods on which duty was there paid to have been :—

					Imports.	Exports.
					£	£
1879	..	..	..	..	2,373,355	1,260,618
1880	..	..	..	..	2,308,500	1,601,100

Treasure imported amounted to 379,525*l.*, exported, to 714,033*l.*

The direct trade with foreign countries, including Hong Kong, was but small, the total estimated value being but 34,705*l.*

The majority of the goods passed at the Foreign Customs are such as come and go on the daily steamer running between Shanghai and this. Nearly all the opium, by far the largest item of import as regards value, is now imported from thence, the command that Shanghai rates have over the markets, rendering it preferable for the importer to draw his supplies from there to offering for sale consignments from Hong Kong, a large portion of which he finds himself obliged to re-ship, so that no saving ultimately is effected on freight.

SHIPPING.

The best proof of a stagnant trade at a port is the desertion of shipping. In 1880 there were fewer chance vessels visiting the port than for many years. The foreign trade has been almost entirely dependent on the Shanghai steamer, and on the small vessels under the Chinese flag and lorchas that trade regularly between this, Shanghai, and Hankow.

Only seven steamers, as compared with nineteen during the previous year from Canton and Hong Kong, have entered; and but four have cleared for those ports, while twenty-one cleared in 1879.

During the year the China Merchants' Company and the China Navigation Company (British) have, by keeping each a steamer on the

line running between the two ports every night except Sundays, maintained, with short intervals, daily communication with Shanghai. These Companies have an arrangement between themselves as regards freights and the rates of passage-money. The traffic is for them of a remunerative kind. In July a British steamer, privately owned, of 159 tons ran in competition with their steamers. Freight and passage-money were at once reduced 50 per cent. By the middle of August other employment was found for her.

IMPORTS.

Business has not on the whole proved a profitable one to the trader. Some few articles have paid well, such as sugar, sugar-candy, tin, but generally imports have fallen short of previous years, and heads of both foreign and native hong complain of the times, and are anxious about the future. The question of over-taxation comes more frequently under discussion, the cumulative amount of the various imposts levied in the interior being a cause of dissatisfaction to merchants, who find difficulty in employing their capital profitably, and whose numbers increase with depression in trade. The system of collection is objectionable, the clerks in charge at the barriers being responsible for the amounts collected. They are held accountable for any falling-off that may occur in the average receipts. Consequently the Tariffs, at all times elastic, are construed more rigorously, and less indulgence is practised when trade is slack and but few goods are passing.

Native banks have shown their caution in making advances to merchants. Their business has brought little profit to their shareholders. The average rate of the year for loans on goods has been but $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Opium, the largest of the items in the import trade, has fallen short this year by some 2,000 chests. This is accounted for in part by the northern districts of the area formerly supplied from this port obtaining their supply now from Shanghai. Exertions have been made by the Opium Guild at this port to prevent the drug being smuggled across the boundary of the province without the payment of the provincial *li-kin*. Though they had the support of the authorities, the routes available by the smugglers were found so numerous, the frequent ramifications of the canals affording them such facilities, that they proved unsuccessful from a pecuniary point of view, and were abandoned. An arrangement was then attempted with the Guilds at Hu-chow and Kia-shing to purchase certain quantities of opium imported here, but it fell through, owing to the drug from Shanghai with Kiang-su *li-kin* receipt being laid down at those places for 7 taels less per chest than that obtained from Ningpo.

The large import at Wuhu also affects the sale here.

The native opium crop of last season was abundant in quantity and of exceptionally good quality; and has unquestionably reduced the consumption of Malwa, besides driving Persian from the market. There has been a considerable export of native drug to Formosa by junks, of which but a small quantity pays duty at the Customs.

Malwa has during the year fluctuated but little in price. It has ranged from 520 to 550 Haikwan taels, that is from about 135*l.* to 150*l.*, per picul of 133 lbs. net. The new Malwa, of which the first instalment arrived in September, was found to be of very good quality.

Of Patna and Benares there is a tendency towards increased consumption. There has been a preference with buyers for the latter in consequence of some of the balls of Patna being faulty and damaged by grubs, and of the Benares generally weighing better. These kind are sold by the chest of 40 balls. The price of Patna advanced from 380 taels in

January to 460 taels in July. The average for the year for Patna was 442 taels, and for Benares 430 taels.

The number of chests on which, according to the record of the Guilds, the inland tax was paid were in—

				Bengal.	Malwa.
1879	..	..	..	619	7,798
1880	..	..	..	755	5,740

This number is somewhat in excess of that in the Foreign Customs Return, and shows that though the *li-kin* here be comparatively heavy there is no evasion of it.

Cotton Piece-goods.—There has been a falling-off of nearly a sixth as compared with previous years. The yield from the cotton-fields in these districts of the last two years was large, of good fibre, and well ripened. Much of this crop is worked up by the inhabitants of every village, who certainly take more pleasure in labouring at good material than at indifferent, consequently more is manufactured, and for the ordinary clothes of every-day life the people prefer the cloths spun and woven among themselves to any that foreign looms can offer.

Kerosine.—This American oil is in general use in the vicinity of the port. The import taken together with the number of applications for transit passes show the area of its consumption to be extending. Last year 871,820 gallons were imported; in 1879, 774,128 gallons.

Straits Produce.—Rattans, sapan-wood, sandal-wood, mangrove bark, black pepper, and spices. Only a small business has been done in these articles. Tin has fluctuated very considerably. In 1879 it was quoted as low as 22 dollars per picul. Last year a good business was done in it by the importers at from 31 to 33 dollars. These supplied themselves almost entirely from the Shanghai market. In 1879 the total import was 20,500 piculs, in 1880, 21,000 piculs.

Metals.—Lead, iron, steel, and tin-plates. The market for these is kept by a Guild very much under its own control, to the manifest disadvantage of the foreign merchants who may have any in stock. Prices approximate to Shanghai rates. The amounts imported vary but little from year to year.

Coal.—There has been no direct import of foreign coal for the last few years. Small quantities for the use of nail-makers, blacksmiths, and copper-smiths are purchased in Shanghai. The kind best liked by them is Sydney. The only import at present is an inferior kind from Kelung for the consumption of the native gun-vessels on the Chusan station. This comes partly by native craft, partly in foreign bottoms.

Northern Produce.—Bean-cake, peas, beans, bean-oil, sea-weed, medicines. But one foreign vessel arrived thus laden. This trade is altogether in the hands of the Shan-tung Guild. There I learn the year is not accounted a profitable one. Their goods have sold badly, and owing to stormy weather, they lost several junks.

Sugar.—The members of the importing hong are Fokienese, and are said to be wealthy. The unrefined sugar of Formosa meets the readiest sale. The import is chiefly by native craft. In 1879, 50,000 baskets of brown and 39,000 of white were imported; in 1880, 49,000 of brown and 53,000 of white together with, 17,000 of candy. The baskets vary in size, 200 lbs. may be taken as an average weight. Prices ranged from 3 dol. 60 c. to 6 dollars, according to quality.

Ebony from Colombo.—The working of this wood into chop-sticks,

pipe-stems, and furniture is become an extensive industry here. The manufactured goods are all shipped northwards:—

Import in—						Piculs.
1879	::	::	::	::	::	19,000
1880	::	::	::	::	::	18,500

Dealers are eager after wood of good quality, and are ready to give from 5 dol. 50 c. to 6 dollars for such. The best commands a price of 8 dollars per picul, but as it is only wanted for superior articles of furniture, it is seldom asked for. It is difficult to realize on inferior or streaked wood. Much Camagon wood from the Straits, and which is known as bastard ebony, is bought by these manufacturers, which after being wrought undergoes a dyeing process to make it resemble true ebony.

EXPORTS.

Cotton.—The harvest was a very fine one. The showery weather of July conduced to the vigorous growth of the plants, and the fine dry autumn to the swelling and ripening of the pods: From the crop of 1879, 64,000 bales came to the port; from that of 1880, 70,000 were shipped. At the opening of the market the bale of 160 lbs. was to be bought for 16 dol. 20 c., but the quality proving excellent 18 dollars was quickly obtainable. The export has been principally by native junk to the Fokien ports. Less has been passed through the Foreign Custom-house than in former years, owing to the increased import into Kwang-tung from Bombay, and to the preference of the central provinces for the staple of Kiang-su.

Cuttle-fish.—The catch this season was large—the weather all that could be wished for salting and drying. The fishermen are well satisfied. The fish sold well at prices from 9 dol. 40 c. to 10 dol. 50 c. per picul. The entire yield, with the exception of a few small lots for the south, goes to Kewkiang and Hankow. The fresh fish only is in demand here. Of this there is an immense consumption in the summer months. It is brought in in ice. The taste and substance is very similar to that of the flesh of crawfish.

Straw Hats.—This business has been overdone, and yielded in 1880 but a scant profit to those engaged in it. The labour which it took for a time from cotton-spinning has reverted to that employment, and the sedges grown for it and mat-weaving have been more utilized for the latter industry. An improved kind of matting is now being made here, similar to the Canton matting, but the sedges being finer it cannot be produced so cheaply. It is, however, found to wear better.

Green Tea of Ping-suey and Fy-chow Leaf.—The export of 1880 compares favourably with that of previous years. The curers of the export article from Ping-suey leaf—found very suitable for the United States' market—did well with their chops in Shanghai, and have good reason to be content. The export in 1879 was 112,060 piculs; in 1880, 132,810 piculs. The Fy-chow leaf, which comes on the market later, did not bring quite such large gains. The total export of this kind in 1879 is computed at 120,586 piculs; in 1880, 150,815 piculs; and on the 31st December there remained some 10,000 chests to go forward.

Black Tea.—Comparatively a new feature in the list of exports. The experiments made with the Fy-chow leaf in 1878 and 1879, when it was surmised that Japan teas were supplanting green teas, proving unsuccessful in the foreign market, it was in 1880 with the leaf grown in the central districts of Cheh-kiang only that black tea for the foreign market was prepared. These teas, known in the trade as Hua-pus, owing, it is thought, to some defect in the manipulation, do not fetch the price

that is expected of them. The export in 1879 was 3,224 piculs ; in 1880, 3,133 piculs.

GENERAL.

It is difficult, in a country where all tendency to the display of private wealth is suppressed by the fear of attracting the attention of the Mandarins, who quickly find means to bring to the Yamén coffers any superfluous riches a man may appear to possess, and where statistics are unknown, to estimate the comparative prosperity of its inhabitants in the scale of humanity ; but if the abundance and cheapness of food consequent on a plenteous rice harvest, the comfortably clothed and well-housed villagers, the freedom from beggary observable in the towns, the sums spent on processions, theatricals, and other religious rites, be accepted as indications, this land may be accounted affluent. Canals, roads, bridges, the walls, towers, and gates of the cities, are all maintained in a state of thorough repair. During the last few years the building and renewing of bridges, ancestral halls, and temples have been extensive. At the sacred Isle of Poo-too the work of restoration is especially noticeable.

The long drought of the autumn, following a wet summer, gave rise to much fever. The wood and grass cutters who reside in the villages at the foot of the hills were so prostrated by it that at the end of the year scarcely a tithe of that surface of the hills was cut that, had the men strength to work, would have been denuded of its undergrowth. It occasioned a mortality above the average. The foreign residents, with hardly an exception, were affected by the prevalent malaria. The fever yielded in all cases to treatment with quinine and silicate of soda.

(Signed) WM. M. COOPER, *Consul*.

(No. 1.)—SHIPPING, 1879 and 1880.

Nationality.	1879.		1880.	
	No. of Ships Entered and Cleared.	Tonnage.	No. of Ships Entered and Cleared.	Tonnage.
British	296	169,656	338	172,803
American	31	4,692	31	4,050
German	66	26,562	23	6,291
Chinese	726	390,156	700	418,805
All others	36	6,230	21	4,187
Total	1,158	597,296	1,113	606,136

(Signed) WM. M. COOPER, *Consul*.
British Consulate, Ningpo, February 1881.

(No. 2.)—TABLE of Principal Imports.

(From Customs Returns.)

			Numerator.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Cotton piece-goods	..	..	Pieces	636,665	636,921	586,729
Woollen "	..	..	"	21,933	17,728	15,503
Metals—						
Iron, nail-rod	..	..	Piculs	30,473	37,331	29,486
Lead	..	..	"	11,098	9,107	9,520
Tin	..	..	"	18,114	13,839	15,052
Opium—						
Malwa	..	..	Chests	7,060	7,402	5,889
Behar	..	..	"	598	865	813
Persian	..	..	"	193	121	57
Bean-cake	..	..	Piculs	24,487	40,567	40,142
Pepper—						
Black and white	..	..	"	945	1,495	782
Rattans	..	..	"	10,600	9,197	7,156
Gypsum	..	..	"	8,210	14,967	17,570
Wood—						
Ebony	..	..	"	12,232	18,674	18,195
Sapan	..	..	"	6,685	6,534	3,350
Seaweed, Japan	..	..	"	9,048	6,261	6,348
Fungus	..	..	"	2,572	1,759	2,376
Ginseng	..	..	"	507	473	218
Hemp	..	..	"	8,253	7,229	5,811
Lungnans, dried	..	..	"	9,652	12,859	16,489
Mangrove bark	..	..	"	50,197	55,045	4,571
Medicines	..	..	"	24,083	30,702	24,865
Kerosine	..	..	Gallons	279,584	774,128	871,820
Oil, wood	..	..	Piculs	29,652	13,915	19,212
Sugar—						
Brown and white	..	..	"	37,874	40,283	16,310
Candy	..	..	"	7,617	7,323	7,608
Tobacco, leaf	..	..	"	4,964	8,271	4,549
" prepared	..	..	"	3,597	3,544	3,867
Wax, white	..	..	"	672	187	662
Varnish	..	..	"	982	1,305	1,044

		1878.	1879.	1880.
		Customs Taels.	Customs Taels.	Customs Taels.
Total value of imports..	..	8,763,158	8,518,878	7,609,967
" re-exports	..	383,574	452,481	357,566
Treasure imported	..	1,267,563	1,372,256	1,301,232

(Signed) WM. M. COOPER, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Ningpo, February 1881.

(No. 3.)—COMPARATIVE Table of Principal Exports.

(From the Customs Returns.)

	Numerator.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Alum, white ..	Piculs	13,330	47,534	47,932
Copper cash ..	Strings of 1,000.	77,287	40,969	31,435
Cotton, raw ..	Piculs	21,031	12,407	31,111
Fish, cuttle, dried ..	"	22,769	33,973	25,238
Fans, paper ..	Pieces	730,713	644,766	980,860
Hats, sedge ..	"	11,251,000	4,053,862	6,653,980
Mats " ..	"	870,863	1,023,147	742,061
Medicines ..	Piculs	81,362	36,827	34,519
Fish-maws..	"	370	364	502
Silk piece-goods ..	"	123	96	79
Silk, raw ..	"	413	344	392
Tea, green ..	"	103,338	127,821	147,651
Tobacco, leaf ..	"	378	165	786

	1878.	1879.	1880.
	Customs Taels.	Customs Taels.	Customs Taels.
Total value of exports ..	4,311,116	4,029,607	5,201,805
Treasure exported ..	904,407	2,983,034	2,448,114

(Signed) WM. M. COOPER, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Ningpo, February 1881.

(No. 4.)—IMPORTS of Opium exclusive of Re-exports.

Description.	1879.	1880.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Malwa	6,768	5,455	..	1,313
Patna.. ..	486	294	..	192
Benares	302	408	106	..
Persian	94	38	..	56

(Signed) WM. M. COOPER, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Ningpo, February 1881.

PAKHOI.

Acting Consul Ford to Earl Granville.

My Lord,

Pakhoi, February 18, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith my Report on the foreign trade of this port during the year 1880.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

COLIN M. FORD.

Inclosure.

Report on the Foreign Trade of the Port of Pakhoi during the Year 1880.

MR. STRONACH commenced his Trade Report for 1879 by noting that Pakhoi was first practically opened to continuous traffic in foreign bottoms on the 10th November of that year. Now the experience of another twelvemonth makes it safe to assert that 1880 has shown that the hopes formerly entertained, but so long disappointed, of the value of the opening of Pakhoi to foreign trade were well founded, and have at last been to some extent realized. The start made in 1879 was not a false one; the improvement then inaugurated has steadily, though perhaps not very rapidly, increased; the strong opposition to foreign shipping has been overcome, and steamers have entered fairly into the trade, with results which, taking all the circumstances into consideration, cannot but be regarded as satisfactory.

It is, under these circumstances, unfortunate that the Trade Report for the first complete year of the existence of a trade in foreign vessels should have to be written by me instead of by my predecessor, for, seeing that I landed for the first time at the port only five days before that year closed, and cannot, in the course of a residence therein of but a few weeks, have acquired a very extensive knowledge of it, that Report can hardly be expected to be much more than a collection of Returns, the figures in which must, to a great extent, be left to speak for themselves. I have, therefore, of necessity to confine myself chiefly to making my statistics as complete and as accurate as possible, and this I have endeavoured to do in the annexed Tables, taken from the more elaborate Annual Returns of the Imperial Maritime Customs, access to which has courteously been allowed me by the Commissioner.

These Tables are the following :—

1. Quantity and value of principal foreign goods imported, 1880.
2. Quantity and value of principal native produce imported, 1880.
3. Quantity and value of principal exports, 1880.
4. Import of opium, 1880.
5. Shipping, 1880.
6. Revenue collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs, 1880.

The values of the above have been converted into sterling at the exchange of 5s. 8d. to the Haikwan tael, that being, I consider, the fair average value for the year. I may add that the values now given are

the *net* values after deducting re-exports from both imports and exports, whereas in those Returns *gross* values, in which re-exports were reckoned both as imports and exports, were stated; hence the apparent discrepancy in the totals.

It will be seen from the first three of these Tables that the total value of the import trade of the port in foreign vessels during 1880 was 368,774*l.*, of which sum foreign goods, all brought here from Hong Kong, contributed 342,498*l.*, and native produce 26,276*l.*; and that the total value of the export trade was 126,538*l.* The exports were chiefly to Macao and Hong Kong, only a small quantity, valued at 275*l.*, going to Kiungchow; but a large proportion, valued at 66,516*l.*, or more than one-half the total value, was destined for other Chinese ports, the remainder, valued at 59,747*l.*, being supposed, from the nature of the produce, to be destined for foreign countries. The net total value, then, of the trade in foreign vessels for the year was 495,312*l.*, a figure which, in 1879, was exceeded at Wuhu alone of the other recently opened ports, none of the others, Kiungchow included, approaching it.

Table 6 shows that the revenue accruing to China from that trade—from which perhaps a more correct estimate of the value of the trade may be formed—amounted to 23,954*l.*, a larger sum than was collected at any one of the other ports just referred to during 1879.

The per-centages of the total trade taken, and of the duties paid under the different flags, were as follows:—

Flag.	Foreign Trade.	Coast Trade.	Transit Trade.	Duties.
British	22·26	15·96	100·00	23·99
American	63·50	73·33	..	63·82
German	·84	2·22	..	·91
Chinese	13·44	8·59	..	11·28

Shipping.—There is little to add under this head to the information embodied in Table 5.

The actual number of steamers employed in the trade was ten, of which four were British, two American, one German, and three Chinese; their united visits making a total of 105 entries and a like number of clearances during the year. Two of the British vessels only came here once, and a third, the largest, only paid three visits. No sailing-vessels visited the port, nor is it likely that many will do so in the future.

I may state here that I have been given to understand that the injury done to the fleet of Macao junks by the employment of foreign shipping is not so great as might have been expected. They have, on the contrary, to all appearance continued to trade with Macao in much the same numbers as before, and it has been alleged that probably they carried as much to and from the port as the steamers did, though it is impossible to verify this by statistics.

Import Trade.—A glance at Table 1 will show that by far the most important article amongst foreign imports is opium, the import of which has averaged, in round numbers, nearly a hundred chests a-month; and by referring to Table 4, it will be seen that Benares opium is the description of drug most used here, the import of Patna and of Malwa being quite insignificant in comparison. I am told that it is chiefly Benares of the “lowest touch” that comes here. It is retailed in Pakhoi in small quantities at a time, the “street” prices during the year having varied between 4·8 taels and 4·1 taels per catty, *all duties paid*; this would make the average value for the year of a chest on which all dues have been paid

about 700 dollars, or, say, 130%. The duties on opium were already very heavy, for, besides the Tariff duty of 80 taels per 100 catties, the Chinese importer or purchaser had to pay *li-kin* amounting to 23 taels per 100 catties, and 27 taels per chest, or nearly 24 taels per 100 catties, coast defence tax; but this year the provincial officials, having found that duties on prepared opium are easily evaded and that their revenue suffers in consequence, have notified the imposition of an additional duty on the raw material, the levy of which was to have commenced on the 9th January, 1881. This tax, which amounts to 28 taels per 100 catties, is stated to be in lieu of that previously levied on prepared opium in order to aid in defraying the expenses of coast defence, and is payable at the office of the Coast Defence Board. I understand that the natives are very much opposed to the tax, and have, so far, declined to pay it; but if it can be enforced it will probably interfere with the import during the current year. Already, owing partly to the fact that the merchants were waiting to see what the officials really meant to do in the matter before importing more drug, and partly also to the occurrence of the China New Year's holidays, the import during January this year has been far short of the average.

The other principal imports of foreign origin are *T-cloths* and *cotton yarn* amongst cotton goods, *long ells* in woollens, and *Indian cotton* amongst sundries. The cotton and woollen piece-goods imported are of the cheapest and poorest quality, the yarn chiefly Bombay spinnings. In fact, the import trade here is far from being a *rich* one as yet, but an improvement in this respect must come once the establishment of the transit pass system, to which I shall refer further on, has opened the rich markets of Kwang-si, and made it possible to lay down foreign manufactures there without excessive taxation *en route*. The import of metals has hitherto been inconsiderable, though I have heard that there is a prospect of an increased demand for nail-rod iron.

The native imports consist of the usual miscellaneous produce found at all the Treaty ports, the foremost place among them here during 1880 being taken by raw cotton.

Export Trade.—The most important articles of export during the year were *star aniseed*, *aniseed oil*, *cassia-leaf oil*, and *liquid indigo*. *Cassia lignea*, which will certainly be added to this list in the future, is all but absent from the export returns altogether, the only shipment being a small one of 50 catties, which was sent to Hong Kong as a specimen of the way in which the bark could be packed here. The Canton merchants, or rather a limited number of them, had in former years, as is well known, a monopoly of the Kwang-si cassia trade, and in consequence Canton used to be the only outlet for this valuable commodity; when the monopoly was abolished, the Canton merchants still expected to keep the packing of cassia in their own hands, asserting that they alone possessed the secret of doing it properly. The British firm of Herton and Co., to whose enterprise and energy much of the improved prospects of the port is due, have, after meeting with much opposition from that quarter, demonstrated that it can be packed quite as well and more cheaply here, and this, combined with the fact that this product at any rate can now be brought to the port from the interior under transit certificate without hindrance, promises to make cassia lignea figure as one of the most important exports from this in the Returns for 1881. With the extension of the protection of transit passes to aniseed star and aniseed oil, the value of the export trade of Pakhoi will in all probability be greatly increased.

Transit Trade.—This branch of the trade of this port, which should be—and no doubt in course of time will become—the most active and valuable, shows but poor results for the year 1880. Pakhoi derives its value as a port of foreign trade from its position as a feeder of and outlet

for, the vast Province of Kwang-si, for its local trade is poor, and as a supplier of the small corner of Kwangtung in which it is situated, it would hardly be worth keeping open. The future prospects of Pakhoi, nay, its very existence almost as a port of foreign trade, depend, then, to a very great extent on the facilities it can offer in laying down foreign manufactures at, and bringing native produce from, the Kwang-si markets, and until the privileges stipulated for in Article XXVIII of the Treaty of Tien-tsin are fully and freely accorded, those facilities will be practically *nil*. In other words, the progress of Pakhoi as a Treaty port depends on the firm establishment and development of the inland trade under transit passes more than on anything else; and hitherto this has been hindered by the strong opposition offered both by the Hoppo, or Superintendent of Customs at Canton, and by the provincial *li-kin* officials, an opposition which, from their point of view, is natural enough. In 1879 a set of Provisional Regulations for the issue and surrender of transit passes at Pakhoi was drawn up, which was to be tentative for a year, but these Regulations were open to two fatal objections, namely:—

1. That they limited the issue of passes both inwards and outwards to certain specified articles; and
2. That they limited to three months the time within which native produce must be exported after arrival at Pakhoi.

One consignment of cassia was, it is true, brought down under transit pass and exported in 1879, but obstacles of all kinds were still put in the way of the free use of the passes; either the Hoppo's deputy refused on various pretexts to issue them, or, when issued, the provincial officials refused to recognize them, and subjected the goods they covered to vexatious delays of all kinds. It was not till the latter part of last year that a better state of matters began to prevail, and the fact that there was a transit trade, though small, in 1880, is a hopeful sign for the future.

In November a small consignment, 128·74 piculs, valued at 146*l*., of cassia reached the port under transit certificate without having been subjected to any hindrance *en route*, and in the early part of December inward passes were issued for two small lots of miscellaneous foreign goods, consisting of cotton yarn, Indian cotton, clocks, soap, and perfumery, and valued at 184*l*.. One lot of these was destined for Lien-chow-fu, in Kwangtung, and, having reached that place without difficulty, the goods were, when the year closed, being sold there without hindrance. The other lot was for Yü-lin-chow, in Kwang-si, and though the pass has been respected and the goods have reached their destination (after being frivolously detained for some little time at Lien-chow), their sale is at present interfered with, owing to an attempt to saddle them with a new tax, or rather with the *li-kin* tax under a new name, as soon as they are purchased by Chinese there.*

The above figures represent the value of the actual transit trade during the year, but there were in addition outward passes issued for 2,000 piculs of cassia lignea from Yü-lin-chow, part of which arrived safely and without hindrance on the 4th January this year, and also for a small quantity of cassia-leaf oil, which is now on its way down and is expected to arrive here daily.*

Two important points, then, have at least been gained, namely, that passes for cassia lignea from the Yü-lin-chow districts are now properly respected, and that the first of the objections to the Provisional Regulations above referred to has been tacitly withdrawn by the Hoppo's repre-

* Since writing the draft of this Report, I have been informed that the attempt to levy the new tax on the goods in question has, in consequence of a remonstrance I addressed to the Yü-lin-chow magistrate, been abandoned, and that the goods are sold; also that the cassia-leaf oil referred has reached Pakhoi.

sentative here, for of the goods covered by the inward passes issued in December only one—cotton yarn—appears in the list of articles to which the issue of inward passes was limited by those Regulations, and cassia-leaf oil was an article excluded from the protection of an outward certificate. So far, only one district of Kwang-si, the comparatively near one of Yü-lin-chow, has been gained, and it remains to be seen what can be done as regards Nanning-fu and the districts surrounding it, whence come the two valuable products of star aniseed and aniseed oil, it being chiefly on account of the scarcity of those articles at the end of 1880 that a trial of the transit pass in that direction has not been made yet. Owing to the enterprise of one British merchant, the thin end of the wedge may be said to have been fairly inserted, and, once the limit of time within which native produce has to be exported receives a reasonable extension, it will only rest with foreign merchants to drive it home by freely availing themselves of the transit pass system; and if this is done perseveringly and without abuse, there is every reason to hope that in course of time Kwang-si will demand a better class of goods; that the anomaly of Kwei-lin-fu, the capital of that province, which is within comparatively easy reach of both Pakhoi and Canton, getting its foreign manufactures under transit pass from Hankow, nearly twice as far off, as it does at present, will be removed; and that Pakhoi, the natural outlet for the valuable produce of the province, will rank as one of the most important of the lesser Treaty ports of China.

(Signed) COLIN M. FORD, *Acting Consul.*
British Consulate, Pakhoi, February 17, 1881.

(Table 1.)—SHOWING the Quantity and Value (net) of the principal Foreign Goods imported at Pakhoi during the Year 1880.

Description of Goods.					Quantity.	Value.
						£
Opium	Piculs ..	1,345	59			160,351
Cotton goods—						
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	600				204
" white	" ..	360				147
T-cloths	" ..	73,496				28,576
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ..	1,290				380
Muslins	Pieces ..	800				170
Miscellaneous	" ..	264				145
Cotton yarn	Piculs ..	15,892	32			97,832
Woollen goods—						
Blankets	Pairs ..	181				197
Long ells	Pieces ..	7,242				12,550
Lustres	" ..	260				254
Miscellaneous	" ..	9				29
Metals—						
Copper	Piculs ..	32	20			147
Iron, nail-rod	" ..	1,081	50			579
Lead	" ..	30	35			36
Steel	" ..	165	07			214
Sundries—						
Betel-nuts	" ..	2,358	61			3,195
Bicho-de-mar	" ..	216	35			702
Clocks	Pieces ..	315				152
Cotton, Indian	Piculs ..	8,678	59			26,568
Dye stuffs	" ..	36	65			311
Flour	" ..	810	60			478

Description of Goods.		Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (<i>continued</i>)—			£
Matches	Gross ..	16,005	1,412
Needles	Mille ..	32,521	1,139
Pepper, black	Piculs ..	1,030 14	2,090
Rice	" ..	1,376	468
Shell-fish, dried	" ..	72 71	186
Silk and cotton mixtures	" ..	20 80	592
Miscellaneous .. .. .	" ..	..	3,394
Total value .. .. .	.. ..	..	342,498

(Signed)

COLIN M. FORD, *Acting Consul.**Pakhoi, January 28, 1881.*

(Table 2.)—SHOWING the Quantity and Value (net) of the principal Native Produce imported at Pakhoi during the Year 1880.

Description of Goods.		Quantity.	Value.
			£
Almonds	Piculs ..	39	178
Betel nuts	" ..	1,205	1,536
Cotton, raw	" ..	4,036	13,723
Dates, black	" ..	139	150
" red	" ..	402	326
Ginseng, native	" ..	21	375
Lily flowers, dried	" ..	1,066	1,811
Liquorice	" ..	236	362
Medicines	" ..	825	1,583
Mushrooms	" ..	11	82
Nankeens	" ..	19	185
Paper, first quality	" ..	63	281
Persimmons, dried	" ..	139	186
Prawns, dried	" ..	12	66
Sharks' fins, black	" ..	8	121
" white	" ..	4	81
Silk and cotton mixtures	" ..	3	78
Shoes	Pairs ..	404	67
Sundries .. .. .	" ..	..	1,219
Tobacco, prepared	Piculs ..	93	470
Vermilion	" ..	39	511
Vermicelli	" ..	859	1,202
Wax, white	" ..	106	1,683
Total value .. .. .	.. ..	..	26,276

(Signed)

COLIN M. FORD, *Acting Consul.**Pakhoi, January 28, 1881.*

(Table 3.)—SHOWING the Quantity and Value (net) of the principal Articles exported from Pakhoi during the Year 1880.

Description of Goods.					Quantity.	Value.
						£ s.
Aniseed, star..	..	..	..	Piculs ..	8,842 57	30,910 0
„ broken ..	..	..	..	„ ..	465 15	237 0
Bags of all kinds ..	..	..	..	Pieces ..	13,432	62 0
Betel nuts ..	..	..	..	Piculs ..	241 90	63 0
Beans ..	..	..	..	„ ..	30 11	34 0
Cassia lignea ..	..	..	..	„ ..	0 50	0 10
„ twigs ..	..	..	..	„ ..	6 36	4 0
Cuttle fish ..	..	..	..	„ ..	1,795 90	6,668 10
Fire crackers ..	..	..	..	„ ..	23 80	38 0
Fish, dried ..	..	..	..	„ ..	487 53	1,691 0
Glue, cow ..	..	..	..	„ ..	264 05	404 0
Ground-nut cakes ..	..	..	..	„ ..	38,403 41	9,115 0
Hides ..	..	..	..	„ ..	913 16	1,657 0
Horns, buffalo ..	..	..	..	„ ..	793 36	1,105 0
Indigo, liquid ..	..	..	..	„ ..	27,094 56	36,731 0
Iron pans ..	..	..	..	Pieces ..	3,300	99 0
Leather ..	..	..	..	Piculs ..	44 70	127 0
Lungan pulp ..	..	..	..	„ ..	71 11	212 0
Medicines ..	..	..	..	„ ..	921 78	2,665 0
Nutgalls ..	..	..	..	„ ..	180 29	435 0
Oil, aniseed ..	..	..	..	„ ..	115 44	4,669 0
„ cassia-leaf ..	..	..	..	„ ..	732 45	11,037 0
„ ground-nut ..	..	..	..	„ ..	9 21	11 0
„ wood ..	..	..	..	„ ..	49 97	65 0
Paper, second quality ..	..	..	..	„ ..	4,285 99	6,622 0
Prawns, dried ..	..	..	..	„ ..	151 43	836 0
Rattans ..	..	..	..	„ ..	127 64	311 0
Sugar, brown ..	..	..	..	„ ..	1,731 01	1,345 0
„ white ..	..	..	..	„ ..	6,550 27	7,033 0
Tallow, animal ..	..	..	..	„ ..	699 22	1,089 0
Sundries ..	..	..	..	„ ..	..	1,257 0
Total value .. ..					..	126,538 0

(Signed) COLIN M. FORD, Acting Consul.
Pakhoi, January 28, 1881.

(Table 4.)—IMPORT of Opium at Pakhoi, 1880.

Imported from.			Description.			Quantity.	
						Piculs	c.
Hong Kong..	..	..	{	Malwa ..	..	0	10
				Patna ..	..	16	66½
				Benares ..	..	1,328	82½
			Total	1,345	58½

(Signed) COLIN M. FORD, Acting Consul.
Pakhoi, January 28, 1881.

(Table 3.)—FOREIGN Shipping at Pakhoi, 1880.

(a.) Steamers.

Flag.	Entered.		Cleared.		Total Entered and Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ..	31	9,806	31	9,806	62	19,612
American ..	56	21,420	56	21,420	112	42,840
German ..	4	3,156	4	3,156	8	6,312
Chinese*	14	9,336	14	9,336	28	18,672
Total ..	105	43,718	105	43,718	210	87,436

(b.) Sailing-vessels.—Nil.

(Signed) COLIN M. FORD, *Acting Consul.*
Pakhoi, January 28, 1881.

* Steamers of foreign build, commanded by foreigners.

(Table 6.)—REVENUE accruing to the Imperial Maritime Customs from Foreign Trade at Pakhoi, 1880.

Nature of Duty.					Amount.
Opium duties .. ..	..	..	..	..	£ 11,466
Import duties .. ..	..	..	..	..	7,037
Export duties .. ..	..	..	..	..	5,321
Coast trade duties ..	..	..	..	..	27
Tonnage dues .. ..	..	..	..	..	88
Transit duties .. ..	..	..	..	..	15
Total ..					23,954

(Signed) COLIN M. FORD, *Acting Consul.*
Pakhoi, February 2, 1881.

SWATOW.

Consul Gregory to Earl Granville.

My Lord,

Swatow, December 31, 1879.

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of my despatch of this date addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, with its five inclosures, being my Trade Report and Returns for 1878.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. GREGORY.

Inclosure.

Consul Gregory to Sir T. Wade.

Sir,

Swatow, December 31, 1879.

I HAVE the honour to send herewith my Trade Returns for 1878. I much regret that, through pressure of other business, they have been so much delayed. In converting the custom-house values into sterling, the Haikwan tael has been reckoned at 5s. 11½d., and the dollar at 3s. 10d.

The aggregate value of the import and export trade exceeds that of the preceding or any previous year. This may well appear satisfactory, in view of the general commercial depression of 1878. It has, however, to be qualified by certain considerations. Some part of the increase is probably rather apparent than real, being due to the increasing substitution of foreign vessels, or vessels of the foreign mould, for junks; the junk trade not being included at all in these Returns. Moreover, the specially foreign branches of trade show generally a diminution.

In imports of foreign manufactured goods there was a general decrease; which is very visible in the articles of grey shirtings and drills (as also in opium). White shirtings, on the other hand, show an increase; but I learn from the Report of the Commissioner of Customs that a considerable quantity of these fabrics is sent from this port to other Chinese ports, after being dyed and cut into short lengths, under the name of native cloth.

In Chinese imports there was a decrease in textile fabrics (silks and nankeens). But the import of bean-cake was very large; the imports also of beans and peas, of Chinese raw cotton, and of the fibres classed as hemp, show a large increase. The total of Chinese imports was considerably higher, and the aggregate total of foreign and Chinese slightly higher, than in the preceding year.

In the exports, the great article of sugar, which constitutes more than three-fourths of the whole, shows a trifling diminution in quantity, but an increase in estimated value, as compared with 1877. The principal port of destination was Shanghai. About 136,660 cwt. were exported to Hong Kong. Only 36,944 cwt. appear as exported to Great Britain.

A notable decrease appears in the export of grass-cloth; but an increase in that of the so-called native cloth, of paper, of oranges, and of tin-foil.

The total value of exports shows an increase on the preceding year.

The *Shipping*, both British and foreign (excluding junks), shows a marked increase on 1877 as the following Table will show.

TOTAL of Entries and Clearances.

	1877.		1878.		Increase.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British ..	759	494,296	913	593,173	154	98,877
Foreign ..	283	146,511	374	201,563	91	55,052
Totals ..	1,042	640,807	1,287	794,736	245	153,929

More than nine-tenths of the British tonnage is due to steamers and full five-sixths of the whole steamer tonnage was British, the remainder being chiefly Chinese, German, and Danish. In sailing-vessels the German flag comes before ours, being 71,764 tons against 56,492.

Passenger Traffic.—Thirty emigration vessels under the British flag, of which twenty-eight were steamers, were passed by this Consulate during the year, with a total of 17,351 passengers. One schooner with 144 passengers was for Bangkok, the others were for Singapore, or for Singapore and Penang; in a few cases via Saigon. The total passenger traffic is shown by the Customs Returns as: departed, 40,889; arrived, 29,044; this includes the large passenger trade with Hong Kong.

The year was not free from disputes and troubles, commercial and other. There were some cases of village persecutions of converts, though none of them in this immediate neighbourhood. One was a very sad case of homicide. Representations were made to the Chinese authorities, and official action was taken, though very slackly in some cases. A successful visit to the neighbourhood of the murder was made by one of our missionaries in October 1878, and we have now, I hope, entered upon a period of comparative freedom from these troubles.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) WM. GREGORY.

(A.)—RETURN of the Trade of the Port of Swatow in Foreign Vessels for the Year 1878.

No. 1.—TOTAL Trade of the Port in Foreign Vessels (excluding Treasure).

						£
Imports	..	..	..	..	..	4,135,309
Exports	..	..	..	..	..	1,595,965
Total	..	..	..	..	..	5,731,274

Both imports and exports are exclusive of re-exports, 11,0451.

No. 2.—IMPORT and Export of Treasure.

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
To and from foreign ports .	1,445	796,154	797,599
To and from native ports..	36,685	43,813	80,498
Total	38,130	839,967	878,097

No. 3.—DIRECT Trade with Foreign Countries (excluding Treasure).*

						£
Imports	..	..	..	..	..	2,253,509
Exports	..	..	..	..	..	331,801
Total..	..	..	..	..	..	2,585,310

Both imports and exports are exclusive of re-exports, 5,741*l*.

* This Return includes the trade with Hong Kong.

No. 4.—TRADE with other Treaty Ports (excluding Treasure).

						£
Imports	..	..	..	..	..	1,881,798
Exports	..	..	..	..	..	1,264,164
Total .	..	..	..	..	..	3,145,962

Both imports and exports are exclusive of re-exports, 5,304*l*.

No. 5.—RETURN distinguishing the respective Amounts of Foreign and Native Trade in Foreign Vessels with other Treaty Ports, without distinction of Flag, forming the Totals of No. 4.

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
Foreign	11,373	Nil	11,373
Native	1,870,425	1,264,164	3,134,589
Total	1,881,798	1,264,164	3,145,962

(Signed) WM. GREGORY, *Consul*.

(B.)—RETURN of British Trade for the Year 1878 at the Port of Swatow.

No. 1.—VALUE of Direct Trade with Great Britain and British Dependencies (excluding Treasure)* under any Flag.

						£
Imports	..	..	..	..	..	2,189,051
Exports	..	..	..	..	..	298,896
Total	..	..	..	..	..	2,487,947

Exports exclude re-exports, 4,206*l*.

* This Return includes the trade with Hong Kong.

No. 2.—VALUE of Direct Trade with Great Britain and British Dependencies (excluding Treasure) under any Flag.

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
British Isles	Nil	25,338	25,338
Hong Kong	2,180,561	240,332	2,420,893
India	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other British Dependencies	8,490	33,225	41,715
Total	2,189,051	298,595	2,487,946

Exports are exclusive of re-exports—British Isles, 1,169*l.*; Hong Kong, 2,770*l.*; Other British dependencies, 267*l.*; total, 4,206*l.*

No. 3.—RETURN of Trade under British Flag with other Treaty Ports.

	£
Imports	953,429
Exports	742,632
Total	1,696,061

Exports are exclusive of re-exports, 1,518*l.*

No. 4.—RETURN of Value of Imports of British, Indian, or Colonial origin (excluding Treasure) from other Treaty Ports, carried under any Flag.

[No Return.]

No. 5.—RETURN of Exports destined for Great Britain, India, or the Colonies, carried to other Treaty Ports under any Flag.

[No Return.]

No. 6.—RETURN of Import and Export of Treasure from and to Great Britain and British Dependencies.

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
Direct	1,445	796,154	797,599
Indirect	No Return	No Return	No Return
Total .. ..	..	..	..

(Signed)

WM. GREGORY, *Consul.*

(C.)—SHIPPING RETURN of the Port of Swatow for the Year 1878.

BRITISH.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
455	295,303	16,277	£ 3,008,418	458	297,870	16,325	£ 1,024,796	913	593,173	32,602	£ 4,033,214

Value of cargo is exclusive of Treasure.

FOREIGN.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
184	99,564	No Return	£ 1,137,936	190	101,999	No Return	£ 582,214	374	201,563	No Return	£ 1,720,150

Value of cargo is exclusive of treasure.

(Signed) WM. GREGORY, Consul.

RETURNS of Trade for the Port of Swatow for the Year 1878.

IMPORTS.

§ 1.—Foreign Produce.

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Piculs.	Cwt.	H. Taels.	£
Opium—				
Malwa	4,764	5,670	2,570,742	765,867
Patna	3,510	4,179	1,416,748	432,073
Benares	1,321	1,573	629,938	167,977
Cotton piece-goods, &c.—		Pieces.		
Shirtings, grey		70,712	126,335	37,637
" white		145,695	357,230	106,425
" dyed		5,533	13,399	3,992
T-cloths		111,466	165,764	46,405
Drills		18,205	85,303	10,487
Sundries			81,207	9,397
Cotton yarn and thread	Piculs.	Cwt.		
	41,235	49,069	1,015,584	302,534
Woollen piece-goods—		Pieces.		
Camlets, English		3,858	47,997	14,399
" Dutch, &c.		310	5,693	1,696
Spanish stripes		3,814	60,553	18,039
Lastings		1,384	14,519	4,326
Long clls		2,781	18,086	5,388
Woollen and cotton mixtures		2,834	12,492	3,722
Woollen sundries			5,336	1,590
Metals, viz.—				
Iron (nail-rod and various)	22,648	26,962	43,068	12,831
Steel	866	1,031	2,360	703
Tin, in slabs	9,102	10,835	134,896	40,188
Lead, copper, and sundries			14,317	4,285
Sundries, viz.—				
Bicho de mar, black and white			21,522	6,412
Cotton, raw	10,396	12,376	107,865	32,185
" (with seed)	20,680	24,559	69,912	20,828
Fish, dried and salted, &c.	24,778	29,497	128,776	38,365
Ginseng, American	212	252	60,511	18,027
Ground-nut cake (oil-cake)	63,044	75,052	110,324	32,267
Guano	20,605	24,529	38,434	11,450
Rice	87,306	103,935	156,804	46,714
Wheat	9,211	10,965	17,395	5,189
Sundries, various			279,246	83,192
Net total of foreign imports			7,602,406	2,264,883

§ 2.—Chinese Produce.

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Piculs.	Cwt.	H. Taels.	£
Silk, piece-goods and sundries			189,279	56,091
Cotton, raw	46,694	55,588	577,663	172,096
Beans	2,069,668	2,463,890	2,673,844	796,683
Beans and peas	774,086	921,607	1,055,385	314,416
Fungus	1,627	1,937	49,487	14,728
Ginseng (Corean and native)			77,371	23,020
Hemp	47,138	56,117	468,681	144,097
Lily flowers, dried	5,392	6,419	33,222	9,896
Manure-cake	7,735	9,197	19,768	5,885
Nankens	1,345	1,601	61,964	18,460
Oil (chiefly "wood-oil")	4,115	4,899	25,716	7,661
Rice	137,660	163,881	299,869	89,333
Samshoo	9,605	11,434	56,065	16,709
Tea	388	463	18,073	5,384
Tobacco			20,219	6,024
Varnish	1,508	1,795	23,405	6,674
Vermicelli and macaroni	17,634	20,993	91,770	27,340
Wheat	76,358	90,902	143,225	44,159
Woollen and cotton mixtures		Pieces.		
		9,583	10,300	3,039
Sundries, about one-third being medicines or drugs			365,308	106,830
Net total of Chinese produce imported			6,378,353	1,870,426

SUMMARY of Imports.

	H. Taels.	£
Net foreign imports	7,602,406	9,364,883
Net Chinese imports	6,378,353	1,870,436
Net total imports	13,980,759	4,135,309
To which add—		
Re-exports, foreign	19,973	5,743
„ Chinese	17,804	5,304
Gross total imports	13,917,835	4,146,355
Also treasure imported	Dollars. 193,941	33,130

(Signed)

WM. GREGORY, *Consul.*

RETURNS of Trade for the Port of Swatow for the Year 1878.

EXPORTS.

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Piculs.	Cwt.	H. Taels.	£
Sugar—				
Brown	541,309	644,397	1,584,441	479,031
White	504,097	600,115	2,492,359	743,486
Candy	1,841	2,193	11,908	3,548
Molasses	11,963	14,377	11,756	3,503
Tea—				
Black	3,784	4,505	73,344	21,831
Green	756	900	15,331	4,537
Capoor cutchery	3,183	3,801	8,469	2,523
China-ware and earthen-ware	38,115	35,470	34,769	7,379
“Cloth, native” (i.e., shirtings of foreign make, but dyed in this country, and cut into small pieces)	4,376	5,090	254,711	75,883
Fish, &c. (chiefly cuttle-fish and shrimps)	6,530	7,763	83,141	24,769
Grass-cloth	2,363	2,814	143,860	43,859
Hair, human	779	937	17,430	5,193
Hemp (Bohmeria) thread	2,014	2,397	21,590	6,433
“Hemp skin” and hemp bags ... ..	...	...	18,409	5,484
Indigo (liquid)	7,873	9,373	17,316	5,159
Iron-ware	2,625	3,134	28,460	8,479
Oranges, fresh	60,403	71,908	49,416	14,723
Paper (including Joss paper) ... ..	...	...	180,951	53,908
Potato flour	19,156	22,805	20,876	6,219
Preserves	3,610	4,293	17,549	5,238
Samschoo	7,951	9,465	20,213	6,032
Tin-foil	933	1,111	34,467	10,268
Tobacco	8,197	9,758	99,946	29,776
Vermicelli and macaroni	4,855	5,779	10,446	3,112
Fans ... ..	...	863,880	9,064	2,700
Sundries ... ..	...	...	107,165	31,936
Total (excluding re-exports) ... ..	...	...	5,357,087	1,595,965
Add for re-exports of Chinese produce ... ..	...	...	17,804	5,304
Total ... ..	...	...	5,374,891	1,601,269
Add for re-exports of foreign produce ... ..	...	...	19,973	5,743
Gross total of exports ... ..	...	...	5,394,163	1,607,011
Also treasure ... ..	...	...	Dollars. 4,383,441	839,967

(Signed)

WM. GREGORY, *Consul.*

TAMSUY AND KELUNG.

Report on the Foreign Trade of the Ports of Tamsuy and Kelung during the Year 1880.

As I came to the port of Tamsui only a few weeks before the end of the year, I cannot pretend to give more than a very short Report on the trade of 1880. The Tables annexed have been compiled from the Returns of the Imperial Maritime Customs for access to which I am indebted to the courtesy of the Commissioner of Customs. These Tables are:—

1. Values of the net total Trade for 1879 and 1880.
2. Revenue collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs.
3. Shipping for 1879 and 1880.
4. Principal Imports 1879 and 1880.
5. Import of Opium.
6. Export Trade.

The values in sterling in the above Tables have been counted at 5s. 6d. to the Haikuan tael, the rate at which the values were counted in the Returns for 1879.

IMPORTS.

Cotton Goods.—The value of the total import of cotton goods of all kinds was about 500*l.* above that of the previous year. Cotton piece goods, however, show a net decrease of 8,887 pieces in 1880 as compared with 1879. Grey shirtings of good quality sold well throughout the year, I am informed, and other shirtings also fetched good prices, the diminished importation of these commodities being apparently only the result of a large stock remaining over from the previous year. Cotton goods from the United States were on the market during the year, but not, I believe, to any great extent. There was a considerable increase in the import of cotton yarn and thread last year, the Returns showing 302 piculs, against 192 piculs in 1879. I have been told that there is scarcely any demand now at Tamsui for T-cloths, grey shirtings being largely used instead.

Woollen Goods show a considerable decrease last year as compared with 1879, though the import of cloth was greater.

Opium.—The net import of opium shows a falling-off of a few piculs. It is not easy to account for this, as all admit that the consumption of opium in North Formosa has not diminished. On the contrary, it is generally supposed to have increased, and to show signs of still further increase. Some think that smuggling was carried on largely during the year, this place affording many facilities for escaping the vigilance of the native and foreign Customs officials. Others think that the falling-off is mainly due to an increased importation of Chinese opium by junks. The native drug is taxed much more lightly than its foreign competitor, and is sold at a very much lower price. Lately it has been largely employed to mix with Benares, in this capacity taking the place of inferior Persian. It is estimated that about 30,000 dollars' worth of native opium was imported by junk last year. When imported in cakes it sold for about 367 dollars a picul, and in a liquid state for about 266 dollars. No doubt the bulk of Chinese opium is smuggled into the island, and does not pay duty or tax

of any kind. Benares continues to be the favourite with the Chinese in this region, and its prices, according to my informant, during the year, were:—

				Per chest. Dollars.
January and February	..	..	..	660 to 700
March and April	..	..	..	670 690
May and June	..	..	..	655 675
July and August	..	..	..	660 675
September and October	..	..	..	660 680
November and December	..	..	..	655 700

In the tea season it is largely used as a medium of exchange, and the price is generally low during that period. About December and January the price rises again, and continues good until Chinese new year. Persian, only the best kinds of which find a ready sale, fetched prices ranging from 680 to 720 dollars per picul.

Towards the close of the year a change was made in the levying of *li-kin* on foreign opium, which may have a considerable effect on the trade. This change consisted in farming out the tax to a Company for the net sum of 50,000 dollars a-year. The amount annually netted by the Government up to last year was not more than 40,000 dollars, and it has been computed that the foreign opium imported should pay a gross sum of about 90,000 dollars *li-kin* yearly. The expenses incurred in the collection of the tax and in the prevention of smuggling have hitherto been very great. Some doubt, accordingly, whether the lately formed Company will find the farming of the tax for the sum of 50,000 dollars a-year sufficiently remunerative. If the adoption of more effective means to prevent smuggling results in a larger importation of Chinese opium, the scheme will not pay the Company. But it does not seem likely that this will occur. The officials will doubtless prefer to see the foreign opium keeping out the native drug. The revenue derived from the latter is inconsiderable in quantity, while from the former a sum of about 18,000*l.* was collected last year. Nearly all the other imports show an increase over the same imports of the previous year, but the increase is chiefly in those articles which are products of China. The people in North Formosa are, generally speaking, in much better circumstances now than they were a few years ago, and they can afford to have many comforts and luxuries which formerly they could not afford. Wages are high, the country is very fertile, and population is not excessive.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—The tea season here opened very early last year, and the first shipment was made on the 14th April. It was a very long season, as it did not come to an end until December. The crop was large and good, the Returns showing an increase in the export of tea of 5,400 piculs over that of 1879. Prices were generally high, and the growers must have made large sums of money. In consequence of the good prices paid for tea the cultivation of the shrub is increasing rapidly, and one hears constantly of its introduction into new places. In many cases it is a hill side which is cleared and its soil broken for the first time for the reception of the shrub; but in some cases other crops have been abandoned and tea brought in to take their places. Enthusiasts have even planted it in most unsuitable spots, and have consequently suffered loss, the shrubs either dying or living useless to their planters. Tamsui tea is classed very high, but the Chinese packers are said to buy up the best qualities and mix

them with tea dust, common tea, yellow leaf, and other things still worse. Persistence in this course of action must in time bring the tea into bad repute, and as four-fifths of the trade is in the hands of Chinese, this unpleasant prospect may soon be realized. The proportion of the business in tea done by foreigners was even less in 1880 than in the year before.

Camphor.—Whereas in 1879 this commodity showed a decrease of 2,554 piculs as compared with 1878, the export in 1880 shows an increase of 1,286 piculs over that of 1879. The supply may have been stimulated by the low rates of freight to Hong Kong which prevailed through the year. On the other hand, the feud between the savages and the Chinese on the border, to which Mr. Ford referred in his Trade Report for 1879 and which still continues, would tend to diminish the supply. The camphor trade, which is a very precarious one, is almost entirely in the hands of Chinese. All business is done under a system of advance, and the risk entailed is not repaid by the returns received on shipment. The camphor also is now badly prepared and adulterated with a vegetable fluid called "Rattan water." When these circumstances are considered, and along with them the facts that the camphor trees are being gradually cut down and no new trees planted, and that the distance between the place of manufacture and the port is yearly extending, a diminution in the export of this article must be expected. The camphor wood planks show a decrease of 8,479 pieces as compared with the export in 1879.

Coal.—It is not pleasant to have to record a falling-off in the amount of coal exported from Kelung last year. The Returns show 24,654 tons for 1880, against 28,823 tons in 1879. It should be remembered, however, that a large amount of coal produced from the Government mine is carried away in the Government transports which come and go between Foochow and Kelung. These vessels supply themselves with coal at the latter place, and convey coal to Foochow for the use of the arsenal and to the Government depôt at the Pescadores. It seems generally admitted that the amount of coal exported in all ways from Kelung last year was very large. With reference to the Government mine the following is taken from an article in a Hong Kong paper:—

"It is, however, satisfactory to learn that the period of official obstruction seems likely to come to an end at an early date. The engineer in charge now finds greater facilities placed within his reach, and the work proceeds more smoothly than it has ever yet done, with the natural result that the produce of the mine is increasing at a steady rate of progression: 1,000 tons per week were early this year turned out; while the output has gone on increasing to 1,200 and 1,300 tons per week, and the hewers were taking greater pains to produce larger and more marketable pieces from the seam. The railway to the sea, which we noticed some time since, and the other apparatus, were working in a manner which fully justified the expense incurred by their construction; and things generally are now assuming a more prosperous appearance than they have for several years. Tuk Sooy, the well-known native mandarin and merchant, is believed to have received some instructions from headquarters as to the more effectual development of the colliery works; and a great future is pictured by the well-wishers of the Island of Formosa."

This was published in October last year.

Large quantities of coal, or at least coal dust, are carried away from Kelung in junks, but during the latter part of the year the demand for coal for foreign vessels seemed to be much in excess of the available supply. The mines owned by private individuals do not seem to have prospered, and rumours were often circulated to the effect that the officials were endeavouring to have all these mines shut up.

SHIPPING.

The Returns show a falling off in the number of ships in 1880 as compared with 1879, but a slight increase in the tonnage. There were 116 vessels reported at Tamsuy and Kelung last year, and of these 103 were British, 3 were German, 1 American, and 9 were steamers belonging to the China Merchants Company. The shipping at Tamsuy was represented entirely by steamers, no sailing-vessel having visited the port during the year. This was doubtless the result of the very low tea freights which prevailed during the latter half of the year, the lowness of freight being caused by the competition between the steamers of the China Merchants Company and those of the Douglas Lapraik line. This competition began in July, and continued until the end of the year.

The only casualty to be reported is the loss of the British vessel "Parmenio," official Number 45,825, of Dundee, in January. This vessel, according to information already communicated by my predecessor, Mr. Ford, while on a voyage from Penang to Taiwan with a cargo of mangrove bark, went on shore at a place on the east coast of this island, called Ton-wei-wu-shih-chiang, some 50 miles from Kelung by road. The "Parmenio" became a total wreck, but the crew and cargo were saved, as were also the boats, sails, and other property of the vessel.

Several of the Chinese Government transport steamers which are stationed at Foochow were largely employed last year in conveying material for the fort now in process of erection at Kelung. These vessels discharged at Kelung, and then loaded partly with coal from that place and partly with rice from Tamsuy, the coal and rice being in all cases for Government purposes.

The competition between the rival steamer Companies last year brought down the passage rates for Chinese, and consequently the number of passengers increased. The Customs Returns show a total of 8,648 native passengers in foreign vessels during 1880. Of these, 4,904 left Tamsuy and Kelung for Hong Kong and the coast ports, and 3,744 came into Tamsuy and Kelung from Hong Kong and the coast ports. The corresponding numbers in 1879 were 2,805 and 2,483 respectively.

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul*.

Tamsuy, February 28, 1881.

(No. 1.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Values of the net total Trade of Tamsuy and Kelung for the Years 1879–80.

	Value in 1879.	Value in 1880.	Increase in 1880 compared with 1879.
Foreign imports	£ 352,429	£ 352,459	£ 30
Native imports	73,127	91,313	18,186
Gross total imports	425,556	443,772	18,216
Deduct re-exports	214	5,378	..
Net total imports	425,342	438,394	13,052
Exports (excluding re-exports)	573,570	636,151	62,581
Net total trade	998,912	1,074,545	75,633

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul*.

British Consulate, Tamsuy, February 23, 1881.

(No. 2).--TABLE showing the Revenue collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs at Tamsuy during the Years 1879-80.

				1879.	1880.
				£	£
Import duties (exclusive of opium)	..			5,917	6,664
„ opium	..			9,385	10,579
Export duties	..	..	..	61,777	65,654
Coast trade	..	..	..	422	497
Transit	..	..	..	41	32
Tonnage dues	..	..	..	640	486
Total	..	..	..	78,182	83,912

Increase of revenue in 1880 over that of 1879, 5,730*l*.

(Signed) T. WATERS, *Consul*.
British Consulate, Tamsuy, February 23, 1881.

(No. 3.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Foreign Shipping at the Ports of Tamsuy and Kelung for the Years 1878, 1879, 1880.

	1878.				1879.				1880.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British steamers ..	62	22,198	63	22,475	66	18,541	66	18,541	74	28,814	74	28,814
„ sailing-vessels ..	35	10,187	34	9,803	43	14,407	44	14,791	29	11,304	25	9,491
Total British ..	97	32,385	97	32,278	109	32,948	110	33,332	103	40,118	99	38,305
Foreign steamers ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	3,996	9	3,996*
„ sailing-vessels ..	43	12,799	43	12,517	37	10,983	38	11,565	4	1,679	4	1,679
Total foreign ..	43	12,799	43	12,517	37	10,983	38	11,565	13	5,675	13	5,675
Total, foreign and British ..	140	45,184	140	44,795	146	43,931	148	44,897	116	45,793	112	43,980
Total shipping entered and cleared—												
1878 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	280	89,979	..	..	..	..
1879 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	294	88,828	..	..	..	..
1880 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	228	89,773	..	..	..	..

* Steamers of the China Merchants Company.

British Consulate, Tamsuy, February 24, 1881.

(Signed)

T. WATERS, Consul.

(No. 4.)—COMPARATIVE Table of Principal Imports, excluding Opium, for the Years 1879 and 1880.

Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1879.	1880.	1880 compared with 1879.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
Shirtings, grey ..	Pieces ..	43,748	31,292	..	12,456
„ white ..	„ ..	45,557	46,650	1,093	..
Sundry cottons ..	„ ..	18,741	21,217	2,476	..
English camlets ..	„ ..	3,310	2,987	..	323
Long ells ..	„ ..	2,063	1,310	..	753
Sundry woollens ..	„ ..	4,499	4,154	..	345
Nail-rod iron ..	Piculs ..	438	1,319	881	..
Lead, in pigs ..	„ ..	8,046	7,388	..	658
Tin, in slabs ..	„ ..	157	177	20	..
Cotton yarn ..	„ ..	324	372	48	..
Cuttle-fish ..	„ ..	607	1,301	694	..
Grass-cloth, coarse ..	„ ..	555	643	88	..
Medicines ..	„ ..	1,367	1,961	594	..
Nankeens ..	„ ..	474	660	186	..
Paper, two qualities ..	„ ..	1,625	1,655	30	..
Silk thread ..	„ ..	73	101	28	..

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.**British Consulate, Tamsuy, February 24, 1881.*

(No. 5.)—COMPARATIVE Table of Imports of Foreign Opium, from 1878 to 1880.

			1878.	1879.	1880.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Benares ..	..	..	1,398 00	1,798 80	1,744 80
Patna ..	..	..	25 20	25 20	2 40
Persian ..	..	..	513 89½	314 30	320 19½
Turkey ..	..	..	12 00	26 38	127 64½
			1,949 09½	2,164 68	2,195 04½
Re-exported ..	..	..	101 23	..	45 96
Net imports ..	..	..	1,847 86½	2,164 68	2,149 08½

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.**British Consulate, Tamsuy, February 24, 1881.*

(No. 6.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Export Trade of Tamsuy and Kelung, for the Years 1879 and 1880.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1879.	1880.	1880 compared with 1879.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
Agar agar	Piculs ..	803 87	653 22	..	150 65
Camphor	" ..	11,048 40	12,335 17	1,286 77	..
Coal	Tons ..	28,823	24,654	..	4,169
Hemp	Piculs ..	240 92	44 10	..	196 82
Rattans	" ..	665 30	304 00	..	361 30
Tea, black	" ..	85,032 83	90,475 88	5,443 05	..
Camphor wood planks .	Pieces ..	11,466	2,987	..	8,479
Hard wood planks ..	" ..	4,419	1,929	..	2,490

(Signed)

T. WATTERS, *Consul.**British Consulate, Tamsuy, February 24, 1881.*

WENCHOW.

Report on the Trade of the Port of Wenchow for the Year 1880.

 POLITICAL SUMMARY.

In the early part of the year the Governor of the province issued a stringent Proclamation against a particular form of gambling which was spreading like wildfire throughout his jurisdiction, and was rapidly demoralizing men, women, and children. It was known by the name of the "Hua 'Hui," and was a kind of lottery. The gambling-houses were established in villages near all the principal towns, and agents went everywhere propagating it. The winnings were thirty times the stakes. It appears to have died out now, or, at all events, to be only smouldering.

In the spring of the year the Taotai, who is anxious that this should become a silk-producing port—a considerable quantity of silk is made, but only sufficient for local use, and it is but a poor kind, being produced from the wild mulberry only—imported a quantity of the best kinds of mulberry plantings from Chia Hsing and 'Hu-chow, and gave them away to the people. He also intends, as soon as the plants are sufficiently grown, to get experts in reeling and the other mysteries of the silk trade from 'Hu-chow to teach the people. The rich valley extending many miles to the south of the city is admirably adapted to the cultivation of the mulberry, as is also the mild climate of Wenchow generally. Snow is occasionally seen, but only in the distance, crowning the tops of the highest hills, and even there it only lies for a few hours. There is an occasional frost, but never severe.

In April I made a short journey of 100 miles westwards up the River Ou, on which Wenchow is situated, to the Prefectural city of Ch'u Chow, and was much pleased at the great amiability of the natives all along the route; whereas those to the south are most uncouth and unfriendly. At a distance of 40 miles from Wenchow lies the small and dilapidated city of Ch'ing T'ien, famous for its iron and soap-stone. The iron is of excellent quality, but the natives do not understand the art of manufacturing it well, and consequently import a considerable amount of foreign nail-rod iron in preference to it. From Ch'ing T'ien to Ch'u Chow a succession of rapids have to be crossed, which makes it a tedious journey for the traveller, and a most laborious one for the boatmen, who have to get out and haul their flat-bottomed boats by sheer force over the rapids. In times of drought, like the present, there is not sufficient water for any but the smallest boats to come down, which is a considerable hindrance to the trade of the port.

Though it was early in April, there were splendid crops of wheat, fields upon fields of the opium poppy in full bloom, as well as peas and beans almost ready for gathering. The hills were covered with the valuable tea-oil shrub; it looks like a camellia tree, and is covered with seed-pods like small hard apples; when ripe, the pod bursts, and two or three brown seeds drop out; from these the oil is expressed. There were also quantities of a beautiful flowering tree which produces another valuable oil much used for varnish, and to oil the native umbrellas. Vegetable tallow trees were also abundant, but not yet in foliage, whereas in the

autumn they quite light up the country with their scarlet leaves and innumerable bunches of snow-white seeds.

It is from the neighbourhood of Ch'u Chow that the bamboos and timber poles are brought down in endless quantities to Wênchow for export. All along the route I passed huge rafts of them.

Ch'u Chow too is the principal seat of [the coir palm, from the fibre of which excellent rain-coats and mats are manufactured. For about 2s. a fisherman can get a coat that will last him for years.

In July a permanent cemetery was secured to the foreign community through the courtesy of the district magistrate, who purchased the land and presented it to me as a free gift to the community.

In October the city was crowded with over 10,000 strangers, students, their followers, and migratory shopkeepers, for the civil and military examinations, which passed off without disturbance of any kind. About 300 degrees were bestowed.

On the 1st November the Rev. A. Douthwaite, of the China Inland Mission, opened a hospital for the cure of opium-smokers; between that date and the 31st December sixty-one patients were admitted, many of them inveterate smokers, accustomed to consume as much as 8 ch'ien, or 1 ounce English, per diem, and some even more. The chief local authorities have all contributed towards the expenses of the hospital. In June Mr. Douthwaite commenced to treat eye patients, ophthalmia and other eye diseases being most common here; by the end of the year he had attended to 2,124 cases. Patients flock in from all parts, and seem only too delighted to have the chance of being under foreign treatment.

There has been no change amongst the local authorities since my last Report, and I am happy to say that my relations with them continue to be of the most cordial description.

The military authorities have been fully occupied drilling troops, erecting new forts, and making other preparations for the reception of an enemy, and the people are exhorted to subscribe liberally for the maintenance and arming of a militia and the general protection of the approaches to the place. Notwithstanding all this, so far at least, the citizens have preserved their friendly aspect towards the small foreign community, which now consists of ten males, four females, and one infant.

The crops were never better or rice cheaper than during the year, and there has been far less sickness than usual.

The port has been visited by the following foreign vessels of war: Her Majesty's ships "Moorhen" and "Sheldrake;" United States' ship "Monocacy;" and His Imperial Russian Majesty's ship "Morge."

COMMERCIAL SUMMARY.

The total trade of the port, exclusive of treasure, amounts to 121,922*l.*, being an improvement of 32,226*l.* over that of 1879. This is to be accounted for by the increased confidence shown by the native merchants in shipping and receiving their merchandize by the foreign steamer instead of by junks; and also to the regularity with which the steamer calls.

Instead of making five trips between this and Shanghai in two months as heretofore, she has lately made three each month, and finds it pay.

There has been a decided increase in almost all the principal articles of both foreign and native import, which is especially noticeable in nail-rod iron, window-glass, matches, and kerosine oil amongst foreign imports; and in beans, bones dates, fans, gypsum, lamps, medicines, nankeens, and prepared tobacco amongst native. The exports also compare very favourably with those of last year, the only noticeable decrease being in charcoal, which shows only 7,247 piculs as against 12,489 piculs. This

is probably due to a 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duty being charged upon it, which makes it scarcely worth the merchants' while to export it. Were this duty to be taken off, as it is at many of the ports, and as Rule II of the Tariff Regulations seems to require, this branch of native export would undoubtedly largely increase, as immense quantities of charcoal are manufactured in this neighbourhood, and find their way to other ports in junks.

As in former years, very little Indian opium comes direct from Shanghai by steamer, but continues to be brought overland or in junks from Ningpo in small quantities at a time. The reason for this is, I believe, that the high authorities of this* province have farmed the opium revenue to a clique of wealthy natives at Ningpo, and the authorities here do not like to offend them by lowering the *li-kin* sufficiently to make it worth while the shipping it direct to this port.

Tea, which ought to be the staple export, continues at a very low figure, for the same reason as stated in former Reports, viz., there being no foreign merchants to stimulate the trade.

The one foreign firm, which was represented by a Singapore Anglo-Chinaman, closed in the early part of the year, and the whole trade of the place has again reverted to purely native hands.

SHIPPING.

The total tonnage is 19,780 as against 17,906, showing an improvement of 1,874 tons.

One steamer and a lorch, both under the Chinese flag, made up the above tonnage. The lorch is principally employed in bringing kerosine oil.

IMPORTS.

Goods to the value of 96,883*l.* have been imported during the year, as against 74,336*l.* in 1879, being an increase of 22,547*l.*

Opium.—Under this heading the Customs Returns show no Malwa, and but 54 chests of Patna. A considerable quantity of both kinds, however, continues to be brought overland and by junk from Ningpo, but it is impossible to ascertain accurately how much.

Persian opium is thus far quite unknown at this port.

The native drug is consumed in immense quantities, and the cultivation of the poppy is making giant strides in this immediate neighbourhood. The out-turn in the spring of this year was computed at 5,000 chests. What is not required for consumption on the spot is shipped in junks to Formosa and neighbouring ports; 5.05 piculs, or about five chests, were exported to Shanghai in the foreign steamer, and it may be reasonably expected to take a high place in future exports.

The price of the native drug varies from 200 to 300 dollars per picul (133½ lbs.), whereas Malwa fetches from 900 to 1,000 dollars, and Patna from 700 to 730 dollars. Patna is in greater request than Malwa, but both are extensively mixed with the native drug.

No Persian opium has as yet been imported.

No Proclamations prohibiting the cultivation of the poppy were issued last year, which accounts for the greatly extended area devoted to that purpose. Here, however, it does not interfere with the ordinary cultivation of rice, as the opium crop is all gathered by the end of April, which leaves time for the planting of the summer and autumn rice.

Cotton Piece-goods.—There is an increase in every article coming under this heading except Turkey red cloths, which show a slight decrease, and handkerchiefs, which are the same as last year.

* Chekiang.

Grey shirtings show 25,940 as against 25,435.

T-cloths 37,585 as against 33,280.

Drills, English, 3,250 v. 2,810.

American drills, 1,755 v. 1,530.

Woollen Piece-goods.—A slight increase is observable in camlets (English), cloth, broad and medium, lastings, lustrés, and Spanish stripes, and a slight decrease in long ells.

Metals.—Under this heading nail-rod iron shows the most satisfactory increase; 3,043 piculs were imported, as against 1,381 piculs in 1879. This is the more remarkable as iron of an excellent quality is found at Ch'ing T'ien Hsien, a small town some 40 miles to the west of Wenchow, and on the same river; but it is probably the superiority of the foreign method of manufacturing it which finds favour with the natives.

Sundries.—The import of window-glass, matches, and kerosine oil continues to largely increase: 45,900 gallons of kerosine show against 24,000 gallons; 16,850 gross of matches against 8,660 gross; and 28,200 square feet of window-glass against 25,000 square feet; 420 pieces of imitation Astrakan, or rather unborn lambskin, were imported for the first time, and have met with general favour, being an admirable imitation. It is used for the lining and edging of gentlemen's coats. Native sundries show an increase in almost all the principal articles.

TRANSIT PASSES.

The demand for passes issued by the foreign Customs has more than doubled, having been 389 v. 158. This was owing to the Taotai having stopped the issue of somewhat cheaper passes by the native *Li-kin* Office. Of cotton piece-goods, grey shirtings, T-cloths, and English drills seem to be in most demand.

Very few woollen goods are sent into the interior. Of metals, nail-rod iron is the favourite, 550 piculs having been sent, as against 76 piculs, and lead in pigs comes next with 137 v. 63 piculs. Of sundries, seaweed is the most conspicuous. It is much used as a tonic by the natives. 100 gallons of kerosine oil were sent to Ch'u Chow, a Prefectural city nearly 100 miles to the west of this, and on the same river.

EXPORTS.

These show a total of 25,039% against 15,360%, or an increase of 9,679%.

Tea.—The export of this most valuable article remains very low, though showing a slight improvement over that of last year: 1,284 piculs of Congou v. 728 piculs; and 1,054 piculs of unfired v. 250 piculs. The native dealers still prefer taking it to the comparatively distant market of Foochow, as there is no foreign competition here. A large quantity, however, of the unfired is said to be yearly exported in junks to coast ports for native consumption. The greater part of this will probably eventually be taken by steamer.

Among the sundries, white alum, which is produced at P'ing Yang, a town 45 miles to the south-east of this, has made a fair start, 762 piculs having been exported as against 18 piculs.

Bamboo-shoots, which find a ready market in Shanghai, have increased to 3,221 piculs as against 751 piculs.

Coir fibre has also largely increased. The coir palm grows in great profusion about Ch'u Chow and the surrounding country. Excellent waterproof coats are made from the fibre, which are universally worn by fishermen and coolies.

It was expected that the export of oranges would expand to a great extent, but there is only a slight increase, as the fruit being of a peculiar kind, very bitter, only finds a market in the north among the Mongolians, who are said to take them as an antidote to fever. The northern ports are closed till nearly the spring of the year, and, it being found that the oranges spoiled by being kept at Shanghai till they could be shipped north, the demand this year has been small.

Kitty-sols (native umbrellas) have advanced from 14,920 to 21,568 pieces.

Medicines have slightly declined, though still amounting to the considerable figure of 2,516 piculs.

Timber planks show a great decrease, but poles, on the contrary, have doubled, being 22,537 v. 11,456; and there is every likelihood of their continuing to increase, as almost endless quantities are brought down from the west of the province.

Tobacco-leaf has leaped from 321 to 1,401 piculs. A novelty, in the shape of soap-stone ornaments, has been exported to the amount of 95 piculs. The soap-stone is found at Ch'ing T'ien, and is carved into seals, figures, and other ornaments. There are several colours.

TREASURE.

675 $\frac{1}{2}$ were imported, and 143,380 $\frac{1}{2}$, or 21,458 $\frac{1}{2}$ more than the value of the whole trade of the port in foreign bottoms, were exported. This must be the case so long as the value of the imports so greatly outweighs that of the exports; and the only chance of ever counter-balancing this is a brisk export of tea and native opium, as all the other articles of native produce are of little value.

Copper cash to the value of 7,808 dollars, as against 13,644 dollars, were exported to Ningpo and Shanghai. The value of the dollar has ranged from 1,100 to 1,150 cash throughout the year.

The rice crops, both summer and autumn, were better than have been known for some years, and the price fell to nearly half that demanded last year.

In addition to rice, beans, peas, wheat, Indian corn, millet, sorghum, buckwheat, turnips, carrots, and a variety of other vegetables are extensively cultivated.

The summer was very wet and cool. It rained almost continually from April to October, when fine weather set in, which continued up to a few days ago.

There was far less illness amongst the natives than usual, but the few Europeans found the long-continued wet very trying.

The following Tables, for which I am indebted to the courtesy of the Commissioner of Customs, are appended, viz. —

1. Shipping.
2. Comparative Table of principal articles of import.
3. Comparative Table of principal native goods imported.
4. Comparative Table of principal exports.
5. Comparative Table of principal goods carried inland under transit passes.
6. Treasure.

(Signed) C. W. EVERARD, *Acting Consul.*
British Consulate, Wenchow, February 7, 1881.

(No. 1).—TABLE showing Amount of Tonnage at the Port of Wenchow during the Year 1880.

Flag.	Entered.		Cleared.		Total Entered and Cleared.	
	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
British	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chinese (Jorchas) ..	4	332	4	332	8	664
Chinese (steamers) ..	30	9,720	29	9,396	59	19,116

(Signed) C. W. EVERARD, *Acting Consul.*
British Consulate, Wenchow.

(No. 2).—COMPARATIVE Table of principal Articles of Foreign Import.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Opium—				
Malwa	Piculs ..	3 00	3 00	..
Patna	„ ..	10 80	57 60	54 00
Cotton piece-goods—				
Shirtings, grey ..	Pieces ..	24,210	25,435	25,940
„ white	„ ..	1,440	1,600	1,900
T-cloths	„ ..	34,868	33,280	37,585
Chintzes	„ ..	720	217	720
Drills, English ..	„ ..	5,240	2,810	3,250
„ American	„ ..	1,170	1,530	1,755
Turkey red cloths..	„ ..	2,384	3,555	3,526
Handkerchiefs ..	Dozens ..	1,020	1,210	1,210
Brocades, dyed ..	Pieces ..	510	350	610
Woollen piece-goods—				
Camlets, English ..	„ ..	900	1,090	1,590
Cloth, broad and medium .	„ ..	294	216	324
Lastings	„ ..	400	504	600
Long ells	„ ..	660	878	720
Lustres, fig and plain ..	„ ..	1,712	1,176	1,560
Spanish stripes	„ ..	936	792	1,086
Metals—				
Iron, nail-rod	Piculs ..	1,722 00	1,381 80	3,043 00
Sundries—				
Brass buttons	Gross ..	100	450	600
Glass, window	Sq. feet ..	7,400	25,000	28,200
Matches	Gross ..	5,382	8,660	16,850
Oil, kerosine	Gallons ..	17,690	24,000	45,900
Seaweed	Piculs ..	2,722 40	2,906 96	3,302 44

(Signed) C. W. EVERARD, *Acting Consul.*
British Consulate, Wenchow.

(No. 3.)—COMPARATIVE Table of principal Native Goods Imported.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Alum, green	Piculs ..	..	60 40	58 7
Astrakan, imitation	Pieces ..	..	..	420
Beans	Piculs ..	..	20 48	1,476 85
Bones, pigs' .. ..	" ..	..	..	929 78
Brassware	" ..	1 12	3 79	1 09
Cotton rags .. ..	" ..	..	..	123 94
Dates, black	" ..	211	163 62	646 30
" red	" ..	163	567 09	457 65
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed ..	Pieces ..	8,900	..	12,500
" " untrimmed..	" ..	46,000	108,000	22,000
Fungus	Piculs ..	178 53	217 22	365 69
Gypsum	" ..	100 00	960 00	1,340 00
Lamps	Pieces ..	55	41	679
Lead, white	Piculs ..	69 36	60 41	120 11
Lily flowers, dried	" ..	376 65	1,163 93	1,921 01
Mats, straw	Pieces ..	..	..	322
Medicines	Piculs ..	59 04	412 63	625 45
Nankeens	" ..	77 29	200 34	615 79
Rice .. ..	" ..	..	..	2,666 00
Skin coats, sheep	Pieces ..	..	..	560
Tobacco, prepared	Piculs ..	135 67	193 97	212 92
Varnish	" ..	25 76	139 16	157 35
Walnuts	" ..	50 82	89 30	75 10
Wax, white	" ..	29 86	41 60	53 89

(Signed) C. W. EVERARD, *Acting Consul.*
British Consulate, Wenchow.

(No. 4.)—COMPARATIVE Table of principal Articles of Export.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Tea, Congou	Piculs ..	350 43	28 19	1,284 45
" unfired	" ..	330 88	250 79	1,054 80
Sundries—				
Alum, white	" ..	200 0	2 170	762 00
Bamboo-shoots	" ..	95 60	51 90	3,221 38
Charcoal	" ..	2,614 10	12,439 52	7,247 70
Coff .. ..	" ..	..	413 15	1,182 69
" mats	Pieces ..	220	1,025	930
Dye-stuff	Piculs ..	..	76 66	164 05
Firewood .. ..	" ..	..	5,797 55	6,840 80
Fruits : oranges	" ..	4,400 25	5,669 38	7,260 96
Iron, unmanufactured	" ..	24	..	141 12
Kitty-sols	Pieces ..	..	14,920	21,568
Medicines	Piculs ..	585 00	2,612 20	2,516 56
Opium, native .. ..	" ..	..	1 75	5 05
Peel, orange .. ..	" ..	..	39 46	53 40
Prawns, dried	" ..	14 20	80 35	65 65
Resin	" ..	24 80	617 57	58 30
Soap-stone ornaments .. ..	" ..	..	..	95 89
Tallow, vegetable	" ..	69 30	290 26	77 86
Timber, planks	Sq. feet ..	1,038	7,273	2,178
" poles	Pieces ..	1,184	11,456	22,537
Tobacco, leaf	Piculs ..	27 78	321 38	1,401 62

(Signed) C. W. EVERARD, *Acting Consul.*
British Consulate, Wenchow.

(No. 5.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the principal Goods carried Inland under Transit Passes.

Goods carried Inland under Transit Passes.	Classifier of Quantity.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Cotton Piece-goods—				
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	34	951	1,077
" white .. ..	" ..	..	5	4
T-Cloths	" ..	246	2,197	3,647
Brocades, dyed .. ..	" ..	..	..	3
Drills, English	" ..	9	374	121
" American .. ..	" ..	..	52	17
Jeans, English .. ..	" ..	..	46	..
Turkey red cloths .. ..	" ..	..	15	7
Velvets .. ..	" ..	..	1	2
Woollen Piece-goods—				
Camlets, English .. ..	" ..	..	6	10½
Cloth, broad and medium ..	" ..	..	5	3
Lastings .. ..	" ..	..	6	13
Lustres, figured .. ..	" ..	..	65	50
Spanish stripes .. ..	" ..	..	9	8
Metals—				
Iron, nail-rod	Piculs ..	172 20	76 86	550 20
" wire	" ..	38 17	48 00	31 20
Lead in pigs .. ..	" ..	..	63 85	137 20
Steel	" ..	19 00	6 00	5 00
Tin .. ..	" ..	..	1 39	3 43
Sundries—				
Mangrove-bark	" ..	120 00	..	..
Matches	Gross ..	25	..	..
Mushrooms	Piculs ..	..	..	2 60
Oil, kerosine	Gallons ..	40	..	100
Seaweed	Piculs ..	57 80	333 35	894 83

(Signed) C. W. EVERARD, *Acting Consul.*
British Consulate, Wenchow.

(No. 6.)—TREASURE Imported and Exported.

IMPORTED.	EXPORTED.
From Ningpo Dollars.	To Shanghai Dollars.
3,600	42,250
	Ningpo 714,637
	Shanghai (copper cash strings 1,200) 1,005
	Ningpo (copper cash strings 8,270) 6,803
Total 3,600	Total 764,695
Equal at 3s. 9d. per dollar to 675l.	Equal at 3s. 9d. per dollar to 143,380l.

(Signed) C. W. EVERARD, *Acting Consul.*
British Consulate, Wenchow.

General Report by Mr. Grosvenor on the Trade at the Treaty Ports.

Mr. Grosvenor to Sir T. Wade.

Sir,

Peking, December 31, 1880.

In compliance with the instructions contained in the Foreign Office Circular of April 1878, I have the honour to forward my half-yearly Commercial Report.

The Statistics of Trade at the Treaty ports of China in 1879, published by order of the Inspector-General of the Imperial Maritime Customs, and already forwarded to the Foreign Office from the London office of the Imperial Customs, give so complete a review of the subject that it is impossible for me to furnish any new lights thereon. I will therefore confine myself to giving a broad outline of the principal features of the trade.

The total estimated value of the trade for 1878 was 70,632,184*l.*, for 1879, 71,219,369*l.*, the highest figure ever yet reached; and the sterling amount does not represent the total increase compared with the previous year; for the Haikwan tael (5*s.* 7½*d.*), in which all trade values are computed, diminished 5 per cent. in exchange value in 1879.

The following Table shows the value of the whole trade and of the trade at each port during the years 1870-79:—

Ports.		1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.
Shanghai	...	Hk. taels. 35,404,661	Hk. taels. 46,181,706	Hk. taels. 44,043,456	Hk. taels. 42,311,021	Hk. taels. 39,018,860	Hk. taels. 44,866,937	Hk. taels. 59,182,062	Hk. taels. 49,565,966	Hk. taels. 47,883,945	Hk. taels. 61,433,886
Hankow	...	31,049,416	36,343,100	33,192,353	33,415,094	30,493,890	32,955,614	33,580,934	29,396,672	29,488,544	36,194,494
Canton	...	29,978,610	25,886,917	28,049,746	32,987,171	30,669,187	27,988,043	25,739,690	23,888,177	25,115,980	25,842,763
Tien-tsin	...	16,133,131	17,678,443	16,776,396	16,384,387	13,837,577	17,068,711	18,741,493	23,942,468	20,773,479	24,365,442
Ningpo	...	14,614,083	16,015,094	17,909,297	15,683,082	14,546,310	19,846,315	12,404,421	19,451,653	12,650,602	12,996,369
Poochow	...	12,212,053	15,028,702	15,839,649	15,081,407	17,898,240	18,098,568	16,871,907	15,554,439	17,059,328	15,987,106
Kinkiang	...	8,871,282	9,319,998	10,609,608	11,688,877	13,300,479	13,829,172	12,950,568	11,824,064	13,087,847	11,254,458
Chinkiang	...	8,760,744	10,119,247	14,104,643	11,629,246	12,468,141	12,403,137	10,992,285	11,108,936	14,857,312	13,674,598
Satow	...	8,294,088	11,436,647	13,862,609	13,870,868	13,848,865	16,612,747	18,241,968	18,608,019	19,237,846	20,378,581
Chefoo	...	7,665,165	8,455,237	8,748,880	7,098,241	7,493,389	7,786,768	6,432,272	6,101,350	9,317,441	10,963,498
Amoy	...	6,900,888	7,663,110	8,538,327	8,758,973	8,758,508	9,082,666	9,065,201	10,138,097	9,074,116	9,029,149
Newchwang	...	4,912,319	3,909,580	5,068,727	4,773,507	4,186,678	5,513,055	6,949,135	6,877,985	9,772,963	8,214,614
Takow	...	2,206,223	2,343,089	2,221,018	1,839,868	2,303,229	2,279,470	2,698,320	2,749,755	2,493,383	3,750,935
Tamsuy	...	964,994	1,306,296	1,490,035	1,441,917	1,319,063	1,584,060	2,405,872	1,586,682	3,043,351	3,632,410
Wuhu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	684,772	1,586,682	3,219,476	3,563,573
Kiangchow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	203,323	1,204,323	1,215,056	1,378,419
Ichang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	203,526	203,526	235,367	315,367
Wenchow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,585	71,014	612,508
Pakhoi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,714	...	338,532
Total	...	178,887,447	211,430,156	220,415,144	206,864,209	204,718,856	218,905,203	235,940,830	227,214,405	227,087,050	253,851,215

The total foreign trade with China in 1879, *i.e.*, imports from and exports to foreign countries, increased in value 17,000,000 Haikwan taels over that of 1878; Great Britain and her possessions participating most in the increase just noted. Her trade with China alone shows an increase of 11,000,000 taels during the year under review; Great Britain's increase in trade being due to a larger import of cotton piece-goods and opium. The remainder of the increase has been caused by the expansion of trade with the United States of America and the Continent of Europe—Russia excepted. Great Britain took, however, a less quantity of tea from China than in the year 1878. China's exports to foreign countries increased by more than 5,000,000 taels during 1879; and principally by the export of tea and silk to the United States of America and to the Continent of Europe, and the increased export of tea to Russia and Siberia. The trade of Russia with China for the last five years has shown a slight depression, from which it has now recovered.

The proportion borne by British possessions to the total foreign trade of China amounts to no less than $77\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., her nearest rivals being the United States of America with $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., of the total; and the Continent of Europe (not including Russia) with $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; the remainder being absorbed by Russia, Japan, and other countries.

The principal articles of importation from foreign countries are opium, cotton and woollen piece-goods, metals, and a variety of sundries: the value of all during 1879 amounted to 82,227,424 Haikwan taels, or 23,069,360*l*. Of these, opium is by far the most important, as it represents nearly $44\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total import trade in 1879, and has maintained its rank as an article of first-class importance during the last ten years with the exception of the year 1871, when cotton piece-goods showed fractionally in advance of it. Next in importance are cotton piece-goods, which absorbed 27·48 per cent. in 1879; during the last ten years this description of goods has averaged rather over 30 per cent. of the import trade. The item "Sundries," which includes raw cotton, sugar, coal, rice, ginseng, birds' nests, and bicho de mar as its principal sub-heads, reaches a total of 17·03 per cent. for 1879. Sundries have shown for the last ten years an average of $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; the remainder of the total of the import trade being divided, roughly speaking, between woollen piece-goods and metals, the lion's share falling to the former.

The import of foreign opium has been larger in 1879 than it ever was before; 82,927 piculs (picul = $133\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.) being the quantity passed at the custom-houses of the Treaty ports. The subjoined Table shows the steady increase which the import of this article has made in the last ten years:—

Years.			Quantity.	Increase over preceding Year.	Decrease from preceding Year.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs
1870	..	..	58,817	5,404	..
1871	..	..	59,670	853	..
1872	..	..	61,193	1,523	..
1873	..	..	65,797	4,604	..
1874	..	..	67,468	1,671	..
1875	..	..	66,461	..	1,007
1876	..	..	68,042	1,581	..
1877	..	..	69,052	1,010	..
1878	..	..	71,492	2,440	..
1879	..	..	82,927	11,435	..

Almost the only opium imported is of Indian origin, but it is worthy of note that the import of Persian opium has increased tenfold in the last six years, the Returns of 1873 showing an import of 558 piculs, whilst those of 1879 show an import of 5,800 piculs. There is no doubt that the use of Persian opium has become more popular in China of late years, but the total import of this species of opium as compared with the total import of Indian opium does not lead to the conclusion that the latter is in any danger at present of losing its market in China.

The import of cotton goods reached the value of 22,599,679 Haikwan taels, or 6,340,465*l.*, in 1879, thus showing an increase of 6,750,448 Haikwan taels over the preceding year. The following Table will show the fluctuations which this branch of trade has undergone during the last ten years :—

						Taels.
1870	..	..	..	..	..	22,307,940
1871	..	..	..	..	..	29,803,783
1872	..	..	..	..	..	25,407,069
1873	..	..	..	..	..	21,535,879
1874	..	..	..	..	..	18,270,196
1875	..	..	..	..	..	20,061,143
1876	..	..	..	..	..	20,216,246
1877	..	..	..	..	..	18,800,232
1878	..	..	..	..	..	16,029,231
1879	..	..	..	..	..	22,599,679

During the last few years the demand for American cotton fabrics has been so steadily increasing that the importation of them for 1879 amounted to nearly five times that of 1876.

The value of sundries imported during 1879 was 14,004,589 Haikwan taels (3,929,065*l.*) The subjoined Table will show the variations in value which this item has been subject to since 1869 :—

						Taels.
1870	..	..	..	..	..	11,230,427
1871	..	..	..	..	..	11,920,374
1872	..	..	..	..	..	13,359,746
1873	..	..	..	..	..	14,379,707
1874	..	..	..	..	..	9,913,023
1875	..	..	..	..	..	13,599,519
1876	..	..	..	..	..	14,082,249
1877	..	..	..	..	..	15,029,957
1878	..	..	..	..	..	13,457,869
1879	..	..	..	..	..	14,004,589

Under the heading of "Import of Sundries" the most important articles which showed an increase in 1879 over 1878 are the following : raw cotton (foreign), kerosine oil, seaweed and agar-agar, sugar, needles, shell-fish, awabi, cloves and spices, sandal-wood, sapan-wood, and matches ; whilst there was a decrease in grain, pulse and rice, coal, fish (dry and salt), timber and wood, window-glass. The increase noticed in the import of foreign raw cotton may be reasonably attributed to the superior quality and greater cheapness of this article compared with native raw cotton. The utility of sulphuric acid in the process of separating gold from silver has lately become apparent to the Chinese—hence probably the increase of importation during the last three years : the year 1877 being the first in which mention is made of this acid as an article of foreign import. If the import of kerosine oil continues to increase on the scale on which it has increased in the last few years, it bids fair to become one of the most important factors of trade in the next few years. Kerosine oil has now found its way to the most distant portions of the Empire under transit pass ; and, if it fairly supplants the bean

and tea oil hitherto in use in China, the demand will increase up to the ratio of the wants of 400,000,000 of people. Foreign needles of good quality seem to have established their claim to general use in place of the native article, which is dearer and less good. The increase in the import of matches is not enormous, when last year only is taken into comparison; but looking back a little further, only one-fifth the quantity of foreign matches were imported into China in 1871 that found their way hither in 1879. The increased importation of seaweed, this article being eaten by the Chinese as a delicacy, is a healthy symptom showing that the effects of the famine year 1877 are disappearing, and the people are again in a position to purchase luxuries. The augmented import of awabi, shell-fish, pepper and cloves, and other spices, and isinglass, and the falling-off of the import in the coarser kinds of food, such as dried and salt fish, grain and pulse, may also be looked upon as symptoms of renewed prosperity amongst the people of China. The import of foreign coal shows a decrease when compared with the import of the year 1878, but this does not appear to arise from the competition of native coal, as the decrease in the import of foreign coal is far larger than the increase in the import of native coal.* Probably the import of coal in 1878 rather over-stocked the market. The falling-off in the import of window-glass is probably to be ascribed rather to the excessive quantity imported in the two previous years than to any other cause, because the price of the article rose considerably during 1879. The following Table gives a sketch of the fluctuations in sundries since 1870:—

* Native coal is imported in so far as it is brought in vessels from the Island of Formosa to ports on the mainland. It is properly an article of coast trade.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1871-75.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.
Sugar—	Piculs	233,218	248,336	199,845	18,172	22,556
Brown	"	110,185	141,857	165,023	12,816	22,890
White	"	15,993	5,046	8,032	4,526	15,045
Betel-nuts	"	646	649	693	763	774
Birds' nests	"	19,487	19,155	20,015	23,089	19,667
Birds de mar	"	5,351	12,881	6,336	3,942	5,538
Cloves and spices	Tons	118,926	127,565	168,251	203,746	175,763
Coal ..	Piculs	186,591	236,918	154,892	106,027	175,535
Cotton, raw	Value, H. taels	..	194,943	199,218	160,974	500,788
Dyes and colours	Piculs	36,439	69,279	63,467	111,704	63,396
Fish, dry and salt	"	2,571	3,090	2,990	3,533	3,586
Ginseng	"	..	9,331	48,417	297,454	144,524
Grain and pulse ..	"	..	25,719	36,889	4,410	3,150
Indigo ..	"	44,641	7,435	7,744	6,159	8,057
Iringlass	"	3,934	463,555	554,812	926,909	1,027,010
Matches ..	Gross	251,746	685,285	902,337	608,153	892,236
Needles	Mille	1,003,872	230,541	184,191	485,352	767,890
Oil, kerosine ..	Value, H. taels	..	49,257	53,843	47,151	53,037
Pepper, black and white	Piculs	52,534	45,595	27,786	40,204	36,435
Rattans	"	39,150	576,279	1,050,901	297,567	248,939
Rice ..	"	430,920	296,824	252,094	383,863	443,795
Seaweed and agar-agar	"	321,702	109,857	72,910	69,225	83,818
Sandal-wood	"	68,008	120,701	97,401	132,535	141,558
Sapan-wood	"	131,674	19,810	23,488	40,241	47,307
Shell-fish, awabi, shrimps, &c.	"	..	..	3,367	14,188	20,398
Sulphuric acid ..	Value, H. taels	..	564,326	609,095	752,828	540,964
Timber of all kinds	Boxes	..	33,219	56,953	55,015	32,450
Window-glass ..	"	..	..	..	..	..
Total Value of Sundries	H. Taels	11,822,647	14,082,249	15,029,957	13,457,869	14,004,589

The import of metals into China has varied but little since 1870, the value of this branch of trade having averaged rather over 1,000,000*l.* per annum in the last ten years. In the year 1879, however, although a larger weight of metal was imported than in 1878, the value of this branch of trade did not reach the same level as it did in the former year. This is to be accounted for by the fact that a sudden increase took place in the importation of old iron and a simultaneous decrease in the importation of lead and tin slabs. The following Table gives the quantities and values of all classes of metals imported into China since 1870:—

Description of Goods.	1871-75.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Copper—					
Bar and rod	6,705	5,928	11,476	9,139	9,708
Sheets, nails, and Muntz metal...	3,965	5,633	4,281	2,063	8,714
Iron—					
Nail-rod	163,765	165,878	299,605	302,597	247,844
Bar	40,807	48,448	44,141	84,785	164,783
Wire	5,995	10,906	6,970	13,847	81,480
Pig and kentledge	32,238	41,960	22,676	18,812	76,406
Ironware and manufactured	23,596	34,945	66,596	101,023	23,339
Unmanufactured and old ... ..	...	...	...	21,290	261,998
Lead, in pigs	149,249	186,854	258,758	295,314	173,501
Quicksilver	3,235	4,433	2,992	2,365	6,667
Steel	12,856	15,018	15,046	27,533	22,064
Tin—					
In slabs	56,243	65,061	92,278	92,717	58,684
In plates	4,508	7,820	11,189	4,713	11,049
Total Value of Metals (Haikwan taels)	3,807,314	3,692,804	4,348,241	4,178,376	4,132,067

The importation of woollen goods has not kept pace with that of cotton goods. A steady increase in the importation of the former has, however, to be noticed since 1876. The subjoined Tables give—

(1.) ESTIMATED Value of Woollen Goods imported into China for the last ten years.

						Taels.
1870	..	..	..	..	..	6,535,262
1871	..	..	..	..	..	4,765,876
1872	..	..	..	..	..	4,794,584
1873	..	..	..	..	..	5,946,265
1874	..	..	..	..	..	4,049,073
1875	..	..	..	..	..	4,561,421
1876	..	..	..	..	..	4,259,281
1877	..	..	..	..	..	4,797,654
1878	..	..	..	..	..	4,875,594
1879	..	..	..	..	..	4,954,472

(2.) DIFFERENT kinds of Woollen Goods imported into China, their Quantity and Total Value, since 1870.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1871-75.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.
Blankets	Pairs ...	12,108	5,927	...	19,552	17,933
Bombazettes	Pieces ...	7,360	1,234	665	271	179
Camlets, English	" ...	80,978	84,107	98,781	98,781	127,623
" Dutch	" ...	3,667	2,510	3,252	3,479	2,863
Cloth, broad, medium, and habit	" ...	32,646	45,241	31,714	43,332	30,767
Spanish stripes	" ...	59,347	66,830	50,530	58,002	64,076
Russian cloth	" ...	4,616	8,582	11,893	19,299	9,332
Flannels	" ...	2,422	2,556	5,476	6,134	5,099
Lastings	" ...	45,436	45,763	68,357	58,789	75,018
" crape	" ...	7,746	2,092	6,610	11,502	9,662
Long cloths	" ...	87,649	98,887	93,550	103,468	123,383
Lustres and Orleans	" ...	208,765	98,197	170,894	145,470	189,409
Woollen goods, unclassified	" ...	5,733	9,818	12,299	11,790	17,188
Total	" ...	558,166	471,739	554,021	579,739	675,380
Total Value	H. Taels	4,507,479	4,359,281	4,797,654	4,875,594	4,954,472

The principal articles of export from China are tea and silk. Besides these two staples of trade, a variety of articles classed as sundries add a fair percentage to the total export, and sugar forms a small item in this branch.

The quantity of tea exported to foreign countries in 1879 exceeded that exported in 1878 by 88,507 piculs; this increase was mainly due to a larger export of brick tea.

The quantities of the different sorts of tea exported during the years 1878 and 1879 respectively is as follows :—

				1878.	1879.
				Piculs.	Piculs.
Black tea	..	..	..	1,517,617	1,523,419
Green tea	..	..	..	172,826	183,234
Brick tea	..	..	..	194,277	275,540
Dust tea	..	..	..	14,236	5,270

The average price per lb. of black tea appears to have been lower in 1879 than in any preceding year since 1872, whilst green tea has been sold on an average at higher prices in 1879 than it has fetched during the two preceding years. The average price per lb. for black tea was 8*d.*, for green tea 1*s.** The subsequent Table will furnish a summary of the export of tea from the Treaty ports of China during the last twelve years, together with the destinations of the various quantities so exported; the quantities are given in millions of lbs., and the average demand of each country during the last twelve years is stated at the bottom of the Table in question.

Years.	Total Export from Treaty Ports.	Destination.					
		Great Britain.	United States of America.	Australia.	Hong Kong.	Russia and Siberia via Kiakhta.	Other Countries.
1868	905.5	135.0	25.0	15.3	13.9	1.8	13.6
1869	208.9	135.0	26.3	10.9	7.0	1.4	4.8
1870	180.6	119.1	18.3	11.1	9.1	11.1	18.9
1871	224.6	139.3	39.9	12.3	11.2	13.4	8.4
1872	237.7	141.1	42.8	14.4	11.4	17.7	10.3
1873	216.3	131.5	30.2	11.7	13.2	19.7	10.0
1874	231.6	150.0	30.0	13.3	16.6	13.6	8.0
1875	242.6	140.8	29.6	14.2	16.4	26.4	15.1
1876	235.3	137.6	28.7	15.1	16.2	26.5	11.0
1877	256.3	144.4	30.4	13.7	26.4	28.6	6.8
1878	253.6	141.4	30.6	13.0	23.3	36.7	8.6
1879	266.1	131.7	35.6	13.1	23.0	53.3	8.4
Average for 12 years	230.2	137.2	32.0	13.2	15.5	22.0	10.3

It will be seen that the export of tea to Russia in 1879 far exceeds her average demand for this article during the last twelve years, but it must be borne in mind that Russia's demand has steadily risen, with one or two exceptions, during the period under review.

The quantity of tea exported to Great Britain in 1879 is rather below the average of the last twelve years, but not sufficiently so to call for special remark, and the quantities exported in 1879 to the remaining countries, mentioned in the above Table as destinations of export, are all of a normal character.

* This average price includes all qualities of tea down to the very worst.

The export of silk of all kinds from China shows for the year 1879 an increase of 16,684 piculs over the preceding year. The export of all kinds of silk for the last ten years has been as follows:—

Description.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Raw and thrown	45,824	55,863	63,193	54,002	58,350	74,183	76,391	56,236	63,144	75,829
Refuse	4,880	7,404	7,689	8,745	8,749	8,583	10,331	8,587	11,470	13,795
Coarse and wild	3,845	3,665	2,148	7,390	6,399	5,732	3,095	3,080	4,200	4,716
Cocoons	1,846	1,936	2,358	2,708	1,688	3,071	3,199	2,356	2,204	3,889
Piece-goods	3,732	4,490	5,303	5,149	5,778	6,468	5,889	6,460	7,440	6,990
Manufactured, unclassified ...	327	536	352	649	614	530	471	512	691	684
Worm eggs... ..	H. Tls.	H. Tls.	H. Tls.	H. Tls.	H. Tls.	H. Tls.	H. Tls.	H. Tls.	H. Tls.	H. Tls.
...	3,567	1,927	1,190	...	11	...	3,198	...	90	...

Of the various kinds of silk exported, raw silk claims the largest share in the increase noted for the year 1879. Re-reeled silk was purchased chiefly for the American market. Refuse and waste silk of every description has been in good demand for the last ten years, and the quantity exported into foreign countries in 1879 was three times as large as that exported in 1870. The demand for yellow silk both from Szechwan and Kwangtung has of late increased.

France, Great Britain, and the United States of America, in the order they are named, are the largest importers of Chinese silk, but the demands of the United States of America for Chinese silk fall far behind those of France and Great Britain.

An examination of the list of sundries, exported to foreign countries from China in the year 1879, shows a large increase in the export of cassia lignea to foreign countries, mostly European; a slight decrease in the export of camphor; a large increase in the exportation of fire crackers; a diminution of 8,000,000 pieces in the export of straw hats, chiefly caused by a smaller demand on the part of Great Britain, which country had for two years previous to 1879 absorbed a large quantity of this article of native manufacture; a decrease of 50 per cent. in the exportation of hides to foreign countries (this decrease is said to be owing to the action of the Chinese authorities, who, fearing a drain on the agricultural resources of the country from the slaughter of healthy animals for the sake of the price of their hides, issued an order prohibiting the slaughter of any except diseased animals); an increase in the quantity of mats and matting exported, but a decrease in the value of these goods, which points to the conclusion that an article inferior in quality to that formerly applied for is now demanded; an increase in the export of musk to foreign countries, nearly all foreign countries having taken more of this article in 1879 than at any time in the last five years; an increase in the exportation of nutgalls (this article of commerce has found an expanding market in Great Britain during the last five years, the export to that country in 1879 being twice as large as it was in 1875); a very slight increase in the exportation of rhubarb; a very slight decrease in the exportation of straw braid to foreign countries, if the amount exported in 1879 is compared with that exported in 1878 (the demand of Great Britain for this article has, however, increased considerably since 1875, also that of the United States of America); a considerable increase in the exportation of tobacco, three-fourths of the quantity exported in 1879 consisting of tobacco-leaf intended for the European market, of which two-thirds were shipped to Great Britain, and the remainder, consisting of prepared tobacco, exported for the use of Chinese emigrants.

The export of Chinese sugar to foreign countries in 1879 has exceeded the export of 1878 to foreign countries by the considerable

amount of 141,589 piculs. The principal markets for Chinese sugar during 1879 were Japan, Hong Kong, and Australia. Of the three kinds of sugar exported—brown, white, and candy—the first-named is the one in which increased exportation has taken place.

Having now examined the principal features of the direct trade between China and foreign countries, the next point of interest to be examined is the home trade of China, *i.e.*, the distribution of foreign imports at the various Treaty ports, and the contribution of these various ports to the total export trade of China, together with the distribution of Chinese produce over the various portions of the Empire supplied by Treaty ports, in so far as this is carried on under Treaty regulations and in foreign vessels, or vessels of foreign type.

This trade is carried on between the different Treaty ports along the coasts, on the Yangtze-Kiang, and in the two Islands of Hainan and Formosa.

The port of Shanghai is the great receiver and distributor of foreign imports and of exports to foreign countries. It alone absorbs more than half the value of the total home trade; its nearest rivals being Tien-tsin, Hankow, and Chinkiang, in the order named, whilst of the remaining fifteen ports, each contributes a small percentage to the total.

Vessels under the British flag carry 50 per cent. of the coast trade of China; vessels under the Chinese flag carry nearly 42 per cent.; 5 per cent. of this traffic falls to the share of the German flag; 2 per cent. to the American; and the remaining decimals of percentage are divided amongst the nations having Treaties with China and those that are still non-Treaty Powers.

The relative consumption of the principal categories of foreign imports at each of the Treaty ports will best be understood by a perusal of the following Tables:—

OPIMUM imported in 1879.

Ports.						1879.
						Piculs.
Shanghai (landed for local consumption)	..	..	..	..	..	17,102
Newchwang	..	..	..	..	..	2,453
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	..	..	5,181
Chefoo	..	..	..	..	..	3,536
Ichang	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hankow	..	..	..	..	..	3,294
Kiukiang	..	..	..	..	..	2,153
Wahu	..	..	..	..	..	3,141
Chinkiang	..	..	..	..	..	11,097
Ningpo	..	..	..	..	..	7,667
Wenchow	..	..	..	..	..	61
Foochow	..	..	..	..	..	4,273
Tamsuy	..	..	..	..	..	2,165
Takow	..	..	..	..	..	3,387
Amoy	..	..	..	..	..	4,630
Swatow	..	..	..	..	..	10,063
Canton	..	..	..	..	..	1,194
Kiungchow	..	..	..	..	..	1,118
Pakhoi	..	..	..	..	..	412
Total	..	..	..	..	..	82,927

COTTON Piece-Goods imported in 1879.

Ports.					Total Value, 1879.
					Hk. taels.
Newchwang	..	..	..	..	1,065,849
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	..	8,198,822
Chefoo ..	..	..	..	..	2,386,593
Ichang ..	..	..	..	..	85,812
Hankow	..	..	..	..	4,219,675
Kiukiang	..	..	..	..	587,369
Wuhu ..	..	..	..	..	197,215
Chinkiang	..	..	..	..	1,658,490
Shanghai	..	..	..	..	1,660,372
Ningpo..	..	..	..	..	1,225,417
Wenchow	..	..	..	..	99,801
Foochow	..	..	..	..	668,841
Tamsuy	..	..	..	..	211,565
Takow ..	..	..	..	..	99,855
Amoy ..	..	..	..	..	728,046
Swatow	..	..	..	..	2,241,362
Canton..	..	..	..	..	1,360,671
Kiungchow	..	..	..	..	65,710
Pakhoi..	..	..	..	..	15,339
Total	..	..	..	..	26,776,804

WOOLLEN Piece-Goods imported in 1879.

Ports.					Total Value, 1879.
					Hk. taels.
Newchwang	..	..	..	..	168,768
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	..	563,399
Chefoo ..	..	..	..	..	156,756
Ichang ..	..	..	..	..	38,073
Hankow	..	..	..	..	2,028,600
Kiukiang	..	..	..	..	374,511
Wuhu ..	..	..	..	..	100,689
Chinkiang	..	..	..	..	412,792
Shanghai	..	..	..	..	593,000
Ningpo..	..	..	..	..	119,788
Wenchow	..	..	..	..	37,941
Foochow	..	..	..	..	224,612
Tamsuy	..	..	..	..	101,343
Takow ..	..	..	..	..	63,437
Amoy ..	..	..	..	..	71,728
Swatow	..	..	..	..	181,966
Canton..	..	..	..	..	264,721
Kiungchow	..	..	..	..	12,900
Pakhoi..	..	..	..	..	4,297
Total	..	..	..	..	5,519,321

METALS imported in 1879.

Ports.					Total Value, 1879.
					Hk. taels.
Newchwang	..	..	..	..	384,914
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	..	219,142
Chefoo..	..	..	..	..	286,005
Ichang..	..	..	..	..	10,607
Hankow	..	..	..	..	402,870
Kiukiang	..	..	..	..	205,134
Wuhu ..	..	..	..	..	25,529
Chinkiang	..	..	..	..	242,393
Shanghai	..	..	..	..	949,202
Ningpo..	..	..	..	..	413,845
Wenchow	..	..	..	..	7,447
Foochow	..	..	..	..	263,400
Tamsuy	..	..	..	..	46,601
Takow..	..	..	..	..	4,108
Amoy ..	..	..	..	..	132,728
Swatow	..	..	..	..	167,036
Canton..	..	..	..	..	270,754
Kiungchow	..	..	..	..	4,499
Pakhoi..	..	..	..	..	18
Total	..	..	..	..	4,036,232

The contribution of the various ports to the total export of Chinese produce to foreign countries will be shown by the following analysis under the headings of tea, silk, and sugar.

1. *Tea*.—The amount exported from various ports in 1879 was :—

					Piculs.
Ichang	..	..	..	..	91
Hankow	..	..	..	..	598,077
Kiukiang	..	..	..	..	248,596
Wuhu..	..	..	..	..	2,386
Shanghai	..	..	..	..	4,893
Ningpo	..	..	..	..	131,486
Wenchow	..	..	..	..	979
Foochow	..	..	..	..	746,674
Tamsuy	..	..	..	..	85,033
Amoy ..	..	..	..	..	64,646
Swatow	..	..	..	..	4,098
Canton	..	..	..	..	116,191
Total	..	..	..	..	2,003,150

2. *Silk*.—The amount exported from various ports in 1879 was :—

					Piculs.
From Shanghai	..	..	..	..	59,370
„ Canton	..	..	..	..	16,458
„ Chefoo	..	..	..	..	1,789
„ Hankow	..	..	..	..	6,849
„ Ningpo	..	..	..	..	436
Total	..	..	..	..	84,902

together with other small amounts from various silk-exporting Treaty ports.

3. *Sugar*.—The contribution of the various sugar-exporting ports to the total was divided as follows:—

Port.				Total Export, 1879.
				Piculs.
Ningpo	..	..	..	243
Tamsuy	..	..	..	61
Takow	..	..	..	765,378
Amoy	..	..	..	247,242
Swatow	..	..	..	1,085,198
Canton	..	..	..	154,033
Kiungchow	..	..	..	64,249
Pakhoi	..	..	..	59
Total	..	..	..	2,316,463

An examination of the principal sub-heads of sundries shows that camphor comes from Formosa; that Shanghae and its neighbourhood furnish straw hats and hides; Canton, mats and matting; that other items not very important in amount are supplied from the various Treaty ports.

Besides the coast trade in the articles above mentioned, which contribute almost entirely to the direct foreign trade in China, there exists a flourishing carrying trade between the Treaty ports in articles not intended for the foreign trade but for local consumption. Amongst these, the most worthy of note are sugar, paper, raw cotton, cuttle-fish, bean-oil, nankeens, hemp-bags, charcoal, soap and tobacco-leaf, fans, fruits, tallow, &c. This movement of native industry within the limits of the Chinese Empire accounts for nearly one-third of the entire home or coast trade.

Last in importance, if its total value be taken into consideration, but first almost, if its effects upon the future commercial relations of China and foreign Powers be the point of view, comes the transit trade. The transit trade is conducted under certificates, issued in accordance with Treaty stipulations by the foreign Customs, which free the goods so certificated from all inland taxation from their start at the Treaty port where the certificate is dated, until their arrival at the destination specified on the certificate. Transit passes or certificates are meant to free in like manner native produce, in the interior, at a distance from one of the Treaty ports, on its journey to the sea-coast or to one of the river ports, provided that the native produce is intended for exportation and owned by a foreigner.*

Transit passes inwards and outwards are only issued upon a payment by the owner of goods thus freed from inland taxation of a half duty beyond the regular import or export duty, as the case may be. The transit trade, which for the six preceding years had remained tolerably stationary, shows an increase of 20 per cent. in total value for the year 1879. The total value of this branch of trade is, however, not very large, only amounting in the year 1879 to 13,726,208 Haikwan taels, an insignificant fraction of the value of the entire trade carried on under Treaty regulations. Many causes have conspired to render the trade under transit passes less great than its projectors had anticipated, but it is not within the scope or purpose of the present Report to deal with them.

* Imports, whether owned by Chinese or foreigners, are exempt from inland taxation when covered by transit pass. Opium is the only import debarred from this privilege.

The whole question of the inland taxation of imports and exports forms at this moment the subject of negotiations between China and foreign Powers, and some further facilities to trade may be the result, to the general advantage of mankind. During the year 1879 the largest amount of goods forwarded to the interior under transit pass was sent from Hankow. The chief inland marts in the Provinces of Hupeh and Hunan, Honan, Szechwan, Kweichow, Shensi, Shansi, and Kwangsi, were thus supplied with foreign goods; these goods are said to find their way into the interior in yearly increasing quantities. The Provinces of Hupeh and Honan were the only two from whence native goods were brought under transit pass from the interior to Hankow.

The port of Chinkiang takes second place on the list in regard to the value of its transit trade with the interior. From thence, important marts in the Provinces of Anhwei, Honan, Hunan, Kiangsi, Kiangsu, and Shangtung were supplied with every description of foreign import. The amount of native goods brought from the interior under transit pass was unimportant.

Then comes Shanghai, which furnishes the inland markets in the Provinces of Kiangsu, Chêkiang, Anhwei, and Honan with foreign imports covered by transit passes.

These inland markets likewise supply native goods, which are brought from the interior under transit passes, though to a less extent.

From the port of Kiukiang a certain number of inland markets were supplied with foreign imports under transit pass in 1879, but no native goods were thus brought down to Kiukiang from the interior.

The port of Ningpo, which still retains a fair percentage of the transit trade, did not do a very flourishing business in this line in the year 1879; the total revenue of the port from this source being a third less than that collected in 1876.

The port of Foochow, owing to a larger export of brick tea, has a certain quantity of the transit trade in the year 1879; the only import forwarded inland from thence being lead, and even that is declining rather than increasing.

Of the remaining ports, seven contribute in a larger or smaller degree to the total value of the transit trade, whilst six, namely, Newchwang, Tien-tsin, Chefoo, Swatow, Canton, and Kiungchow are devoid of this branch of trade.

The shipping trade, which is entirely dependent upon commercial activity for its existence, naturally shows an increase in the year 1879 corresponding with that of other branches of trade. The last ten years have shown a steady increase in the number of ships employed in trade with, and along the coasts of, China. A notable change has occurred in shipping since 1873. Up to that time the Chinese flag was unrepresented in the trading world by a single steamer. In that year a Steam-ship Company was started by Chinese under very high official patronage; the success of this Company may be gauged by the fact that whilst the entries and clearances of its vessels in 1873 only amounted to 344, in 1879 these amounted to 4,860. The activity of this Company is almost wholly confined to the home or coast trade of China. It has sent one steamer only across the Pacific. Whether it will succeed in establishing a line of ocean steamers remains to be proved. When this native Company first began its operations, much fear was entertained that its competition would deprive the British flag of the share it had previously taken in the coast trade.

This prognostication has turned out completely false. The British flag has hardly ever been more in the ascendant (from a commercial point of view) than it is at present. Chinese competition has, however, deprived

the American flag of a large percentage of the coast trade formerly carried on under it.

Of the various flags represented at the Treaty ports of China, the British flag absorbs half the total of the carrying trade, and 32 per cent. falls to the share of the Chinese, 9 per cent. to the German, and 5 per cent. to the French; the remainder being divided amongst the flags of other Treaty and non-Treaty Powers.

The principal features of trade at the Treaty ports of China for 1879 have now been passed in review, and a few remarks will serve to summarize the results arrived at.

The prosperity of the year 1879 was due to two causes: revival of trade in the West, which could not fail to stimulate activity in the East, and abundant produce in China of all the staples of exportation and articles of home consumption. To these causes should be added the fact that the famine-stricken northern provinces have been recovering rapidly.

It is satisfactory to be able to add that the statistics for the first three quarters of the present year lead to the conclusion that, though 1879 was a good year, 1880 is likely to prove a still better one.

The five new ports opened to foreign trade by the Chefoo Convention of 1876 are all beginning to add their quota to the value of commercial transactions with this country. The port of Ichang, the farthest point inland which vessels of a foreign type can for the present reach, is the one of the new ports which shows the greatest development. It is magnificently situated as a starting point for the conveyance of imports inland into the Provinces of Hupeh and Szechwan, and also as a port of transshipment for goods brought from the interior, from the more ancient and clumsy modes of transport used by the natives to the more modern and rapid method of steam-ship conveyance. The transit trade of Ichang is consequently developing at a notable rate, especially in the direction of the marts of Szechwan.

The port of Hankow is likewise yearly increasing its transit trade, and many of the passes taken out from thence are for Szechwan markets. The Commissioner of Customs at Hankow notices the fact that inland transit under Treaty regulations is the growth but of a few years at that port.

Doubtless the increase of transit trade in this most important portion of the Chinese Empire is due to the increased respect shown by Chinese officials for the passes issued under Treaty regulations, and this increased respect may be fairly ascribed to the efforts made in this direction at Peking in those difficult negotiations which followed the disaster known as the "Yünnan outrage." The presence of a Consular Agent at Chung-Ching, the great centre of trade of the Province of Szechwan, has without doubt contributed to awaken the minds of the provincial authorities to their duties as regards the respect to be paid to Treaties with foreign nations.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

T. G. GROSVENOR.

10.
CHINA. No. 4 (1881).
(TRADE REPORTS.)

COMMERCIAL REPORTS

FROM

HER MAJESTY'S CONSULS

IN

C H I N A :

1880.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1881.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

1881.

LIST OF REPORTS.

								Page
Canton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Chin-kiang	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Ch'ung-k'ing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Shanghai	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	127
Wu-hu	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	136

Commercial Reports from Her Majesty's Consuls in China : 1880.

CANTON.

Report on the Trade of Canton for the Year 1880.

THE Returns furnished with this Report are as follows :—

- A. No. 1. Return of Foreign Trade for 1880.
- B. No. 2. Return of British Trade for 1880.
- C. No. 3. Shipping Return.
- D. No. 4. Foreign Imports.
- E. No. 5. Imports of Foreign Goods Summary.
- F. No. 6. Imports of Native Goods Summary.
- G. No. 7. Imports of Opium.
- H. No. 8. Exports to Foreign Countries.
- I. No. 9. Exports of Tea, Silk, and Sugar.
- J. No. 10. Comparative Table of Trade for 1878, 1879, and 1880.
- K. No. 11. Comparative Table of Trade from 1871 to 1880.
- L. No. 12. Comparative Table of Trade with each Country, 1880.
- M. No. 13. Summary of Exports to each Country, 1880.
- N. No. 14. Distribution of Shipping, 1880.
- O. No. 15. Annual Customs Revenue, 1871-80.

A. No. 1 (1).—In imports, native and foreign, there has been in 1880 a considerable increase, and, although there is a slight falling-off in exports, the total value of the year's trade has increased by 639,986*l*.

			Imports.	Exports.	Total.
			£	£	£
1879 ..	..	..	2,558,040	4,852,639	7,410,679
1880 ..	..	..	3,329,198	4,721,466	8,050,665
Increase .	..	..	771,158	..	639,986
Decrease .	..	..	..	131,173	..

A. No. 1 (2).—In treasure there has been, as compared with last year's Return, a total decrease in imports and exports of 54,963*l*. The export to foreign countries has increased by nearly one-half, but there has been a proportionate falling-off in treasure shipped to native ports. On the other hand, treasure imported from foreign ports has declined by 82,000*l*., and the increase from native ports has not exceeded 23,000*l*.

[1211]

B 2

				Imports.	Exports.	Total.
				£	£	£
1879 ..	..	..		585,926	639,779	1,225,706
1880 ..	..	..		526,958	643,784	1,170,743
Increase .				..	4,005	..
Decrease .				58,968	..	54,963

A. No. 1 (3).—The direct trade with foreign countries has declined in 1880 by 505,062*l*.

				Imports.	Exports.	Total.
				£	£	£
1879 ..	..	..		1,333,281	3,807,112	5,140,393
1880 ..	..	..		985,907	3,649,423	4,635,331
Decrease .				347,374	157,689	505,062

A. No. 1 (4).—On the other hand, there has been, especially in native imports, a large increase in the trade with other Treaty ports. This is exactly the reverse of what took place during last year, the increase being in the direct trade with foreign countries and the decline in the trade with other Treaty ports.

				Imports.	Exports.	Total.
				£	£	£
1879 ..	..	..		1,224,759	1,045,526	2,270,286
1880 ..	..	..		2,266,043	1,072,042	3,338,086
Increase .				1,041,284	26,516	1,067,800

A. No. 1 (5).

				Foreign Imports.	Native Imports.	Foreign Exports.	Native Exports.
				£	£	£	£
1879 .	..	..		1,028	1,223,731	52,456	993,070
1880 .	..	..		1,899	2,264,144	48,622	1,023,420
Increase				871	1,040,413	..	30,350
Decrease				..	..	3,834	..

B. No. 2 (1).—In the value of direct trade with Great Britain and British dependencies there has been this year a decrease which is almost equivalent to last year's increase under the same head. Of an import trade which is worth over 3,000,000*l*., the direct trade with British dependencies does not appear from the Returns to amount to more than 985,000*l*., or less than one-third of the whole. But, as has been frequently pointed out before, by far the largest portion of British imports consumed in this province never comes to Canton at all, but is distributed by native traders, who make their purchases at Hong Kong, and forward their goods from there by sea direct to the various ports on the coast from which the inland markets are supplied.

				Imports.	Exports.	Total.
				£	£	£
1879 ..	..	..		1,333,182	3,760,300	5,093,482
1880 ..	..	..		985,907	3,633,153	4,619,061
Decrease .				347,275	127,147	474,421

B. No. 2 (2).—The exports to the British Isles direct only amounted to 15,000*l.*, the rest being sent to Hong Kong for transhipment.

B. No. 2 (3).—The imports under the British flag with other Treaty ports showed an increase in 1880 of over 500,000*l.*, which more than compensated for the loss in 1879 under this head. The increase in both imports and exports would seem to show that the carrying trade coast-wise in British ships is increasing.

B. No. 2 (6).—On treasure imported indirectly from British dependencies there was a falling-off of 82,146*l.*, and in treasure exported an increase of 247,312*l.* on last year's Returns.

C. No. 3.—British shipping has largely increased, both in number of vessels entering and clearing and in tonnage, and foreign shipping shows an equally steady rise, being twice as considerable as it was in 1878.

BRITISH SHIPPING.

				Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
				Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1879 ..	..	..		729	724,613	730	727,123	1,459	1,451,736
1880 ..	..	..		884	953,468	885	959,160	1,769	1,917,624
Increase ..				155	233,855	155	232,027	310	459,888

FOREIGN SHIPPING.

				Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
				Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1879 ..	..	..		217	106,297	216	105,939	433	212,236
1880 ..	..	..		298	149,020	298	148,595	596	297,615
Increase ..				81	42,723	82	42,656	163	85,379

D. No. 4.—IMPORT TRADE.

Opium.—There is again this year a decline in Malwa of 30 piculs, and it would seem likely, in view of the progressive decrease in the importation of this kind of opium, that it will soon vanish from the Returns altogether. There is also a most marked falling-off in Patna, the year's consumption hardly exceeding half of that imported in 1879. The total

decrease in the year's Return is 551 piculs, valued at 189,879 taels. This must not be taken, however, as any indication of the amount of opium consumed within this province. By far the larger proportion is brought from Hong Kong in native junks, and of this the Chinese authorities assert that more than half is smuggled. A Return lately compiled from Chinese official sources gives 24,600 chests as the amount that in 1879 found its way from Hong Kong into the Canton Province, and of this it is said that as many as 14,000 chests were smuggled. I have no means of ascertaining the correctness of their statistics.

Cotton Goods fell off by 497,268 taels, the chief decline being in cotton yarn and thread, which shows a decrease of 25,325 piculs, valued at 529,160 taels.

T-Cloths showed a decline of 6,000 pieces valued at 10,000 taels. In white shirtings there was a slight rise, and English drills showed an advance over last year's Return of 1,307 pieces. Chintzes, velvets, and cambrics differed little from the importations of last year, while handkerchiefs only increased by 5,000 pieces.

Woollen Goods.—Imports fell to the extent of 16,516 taels, the decline being chiefly in English camlets, broad-cloths, lastings, and long ells.

In *Miscellaneous Piece Goods* there was an increase equal to about 5,000 taels, which is due in the main to a rise in woollen and cotton mixtures.

Metals showed a decline during the year valued at 116,451 taels, the falling-off in pig lead amounting to 25,940 piculs. The import of copper and iron is still insignificant.

In *Sundries* there was a slight rise in Straits produce. Rattans increased by 2,506 piculs and ginseng by 849 piculs, valued at 16,733 taels. But in raw cotton there was a very large falling-off of 47,310 piculs, valued at 508,811 taels. Matches declined by 9,376 gross. Fish, dry and salt, fell off by a few hundred piculs only, but the import still reached 13,532 piculs, valued at 118,452 taels, whilst unenumerated sundries increased to the extent of 141,208 taels.

The import trade in goods of foreign origin declined, in comparison with last year's Return, by 1,189,309 taels, equal to 336,970%. The total value of the foreign import trade is only about 833,000%, which is but one-third part of the trade in native imports. Making all due allowance for a considerable importation of foreign goods in native junks, of which no statistics are procurable, it is impossible not to be struck with the fact that the trade in British manufactures at Canton is, in comparison with Hankow and Shanghai, insignificant, and almost of no interest to the British firms established here. The trade appears to be entirely in native hands, and it will, in my belief, continue to be so until the distribution throughout the province of foreign fabrics under the transit pass is claimed and recognized as a Treaty right. It matters little, it is true, to the foreign manufacturer by whose agency his goods are distributed, but it can hardly be doubted that an increased demand for foreign goods would follow were the distributing trade in foreign hands, and placed, as it should be by Treaty, under the protection of the transit pass. At present, as far as Canton and the districts it should supply are concerned, the trade is entirely at the mercy of the local authorities.

E. No. 5 contains a summary of foreign goods imported; and

F. No. 6 gives a Table of the ports from which native goods are brought to Canton. The value of the trade reached the large sum of 8,506,350 taels, which is a rise on last year's Return of 3,546,355 taels. Nearly three-fourths of the native produce imported came from Shanghai, between which place and Canton there are now two lines of steamers running.

H. No. 8. EXPORTS.

Silk.—In silk, raw and thrown, there was a decrease of 5,868 piculs, valued at 1,365,258 taels. Refuse silk showed a decrease in weight of 514 piculs, but an increase in value of 84,342 taels.

Coarse and wild silk decreased by 2,021 piculs, valued at 186,270 taels; cocoons, by 1,398 piculs, valued at 60,062 taels; and unclassified, by 75 piculs, valued at 28,852 taels.

The only increase in silk was in piece-goods, which show a rise of 887 piculs, valued at 714,558 taels.

The following Report of the general character of the silk trade during the past season has been placed at my disposal by one of the most experienced silk inspectors at this port :—

“The export of Canton silk to London and France during the season 1880-81 was about one-half only of the average export of ordinary years, owing to the shortcoming of the second and third crops, caused by damage done to the worms and mulberry trees from the effects of heavy rains and floods during the period of production. This shortcoming, however, was more than compensated for by a very unusually large northern crop, and prices for ‘Cantons’ in the same market did not respond in sympathy with the deficiency in supplies from this side. Prices here fluctuated but little throughout the season, and 370 dollars per picul, at exchange 3s. 10d. = 12s. 3d. per lb., might be taken as the standard value of No. 4 Tsatlee from June 1880 to April 1881.

“In long reeled silk shipped to India there was a marked increase in the export.

“Shipments of re-reeled silk to America were short of those of the previous season by nearly 3,500 boxes, but were about on a par with those of the season preceding (1878-79).

“Waste silk was in good demand all the season through at gradually increasing rates, and the export proved to be nearly equal to that of the year before.”

The following is a comparative export for the past three seasons to London and the Continent, Bombay, and America :—

				1880-81.	1879-80.	1878-79.
To—						
London	Bales ..			1,316	5,850	4,005
Continent	„ ..			3,993	7,034	5,463
Total	„ ..			5,309	12,884	9,468
Bombay	Piculs ..			4,064	2,913	2,730
America	Boxes ..			8,330	12,000	8,619
Waste, to London ..	Bales ..			9,500	9,830	7,850

Tea, Black.—The year's export amounted to 107,592 piculs, valued at 1,612,638 taels, which fell short of last year's Return by 4,811 piculs. The rise in value of black teas exported this year is, however, 106,849 taels.

Green Tea advanced by 2,053 piculs, valued at 26,798 taels, which was more than the total weight and value of the green tea exported in 1878.

The following Report of the tea trade for the season 1880-81, which has been drawn up for me by the agent of one of the leading houses here, will, doubtless, be read with interest :—

“The season of 1880 and 1881 was a fairly satisfactory one for

scented teas, although there have been disappointments: the chief of these being after the turn of this year, when with moderate stock, small shipments, and low prices, it was anticipated that there would be a firm and active market; this, however, was reversed, and the tone was dull and drooping till the close of the season, when quotations were lower than they had been for eighteen months. The low prices of Northern kinds, and the greatly increased consumption of Indian growth, had a very prejudicial effect on the fancy teas from this port, and year by year 'Assams,' so useful for mixing, cut into our trade.

"The market for scented capers opened about the end of April 1880 at cheap tael costs, at a fair demand, and at or under these currencies continued till middle of August, when there was some excitement and an advance in prices consequent on reported short yield. This was only temporary, and prices declined rapidly, until teamen refused to sell at such heavy losses on original lay-down cost, and decided to carry over a considerable quantity of leaf to season 1881 and 1882.

"The above remarks also apply to scented orange pekoes.

"*Congous: New Makes.*—These opened in March at extravagant prices, but soon declined under advice of heavy losses at home. Some fair profits were made later on, but the out-turn was, on the whole, a good deal to the bad. The greater portion of this class of tea goes from Macao.

"Below are given export figures for last two seasons:—

	1880 and 1881.		1879 and 1880.	
	Lbs.		Lbs.	
Congou	10,451,948		10,539,098	
Scented caper	8,212,680		9,724,228	
Scented orange pekoe	2,425,896		2,923,922	

Cassia lignea declined largely, there being a loss this year of 58,037 piculs, valued at 334,266 taels. This is the more discouraging because there was in the preceding year a very considerable advance in this article of native produce, the export of which this year is hardly more than one-half of that shipped in 1878. The cassia comes from Kwangse, and, not being protected by a transit pass, is heavily taxed *en route* to the port of shipment.

Chinaware showed an increase of 2,358 piculs, valued at 16,791 taels, and fans increased by 2,382,078 pieces. Matting, in which there was a decline last year of 8,000 pieces, reached this year an increased export of 54,669 pieces.

In medicine there is a slight falling-off; in metals, hardly any variation; in rattans, a small advance; and in preserves, an increase of 7,123 piculs, valued at 60,643 taels.

White sugar rose by 12,060 piculs, but brown sugar fell short of last year's export by 3,100 piculs. In sugar candy there was an increase of 1,463 piculs, valued at 16,334 taels. Tobacco fell off by 1,015 piculs.

The total value of Chinese produce exported to foreign countries during 1880 amounted to 3,627,532*l.*, and that sent to Chinese ports to 1,023,420*l.*

The remaining Returns, I. No. 9 to O. No. 15, do not call for any special remarks. The Customs revenue on foreign trade has fallen off this year by 156,000 taels.

The Haikwan tael is taken at 5*s.* 8*d.*

(Signed)

A. R. HEWLETT, *Consul.*

Canton, July 27, 1881.

(A. No. 1.)—RETURN of Foreign Trade for 1880.

RETURN of the Trade of the Port of Canton in Foreign Vessels for the Year 1880.

No. 1.—TOTAL Trade of the Port in Foreign Vessels (excluding Treasure).

					£	s.	d.
Imports .	..	..	..	..	3,329,198	13	8
Exports	..	..	..	..	4,721,466	7	8
Total ..	..	..	..	..	8,050,665	1	4

Both include re-exports.

No. 2.—IMPORT and Export of Treasure.

	Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To and from foreign ports .	466,789	8	0	500,728	6	8	967,517	14	8
To and from native ports..	60,169	10	4	143,056	2	8	203,225	13	0
Total ..	526,958	18	4	643,784	9	4	1,170,743	7	8

Imports include 55,170*l.* worth of copper cash.

No. 3.—DIRECT Trade with Foreign Countries (excluding Treasure).*

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	985,907	18	4
Exports	..	..	..	..	3,649,423	8	8
Total ..	..	..	..	..	4,635,331	7	0

Both include re-exports.

* This Return includes the trade with Hong Kong.

No. 4.—TRADE with other Treaty Ports (excluding Treasure).

					£	s.	d.
Imports .	..	..	..	..	2,266,043	18	0
Exports .	..	..	..	..	1,072,042	19	0
Total ..	..	..	..	..	3,338,086	17	0

Both include re-exports.

No. 5.—RETURN distinguishing the respective Amounts of Foreign and Native Trade in Foreign Vessels with other Treaty Ports, without distinction of Flag, forming the total of No. 4.

	Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Foreign ..	1,899	9	4	48,622	5	4	50,521	14	8*
Native ..	2,264,144	8	8	1,023,420	13	8	3,287,565	2	4†
Total ..	2,266,043	18	0	1,072,042	19	0	3,338,086	17	0†

* Exports all re-exports.

† Include re-exports.

(B. No. 2.)—RETURN of British Trade for 1880.

No. 1.—VALUE of Direct Trade with Great Britain and British Dependencies (excluding Treasure)* under any Flag.

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	985,907	18	4
Exports	..	..	..	..	3,633,153	11	8
Total	..	..	..	..	4,619,061	10	0

Include re-exports.

* This Return includes the trade with Hong Kong.

No. 2.—VALUE of Direct Trade with Great Britain and British Dependencies (excluding Treasure) under any Flag.

				Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
British Isles	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,002	10	0	15,002	10	0
Hong Kong	..	..	..	985,907	18	4	3,618,151	1	8	4,604,059	0	0*
India	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other British Dependencies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	..	985,907	18	4	3,633,153	11	8	4,619,061	10	0

* Include re-exports.

No. 3.—RETURN of Trade under British Flag with other Treaty Ports.

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	1,504,847	3	0
Exports	..	..	..	..	532,275	19	0
Total	..	..	..	..	2,037,123	2	0

Include re-exports.

No. 4.—RETURN of Value of Imports of British, Indian, or Colonial origin (excluding Treasure) from other Treaty Ports, carried under any Flag.

[No Return.]

No. 5.—RETURN of Exports destined for Great Britain, India, or the Colonies, carried to other Treaty Ports under any Flag.

[No Return.]

No. 6.—RETURN of Import and Export of Treasure from and to Great Britain and British Dependencies.

				Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Direct	..	..	..	466,789	8	0	500,728	6	8	967,517	14	8
Indirect	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	..	466,789	8	0	500,728	6	8	967,517	14	8

(C. No. 3.)—SHIPPING Return of the Port of Canton for the Year 1880.

BRITISH.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
884	958,464	No return	£ 2,337,526 1 4	885	959,160	No return	£ 4,137,099 0 8	1,769	1,917,624	No return	£ 6,474,625 2 0

FOREIGN.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
298	149,020	No return	£ 914,425 15 0	298	148,595	No return	£ 584,367 7 0	596	297,615	No return	£ 1,498,793 2 0

Total at 5s. 8d.

(D. No. 4.)—FOREIGN IMPORT TRADE.

ANNUAL RETURNS, 1880.

PART I.—IMPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1879.		1880.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Opium—			H. taels.		H. taels.
Malwa	Piculs ...	58 75	34,750	28 77	16,519
Patna	" ...	1,134 77	449,880	576 78	262,145
Benares ... ..	" ...	...	...	86 76	16,103
Other kinds ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	...
Opium, total	" ...	1,193 52	484,030	642 30	294,757
Cotton goods—					
Shirtings, grey, plain	Pieces ...	66,780	101,894	69,013	129,123
" white	" ...	69,690	242,163	92,135	245,429
" " figured, brocaded, spotted, &c.	" ...	1,235	2,347	509	987
" dyed, plain	" ...	1,542	5,233	884	3,076
" " figured, brocaded, spotted, &c.	" ...	1,914	6,815	3,762	12,911
T-cloths	" ...	48,492	81,520	42,694	71,627
Drills, English, Dutch, American	" ...	4,295	10,193	5,602	13,423
Sheetings ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	...
Jeans and twills ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes, furnitures, and cotton prints	" ...	9,243	14,128	10,063	14,088
Turkey red cloths and cambrics	" ...	5	7	8	11
Damasks, dyed	" ...	271	1,061	526	2,182
Velvets, velveteens, and fustians	" ...	2,414	12,840	2,824	14,968
Jaconets, cambrics, lawns, and muslins	" ...	6,084	6,980	5,405	4,796
Domestics, grey ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ...	25,233	10,674	30,016	13,502
Cotton goods, unclassified	Pieces ...	186	297	1,635	1,453
" yarn and thread	Piculs ...	38,177 67	865,601	12,852 50	336,411
Cotton goods, total	Value ...	...	1,361,284	...	864,016
Woolen goods—					
Alpaca	Pieces ...	...	...	...	...
Blankets	Pairs ...	1,027	2,839	614	1,882
Bombazettes	Pieces ...	20	79	...	...
Bunting	" ...	2	9	2	9
Camlets, English	" ...	2,874	33,157	2,613	29,145
" Dutch	" ...	110	1,945	130	2,300
" imitation, camleteens, Japanese cords ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	...
Cloth, broad, medium, and habit	" ...	9,690	158,159	9,794	151,354
Spanish stripes	" ...	460	5,021	183	2,013
Russian cloth ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	...
Flannels	" ...	253	2,393	241	2,338
Lastings	" ...	2,260	22,600	2,101	21,010
" crape ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	...
" imitation ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	...
Long cels	" ...	2,234	13,925	1,036	11,872
Lustres and Orleans, plain and English—					
China brocades, corded lustres, cotton cords, Russell cords, Martaban crape, union crape, fancy crape, China crape, demi-mohair, &c.	" ...	2,842	11,268	2,264	13,056
Woolen goods, unclassified ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	...
Woolen goods, total	Value ...	...	251,495	...	234,979
Miscellaneous piece-goods—					
Woolen and cotton mixtures	Pieces ...	3,365	13,462	4,275	17,100
" and silk mixtures ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	...
Linen goods	" ...	5	45	4	28
Canvas	Bolts ...	26	243	169	1,571
Miscellaneous piece-goods, total	Value ...	...	15,749	...	18,699
Metals—					
Copper, bar and rod	Piculs ...	216 09	4,452	37 50	499
" sheet and nails, and Muntz metal	" ...	1,306 92	20,043	1,606 63	23,317

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1879.		1880.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Metals (continued)—					
Copper, old	Piculs	...	...	...	...
ore, and unmanufactured	"	...	...	...	...
wire	"	...	...	...	...
manufactured, and ware un-	"	...	...	...	...
classified . . . . .	"	...	...	...	...
Iron, nail-rod	"	35 86	130	343 11	1,203
bar	"	10 50	37	...	...
hoop	"	9 79	36	...	...
pig and kentledge	"	...	...	...	...
ware and manufactured, unclassified	"	...	...	39 86	139
unmanufactured, unclassified	"	1 73	3	...	...
Lead, in pigs	"	40,431 70	161,683	14,491 95	69,829
tea and sheet	"	10 91	52	...	...
Quicksilver	"	918 26	37,101	634 35	25,877
Spelter and zinc	"	2,779 70	23,070	3 93	37
Steel	"	100 92	403	104 31	428
Tin, in slabs	"	1,309 81	19,599	1,440 40	28,718
plates	"	1,079 49	4,255	816 66	3,970
Metals, manufactured, unclassified, as hardware, brassware, brass buttons, steelware, tinware, cutlery	Value	...	39	...	436
Metals, total	"	...	270,903	...	154,453
Sundries—					
Sugar, brown	Piculs	...	...	...	...
white . . . . .	"	...	...	...	...
Betel-nuts	"	1,011 19	5,819	830 87	3,860
Birds' nests	"	89 68	33,549	121 93	35,093
Bicho de mar	"	45 35	681	237 24	2,887
Cloves and spices	"	132 05	4,179	327 28	5,544
Coal	Tons	551	417	270	2,035
Cotton, raw	Piculs	74,659 48	804,330	27,349 87	295,419
Fish, dry and salt	"	13,138 80	121,210	13,533 17	118,452
Flint stones . . . . .	"	...	...	...	...
Ginseng	"	381 47	55,045	1,230 22	71,778
Grain and pulse . . . . .	"	...	...	...	...
Indigo	"	0 22	28	...	...
Isinglass	"	10,779	4,298	1,403	590
Matches	Gross Piculs	2 20	2	...	...
Mangrove bark	Mille	...	...	...	...
Needles	Piculs	744 20	4,772	14 07	995
Oil	"	333 84	4,216	121 81	2,235
Paints	"	52 10	418	47 51	371
Pepper, black and white	"	76 65	323	2,582 61	7,888
Peatians	"	441 73	587	922 14	1,293
Rice	"	1,028 33	2,163	571 45	1,233
Seaweed and agar-agar	"	59 39	536	76 73	710
Sandal-wood	"	2 81	6	...	...
Sapan-wood	Value	...	552	...	61
Wood, other sorts, unclassified	Piculs	191 32	2,585	380 80	4,207
Shell-fish, awabi, shrimps, &c.	"	129 83	25,716	7 18	1,571
Silk, raw	Pieces	...	...	...	...
manufactured	Piculs	...	...	0 35	4
Ten, Japan	Value	...	216	...	...
Timber, of all kinds	Boxes	49	92	9	25
Window glass	Piculs	3 23	39	10 32	134
Wax, vegetable and tallow	Value	...	676,053	...	817,261
Sundries, unenumerated . . . . .	"	...	...	...	...
Sundries, total	"	...	1,747,091	...	1,373,546
Grand total	"	...	4,129,758	...	2,940,449

(E. No. 5.)—FOREIGN GOODS IMPORTED.

PART II. (Table No. 1.)—FOREIGN GOODS.

SUMMARY.

Imports—			Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
From Hong Kong .	..	..	2,940,449		
Total from foreign countries	..	..	..	2,940,449	
From Chinese ports	..	..	..	6,704	
Total foreign imports	..	..	..	..	2,947,153
Re-exports—					
To Sandwich Islands	..	..	241		
Hong Kong .	..	..	77,021		
Total to foreign countries	..	..	..	77,262	
To Newchwang	..	..	2,052		
Tien-tsin	..	..	30,945		
Chefoo	..	..	8,316		
Hankow	..	..	81,203		
Shanghai	..	..	45,794		
Ningpo	..	..	3,298		
Total to Chinese ports	..	..	..	171,608	
Total foreign re-exports	..	..	..	..	248,870
Net total foreign imports	..	..	..	..	2,698,283

(F. No. 6.)—NATIVE GOODS IMPORTED.

PART II. (Table No. 2.)—NATIVE GOODS.

SUMMARY.

Imports—			Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
From Newchwang..	..	..	191,365		
Tien-tsin	..	..	615,919		
Chefoo	..	..	92,401		
Ichang	..	..	1,788		
Hankow	..	..	654,391		
Kiukiang	..	..	20		
Wuhu	..	..	71,807		
Chinkiang	..	..	777,712		
Shanghai	..	..	5,494,754		
Ningpo	..	..	90,941		
Total from Chinese ports	..	..	..	7,991,098	
From Hong Kong..	..	..	..	539,226	
Total native imports..	..	..	..	..	8,530,324
Re-exports—					
To Shanghai	..	..	694		
Total to Chinese ports	..	..	..	694	
To Hong Kong, for foreign countries..	..	..	23,072		
Total to foreign countries	..	..	..	23,072	
Total native re-exports	..	..	..	..	23,766
Net total native imports	..	..	..	..	8,506,558

(G. No. 7).—OPIUM Imported and Re-exported during the Year 1880.

Imported from Hong Kong—					Pic. c.
Malwa	..	..	..	..	28 77
Patna	..	..	..	..	576 78
Benares	..	..	..	..	36 75
Sorts	..	..	..	..	—
Total	..	..	..	..	642 30
Re-export. Nil.					

(H. No. 8).—EXPORTS to Foreign Countries.

PART I.—EXPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1879.		1880.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Silk—					
Raw and thrown	Piculs	16,458 64	4,308,357	10,590 49	...
Refuse ... ..	..	7,660 32	277,301	7,146 14	...
Coarse and wild ... ..	..	3,873 96	327,322	1,852 45	...
Cocoons ... ..	..	2,001 04	94,478	603 96	...
Piece-goods ... ..	..	5,227 49	3,897,710	6,184 68	...
Manufactured goods, unclassified	..	640 80	236,820	565 08	...
Silkworms' eggs ... ..	..	...	...	...	...
Tea—					
Black ... ..	..	112,403 11	1,506,289	107,592 77	1,612,638
Green ... ..	..	3,733 44	63,433	5,786 47	89,231
Brick ... ..	..	...	...	...	...
Dust ... ..	..	...	...	124 13	593
Bags of all kinds	Pieces	42,540	1,376	25,675	635
Bamboo of all kinds, and ware	Value	...	66,992	...	59,927
Cassia lignea, whole and broken	Piculs	96,778 32	559,395	38,741 03	225,129
Camphor ... ..	..	...	...	...	...
China-ware, earthenware, and pottery	..	8,247 96	46,154	10,605 05	62,945
Coals ... ..	..	268 80	54	161 26	34
Clothing, Chinese boots and shoes	Value	...	295,193	...	292,144
Cotton—					
Raw	Piculs	1 52	17	0 50	5
Seed ... ..	..	...	...	...	...
Waste ... ..	..	491 62	443	848 52	764
Curios	Value	...	4,406	...	2,947
Dyes, colours, and paints	Piculs	2,381 60	16,121	676 07	3,196
Fans of all kinds	Pieces	3,886,880	29,405	6,268,958	37,983
Fish	Piculs	398 06	5,098	292 57	3,319
Fire-crackers ... ..	..	33,862 26	316,157	24,414 84	230,938
Flour ... ..	..	1,792 13	5,417	1,931 15	5,892
Fruits of all kinds ... ..	..	2,909 30	7,551	2,606 77	6,852
Fungus ... ..	..	0 75	18	10 66	263
Grains and pulse ... ..	..	121 72	177	62 50	92
Glassware, bangles, &c.	..	7,812 08	150,983	8,746 30	168,697
Grass cloth ... ..	..	469 00	61,695	417 01	58,146
Hair of all kinds ... ..	..	1,270 62	36,134	1,224 41	34,816
Hemp, rope, and twine	..	63 00	398	9 49	63
Hides of all kinds ... ..	..	...	...	...	...
Hoofs ... ..	..	...	...	...	...
Horns	Value	...	19,224	...	28,500
Indigo	Piculs	497 54	6,875	381 84	5,711
Lung-ngans ... ..	..	941 15	5,295	1,225 54	5,777
Mats and matting	Pieces	132,033	208,628	237,602	520,456
Medicines	Piculs	7,913 71	42,612	6,915 69	35,423
Metals—					
Manufactured, unclassified, as knives, cutlery, brassware, copperware, iron, tin, and pewterware	..	3,490 11	67,087	3,545 22	80,356
Unmanufactured, unclassified	..	0 63	2,563	1 61	6,607
Musk ... ..	..	1,579 21	76,962	1,480 13	74,306
Nankeens ... ..	..	3,163 52	19,128	2,115 55	15,724
Nut galls ... ..	..	170 05	3,703	55 64	1,521
Oil of all kinds ... ..	..	...	...	...	...
Paper of all kinds, and paperware, books, tin foil, brass foil	..	4,192 95	38,051	4,379 01	43,397
Preserves ... ..	..	1,967 77	131,315	22,090 50	192,188
Provisions and vegetables	..	11,816 06	22,578	12,778 18	35,779
Battans and rattan-ware	..	1,051 04	5,168	1,582 54	7,156
Rhubarb ... ..	..	91 70	890	3 83	31

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1879.		1880.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.		H. taels.
Safflower	Piculs	...	...	...	...
Skins of all kinds	Pieces	156	208	56	54
Straw braid	Piculs	...	...	0 29	5
Sugar, white	"	2,935 05	14,088	14,988 25	72,791
" brown	"	27,761 68	88,923	24,861 78	78,845
" candy	"	417 64	8,227	1,880 43	13,561
Tobacco	"	2,396 89	27,486	1,881 19	17,013
Vermicelli and macaroni	"	53 32	290	64 55	329
Wax	"	1 91	100	11 54	659
Wool ... ..	"	...	...	...	...
Sundries, unenumerated	Value	...	389,070	...	374,647
Total	"	...	13,543,310	...	12,908,066

(J. No. 10.)—COMPARATIVE Table of Trade, 1878, 1879, and 1880.

Gross and Net Values of the Trade of Canton, 1878 to 1880.

	1878.		1879.		1880.	
	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.
FOREIGN GOODS.						
Imported from foreign countries and Hong Kong	H. taels. 3,473,213	H. taels. ..	H. taels. 4,129,758	H. taels. ..	H. taels. 2,940,449	H. taels. ..
Imported from Chinese ports	59,993	..	3,684	..	6,704	..
Total foreign imports	..	3,533,206	..	4,133,442	..	2,947,153
Re-exported to foreign countries and Hong Kong	47,897	..	94,107	..	77,262	..
Re-exported to Chinese ports (chiefly to Tien-tsin, Hankow, and Shanghai)	181,442	..	187,905	..	171,608	..
Total foreign re-exports	229,339	..	282,012	..	248,870	..
Net total foreign imports	3,303,867	..	3,851,430	..	2,698,283	..
NATIVE PRODUCE.						
Imported chiefly from Hankow, Shanghai, and Hong Kong	..	6,830,534	..	5,029,689	..	8,530,324
Re-exported to foreign countries	38,285	..	66,599	..	23,072	..
Re-exported to Chinese ports	1,128	..	2,867	..	694	..
Total native re-exports	39,413	..	69,466	..	23,766	..
Net total native imports	6,791,121	..	4,960,223	..	8,506,558	..
Native produce of local origin exported to foreign countries	12,075,245	..	13,476,711	..	12,779,984	..
Native produce of local origin exported to Chinese ports	2,945,747	..	3,554,399	..	3,611,379	..
Total exports of local origin	..	15,020,992	..	17,031,110	..	16,391,363
Gross value of the trade of the port.	..	25,384,732	..	26,194,241	..	27,868,840
Net value of the trade of the port, i.e., foreign and native imports less re-exports, and native exports of local origin	25,115,980	..	25,842,763	..	27,596,204	..

(K. No. 11.)—COMPARATIVE Table of Trade, &c., for the Years 1871 to 1880.

				Total Imports and Exports.	Re-exports.
				H. taels.	H. taels.
1871	..	..	..	25,826,918	355,967
1872	..	..	..	28,226,658	382,586
1873	..	..	..	22,987,171	352,376
1874	..	..	..	20,569,187	316,779
1875	..	..	..	24,788,043	298,436
1876	..	..	..	25,739,690	325,189
1877	..	..	..	23,888,177	306,559
1878	..	..	..	25,115,980	268,752
1879	..	..	..	25,842,763	351,478
1880	..	..	..	27,868,840	272,636

(L. No. 12.)—ANNUAL Value of the Trade with each Country for the Year 1880.

				Imported from.	Exported to.	Total.
				H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Great Britain	..	..	..	..	52,950	52,950
Hong Kong	..	..	..	2,940,449	12,692,924	15,633,373
Continent of Europe	..	..	..	..	44,111	44,111
Sandwich Islands	..	..	..	..	13,071	13,071
Total ..	..	..	..	2,940,449	12,803,056	15,743,505

(M. No. 13.)—EXPORTS TO EACH COUNTRY, 1880.

NATIVE GOODS.—SUMMARY.

	Exports.		Re-exports.		Total Exports and Re-exports.	
	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
To Great Britain ...	52,950	...	...	...	52,950	...
Continent of Europe ...	44,111	...	...	...	44,111	...
Sandwich Islands ...	13,071	...	...	...	13,071	...
Hong Kong, for foreign countries ...	12,669,553	...	23,072	...	12,692,924	...
Total to foreign countries ...	...	12,779,984	...	23,072	...	12,803,056
To Hong Kong for Chinese ports ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Newchwang ...	126,161	...	...	...	126,161	...
Tien-tsin ...	1,299,460	...	...	...	1,299,460	...
Chefoo ...	206,966	...	...	...	206,966	...
Hankow ...	929,525	...	...	...	929,525	...
Shanghai ...	898,530	...	694	...	899,224	...
Ningpo ...	150,737	...	...	...	150,737	...
Total to Chinese ports ...	...	3,611,379	...	694	...	3,612,073
Grand total ...	...	16,391,363	...	23,766	...	16,415,129

(N. No. 14.)—DISTRIBUTION of Shipping, 1880.

Flag.					Vessels Entered and Cleared.	
					Number.	Tons.
American	..	..	..	..	18	12,336
British	..	..	..	..	1,769	1,917,624
Chinese	..	..	..	..	438	211,154
Danish	..	..	..	..	2	1,564
Dutch	..	..	..	..	6	3,126
French	..	..	..	..	12	3,996
German	..	..	..	..	120	65,439
Total	..	..	..	..	2,365	2,215,239

(O. No. 15.)—TOTAL Annual Revenue of Foreign Customs, Canton, 1871 to 1880.

						H. taels	m.	c.	c.
1871	..	..	..	..	..	1,013,491	9	8	3
1872	..	..	..	..	..	1,057,799	0	9	3
1873	..	..	..	..	..	942,387	5	9	0
1874	..	..	..	..	..	914,552	0	5	2
1875	..	..	..	..	..	991,007	8	2	3
1876	..	..	..	..	..	977,711	9	9	9
1877	..	..	..	..	..	1,004,706	9	8	8
1878	..	..	..	..	..	988,965	6	6	6
1879	..	..	..	..	..	1,093,144	0	4	6
1880	..	..	..	..	..	936,782	9	7	7

CHINKIANG.

Report on the Trade of Chinkiang for the Year 1880.

Consul Oxenham to Earl Granville.

My Lord,

Chinkiang, April 26, 1881.

THE gross total of the trade at Chinkiang for the year 1880, including the exports, is valued at 14,457,611 taels. The value of the net trade, exclusive of the small amount of re-exports, is 14,297,319 taels, equal at 5s. 9d. the tael to 4,110,479*l.*, an increase of 189,032*l.* over 1879. Notwithstanding this increase, the year under review has not generally been considered a good year. The increase has been chiefly in the trade between Chinkiang and other Treaty ports, whilst a very considerable decrease in the, for foreigners, most important branch of trade, foreign imports, has taken place. Thus the native export trade has increased from 773,450 taels in 1879 to 1,908,918 taels, or more than double in 1880; and native import trade from 3,000,259 to 3,485,136 taels. But the foreign import trade has decreased from 9,900,889 taels (2,846,505*l.*) to 8,903,265 taels (2,559,708*l.*), or less by 286,797*l.* The sequel will show that the increase in native trade is very largely due to the immense export of rice which has continued through the year. But as this has poured wealth into the pockets and added to the purchasing power of the country people, and as the depression in the import trade is due to temporary causes, there is no valid cause for complaint. The export trade, formerly small, has been especially flourishing, and the drain of silver required to pay for the foreign imports has thereby been lessened.

There is no doubt that the fear of Russian troubles towards the last four months of the year greatly injured trade and induced dealers not to purchase large stocks. Many Chinese deny this. But the excitement existing on the subject, and the constant passage of China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamers crammed with troops for the North, spread far and wide the knowledge of impending trouble, and caused silver at the end of the year to be so hoarded up that it became difficult to obtain ready money in any quantity anywhere.

With the influx of wealth into the pockets of the producers from the increased exports, there is no fear that the foreign import trade, now very firmly established, is likely to exhibit a continuous decrease. All the reasons for its continuance and development exist and are for the most part permanent, whilst its decrease is due chiefly to a temporary scare. Native trade in the nature of things would be less affected by a foreign imbroglio than foreign, and as this year the foreign trade is, instead of forming nine-tenths of the whole trade, only five-eighths, it may be hoped a fresh and most promising development has commenced. The drought during the last five months of 1880 has, by drying up the chief channels of communication, the creeks and canals, also retarded trade, and been especially unfavourable to the foreign imports. It is to be regretted in the interests of Chinkiang that no direct import trade with England or Hong Kong exists. Yet such is the case. All steamers loading rice here arrive in ballast; and the tea steamers for Hankow, instead of wasting time discharging at Shanghai, might discharge a full cargo of piece-goods here

and pass on up-river in ballast. The distance from the sea is not over 80 miles: the navigation is easy and the water deep, nor does any Woosung bar delay the passage of steamers over a week. But piece-goods are still landed at Shanghai, and the extra freight therefrom is imposed on every bale of shirtings.

Opium still retains its position as the principal import into Chinkiang. It does not, however, preponderate so much as formerly, and is not more than nearly three-sevenths of the whole trade, though still three-fifths of the foreign imports. There were imported during the year 10,291 piculs (1,372,133 lbs.), or a decrease of 806 piculs on last year. The total import is valued at 1,541,097*l*. Chinkiang ranks as the chief importer of opium among the Treaty ports of China; the figures are larger for Shanghai, but the greater part is there re-exported. The following Table gives the import since 1874 into Chinkiang:—

Name.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Malwa ..	9,368	9,815	9,908	9,782	8,639	8,144	7,540
Patna ..	1,080	1,366	433	506	737	875	501
Benares ..	494	537	308	479	936	1,387	1,681
Persian ..	22	38	..	32	645	721	569
	10,964	10,756	10,649	10,799	10,957	11,097	10,291

The chief decrease is in Malwa of 604 piculs, a decrease which has continued since 1876, and is very generally attributed to the opening of Wu-Hu, where Malwa is very largely consumed, and which till 1877 drew its supplies from Chinkiang. As, however, Wu-Hu consumes 200 chests a-month the decrease should be much greater, and it is probable the temporary reduction caused by the closing of so large a mart will soon be recovered, as dealers will be able to devote their attention to districts nearer home. The real cause probably is the high price of Malwa and the necessity, as opium smoking extends, of placing cheaper kinds on the market. The improvement in the preparation of Persian opium, and the possibility, which before had been difficult, of adulterating Malwa with it, is another reason for the continued decrease. Malwa is chiefly used in the districts north of Yang-tze, where on the opening of the Yang-tze that kind of opium was first introduced. The excellence of the drug and the hardness of the material has made adulteration of it almost impossible; but the excellence of the Persian import in 1878 made such possible; and the taste for adulterated Malwa having been created, the price of Malwa must be lowered, if it expects to retain its pre-eminence.

Patna, owing to its high price, has decreased 374 piculs, but there is a large increase in the cheaper Benares, which has been increasing since 1877. Both these kinds supply the districts south of the Yang-tze, where in early days, when they drew their supplies from Shanghai, no Malwa was known. The taste thus created has continued; but as the quality of these drugs is inferior, and their nature glutinous, they admit easier of adulteration; especially is this the case with the dearer Patna, and the decrease noticeable in this drug is due to this cause. It is best to mention here that, owing to the unusually heavy crops of native opium during the last two years, the price had fallen considerably, and immense importations were made into Hankow. Large surplus stocks remained on hand, and have been sent down to Chinkiang for disposal at any price. Opium improves with age, and loses the hay flavour which is so distasteful to the

epicure by being kept. The surplus stocks in Hankow have therefore had time to improve, and have become more available for adulteration purposes than formerly. A taste for the opium itself is also beginning to manifest itself, and is a new, and, as far as foreign opium is concerned, a most discouraging circumstance. Opium of the dearer kinds must in future lower its price, or expect to be continuously less used.

Persian, as was anticipated, has decreased considerably. This is due (1) to the inferior quality of last year's crop; (2) to the increasing use of native opium imported in native boats for adulteration purposes; (3) to the increase of duty. Formerly Persian opium was classed with native and taxed at the same rate, 8 taels per chest. On its sudden increase in 1878 its foreign origin was discovered, and official attention attracted, when it was taxed at the same rate as other foreign opium, viz., 15 taels per chest. The three above causes combined have resulted in a decrease of 152 piculs, which is likely to continue as native continues to be manufactured under an improved system, and to be taxed at a lower rate. In 1879 the colour of Persian exactly agreed with Malwa, and the mixture of the two was indistinguishable to the eye, and if the proportion of Persian were not too large, also to the taste of the ordinary smoker. Last year's supply was, however, so yellow, and the quality so inferior, it could not be used in any quantity. The decrease of Persian has, however, been less than was expected, owing to the maintenance of high prices for Malwa and the continuation of a considerable demand. Persian is never used alone, owing to the burning taste it leaves in the throat; but, as stated, it is useful from its cheapness for adulteration purposes. I would here call attention to the use the Chinese make of the opium revenue to support charitable institutions. They find it most useful for this purpose; and here an extra 1 t. 50 m. is levied on each chest and appropriated to four societies, for burying purposes, for supporting widows, and to take care of orphans, &c. A sudden cessation of the opium trade would disorganize half the charitable societies in China.

Cotton Piece-goods are, after opium, the chief import into Chinkiang. The consumption for the year is 1,125,863 pieces, valued at 461,397l., against 1,207,716 pieces in 1879 and 1,013,014 in 1878. The following Table shows the quantities imported of the principal goods for three years:—

Name.	1878.	1879.	1880.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Grey shirtings	644,850	813,408	769,777
White ditto	24,608	33,643	40,914
T-cloths	175,630	179,265	141,135
Turkey reds	15,523	24,310	27,376
English drills	63,725	39,620	25,035
American ditto	9,735	24,885	21,550
American sheetings .. ..	..	10,219	17,347

Comparing the columns, it will be seen there is a decrease for 1880 in almost every kind of piece-goods except white shirtings and Turkey reds. The decrease in grey shirtings has continued throughout the year, except during the June quarter, when there was an increase of 9,000 pieces. About that time a serious failure occurred, which caused the withdrawal to Shanghai of many of the dealers. Following close on this came first the fear of Russian troubles; second, a long drought, which dried up the canals leading into the interior, and prevented the passage of boats.

Dealers still assert that the sizing of English goods continues, and reduces their sale in the country districts. Persons engaged in rough hard work in the fields, and coolies, require first of all a strong, durable article which will stand the friction of labour and washing. This want is very adequately supplied by the strong, durable, though unsightly native cloth. The cost originally exceeds foreign cottons, but the increased price is made up by longer capabilities of wear. In towns, on the other hand, men engaged in indoor work, women, and the richer classes, prefer the more tasty foreign shirtings, and where price is no object do not scruple to buy American drills, and sheetings, and white shirtings, which, though expensive, are as nice looking as English, and more durable. It ought surely be possible for Manchester to place on the China market a class of cotton goods as durable as native cloth, and also cheaper and better looking. Until this is done the great majority of the hard-working, labouring class, an immense multitude, will continue to buy native cloth. It may safely be said cotton goods are now imported solely for the cities population, a large item certainly, but not equal to the agricultural. Our manufacturers should be wise betimes, for before many years elapse they will have to compete, not with the dear labour and hot-house industry of America, but with the cheap labour, organized industry, and raw material produced close at hand of China itself, a much more formidable competitor. It is not sufficient in a centre commanding so immense a field of export as Chinkiang that cotton goods should reach seven figures: this has been the case for the last ten years. Were the goods properly adapted to the wants of the country the increase would be not slow fluctuating, and often *nil*, but by leaps and bounds. That such is not the case, the three provinces of An-Hui, Keangsu, and Ho-han, and south of Shantung, equal Europe minus Russia, shows the existence of some serious shortcoming on the part of importing manufacturers. English drills have again decreased, 14,000 pieces as against 1879 and 38,000 pieces as against 1878. American drills have also decreased, but in smaller proportions; only 4,000 pieces less than 1879, but 12,000 more than 1878. They are very popular with the rich city population, and only their high price prevents a still larger increase. Sheetings have too increased 7,000 pieces. Turkey reds have increased, which rise is due to the demands for red cloth for uniforms to clothe the hastily raised levies called for by Russian troubles.

Woollens have decreased 7,779 pieces, 43,079 against 51,858 for 1879. They are valued at 91,793*l*. Lustres, long ells, Spanish stripes, and English camlets form the bulk of the import, but lustres alone reach five figures. This class of goods seems in little favour with Chinese, being too expensive for the poor, and not sufficiently attractive, when compared with the silks and satins which delight the wealthy members of the male as well of the female sex in China. Flannel is but slightly used as underclothing, most Chinese dispensing with the use of a kind of stuff which must be frequently washed, and preferring their own thick and unwieldy cotton-padded garments. Blankets too seem in but slight demand. The poor prefer their own thick quilts, and though red blankets are a common sight in the baggage of dealers and commercial travellers, this class of persons is not a very large one.

Metals were imported to the value of 60,312*l*., 6,000*l*. less than in 1879. The chief import is in nail-rod iron, 41,000 piculs, or 7,000 less than 1879; it is largely used in making nails used in building houses and boats. Iron wire and old iron have both decreased, the first very largely. Steel has also slightly decreased. There is a large increase (4,000 piculs) in lead, due partly to the war demand, and partly to the requirements in the famine districts, where the agricultural implements having been

destroyed and sold, lead is required to work up with iron in manufacturing such articles.

In Sugar there is an increase in the native, but a large decrease in the so-called foreign. The result is a total decrease of 40,000 piculs; 320,000 piculs against 360,000 piculs for 1879. The decrease is probably mainly due to the long drought which prevented the boats going inland, and so hindered the transit trade on which the foreign sugars mainly rely. As explained in the 1879 Report by my predecessor, all the sugar comes from the south of China. Owing, however, to the great facilities for distribution caused by the transit passes, a great proportion of it comes via Hong Kong, and thus acquires a foreign character. It has, however, to pay an extra half duty for the privilege.

There is a noticeable increase in window glass, now very extensively used by the poor as well as the rich. A centre-piece of a small pane of glass in each paper window is now a common sight in most villages, whilst rich people have whole panes. The import is 173,000 square feet, against 138,000 for 1879. Most of it is sent into the interior under transit pass. There is likewise an increase in dye-stuff of 9,600 bottles, used for dyeing the silk piece-goods made in Chinkiang. Another foreign article, kerosine oil, has increased by 47,000 gallons, from 130,000 to 177,000. It is now universally used in every shop, house, or cottage within a radius of 200 miles from the port. It is mostly brought in lorchas, only one line of steamers consenting to carry a cargo that cannot be insured. Another foreign luxury, mirrors, has increased from 35,000 to 37,000 pieces. Two new imports are deemed worthy of a separate column, clocks 887 pieces, and woollen stockings 12,220 pairs. These last are the only woollen goods superior to the Chinese equivalents. A linen wrap for the foot is the usual covering, and fur shoes are added in winter; but a woollen stocking in addition is now found warm and more convenient.

I subjoin a Table giving the value of foreign imports into the chief Treaty ports. Chinkiang in 1879 is fourth, in 1878 she was second:—

Port.			Foreign Imports in 1879.	Port.			Foreign Imports in 1878.
			Taels.				Taels.
Tien-tsin	..	..	13,279,624	Shanghai	..	..	13,100,000
Shanghai	..	..	11,494,902	Chinkiang	..	..	9,200,000
Hankow	..	..	10,714,216	Hankow	..	..	7,700,000
Chinkiang	..	..	9,900,889	Tien-tsin	..	..	7,700,000
Swatow	..	..	8,637,591	Swatow	..	..	7,600,000
Ningpo..	..	..	6,410,259	Ningpo	..	..	6,400,000
Chefoo..	..	..	5,352,783	Chefoo	..	..	4,100,000
Canton..	..	..	3,851,430	Amoy	..	..	3,800,000
Amoy ..	..	..	3,517,386	Newchwang	..	..	3,600,000
Foochow	..	..	3,452,450	Foochow	..	..	3,400,000
Newchwang	..	..	3,185,794	Canton	..	..	3,300,000

Needles and matches have both slightly decreased, but the import is large, 24,000 mille and 85,000 gross respectively.

Native Imports are imported only for the foreign shipping interest, being otherwise almost entirely in Chinese hands. It has increased 485,000 taels (139,437*l.*), or from 862,574*l.* to 993,976*l.* One of the chief imports is wood oil from Hankow, largely used in varnishing boats. The long-continued drought with ample opportunities for work, together with an unusually small import in 1879, are the usual reasons assigned for

its increase. It has increased 26,588 piculs, and the import is valued at 1,034,428 taels (297,348*l.*). It chiefly arrives in native boats, heavy claims on the steamers for damaged tubs, which rendered the profits *nil*, having driven the trade back to the native junks.

Hemp bags, owing to the large export of rice, have increased 420,000 pieces, and straw bags by 110,000 pieces. The import, 13,547 piculs, of charcoal, is large, but less by 2,000 piculs than that of 1879, though double that of 1878. There is a great demand for it here, but the large stocks in hand from 1879 and the mildness of the winter diminished the want for it. For some reason import of coal from Hu-nan has decreased. Hemp, owing to the demand for rice bags, has increased 1,700 piculs. There is a slight decrease in gypsum, but the import, nearly 16,000 piculs, is large. An immense rise is visible in the import of iron of 17,000 piculs, chiefly due to the demand in the North for agricultural implements, destroyed, lost, or sold, during the famine. Vegetable tallow has increased 12,000 piculs, from 42,943 to 54,803 piculs. Tobacco has also increased 25,000 piculs, from 13,328 to 38,294 piculs. This is said to be due to last year's small stock, to the excellence of the crop, and to the absence of students during the year passing through for examination. It is customary with these gentlemen, equally ardent for pecuniary as for literary honours, to smuggle, in addition to what they are allowed to take duty free for paying their passage money, large quantities of tobacco, &c., in their native boats. Many now travel by steamer, and thus lose this privilege. There is also a great increase in the valuable coffin wood, from 13,604 to 34,616 pieces; 1881 has an intercalary month, and it is thought auspicious to purchase wood for coffins during such years; preparations have accordingly been made in 1880 to anticipate the expected demand. Much of the increased imports is due to the small imports of 1879, but the increased purchasing power caused by the great rice export must also be credited with having contributed a large share.

The Export trade has increased from 222,336*l.* (777,450 taels) to 548,813*l.* (1,908,918 taels), or more than double. This is the most encouraging feature of the trade of 1880, and gives evidence of undeveloped capacities in the country supplied by Chinkiang hitherto unsuspected. The chief export is rice, which has reached the enormous figures of 1,388,742 piculs, valued at 391,850*l.*, against 267,502 piculs for 1879, or an increase of 1,111,000 piculs. The carriage of this has given employment to 25 ocean steamers of 21,190 tons, 18 of which were British, 7 German, and 1 Danish. The regular river steamers also conveyed away great quantities, as did also ocean steamers belonging to the Chinese Companies. The cause of this immense export was the dearness of rice in Canton owing to the heavy floods and to the excellence of the rice harvest about here. Thus a pressing demand and an equally heavy supply were brought into direct communication, resulting in saving a famine in one part of the Empire, and in pouring wealth into another part. The contrast is striking between the results of scarcity in provinces possessing sure and rapid means of communication with the outer world, and in those having none. In the one case we have a short period of distress speedily alleviated, in the other, all the horrors and fearful misery of the great famine of 1876-77. Can any stronger argument in favour of steamers and railways possibly be brought forward? Some idea of the dimensions of this rice trade may be formed, by saying that as much again left the port in native junks and in lorchas for Ningpo, so that the total export of rice from here falls not very far short of 3,000,000 piculs, or 399,000,000 lbs. The addition of 6 cents export duty on rice at Saigon by the French further gave an additional impulse to the export at the close of the year by handicapping a formidable competitor. The rice

chiefly comes from the districts north of the river, North An-Hui especially supplying great quantities; rice south of the Yang-tze is not so largely produced, partly on account of the more mountainous nature of the country, and partly from the T'ai-p'ings ravages being only partially repaired; but it is increasing every year.

An increase will be noticed in every article, and is especially marked in lily flowers, medicines, fans, coal, and walnuts. Most of these come down under transit pass, and will there be noticed. Silk has increased from 27 to 77 piculs, but though considerable quantities are produced in the neighbourhood, most of it is sent via inland creeks to Shanghai. The distance is much greater, but a better market exists at the larger port and, in fact, in Chinkiang there is no one could buy any in any quantities. It is remarkable no attempt has been made to bring down silk here under transit pass and then re-export to Shanghai; it would be worth a trial. Coal has increased from 11,575 to 23,452 piculs; this is probably a re-export for steamers' use. Silk piece-goods are manufactured here; the machinery made of wood and worked by treadles resembling our own. One street is devoted to this industry, and men and women both join in it. The export has increased from 570 to 616 piculs. In conclusion, I have great hopes the unrivalled position of this great centre of trade will, if the transit trade is properly fostered, cause the export trade before many years to equal, if not exceed, the import.

Transit trade is of the greatest importance to the business here, and has a total decrease of 82,261*l.*, or 897,010*l.* for 1880, against 979,271*l.* for 1879. The chief decrease is in the import transit trade, from 934,490*l.* in 1879 to 840,262*l.* in 1880, or less by 94,228*l.* The passes have too declined from 12,373*l.* taken out in 1879 to 10,637*l.* taken out in 1880. The inward transit trade accounts for three-eighths of the total foreign imports, and in grey shirtings the proportion is even larger, being six-sevenths (or 675,489 pieces) of the whole import. Cotton goods have fallen off 93,216 pieces, though the quantity sent away exceeds every year except 1879 since 1875. Sugar has fallen off 25,133 piculs, and woollens 5,930 pieces. Metals have, however, been sent in in larger quantities than before known, and have increased 3,791 piculs, and the same may be said of window glass, where there is an increase of 10,400 square feet. As to the distribution of this trade very little is sent to the provinces south of the Yang-tze, the Nanking Prefecture taking only 59,000 pieces of cottons; North Keangsu, the province Chinkiang belongs to, takes 382,500 pieces of cottons; South Shantung, containing the great mart of Tsi-hing, takes 237,000 pieces; Ho-han province, the most distant, 96,700 pieces; and Nan-hui, 216,000 pieces. In woollens Lui-an and Hsu-chow take over 4,700 pieces; Huai-an over 4,000 pieces; Tsuing over 3,300 pieces; and Yang-chow and K'ai-Heng over 2,400 pieces. Window glass, on account of fear of breakages, can only be sent in any quantities in boats to places close at hand. Yang-chow, only 12 miles distant, takes 57,400 square feet, and Huai-an, some distance further on, but also on the Grand Canal, takes 25,200 square feet. Sandal-wood and sapan-wood are also sent away in some quantities, chiefly to Yang-chow, Tsi-hing, and Hsu-chow. Metals go chiefly to Yang-chow and Huai-an. The distance goods are sent inland from Chinkiang appears remarkable, but when the difference between land and water carriage is taken into consideration, the one costing 2*l.* per ton per 100 miles and the other 3*s.* 6*d.*, it is wonderful still more distant districts in Shansi are not also included. The explanation is that *li-kin* and tax stations can only be placed profitably and conveniently along water routes, and that along that famous waterway, the Grand Canal, they are multiplied to a great extent. Here authorized and unauthorized taxes are freely levied, and vexatious and ruinous delays are

of constant occurrence. Chefoo, therefore, notwithstanding the expensive land carriage, obtains a share of native transit trade to Shansi, the expenses of land carriage being more than balanced by the heavy taxation on the water route. No complaints, however, are made here on the subject; certificated goods being allowed free passage. The clause in the Chefoo Convention allowing Chinese to take out passes has remained a dead letter. The absence of the words "foreign hong" on a pass, indicating the foreign partner, allows the barrier officials to refuse recognition; nor is it easy to see how Chinese can ever obtain sufficient protection against their own officials. A proclamation has, however, been issued by the Viceroy notifying the fact, but up to the present without result. As things are at present foreign merchants are able to obtain a share of foreign business, whilst Chinese merchants are enabled to dispose of foreign goods free from the interference of those curses of China, the *li-kin* barrier officials. The long drought and shallowness of the canals has no doubt operated unfavourably, as there is a decrease in every quarter except the June or rainy one, war rumours also added.

Without the outward transit trade the inward will languish, and as the balance of trade is still very largely against the outward system, there is ample room for its continuous development. This trade has increased by 11,968*l.*, or from 54,780*l.* in 1879 to 56,748*l.* in 1880; the number of passes has too increased from 247 to 488; of these, 306 are British. Some Spanish and Austrian may also be noticed; they are taken out in Shanghai, but surrendered here with the goods which are exported from Chinkiang. Lily flowers to the amount of 41,211 piculs; native soap or pumice stone 4,250 piculs, and melon and sesamum seeds 580 and 2,100 piculs respectively, are the chief articles: 652 passes were applied for at this Consulate, of which 306 were used. Six months is the time allowed to bring down the goods, at the expiry of which the pass has to be returned unused or to be cancelled; a great many therefore are now floating unused about the country. This is due to the six months' limit being insufficient to allow for length of transit or want of a good market. The unpopularity with the local officials of these passes renders them quick in raising obstacles, and a favourite device is to tamper with the weights and then exact a squeeze for permission to proceed. This is generally paid without demur if not too exorbitant, the distance being often too great for the officials to be reached. It is also complained that the duties paid on failure to export should be one duty less, as they are now almost equal to the *li-kin* barrier taxation; and that goods exported on arrival from here at Shanghai have often to pay the general duty because the export certificates have been lost; the remedy suggested is notice from the Shanghai Customs of the fact of export. The great increase in the trade seems to show, however, the above evils are not very pressing, with the exception of the six months' limit which might be extended.

The opening of Wu-Hu has scarcely at all interfered with our transit trade. The following Table may be of interest, giving the Wu-Hu transit trade for 1880:—

Goods.		Nanking.	Ning Kuo.	Chih Chow.	Au King.	Liu An.	Lu Chow.
Cottons—							
1878..	.. Pieces	..	165	24,875	741	4,370	2,570
1879..	.. „	..	1,172	27,081	467	1,904	2,184
1880..	.. „	..	1,029	25,235	30	1,809	416
Woollens—							
1878..	.. „	..	31	1,558	58	150	198
1879..	.. „	..	42	2,189	7	308	101
1880..	.. „	..	97	1,396	17	127	24
Sugars—							
1878..	.. Piculs	310	1,726	14,249	2,383	..	1,301
1879..	.. „	32	9,200	9,917	12,762	..	3,047
1880..	.. „	450	8,463	3,827	11,549	114	4,283

Passes at Wu-Hu—

1878	..	..	..	..	..	..	957
1879	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,481
1880	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,179

Ning Kwo-fu, some 50 miles from Wu-Hu, is the only place we have lost, and a little sugar at Au-ling and Lu-chow; but in cotton goods there is a steady decrease, showing that long established trade relations are not easily broken off. Should Wu-Hu develop sufficiently to allow longer credit to piece-good dealers, we may lose Liu-an and Lu-chow, in which case Chinkiang would be able to devote more time to improving its trade relations with districts nearer home.

It is difficult to exaggerate, in a country destitute of railways, and with its trade hampered by the detestable system of transit taxation, the immense benefit these inward and outward passes confer on the Chinese people. The provincial officials side of the question is the only one generally heard with their whining complaints of decrease of revenue. But the dumb millions of peasants and farmers, living in hovels and in poverty from year to year, and just producing sufficient to satisfy their own wants and those of their immediate neighbourhood, are seldom heard. They could say, and invariably do when asked, that what they require is some relief from the crushing *li-kin* taxation, and from the exactions and ruinous delays at the *li-kin* barriers. These removed, they could and would produce ten times more lily flowers, tobacco, beans, medicines, paper, silk, &c., than they do now, and might find fresh markets and purchasers. Purchasers, &c., are provided by these outward passes, and foreigners in partnership with Chinese by their aid can buy and bring down country produce, free from delay or extortion at the barriers. The provisional rules under which the passes are taken out have the advantage of satisfying treble requirements. They add to the revenue of the Central Government; they benefit the inland districts far distant from the Treaty ports, and by the penal duties for non-exportation they render an evasion of a troublesome restriction at once possible for the trader and profitable for the Chinese Government. The great trouble, however, is that these rules, restrictive as they are of necessity of Treaty rights, are only provisional, and liable to withdrawal or alteration at the whim of the provincial officials. Their interests are directly opposed to the issue of passes in any numbers, as the duties being accounted for to the Central Government, the provincial quota of *li-kin* annually required is thereby diminished. It is true China, as distinct from its provinces, benefits, but it would in the present condition of the Empire be advisable and expedient to regard with greater tenderness the provincial requirements and

traditions. This end would be gained by allowing the duties collected by the Customs to belong to the Provincial Exchequer, or a certain proportion of them. By this means the high provincial authorities would be on our side, instead of as now being deeply though secretly hostile. The barrier officials would, it is true, remain equally opposed to us; but they could not, when deprived of their secret support of their own high officials, be any more actively dangerous. Transit dues in a great Empire destitute of railways seem the only other resource left for a country where the land bears the whole weight of taxation, and are likely therefore to endure; but a free acknowledgment of the claims of the Provincial Treasuries would avert much opposition and dislike. Chinkiang in 1879 and 1880 held the following place as to transit dues:—

Name of Port.			Transit Dues in 1879.	Name of Port.			Transit Dues in 1880.
			Taels.				Taels.
Hankow	..	..	142,752	Hankow	..	..	123,979
Chinkiang	..	..	80,202	Chinkiang	..	..	77,001
Foochow	..	..	31,310	Ichang	..	..	31,275
Shanghai	..	..	29,500	Shanghai	..	..	30,580
Kewcheang	..	..	18,823	Kewcheang	..	..	19,378
Ningpo	..	..	17,355	Ningpo	..	..	16,490
Ichang	..	..	8,188	Foochow	..	..	12,579
Amoy	..	..	7,229	Amoy	..	..	9,768
Wu-Hu	..	..	6,281	Wu-Hu	..	..	5,133

SHIPPING.

1,520 vessels of 888,178 tons entered the port during the year, of which 1,240 of 743,740 tons were steamers. British steamers were—river steamers 522, ocean steamers 49. The remaining steamers were Chinese river steamers 271, and other steamers 8. Dutch, Danish, and French had each 2 steamers, the Germans 10, and the Russians 5. The British tonnage for steamers was 485,066 tons; the Chinese 307,042 tons. 651 sailing-vessels of 73,694 tons entered; of these 142 of 20,237 tons were American; 81 of 16,419 tons British; 48 Danish; 39 German; and 4 Spanish. British shipping has a total increase of 160 vessels of 94,807 tons. Those under other flags, except the Spanish, where there is a large decrease, have also increased. The amount of tonnage is very large compared with the amount of goods shipped and discharged here. But Chinkiang as the "river guard" requires every vessel passing up river to report here. The remarkable feature in this year are the rice steamers, of which 25 of 21,190 tons have entered. No previous year can boast so many, and the trade seems likely to continue. Freight for rice to Canton have been 30 cents per picul, and 10 cents by lorchas to Ningpo. Freight to Hankow by river steamer have been 2 taels to 2 t. 50 m. by large steamers, and the same in dollars by small. To Shanghai 1 tael to 1 t. 50 m., and the same in dollars for large and small steamers respectively. A few lorchas still run on the river, chiefly under the American flag, obtaining as freight 70 cents to Shanghai and 1 t. 40 m. to Hankow.

The trade here is divided between four rival lines: two of large river steamers between 1,800 and 1,200 tons, and two of small steamers between 300 and 500 tons. The two steamers of one line belonging to Jardine, Matheson and Co. are remarkable as having been designed, built, and engined at Shanghai. At present the two lines of large river

steamers are alone permitted to moor off the south bank of the river on which this city stands, and therefore practically monopolize the trade. One of them is Chinese. The smaller steamers have to anchor on the north bank on the opposite bank of a river, a mile broad, and with a swift and dangerous current in summer; the business therefore they obtain is very limited. I postpone further remarks on this important subject to the general remarks. The trade would easily support all four lines, and indeed requires them to attain its full development. Cargo to the value of 1,836,917*l.* was conveyed in British, and of 2,548,543*l.* in foreign vessels, including Chinese.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year passed off quietly, notwithstanding the many disquieting rumours about Russia. At one time recruiting went on vigorously, and large bodies of men were daily drilled in Nanking in the foreign fashion. The alphabetical gun-boats visited Nanking in April, and made some ineffectual attempts at torpedo practice; but in August two torpedoes were at last exploded after much labour at Silver Island. Affairs at that time looked very threatening; steamer after steamer belonging to the China Merchants' Company passed down from Hankow *en route* for the North, each vessel carrying from 700 to 800 men at 8 taels for each soldier, including rations. Some 20 steamers carrying 15,000 men passed up to the Shan Haikuan and the North; the men chiefly came from Hu-han and North Au-Hui. In October target practice commenced at the forts on Silver Island, and also at the batteries of Keang-yui, 60 miles further down. Firing from the guns at a mark went on three times a week. On the arrival of peace news in December it was, however, discontinued. Considerable excitement existed during October, and a salute from Her Majesty's ship "Encounter" brought a rush of Chinese to the bund shouting, "Russians are come;" for a long time it was also difficult to disabuse the officials Russian sailors were not concealed on board.

Closely connected with these rumours of war, and, in fact, on account of them, was the announcement of the intention of the Central Government to construct one telegraph line from Tien-tsin to Chinkiang, and thence on to Shanghai, and another line from Nanking to Chinkiang. The first line, under the superintendence of the Viceroy of Chilibi, Li Hung-chang, only awaits the construction of the material to be built at once; but the other line has to overcome the objections of his Excellency Liu, the Governor-General at Nanking, who has been and is strongly opposed to both telegraphs and railways. His Excellency is well known for his liberality and friendliness to foreigners, but in this case the traditions of his office, where the late famous warrior statesman Tseng Kwo-fan so long held sway, and who advocated resistance to railways, must have proved too strong for him. There is little doubt the next few months will see both the above lines completed. In December a Taotai dispatched by Li passed by here on his way to Hankow to purchase poles, and to give Governor Liu further explanations about the line. An office specially devoted to telegraphy, together with the necessary apparatus, at present exists in the Nanking arsenal; there is also a telephone and machinery for making the electric light. With telegraphy and rapidity of intelligence will also come the desire for greater rapidity in travelling, and the air is full of rumours of coming railways. Both Tso the great General, and Li the powerful Viceroy, are known to be favourable, and their influence will probably overshadow that of the reluctant Governor-General at Nanking.

The crusade against opium carried on by Shen Pas-chen, the late Viceroy at Nanking, has not been continued by his successor, Liu Kun-i. The latter understands the closing of public dens only drives the smoker to take refuge in his own house, where his own family soon learn to follow the bad example. It is not easy to see how the Chinese authorities, as long as the import of opium is legal, can ever stamp out either opium smoking or poppy growing in China. They cannot justly refuse to their own people opportunities of profit out of an article whose import is allowed to the foreigner, nor can they be blamed for not being earnest in their prohibition, if the article they prohibit and make illegal in one part of the Empire is legal and admissible in another. Every year, however, makes prohibition more impossible, and hasty action in that direction would create more evils than it would cure. Education has done little to remedy affairs, for it is precisely the literate who most appreciate the dreamy pleasures of the pipe. It is rather in the direction of increased competition arising from a more vigorous, civil life and freer institutions that I look for improvement, but this will only operate on the rising generation. In the meantime, much needed revenues may be increasingly raised from opium, and the proceeds applied to its only antidote, the intelligence always coincident and contemporaneous with railways and telegraphs.

The usual disputes concerning the bund frontage due to the conflict of authorities have abounded during the year. In December 1879 the hulk Cadiz was allotted a berth by the Customs off the bund. For this privilege they offered to pay as rent to the Municipal Council the sum of 1,000 taels, which that body, as they could get 1,500 taels elsewhere, declined to accept. The matter went to Peking, but the removal of the Cadiz was forbidden by Her Majesty's Minister, and the hulk therefore remained nearly a year rent free opposite the bund. The competing Company who had offered 1,500 taels obtained, after much trouble and covert opposition on the part of the Chinese authorities, another berth off the bund. The date when the rent reduced to 1,000 taels from each Company was to commence raised a fresh issue, which was only settled by the Municipal Council giving way, and, greatly to their own loss, arranging a compromise by which each Company was to pay from the 1st October, 1880. Now this all occurs on the British Concession rented in perpetuity from the Emperor of China by Her Majesty's Government, and placed under the control of the British Consul. But his authority, which should be competent to end all such disputes, is absolutely *nil*. The Taotai, in defiance of the plain English of the Land Regulations, claims the fore-shore, and the foreign Customs the right of berthing hulks; the two allies then play into each others hands for the benefit of the Chinese Steamer Company, which is never annoyed, whilst the British merchants, for whose benefit the Concession was originally obtained, is hampered, annoyed, and obstructed at every turn.

Another instance will show this. During the strong summer current the Taotai claims, reasonably enough, that a passage should be left for boats between the hulk and the shore at certain hours. To effect this the connecting bridges are only closed from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. In October, however, the current ceases, boats prefer passing outside the hulk, and the necessity for opening ceases. The Taotai and the Commissioner, however, coalesce, the bridges have to remain open, till at last, when it is possible to walk on board the hulk, it is at last arranged November to April shall be a closed period. In the meantime, the hulks for the Chinese steamers, where the current is unusually strong and dangerous, and where whirlpools abound, are allowed to keep their connecting bridges closed from one year's end to the other.

It is necessary to point out in the strongest terms the obstructions

caused to British trade by the foreign Customs. Much more Chinese, many of them, than the Chinese themselves, and arrogating for themselves complete exemption from all legal control, European or Chinese, they are assuming a position, which unless checked in time will end in driving foreigners out of China altogether. It is an old device, more than once before successful in Chinese history, to pit foreigners against foreigners, and thus defeat the invader with his own weapons. The same crafty game is again being played now, never attended to when they advocate liberal views, but eagerly listened to when they suggest obstruction: the Customs officials are the unconscious instruments of this crafty policy. Formerly, indeed, it was otherwise, and loyalty to their native country was as conspicuous among the members as was their good-will to their adopted country. But of late years this feeling has changed, and a mistempered zeal for the most nonsensical Chinese prejudices seems to have seized many. The growing unpopularity of the body among the foreign merchants, and its continued interference by members more zealous than wise in matters which the most lively imagination cannot connect with collection of duties, are both notorious facts. A huge sinister interest, hostile to foreign trade, is being rapidly developed, which heaps on the heads of the Chinese officials an immense amount of odium, for which often they are not in the least responsible.

The Superintendent of Customs (Taotai) excuses some arbitrary act by declaring his Commissioner, over whom he has imperfect control, is forcing it on him; at another time the Commissioner pleads the orders of his Superintendent. The facilities for obstruction so given are too obvious to need further remark, and unless strong measures to abate the evil are taken serious consequences may ensue. The morality of foreigners being in receipt of rates of pay for exceeding the salaries of the highest Chinese officials is to say the least doubtful, and is being bitterly resented by the Chinese educated classes themselves, who find themselves, in a country of the most desperate competition, shut out from the most lucrative service in the Empire.

Intercourse with the Chinese authorities has been cordial and friendly, and except in matters where the foreign Customs are concerned I have found them courteous and obliging. I have the pleasure of being able to report an unprecedented act of courtesy on the part of Liu-Kun-i, the Viceroy at Nanking, and the second highest provincial official in the Empire. He did this Consulate the honour too of paying a first visit, and then went on board Her Majesty's ship "Encounter" in the gig of the Captain, the Honourable A. D. L. Denison. The Taotai here, who is most kind and pleasant, allows his writers and clerks too much power, and they abuse their opportunities. I have too to complain of great dilatoriness in the recovery of moneys due to British subjects. Cases sometimes remain unsettled over a year.

The country within 30 miles of the great water-ways has recovered from the rebellion and is thoroughly cultivated, but the houses still remain in a very ruinous condition. The city fills up slowly, and large tracts covered with ruins still remain.

The weather has been unusually dry, not more than 3 inches of rain falling in the last four months of the year. The summer was unusually cool, north-east winds prevailing during July instead of the usual southern breezes. The river in December fell 1 ft. 10 in. below low-water mark. I append a Meteorological Table, for which I am indebted to the Tide Surveyor, Mr. Gunther.

In conclusion, I must express my thanks to the Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Kleinwachter, for granting me access to his Returns.

I inclose the following Returns:—

[1211]

D

Table No. I.—Giving list of the principal imports and exports at Chinkiang for the years 1878, 1879, 1880.

Table No. II.—Giving summaries of the foreign and native import and native export trade for 1880.

Table No. III.—Outward and inward transit trade for 1880.

Table No. IV.—Shipping Table for Chinkiang for 1880.

Table No. V.—Details of the inward transit trade for 1880.

Table No. VI.—Meteorological.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. L. OXENHAM.

(No. 1.)—PRINCIPAL Exports and Imports at the Port of Chinkiang for the Years 1878 to 1880.

Description of Goods.		1878.	1879.	1880.
<i>Imports.</i>				
Opium	Piculs ..	10,956 00	11,097 03	10,292 23
Shirtings, grey ..	Pieces ..	644,350	813,408	769,777
" white	" ..	24,608	33,643	40,914
T-cloths.. ..	" ..	175,630	179,265	141,135
Cottons, assorted ..	" ..	167,926	181,400	174,237
Woollen piece-goods ..	" ..	43,981	51,858	43,079½
Iron nail-rod	Piculs ..	37,163 39	48,132 34	40,999 14
" bar, round, flat ..	" ..	2,055 35	3,674 82	2,126 97
Lead, in pigs	" ..	4,379 89	7,384 35	11,081 56
Pepper, black	" ..	5,927 91	5,149 68	3,454 78
Sandal wood	" ..	23,719 28	25,537 38	18,525 39
Sapan wood	" ..	27,253 71	16,919 80	9,885 28
Sugar, brown, foreign ..	" ..	147,953 71	180,961 61	127,328 46
" white	" ..	83,804 29	90,004 96	78,012 01
" brown, native ..	" ..	40,574 11	41,975 09	49,264 30
" white	" ..	53,771 87	48,651 30	69,336 76
" candy	" ..	3,407 54	3,659 50	3,983 00
Fungus	" ..	1,611 00	1,589 94	1,496 01
Glass, window	Sq. feet ..	122,900	138,400	173,200
Hemp	Piculs ..	6,152 00	4,172 32	6,491 52
Medicines	" ..	3,657 20	4,512 84	5,750 24
Oil woods	" ..	184,441 54	117,082 54	143,670 49
Paper, 1st quality.. ..	" ..	4,447 08	4,680 68	3,384 22
" 2nd	" ..	9,288 75	7,154 33	5,777 29
Tallow, vegetable	" ..	44,987 36	42,943 07	54,803 26
Tobacco, leaf	" ..	31,909 22	13,328 60	38,294 11
" prepared	" ..	1,405 49	1,914 74	2,785 79
Silk, raw	" ..	24 36	14 49	2 18
Bags, hemp	Pieces ..	212,350	112,560	532,414
" straw	" ..	379,120	64,483	274,800
Charcoal	Piculs ..	7,887 27	15,262 42	13,547 61
Cloth, native	" ..	1,144 67	1,499 87	1,351 81
Coal,	" ..	57,587 41	3,715 37	32,811 40
Fans, paper .. ..	" ..	..	79,481 00	67,920 00
Grass cloth	" ..	2,383 54	4,156 90	3,917 89
Gypsum	" ..	6,154 00	16,744 00	15,974 00
Iron, old	" ..	3,328 00	5,573 48	3,299 36
" ware	" ..	11,315 00	16,617 87	815 33
" ore .. ..	" ..	..	1,128 06	18,037 60
Mirrors, dressing cases ..	Pieces ..	45,165	35,134	37,785
Native opium	Piculs ..	76 36	17 55	165 03
Sheepskin coats	Pieces ..	33,381	37,607	12,576
Soap, native	Piculs ..	6,208 58	3,831 88	1,643

Description of Goods.			1878.	1879.	1880.
Stockings, woollen	..	Pairs	..	..	12,220
Umbrellas, paper	..	Pieces	95,583	110,710	75,327
Wood, coffin	..	..	6,371	13,604	34,616
„ plank	..	Sq. feet	10,021	130,817	129,897
„ poles	..	Pieces	125,550	154,581	95,418
„ spars	..	..	272	625	1,913
„ logs	..	..	..	866	1,334
Iron wire, foreign	..	Piculs	2,394 50	6,249 52	3,117 41
„ old	..	..	11,073 10	27,690 23	27,248 83
Steel	..	..	3,258 08	3,143 80	2,839 00
Tin, in plates	..	..	919 11	1,016 35	620 17
Bags, hemp and straw	..	Pieces	890,515	184,250	2,544,040
Clocks	..	..	..	..	887
Dye stuff	..	Bottles	15,600	25,527	34,190
Fans, palm, trimmed	..	Pieces	396,907	464,938	513,075
„ „ untrimmed	..	..	3,477,000	3,517,180	2,628,850
Mats	..	..	..	100,200	109,120
Matches	..	Gross	48,230	93,552	85,602
Needles	..	Mille	12,500	27,100	24,020
Kerosine oil	..	Gallons	54,610	130,320	177,700
<i>Exports.</i>					
Beans and peas	..	Piculs	47,955 67	43,784 89	75,913 98
Cotton, raw	..	..	..	15 60	..
Fans	..	Pieces	..	..	68,482
Coal	..	Piculs	..	11,575 20	23,452 00
Lily flowers	..	..	20,309 75	27,565 06	40,793 55
Medicines	..	..	2,146 19	4,607 85	5,481 31
Paper, 1st quality	..	..	14 54	71 36	73 87
Straw braid	..	..	..	55 73	192 99
Silk piece goods	..	..	732 99	570 44	616 48
Rice, paddy, and wheat	..	..	1,147,272 88	267,502 59	1,388,742 51
Silk, raw	..	..	13 60	27 20	77 60
Walnuts	..	..	962 06	..	1,244 40
Seeds, melon	..	..	..	793 90	1,264
„ sesamum	..	..	..	3,301 64	12,399

(Signed) E. L. OXENHAM, Consul.

Chinkiang, 31st December, 1880.

(No. 2).—SUMMARY: Export Trade.

			Exports.	Re-exports.	Total.
To—			Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Tien-tsin	..	..	79,981	..	79,981
Chefoo	..	..	1,919	..	1,919
Hankow	..	..	82,706	1,984	84,690
Kinkiang	..	..	1,885	202	2,087
Wu-Hu	..	..	2,305	4,206	6,511
Shanghai	..	..	1,154,855	22,610	1,177,465
Ningpo	..	..	571	..	571
Canton	..	..	584,696	..	584,696
Total	..	..	1,908,918	29,002	1,937,920

[1211]

D 2

SUMMARY : Foreign Imports.

					Taels.	Taels.
From—						
Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	7,967	
Chinese ports	..	..	..	..	9,026,588	
Total foreign imports					..	9,034,555
Re-exports to—						
Hankow	..	..	..	..	13,468	
Kinkiang	..	..	..	..	12,862	
Wu-Hu	..	..	..	..	20,207	
Shanghai	..	..	..	..	84,753	
Total foreign re-exports..					..	131,290
Net total foreign imports					..	8,903,265

SUMMARY : Native Imports.

				Imports.	Re-exports.	Total.
From—				Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Ichang	..	..	..	2,719	..	2,719
Hankow	..	..	..	1,970,655	1,984	1,968,671
Kewkiang	..	..	..	556,717	202	556,515
Wu-Hu	..	..	..	12,179	4,206	7,973
Shanghai	..	..	..	971,868	22,610	949,258
Total				3,514,138	29,002	3,485,136

(Signed) E. L. OXENHAM, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Chinkiang, December 31, 1880.

(No. 3).—TRANSIT Trade, Inwards and Outwards, for the Port of Chinkiang for the Year 1880.

INWARDS.

Name of Goods.			American.	British.	Chinese.	Total.
Grey shirtings	...	Pieces	195,498	479,991	...	675,489
White	...	...	10,957	11,477	...	22,434
T-cloths	...	...	40,003	78,118	...	118,113
Drills, English	...	...	6,266	14,758	...	21,024
Cottons, American	...	...	7,874	11,878	...	19,752
Handkerchiefs	...	Dozen	6,261	5,965	...	12,217
Woollen goods	...	Pieces	11,290	15,643	...	26,933
Iron, nail rod	...	Piculs	14,455 70	19,219 94	...	33,675 64
„ bar and flat	...	...	1,002 60	1,286 19	...	2,288 39
Lead	...	...	2,358 68	7,170 08	...	2,539 00
Pepper	...	...	299 00	2,639 00	...	3,438 00
Sandal wood	...	...	2,241 00	7,775 00	...	10,016 00
Sapan wood	...	...	1,799 00	8,980 00	...	10,779 00
Sugar, brown, foreign	...	...	25,550 00	112,933 00	241 00	138,724 00
„ white	...	...	1,689 00	3,232 00	52 00	4,974 00
„ brown, native	...	...	17,357 00	66,939 00	263 00	84,740 00
Fans, trimmed	...	Pieces	203,750	200,425	...	404,175
„ untrimmed	...	...	1,189,400	...	...	2,074,467
Seaweed	...	Piculs	2,626 00	5,702 00	34 00	8,363 00
Window glass	...	Sq. feet	65,100	33,000	...	98,100
Matches	...	Gross	21,791	13,318	...	35,109
Needles	...	Mille	7,790	1,575	...	9,365
Kerosine oil	...	Gallons	36,257	24,635	...	60,892
Number of passes—						
1880	...	...	3,635	6,997	67 + 1 Spanish	10,637
1879	...	...	3,749	8,556	67 + 1 Spanish	12,373
1878	...	...	2,947	8,624	208	11,779

OUTWARDS.

		American.	British.	German.	Austrian.	Spanish.	Total.
Beans	Piculs ...	...	1,000 00	...	...	1,000 00	2,000 00
Dates, red ...	" ...	250 00	...	...	...	...	250 00
Lily flowers ...	" ...	1,350 00	26,561 00	200 00	600 00	12,500 00	41,211 00
Maize, bamboo ...	Pieces ...	30,000	180,000	...	...	...	210,000
Medicines ...	Piculs ...	1,422 00	1,150 00	...	...	...	2,572 00
Oil bean ...	" ...	...	350 00	...	...	...	350 00
Sesamum ...	" ...	500 00	400 00	...	...	400 00	1,300 00
Persimmon ...	" ...	300 00	...	...	...	...	300 00
Samshu... ..	" ...	200 00	380 00	...	...	...	580 00
Seeds, melon ...	" ...	200 00	1,300 00	...	...	600 00	2,100 00
Senna	" ...	200 00	1,000 00	...	...	...	1,200 00
Soap	" ...	900 00	2,350 00	...	...	...	4,250 00
Silk refuse ...	" ...	...	26 00	...	...	...	26 00
Tallow, animal...	" ...	...	300 00	...	...	...	300 00
Tobacco leaf ...	" ...	...	875 00	...	...	...	875 00
Wax, prepared...	" ...	...	1,783 00	...	...	...	1,783 00
Number of passes—							
1880 ... ..	...	39	306	1	5	137	468
1879 ... ..	...	17	99	...	9	129	247
1878 ... ..	...	30	233	...	1	66	330

		Taels.	Taels.
Value of inward transit trade—			
1878 ... ..	...	2,691,886	
1879 ... ..	...	3,250,403	
1880 ... ..	...	2,922,652	
Decrease 1880	...	...	327,751
Value of outward transit trade—			
1878 ... ..	...	284,093	
1879 ... ..	...	155,767	
1880 ... ..	...	197,886	
Increase 1880	...	...	41,626
Total decrease in 1880	...	...	286,123
Total of transit trade—			
1878 ... ..	...	3,175,97	
1879 ... ..	...	3,406,160	
1880 ... ..	...	3,120,088	

(Signed) E. L. OXENHAM, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Chinkiang, December 31, 1880.

(Table No. 4.)—SHIPPING Table for the Port of Chinkiang for the Year 1880.

Flag.	* Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total Steamers and Sailing Vessels.				Direct and Indirect Trade.			Remarks.	
	Entered and Cleared.	Tonnage.	Entered and Cleared.	Tonnage.	Entered and Cleared.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels Employed.	Tonnage.	Outwards in Native Goods.	Inwards in Native and Foreign Goods.			Total Trade.
										Native Tons.	Foreign Tons.			Total.
British	1,142	970,132	162	32,838	1,304	1,002,970	46	39,536	1,002,966	972,221	4,147,870	5,120,091	No direct trade.
Danish	2	1,566	96	15,076	98	16,642	8	1,810	67,090	92,862	33,357*	126,099	* Includes 6,768 tns. direct trade.
German	20	18,826	78	11,078	98	29,904	9	5,162	165,465	115,308	14,303*	135,617	* Includes 1,304 tns. direct trade.
Dutch	2	2,074	...	...	2	2,074	1	1,087	35,569	...	...	...	No direct trade
Chinese	558	614,084	685	47,242	1,243	661,326	356	31,684	694,272	1,920,340	4,724,625	6,644,965	"
French	4	4,604	...	...	4	4,604	1	1,151	10,355	...	...	...	"
Russian	10	17,682	...	...	10	17,682	3	4,646	10,355	...	...	...	"
United States	...	...	284	40,474	284	40,474	13	1,887	103,463	410,407	112,887	523,294	"
Spanish	...	...	8	1,390	8	1,390	4	695	...	...	1,627	1,627	"
Total	1,738	1,629,968	1,313	148,098	3,051	1,777,066	441	87,508	2,069,210	3,514,138	9,034,555	12,548,693	

(Signed) E. L. ONENHAM, Consul.

British Consulate, Chinkiang, December 31, 1880.

DETAILS of the Inward Transit Trade at Chinkiang for the Year 1880
in chief Imports.

	Grey Shirtings.	Total Cottons.	Sugar.	Woollens.	Metals.	Window Glass.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Piculs.	Sq. feet.
Kiang-hing-fu ...	51,700	68,276	4,186	1,064	4,976	...
Ning-kuo-fu ...	3	...	675	...	802	...
T'ai-ping-fu ...	...	...	120	...	38	...
Liu-ai-chow ...	38,018	60,554	21,328	4,732	2,627	...
Lu-chow-fu ...	4,090	7,557	10,957	834	811	...
Chen-chow ...	9,745	15,503	73,590	236	3,851	300
Tong-yang ...	6,061	8,387	11,864	340	372	200
Hsu-chow-fu ...	107,469	133,340	24,200	4,896	1,676	800
K'ai-peng-fu ...	48,080	74,472	47	2,411	...	...
Kuei-te-fu ...	18,429	22,267	1,572	173	4	...
Sze-chow ...	10,979	12,349	1,063	45	56	...
Ying-chow-fu ...	17,877	21,717	1,704	344	70	400
Hai-chow ...	64,145	80,546	1,990	1,232	371	1,100
Huai-an ...	51,568	72,609	11,427	4,070	10,941	25,200
Tung-chow ...	7,963	17,650	5,646	823	1,075	8,100
Yang-chow ...	50,373	68,538	30,500	2,407	15,827	57,400
Tai-han ...	2,550	8,745	197	53	89	...
Tai-hing ...	167,015	202,131	16,548	3,889	869	3,400
I-chow ...	4,905	7,020	...	79	15	...
Tung-chang ...	16,456	19,771	37	206	...	...
Yen-chow ...	2,917	4,409	31	79	104	...

	Grey Shirtings.	Total Cottons.	Sugar.	Woollens.	Metals.	Window Glass.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Piculs.	Pieces.	Piculs.	Sq. feet.
Totals for—						
1880	920,704	223,464	26,933	45,943	98,100
1879	1,018,920	248,597	32,863	41,702	87,700
1878	822,220	239,817	25,946	31,309	78,200
1877	672,625	171,866	19,508	29,450	80,550
1876	665,177	210,339	15,932	27,023	95,300
1875	763,957	327,590	21,606	33,872	87,800

Number of passes for—

1880 ...	...	...	...	...	...	10,637
1879 ...	...	...	...	...	...	12,373
1878 ...	...	...	...	...	...	11,779
1877 ...	...	...	...	...	...	9,935
1876 ...	...	...	...	...	...	9,935
1875 ...	...	...	...	...	...	10,036

(Signed) E. L. OXENHAM, Consul.

British Consulate, Chinkiang, December 31, 1880.

METEOROLOGICAL Table for the Year 1880.

Month.	Thermometer.				Rain Fall.				Tides.		Remarks.
	Highest by day.	Highest by night.	Lowest by day.	Lowest by night.	Number of days rain.	Number of days snow.	Rain fall.	Number of days fog.	Highest above Winter L. W. level.	Lowest above Winter L. W. level.	
1880.											
January ..	44	42	25	24	3-00	8-00	1-77	..	5-05	1-04	First part of month fine; rainy and snow from 10th to 24th; then fine. Prevailing winds N.E. and N.W., 22 days.
February ..	44	45	32	30	3-12	2-00	2-28	1-00	8-10	0-01	Prevailing winds N.E. and N.W., 24 days. Snowed on 4th and 24th. Few fine days, mostly rainy and dull.
March ..	72	67	35	34	4-00	..	1-78	1-00	8-02	2-02	Prevailing winds N.E. and S.E., 24 days. Very fine, little rain. Heavy thunderstorm on 18th.
April ..	73	71	47	43	5-03	..	5-00	..	10-00	1-06	Prevailing winds N.E., N.W., S.E. for 10 days. Very fine, with a little very heavy rain. Heavy west gale on 22nd.
May ..	82	80	55	54	3-18	..	0-84	2-00	10-07	2-02	Prevailing winds S.E. and S.W. Heavy N.W. gale on 30th. Very fine; occasional thunderstorms.
June ..	86	83	68	62	1-00	..	0-84	..	11-11	3-02	Prevailing winds S.E. 15 days, N.W. 5 days, N.E. 4 days, S.W. 4 days. Very fine. Total eclipse of moon on 22nd. End of month stormy.
July ..	88	88	69	70	2-18	..	3-37	..	15-03	9-04	Fine with thunderstorms. N.E. 15 days, S.E. 6 days. Cool.
August ..	89	85	68	68	2-21	..	2-22	..	14-02	9-05	Very fine, light showers. Winds N.E. 22 days (unusual).
September ..	85	83	67	66	2-00	..	1-65	1-00	13-05	9-01	Very fine, little rain. Winds N.E. 15 days, S.E. 10 days.
October ..	76	72	50	50	1-09	..	0-59	2-00	13-09	5-07	Very fine. Heavy N.E. gale on 25th. Winds N.E. 15 days, S.E. 13 days.
November ..	65	63	29	28	0-06	0-12	0-08	..	10-04	0-06	Winds N.E. and N.W. 18 days. Fine, cold, and windy occasionally. One day snow. Heavy N.W. gale on 7th and 25th.
December ..	53	48	24	22	1-06	2-03	1-24	0-12	6-09	1-10	Fine. Four days snow, slight. Heavy N.E. gale on 18th, with rain and sleet. Winds N.E. and N.W. 23 days.
					27-93	12-15	21-66	7-12			

British Consulate, Chinkiang, December 31, 1880.

(Signed)

E. L. OXENHAM, Consul.

CH'UNGK'ING.

Report upon the Piece-Goods Trade of Ch'ungk'ing for the Year 1880.

SETTING aside salt, which is indisputably the most valuable article of Sz Ch'uan trade, but which under the new system is almost entirely taken out of the hands of private traders, we may place imported foreign piece goods in the third place, *i.e.*, after raw cotton (import) and drugs (export).

Under the old system, in vogue up to the opening up of the Lower Yangtze to foreign commerce, the trade with Canton was very profitable, although the exactions, more especially at Shao Kwan (Shao-chou Fu), in the north of Kwang Tung Province, amounted to 10 per cent. on the cost of the goods, not counting freight and incidental expenses. The trade was of the value of from 400,000 taels to 500,000 taels a-year. One fleet of junks left Ch'ungk'ing, and one fleet left Canton every month; each fleet consisting of about a dozen large junks (three or four belonging to each of the three Sz Ch'uan families who monopolized the trade), besides smaller hangers-on. Transhipments were made at Ich'ang in Hu Peh, and again at Ch'ên-chow in Hu Nan. At Ch'ên-chow the goods had to be carried over the mountains for two days' journey as far as Liang T'ien, after which they sailed direct for Canton, and *vice versa*, with goods from Canton. The Sz Ch'uan merchants were received with the greatest respect and deference at Ch'ên-chow, where several large transport houses undertook their entertainment and reception in a manner befitting the dignity of possessors of such large capital, and the safe conduct of their goods across the mountains. There was yet another route up the Lo-ch'ang River (Kwang Tung), which (probably by some system of canals) connected with the Hêng-chow River (Hu Nan), and rendered land transport unnecessary, but this route was circuitous and little used.

In the year 1860-61 the whole trade was diverted to Hankow, and rapidly increased in importance. At first the original monopolists kept it in their hands, but it was not long before others joined in the competition. Though the Kwei Kwan custom-house was vexatious enough, in the beginning it was not quite so bad as its rival of Kwang Tung, until the imposition of a *li-kin* tax in addition to and of the same amount as the regular duty, as well as of other petty nameless charges, checked the natural increase, without, however, proceeding to the length of producing a decrease. These two taxes, each 3 per cent. *ad valorem*, with the petty charges, amount together to about 7 per cent. on the nominal value of the goods.

In 1863 the value of the Ch'ungk'ing piece-goods trade had risen from 1,500,000 taels to 1,600,000 taels. In that year Mr. Major, of Hankow, decided to avail himself of his Treaty privilege to take out transit-passes, and large profits to his firm were for some time the result. Later on the French firm of Leroy, and the American firm of Jenkins and Co., followed Mr. Major's example, though as yet no Chinese dared to apply openly for the same privileges for themselves.

Subsequently, owing to the native traders screening themselves from official spite by the device of making use of the foreigners' names, the

transit-pass system became discredited, and the Viceroy was induced to issue orders that any Chinese availing himself of a foreigner's name should have his goods confiscated. At this period there were 120 or 130 junks on their way up the river, each conveying, amongst other cargo, portions of the piece-goods ventures above described, of which the agents of Messrs. Major had about half standing in their own name. These junks were detained at K'wei Kwan, and after some difficulty the English and French owners succeeded in setting their junks free; the American, whose case was suffered to lag, paying the regular duties and *li-kin*. Of late, however, the French, and, to some extent, the American, speculators have retired from the field, leaving things as before in the hands of the Chinese agents of Messrs. Major and Smith, and, latterly, in the hands also of the agents of a new-comer, named Woodward, who have succeeded in developing an enormous trade.

The agents of Messrs. Major, to whom I am indebted for these details, the truth of which I find fairly corroborated in other quarters, freely express their obligations to the Chefoo Convention, which they consider to be the ægis that covers them from exaction and ill-treatment.

The timid Chinese, though, it seems, now so authorized by their authorities, dare not take out many transit-passes in their own names, but content themselves with paying a commission for the use of this or that foreigner's name, a piece of irregularity which, considering the iniquitous brow-beating carried on so systematically and notoriously at K'wei Kwan, will, perhaps, not excite much indignation in the minds of considerate men.

The piece-goods trade of Ch'ungk'ing at present amounts to about 3,000,000 taels a-year, but the profits are exceedingly small, owing to the keen competition, and to the influence of the "Shên Pas" newspaper, which keeps dealers regularly informed as to the fluctuation of prices in Shanghae. There are no less than twenty Sz Ch'uan dealers regularly established at Shanghae, agents of the numerous small importers at Ch'ungk'ing. Sold at Hankow, piece-goods seldom bring a higher profit than 1 or 2 candareens, say 2 per cent., of profit upon the piece; and as eight months' credit is given by the Ch'ungk'ing importers to the dealers, and by the dealers to the hawkers, the profit at Ch'ungk'ing is rendered precarious even when freedom from disaster *en route* leaves any margin of profit at all. As produce under transit-pass for Ch'ungk'ing may not break bulk *en route*, piece-goods for Chung-chou, Wan Hien, and other places between this and K'wei Kwan, have to make a double journey up and down the river. Nearly every one at Ch'ungk'ing who pretends to dress at all respectably can afford to wear silk, so that the greater part of the imports are sent up the Great River to the centres of Sui Fu and Lu Chow, down the Great River to Fu Chow, Chung Chow, and Wan Hien, or up the Little River to the northern parts of the province. The best white and grey shirtings, thick cloth, Russian cloth, and red flannel cloth, or Spanish stripes, the latter for women's attire, are the only kinds much in request in this city. Owing to the octroi, or "loti shui," levied at the provincial capital, a very limited quantity of foreign goods is taken for consumption to Ch'eng-tu and the neighbourhood, though what does go in that direction is, I am told, carried by metropolitan importers under transit-pass in the names of one of the three firms mentioned.

A very curious interpretation upon the words of the Chefoo Convention, "British merchants may not open establishments ('hong chang') at Ch'ungk'ing" seems to have obtained acceptance here. In this city "hong" means a "licensed monopoly," but several traders or agents adopt, without exciting official comment, the style of "yang shang" or "ying shang," "British or foreign trader," and call their establishments

"chwang," or "purchasing agencies," the "procurator" or factor of legal phraseology.

Last year the profit upon the foreign piece-goods trade were but passable. In the spring of this year the demand exceeded the supply, and merchants are for the moment sanguine of a good season.

Much disgust is expressed at the excessive sizing of English manufacturers, which reach 30 per cent. of the total weight in ordinary cases, and 40 per cent. in the case of drills. American drills are said to be quite free from adulteration. The sizing of the English manufacturers was at first starch, or similar vegetable matter, which it was found bred weevils or other insects of that category in the cloth; now they have substituted a kind of pipe-clay, which produces rot in the place of insects. English goods are therefore chiefly used for funeral purposes—where showy presents must be made, and where large quantities of material are required for ephemeral purposes—and for the linings of wadded or double garments. The dress of the common people is invariably blue-dyed native cloth, which washes well, and is both warmer and infinitely more durable than the English fabrics. Sz Ch'uan does not produce sufficient for its own use, and imports large quantities from Hu Kwang, a region which sends large consignments also into Yun Nan and Kwei Chow. The five northern provinces are supplied with the balance of what they require from Kiang Su. The natives anticipate a time when the factories now in embryo at Shanghai will entirely drive the foreign cloth from the market, especially if the present adulteration goes on. They admit that their own shortsighted yet persistent demand for a cheap but rubbishy article has betrayed the foreign manufacturer into indiscretion, yet they add that the spectacle of such wholesale adulteration produces an evil effect, and lessens the general confidence in foreign excellence.

(Signed)

EDWARD HARPER PARKER.

Ch'ungking, May 28, 1881.

List of Piece Goods sold at Ch'ungking. Relative Prices in 1869 and 1881. Comparative Tables of Taxation *en route* in 1869 and 1881. General Remarks.

Description of Commodity.	Tael Price at Ch'ungking.		Tael Price each Piece.		Quantity as to Length in feet (Chinese) or Weight in catties, or Chop Mark in 1861 or 1869.	Taxation each Piece, where no transit-pass is held, on the Great and Inner River routes to Ch'ungking.												Includes or excludes the 5 per cent. Tax and 3 per cent. 14-4th ad valorem on all Goods.	REMARKS.	
	Foot (Chinese) of 14.1 in.	Yard (English.)	1861.	1869.		Hankow.		P'ing-fang.	Siao-lin-chia.	Pei-kwan.	Sha-shih.		Ichang.							
						1861.	1869.				Cash.	Tael.	Cash.	1861.	1869.	Cash.	1861.			1869.
American drills	003 to 004	...	2.7 to 3.8	4.5	Feet. 100	Cash. 60	Cash. 40	Cash. 70	0013	...	Cash. 44	Cash. 17½	Cash. 80	0072	005	English about 2 mace a piece cheaper.				
T-cloths—					} 60 Catties. 10 17 元子太和大和															
XX	004	...	2.5	2.6-2			30	36	30	0013	18	12½		40	0072	005				
XI	0035	...	1.9	2.2-2																
X	0032	...	1.8-5	2.2-2																
Shirtings—																				
White	0035.1	...	3.4	2.6		40	40	32	0013	{ 18 } 24			40	0073	005	(a) Now much sized.				
Grey (a)	0025	...	2.2	2.4 to 2.7																
Broaden	005	...	3.5	2.8		60	40	70	...	...	34	17½	...	0073	005	Popular. Seems to be a recent import.		
Chu-chwang-pu	004	...	4	...		40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Much deteriorated if late.
(C) Linen																				
Lastings—																				
Red	008	...	8	13		240	40	200	0048	200	50	90	200	...	005					
White	005	...	6	...		90	130	130	0094	200	80	120	150	...	006					
Lastings	006	...	4.2	4	70	130	130	130	0048	100	...	240	...	0150	005					
Waists	01	036	7.5	...	80	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* In 1869.

SHANGHAE.

Consul Hughes to Sir T. Wade.

Sir,

Shanghai, July 7, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a Report on the trade of Shanghai for the year 1880.

I am forwarding a copy to Her Majesty's Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

A copy of that portion of the Report which refers to opium has been sent to the Financial Secretary to the Government of India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES.

Inclosure.

Report on the Trade of Shanghai during the Year 1880.

The Returns annexed to this Report are the following :—

1. Tabular Statement of Foreign Imports and Re-exports.
2. Summary of Foreign Imports and Re-exports.
3. Tabular Statement of Native Imports and Re-exports.
4. Summary of Native Imports and Re-exports.
5. Opium Return.
6. Tabular Statement of Native Exports and Re-exports.
7. Summary of Native Exports and Re-exports.
8. Tea Return.
9. Silk Return.
10. Transit Trade Return.
11. Summary of Gross and Net Value of Trade, 1878-80.

The continued and advancing prosperity of Shanghai is apparent from these Returns. The value of the trade in 1879 exceeded that of any previous year. According to the Customs Returns, it amounted to 131,474,499 Haikwan taels,* and 1880 surpassed even 1879, the value being 134,916,231 Haikwan taels.

The increase in the trade of 1880 as compared with that of 1879 is to be found in the net total foreign imports, that is, in goods reserved for local consumption, and in the exports of native produce, notably tea and silk. There was a decrease of 2,882,028 Haikwan taels in the value of the gross total of the import trade as compared with 1879, owing to a falling-off amounting to nearly 6,000,000 taels in the goods re-exported to the northern and Yangtze ports and to Ningpo.

The proportion between the net imports and the amount thus distributed to the other ports was to some extent affected by the want of tonnage for cargo destined for the northern ports towards the end of the year. The amount of re-exports would have been somewhat larger, and the figures for net imports less, had the space that would have been

* Note.—Haikwan tael equal to 5s. 9½d. } At the average rate
Shanghai tael equal to 5s. 2d. } of exchange for the year.
Picul equal to 133½ lbs.

occupied by piece-goods not been taken up by troops dispatched to the north in apprehension of a war with Russia.

The trade accounted for in the annexed Returns is almost wholly carried on in foreign vessels or vessels of foreign build. In this trade the share taken by Great Britain far exceeds that of any other nationality, the tonnage of the British vessels employed being more than equal to all others, Chinese and foreign combined. Of the trade carried on in native junks no statistics are obtainable.

IMPORTS.

The value of the foreign goods imported into Shanghai was 57,117,133 Haikwan taels. Three-fourths of these goods were re-exported; goods to the value of 2,171,032 Haikwan taels having been sent back to foreign countries and Hong Kong, and to the value of 40,370,177 Haikwan taels distributed among the under-mentioned Chinese ports as follows:—

					Haikwan taels.
Newchwang	..	..	..	..	1,852,663
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	..	7,793,199
Chefoo	..	..	..	..	2,849,916
Hankow	..	..	..	..	9,918,111
Kiukiang	..	..	..	..	2,451,998
Wuhu	..	..	..	..	2,057,546
Chinkiang	..	..	..	..	7,580,297
Ningpo	..	..	..	..	5,089,831
Wenchow	..	..	..	..	196,964
Foochow	..	..	..	..	525,387
Tamsuy	..	..	..	..	5,175
Amoy	..	..	..	..	33,059
Swatow	..	..	..	..	13,563
Canton	..	..	..	..	2,468

Japan and Vladivostock took goods to the value of 1,345,390 and 76,912 Haikwan taels respectively.

More than one-fourth of the foreign goods imported was reserved for local consumption.

The import of native produce amounted to 42,594,862 Haikwan taels, less than one-sixth of which was destined for local use.

Opium.—Of foreign produce imported, the item of largest value continues to be opium, the gross value of which was 21,360,616 Haikwan taels, or, taking the value of the Haikwan tael at 5s. 9½d., 6,196,803*l.* 14s. 1d.

Table No. 5 shows the total import into Shanghai and the amount locally consumed of Indian and Persian opium during the past three years. The figures indicate a large falling-off, amounting to nearly 10,000 piculs in the total import of Indian opium for 1880 as compared with the previous year.

On reference to the subjoined statement, which shows how the opium imported here is distributed, we find that, as a rule, there was a decrease in the shipments to other ports as compared with 1879.

The re-export of opium from Shanghai during 1879 and 1880 was as follows:—

To—	1879.		1880.	
	Indian.	Persian.	Indian.	Persian.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Newchwang	2,009	158	1,112	62
Tien-tsin	4,697	599	3,205	447
Chefoo	4,141	204	2,264	178
Hankow	3,352	35	2,906	51
Kiukiang	1,856	198	2,244	173
Wuhu	3,174	89	3,239	60
Chinkiang	10,450	710	9,904	595
Ningpo	6,952	122	6,703	60
Wênchow	59	..	55	..
Foochow,	23	71	249	19
Amoy				
Swatow				
Hong Kong	336	137	509	50
London .. ..	..	..	..	2

Newchwang, Tien-tsin, Chefoo, Hankow, Chinkiang, Ningpo, Wuhu, and Kiukiang are all supplied with foreign opium from Shanghai. All these ports, with the exception of the two last named, imported less opium than in 1879.

Only a small quantity of foreign opium goes to Wênchow, as native opium is extensively grown in the country near that port. The main supply of the southern ports is obtained from Hong Kong. There was also a decrease in the amount of foreign opium (excepting in Benares) consumed locally in Shanghai, as will be seen from the figures annexed:—

SHANGHAI Local Consumption.

				1879.	1880.
				Piculs.	Piculs.
Malwa .. ..	..	..	..	1,365	1,274
Patna .. ..	..	..	..	9,474	6,834
Benares .. ..	..	..	..	5,555	6,244
Persian .. ..	..	..	..	150	140

This state of affairs points, no doubt, to the extended cultivation of the poppy in China and to the increasing favour in which the native product is held. But the falling-off is chiefly due to the market having been overstocked, the import of opium in 1879 having been exceptionally large.

In Shanghai itself native opium is little used compared with the quantity consumed at other ports. The amount which was reported to the branch of the Customs under foreign management was, it is true, six times as large in 1880 as in 1879, namely, 718 piculs as compared with 118 piculs; and a still more remarkable increase is apparent in the return for the first quarter of 1881, 629 piculs of Szechuan opium having passed through the Customs as compared with 49 piculs in the corresponding quarter of last year. The crop of 1880 is reported to have been large, the quality good, and the price is less than half that of Malwa. Still, it is said that unmixed native opium is rarely smoked in Shanghai. It is chiefly used for mixing with Patna, and according to information obtained from one of the leading opium merchants, the mixture is made up to resemble Malwa, and is sometimes passed off by the Chinese dealers in the

interior as genuine Malwa. At other ports in the vicinity of which the poppy is cultivated smokers are more familiar with the native article. While, therefore, there is reason to believe that the native drug is making itself felt on the seaboard in competition with Indian opium, the latter is making no impression upon the western half of China, where native opium is in general use. In fact, we hear of a considerable quantity of Chinese opium finding its way across the frontier into Upper Burmah.

In the meantime, people who have once acquired the taste for one kind do not easily change to the other; and this fact, even without regarding its superior quality, is sufficient to account for the popularity which Indian opium has hitherto maintained on the seaboard of China.

The following Table shows the amount of Szechuan opium imported into Shanghai, via Hankow, in vessels of foreign build.

Other kinds of opium are brought here, but no accurate information is obtainable :—

TOTAL Import.

						Piculs.
1871 ..	..	..	..	..	..	11·58
1872 ..	..	..	..	..	..	310·39
1873 ..	..	..	..	..	..	148·70
1874 ..	..	..	..	..	..	75·17
1875 ..	..	..	..	..	..	891·85
1876 ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,600·45
1877 ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,079·54
1878 ..	..	..	..	..	..	798·09
1879 ..	..	..	..	..	..	117·44
1880 ..	..	..	..	..	..	718·36

Grey Shirtings.—The import of grey shirtings has fallen from 5,987,850 pieces in 1879 to 4,870,081 in 1880. The offtake during the years 1878, 1879, and 1880 was distributed as follows :—

	1878.	1879.	1880.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Hankow ..	891,334	1,459,506	1,472,759
Tien-tsin ..	741,969	1,238,263	964,478
Chinkiang ..	687,923	884,223	817,436
Wuhu ..			
Local ..	380,750	443,930	444,750
Chefoo ..	344,049	404,559	252,165
Hiogo ..	236,837	418,965	225,359
Ningpo ..	346,659	361,904	325,730
Wenchow ..			
Newchwang ..	158,495	214,838	97,050
Nagasaki ..	50,850	179,190	217,569
Kiukiang ..	153,281	176,029	223,488
Yokohama ..	118,210	108,650	94,035
Foochow ..	20,040	19,120	27,420
Hong Kong ..	3,450	5,760	6,300
Sundries ..	3,400	6,800	6,300

These figures show a large decrease at Tien-tsin, Chefoo, and Newchwang in 1880 as compared with 1879, but it should be borne in mind that the large trade done in the latter year as compared with 1878 is to be accounted for by the fact that the famine districts, after their recovery, drew their supplies chiefly from these places.

The export to Nagasaki, which, as far as these goods are concerned, is merely the *entrepôt* for the Corea, amounts to more than four times the export in 1878, and shows a large increase as compared with 1879.

[1211]

E

Another cause of the decrease at the northern ports was that during the first four months of the year prices were run up by speculators, and during the latter half of the year several of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamers running between Shanghai and the north were detached for the conveyance of troops and stores, thereby raising the rates on the northern line and preventing shippers from forwarding their goods.

The following is a Table of Currencies during the year 1880, in Shanghai taels :—

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
<i>Grey Shirtings.</i>												
6 lbs.—												
Highest price	1.07½	1.20	1.20	1.15	1.10	1.08	1.08	1.10	1.12	1.12½	1.15	1.22
Lowest "	1.00	1.00	1.07½	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.04	1.07	1.08	1.08	1.10
7 lbs.—												
Highest price	1.45	1.55	1.50	1.45	1.40	1.35	1.35	1.42½	1.42½	1.40	1.40	1.40
Lowest "	1.10	1.10	1.23	1.13	1.08	1.08	1.06	1.07½	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.14
8½ lbs. to 8½ lbs.—												
Highest price	1.79	1.92	1.92	1.85	1.78	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.81	1.81	1.80	1.83
Lowest "	1.26	1.28	1.33	1.30	1.29	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.27	1.29	1.29	1.29
Dewhurst Eagle—												
Highest price	1.79	1.94	1.94	1.87	1.77½	1.82	1.81	1.82	1.82	1.81	1.81	1.85
Lowest "	1.78	1.82	1.89	1.80	1.76	1.80	1.79	1.81	1.82	1.81	1.80	1.80
9½ lbs. to 10 lbs.—												
Highest price	2.35	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.32½
Lowest "	1.88	1.95	2.01½	2.00	1.90	1.85	1.90	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00

[1121]

23

White Shirtings.—White shirtings continue to show a very satisfactory increase. The import of 1880 amounted to 1,167,657 and the off-take to 931,632 pieces, against 999,415 and 846,136 pieces in 1879. Tien-tsin still heads the list with a total of 410,930, followed by Hankow with 361,685 pieces, while the local consumption was 65,925 pieces.

The monthly quotations for 64 reeds, best, and 66 reeds were as follows:—

				Highest, per piece.	Lowest, per piece.
				Taels.	Taels.
January	..	..	..	1·97½	1·80
February	..	..	..	2·00	1·85
March	..	..	..	2·05	1·85
April	..	..	..	2·00	1·85
May	..	..	..	1·95	1·85
June	..	..	..	1·95	1·85
July	..	..	..	1·95	1·85
August	..	..	..	1·95	1·85
September	..	..	..	1·95	1·80
October	..	..	..	1·92½	1·80
November	..	..	..	1·97½	1·80
December	..	..	..	2·05	1·80

T-Cloths.—There was an increase in the import of T-cloths during 1880, as compared with 1879, to the amount of 1,162,202 pieces. The total import of 1880 was 3,161,878 against 1,999,676 pieces in 1879. There was a falling-off, however, in the off-take to the extent of nearly 100,000 pieces.

Appended are the monthly maximum and minimum quotations for the year in Shanghai taels:—

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
6 lbs. ordinary—												
Highest	1.00	1.08	1.08	1.05	1.00	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.85	0.80	0.87½
Lowest	0.84	0.85	0.88	0.86	0.77½	0.75½	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.70	0.70	0.70
7 lbs. ordinary—												
Highest	1.10	1.16	1.16	1.15	1.12	1.04	1.02	1.02	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Lowest	0.98	1.05	1.10	1.04	0.90	0.87½	0.78	0.75	0.75	0.74	0.74	0.74
7 lbs. Mexican, ordinary—												
Highest	1.20	1.30	1.30	1.32½	1.25	1.20	1.25	1.25	1.22	1.20	1.20	1.18
Lowest	1.12	1.18	1.20	1.20	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.12	1.10	1.00	1.00	1.04
7 lbs. Mexican, better—												
Highest	1.40	1.47½	1.47½	1.47½	1.40	1.32½	1.42½	1.42½	1.42½	1.40	1.40	1.30
Lowest	1.20	1.30	1.36	1.35	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.30	1.20	1.20	1.15	1.15
8 to 8½ lbs. ordinary—												
Highest	1.45	1.62	1.62	1.60	1.55	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.40	1.40	1.42
Lowest	1.27½	1.40	1.52	1.45	1.42½	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.30	1.30	1.30
8 to 8½ lbs. good—												
Highest	1.65	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.70	1.65	1.65
Lowest	1.37½	1.55	1.65	1.60	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.45	1.45	1.45
8 to 8½ lbs. best and XX—												
Highest	1.85	2.05	2.05	1.95	1.95	1.95	1.97	1.92½	1.92½	1.92½	1.92½	1.92½
Lowest	1.70	1.70	1.85	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.75	1.75	1.75

The above quotations show that the demand for T-cloths began to fall off at the end of May, and continued to fall off until the end of the year. Notwithstanding the slackness of the demand, the import kept on increasing with a far from favourable result.

Drills.—The following figures show the import and off-take of English and Dutch and American drills for the last three years :—

ENGLISH AND DUTCH.

				1878.	1879.	1880.
				Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Import	..	..	..	597,741	481,640	750,766
Off-take	..	..	..	601,601	608,113	513,967

AMERICAN.

Import	..	..	..	493,798	530,761	184,888
Off-take	..	..	..	415,358	518,029	292,601

Whilst in 1878 and 1879 the off-take of English and Dutch drills exceeded the import, more especially in the latter year, the import of 1880 exceeded the off-take by more than 230,000 pieces. With regard to American drills, the reverse was the case; the off-take was less than the import in 1878 and 1879, but exceeded the import of 1880.

The distribution of English and Dutch and American drills from Shanghae during 1879 and 1880 was as follows :—

			English and Dutch.		American.	
			1879.	1880.	1879.	1880.
			Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Newchwang	..	..	35,812	24,430	99,798	55,850
Tien-tsin	..	..	201,093	149,815	247,930	112,702
Chefoo	..	..	7,545	16,335	64,338	27,738
Hankow	..	..	260,309	229,756	38,313	41,805
Kiukiang	..	..	12,704	15,099	990	835
Wuhu	..	..	4,055	3,595	1,950	1,665
Chinkiang	..	..	39,995	25,180	23,940	21,855
Ningpo	..	..	8,630	8,624	11,185	7,380
Wenchow	..	..	2,930	3,355	1,480	1,625
Foochow	..	..	1,590	3,015	4,105	2,265
Hong Kong	..	..	..	1,675	7,305	5,325
Shanghae	..	..	10,110	6,750	11,700	10,365
Nagasaki	..	..	3,424	4,879	135	135
Kobé.	..	..	13,116	15,610	30	105
Yokohama	..	..	5,780	4,830	4,050	2,681
Sundries	..	..	1,020	1,019	780	270

Jeans.—The trade in jeans during 1880 did not prove profitable to importers, the supply of both the English and American article having largely in excess of the requirements.

The following figures show the import of English and American jeans during the last two years :—

				1879.	1880.
				Pieces.	Pieces.
English .. ..	..	..	..	63,600	142,500
American .. ..	..	..	..	665,773	588,000

Notwithstanding the large increase in English sheetings, the trade during the year was unsatisfactory, and the stock in the hands of merchants at the end of the year was 63,500 pieces. The decline in American sheetings consisted for the most part of the heavy or 12-lbs. sheetings, and was mainly due to the competition by Lancashire.

Fancy Cottons.—The deliveries of fancy cottons during 1879 and 1880 to the more important ports supplied by Shanghai were as follows :—

				1879.	1880.
				Pieces.	Pieces.
Hankow .. ..	..	..	..	24,021	24,162
Chinkiang . .	..	..	..	24,520	27,011
Chefoo .. ..	..	..	..	46,913	55,248
Tien-tsin .. .	..	..	..	121,011	121,117
Newchwang ..	..	..	..	15,000	15,900

The total off-take of the muslins amounted during 1880 to 149,900 pieces, of which 90,400 pieces, exported to Nagasaki, were doubtless intended for the Corea.

No account of the trade in cotton goods would be complete without reference to the vexed questions of mildew and sizing. The following remarks taken from Mr. Maclean's "Annual Retrospect" will be read with interest :—

"These scientific achievements have, comparatively speaking, disappeared. Mildew has been the source of annoyance, trouble, and loss to the importer of cotton goods, but the occasions on which it has cropped up have been steadily widening and lessening, and it is to be hoped the evil may soon be numbered amongst 'the things that were.' As for sizing, I have said in former Retrospects that the natives will continue to buy filled goods, and I say so again, for there are uses to which they can be put, and to which it would be folly to apply a more expensive or genuine article." Mr. Maclean here refers to the use of cotton goods for funeral purposes, and continues : "At the same time the consumptive demand for a pure, or comparatively pure fabric is strengthening, and in the heavier textiles—drillings, for instance—it has made itself increasingly felt during the closing five months of the year. Honest stuffs of American, aye, and of Lancashire manufacture, were run after to the utter neglect, except in forced sale, of the adulterated, and whilst, now, stocks of the latter are in nearly everybody's hands, the place is almost bare of the former. These facts speak for themselves. I have repeatedly drawn attention to what was coming, and warned Manchester against the indiscriminate prosecution of sizing as one of the sciences. If doctored goods are specially ordered or recommended, the manufacturer, chemist, and finisher are sinless ; but, if manufactured in the interests of science only, sin lieth at their door."

Woollens.—The trade in long ells in 1880 was unsatisfactory, the deliveries being 31,600 pieces less than in 1879.

Camlets proved more remunerative. During the autumn, and in the beginning of winter, there was a demand for orange, gentian, and scarlet, which were made up as clothing, &c., for the irregular levies called out in anticipation of war with Russia.

The trade in *Spanish Stripes* was almost entirely conducted by auction sales, and there was a slight decrease in the import as compared with 1879.

There was also a decrease of some 800 pieces in the consumptive deliveries of *Lastings*; but on the whole the quotations were very steady throughout the year.

The successful trade in *Figured Orleans* towards the end of 1879 raised the hopes of importers, and the consequence was a large increase in the import as compared with 1879.

The monthly quotations in Shanghai tael for woollens during 1880 were as follows :—

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Camlets, S. S. G., assorted—												
Highest	11.35	12.10	12.10	11.80	11.90	11.75	11.50	11.70	11.80	11.70	11.90	11.50
Lowest	11.10	11.75	11.70	11.60	11.60	11.60	11.40	11.55	11.50	11.60	11.60	11.40
Medium and broad cloth—												
Highest	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
Lowest	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65
Spanish stripes, T. T. B., assorted—												
Highest	0.57	0.59½	0.60	0.55	0.57½	0.57½	0.58	0.59	0.57	0.57½	0.57½	0.56
Lowest	0.56½	0.59	0.55	0.55	0.55½	0.55½	0.56½	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57½	0.54½
Long ells, scarlet, C. P. H.—												
Highest	6.18	6.54	6.30	6.20	6.25	6.40	6.25	6.26	6.14	6.03	6.10	5.99
Lowest	6.09	6.32½	6.16	6.13	6.18	5.30	6.18	6.17	6.05	5.99	5.95	5.90
U. U., scarlet—												
Highest	6.18½	6.40	6.25	6.15	6.15	6.30	6.12½	6.14	6.05	5.97½	6.00	5.95
Lowest	6.08	6.29	6.11	6.05	6.07½	6.20	6.10	6.05	6.02	5.91	5.92½	5.90
Leatings, C. P. H., Lion, black—												
Highest	9.93	10.30	10.99	10.99	10.80	11.11	10.85	10.61	11.47	..	10.89	10.84
Lowest	9.75	9.97	10.65	10.62½	10.60	10.71	10.22	10.40	10.50	..	10.80	10.80
Figured Orleans, ordinary good—												
Highest	3.22½	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15	3.15
Lowest	2.85	2.90	2.90	2.90	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80

Metals.—The import of copper into Shanghai during the year 1880 does not compare favourably with the import of 1879. With the exception of nails, all the other forms of copper show a decline. The import of iron plates and sheets rose from 13,964·52 piculs in 1879 to 34,356·07 piculs in 1880. There was an increase of nearly 80,000 piculs in bar iron, and of more than 100,000 piculs in nail-rod iron. Galvanized iron, nails, and pig and kentledge iron also show an increase, but there was a decline in hoop and old iron and in iron-ware and wire.

Pig lead fell nearly 10,000 piculs as compared with 1879, but there was an increase in sheet lead and in lead pipes.

Tin slabs decreased by more than 5,000 piculs, but there was a slight increase in the import of tin plates as compared with 1879.

The import of steel rose from 13,715·98 piculs in 1879 to 19,544·20 piculs in 1880.

Appended is a comparative Table of the principal miscellaneous imports into Shanghai during 1879 and 1880.

				1879.	1880.
Coal, foreign and native	..	Tons	..	173,721	520,057
Ginseng .. ..	..	Piculs	..	4,028	3,577
Hats, straw .. ..	..	Pieces	..	4,309,736	6,676,364
Hemp .. ..	..	Piculs	..	93,349	97,742
Matches .. ..	..	Gross	..	788,091	1,078,607
Medicines .. ..	..	Piculs	..	161,498	174,203
Needles .. ..	..	Mille	..	804,058	1,060,638
Oil, kerosine .. ..	..	Gallons	..	4,782,440	3,225,980
„ wood, bean, &c. .	..	Piculs	..	77,014	97,501
Paper .. ..	..	„	..	111,334	123,016
Sandal-wood .. ..	..	„	..	76,554	65,568
Sapan-wood .. ..	..	„	..	85,962	53,647
Seaweed and agar-agar	..	„	..	276,071	303,284
Silk, all sorts .. ..	..	„	..	10,652	15,685
„ piece-goods .. ..	..	„	..	3,582	3,833
Straw braid .. ..	..	„	..	38,020	50,803
Sugar .. ..	..	„	..	1,636,455	1,430,868
Tea .. ..	..	„	..	700,900	793,201
Tobacco .. ..	..	„	..	138,286	157,900

EXPORTS.

Tea.—At the commencement of the season in May there was the usual exodus of tea buyers from this port to Hankow. It is only after the first and generally the choicest teas are shipped direct from that port that a steady supply begins to flow upon this market. The new season teas will always be offered for sale at Hankow first. The Chinese dealer has always Shanghai to fall back upon in the event of his tea not being saleable at a profit; whereas, if he brings it all the way to Shanghai he has no alternative but to sell his tea for whatever it will fetch.

It is, however, noticeable that for the first time these many years the business done in black tea in Shanghai has been larger than the direct foreign export trade at Hankow and Kiukiang.

Direct export of black tea in 1880 from Hankow and Kiukiang—						Lbs.
To London ..	..	..	..	..	..	33,282,962
To Odessa ..	..	..	..	..	..	4,513,761
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	87,796,723

Direct export of black tea in 1880 from Shanghai to foreign countries ..						43,986,000
--	--	--	--	--	--	------------

If to the above figures be added the export of green tea from this port, upwards of 24,000,000 lbs., the preponderance of the direct export business of this port will appear all the more remarkable.

The business at other ports was not perhaps less than usual, although a larger proportion of the total trade has fallen to the lot of Shanghai. In fact, the total export of tea from China for 1880 has exceeded that of any previous year.

The profits made on some shipments in 1879 stimulated business and resulted in excessive shipments. The results to shippers were not satisfactory, owing to the large quantity and low price of Indian tea in the London market. This affected the home consumption, so that the deliveries of China tea for home use were less by 25,000,000 lbs. than in 1879. Fortunately, however, the continental buyers came to the rescue, and as some set-off against this decrease there was an increase in the exports from London to the extent of 8,000,000 lbs. Despite, therefore, the largely increased export from China and the diminished home consumption, the stock remaining in bond in London on the 31st December, 1880, was not perhaps excessive. It amounted to 99,000,000 lbs., 2,000,000 lbs. more than that of the preceding year, but 11,000,000 lbs. less than in 1878.

The following statement gives the export of tea from Shanghai from 1878 to 1880:—

To—	1878.		1879.		1880.	
	Black.	Green.	Black.	Green.	Black.	Green.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Great Britain and British Possessions ...	23,751,833	7,441,200	26,048,000	7,425,600	38,311,467	8,323,600
United States of America ...	1,019,333	14,948,133	2,002,533	16,269,200	3,779,600	15,832,400
Continent of Europe—						
France ...	13,200	...	59,200	5,333	222,533	8,533
Russia ...	9,200	...	92,667	...	713,333	...
Other countries ...	4,800	...	4,133	...	166,533	...
Russian Manchuria ...	380,034	...	485,333	...	769,334	...
Japan ...	21,600	...	13,467	5,733	22,400	...
Egypt ...	11,600	...	60,400	1,200	800	8,134
Total—						
To foreign countries ..	25,212,000	22,389,333	28,765,733	23,707,066	43,986,000	24,173,667
To Chinese ports ...	7,564,933	467,467	16,747,600	9,200	11,173,466	42,666
Grand total ...	32,776,933	22,846,800	45,513,333	23,716,266	55,159,466	24,216,333

Some interesting results are at once seen by a glance at the above Table.

The United States of America are still the largest consumers of green tea, although the consumption is not increasing, and there are indications that black tea is coming more into favour as green tea loses its popularity.

The large increase in the export to France is worth noting. In 1878 only 13,200 lbs. were shipped to that country, whilst the export in 1880 amounted to 222,533 lbs.

The export to Russia by sea depends upon the aspect of affairs in Europe. In 1878 it was 9,200 lbs. (in the previous year it may be mentioned there was a blank Return); in 1880 the export amounted to 713,333 lbs. Russian steamers lately used as transports of war are now again employed for conveyance of tea.

In the export to Russian Manchuria there is a large increase, which was probably caused by the requirements of the troops assembled there in the prospect of war with China.

Silk.—During the first five months of the year, and up to the close of the season of 1879-80, the export of silk continued on a moderate scale, the shipments to 31st May being—

						Bales.
To London	..	..	..	..	..	3,781
France	..	..	..	..	..	10,060
Italy	..	..	..	..	..	229
America	..	..	..	..	..	3,465
Bombay	..	..	..	..	..	499
Hong Kong and sundry ports	..	..	..	..	..	254
Total	..	..	..	..	..	18,288

The range of price showed only slight fluctuations until before the close of the season, when a decline of 20 to 25 taels per picul (equal to 1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb.) took place.

The crop of 1880 was a good one, and about 20 per cent. in excess of the previous year, prices at the opening being about as much below those previously paid. Owing, however, to the full yield in most of the other producing countries, and the consequently languid state of the home markets, values continued to decline till towards the end of the year, when a speculative movement was set on foot. This, combined with a revival in the home trade, caused some reaction, and before the 31st December prices had returned to almost opening rates.

The export of 1880-81 to 31st December was—

						Bales.
To London	..	..	..	..	..	18,686
France	..	..	..	..	..	36,396
Italy and Switzerland	..	..	..	..	..	2,277
America	..	..	..	..	..	5,756
Bombay	..	..	..	..	..	2,821
Hong Kong and sundry ports	..	..	..	..	..	1,750
Total	..	..	..	..	..	67,686

Regarding the result of the year's business, little can be said, for, although the earlier shipments showed losses, most of those of the latter part of the year proved profitable, the average being neither serious loss nor much gain.

Waste Silk.—A very large business has been carried on in this article, the extensive uses to which all kinds are now applied in the manufacture of cotton and woollen goods in England having created quite an eager demand. High prices have consequently ruled, but it is a question if the business has been a profitable one. The export of all kinds during 1880 was 11,720 piculs, against 6,134 piculs in 1879.

Cocoons.—The export of cocoons during 1880 amounted to 3,954 piculs, against 1,888 piculs during the previous year, but there was no fresh feature in the trade to notice, as it was carried on by only a few firms, and prices ruled about the same as in the preceding year. The increase in the quantity exported was attributable to the continued demand for pierced cocoons, which are put to many of the same uses as the better qualities of waste silk.

The following Table shows the total export of silk from Shanghai during the years 1878-80:—

Year.	Raw.		Thrown.		Yellow.	
	Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.
1878 ..	57,425	46,708·71	7	6·09	4,116	4,563·68
1879 ..	64,045	52,899·74	34	34·14	6,711	7,423·65
1880 ..	74,597	61,112·54	13	11·75	7,119	7,826·13

Year.	Raw, wild.		Waste.		Cocoons.	
	Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.
1878 ..	833	848·84	2,199	5,555·93	739	1,124·13
1879 ..	466	620·70	2,362	6,134·57	999	1,888·24
1880 ..	2,214	2,233·63	4,858	11,720·00	1,941	3,953·99

Of the above, 923, 1,000, and 1,504 piculs, principally raw and yellow, were exported to Chinese ports in 1878, 1879, and 1880 respectively.

The following figures show the export of silk from Shanghai to Great Britain from 1878 to 1880:—

Year.	Raw.	Thrown.	Yellow.	Wild, raw.	Waste.	Cocoons.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
1878 ..	19,982	..	632	745	1,408	6
1879 ..	21,773	..	335	345	597	127
1880 ..	19,354	..	313	1,780	3,693	676

Subjoined is a comparative Table of the principal exports from Shanghai during the years 1879 and 1880:—

Description of Goods.				1879.	1880.
Silk, all sorts	..	..	Piculs	67,112	82,904
„ piece-goods	..	..	..	8,338	8,574
Tea, all sorts	..	..	..	679,198	794,201
Cotton, raw	..	..	..	260,069	552,194
Nankeens	..	..	..	25,462	26,353
Hemp	..	..	..	71,900	75,562
Hats, straw	..	..	Pieces	4,363,053	6,860,388
Hides	..	..	Piculs	26,070	18,522
Medicines	..	..	..	139,366	155,659
Musk	..	..	Catties	3,921	4,559
Nutgalls	..	..	Piculs	27,660	23,881
Paper	..	..	..	114,264	119,771
Oil, wood, &c.	..	..	..	79,143	50,917
Rice	..	..	..	2,039,492	3,208,660
„ tribute	..	..	..	909,500	717,279
Straw braid	..	..	..	35,530	48,636
Sugar	..	..	..	765,891	908,860
Tobacco	..	..	..	61,213	81,102
Vermicelli	..	..	..	41,109	75,868
Wheat	..	..	..	606,116	600,471

A Report by Mr. Acting Vice-Consul Carles on the working of the Mixed Court for 1880 is forwarded in a separate despatch.

I also inclose a Report by Mr. W. H. Tapp, Registrar of Shipping, on the shipping trade of Shanghai, which, as might be expected, is annually increasing in importance. Mr. Tapp's suggestions for preventing the under-manning of vessels, and otherwise providing for the greater security of life and property at sea, deserve attention.

I have to express my obligation to some mercantile friends for sundry information, and to Mr. A. Hosie, of this Consulate, who has given me valuable assistance, especially in arranging and tabulating the statistics in this Report.

For the appended Returns I am indebted to the Statistical Department of the Imperial Maritime Customs.

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, *Consul*.

(Table 1.)—TRADE in Foreign Goods. Imports and Re-exports.
(From Customs' Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Opium—											
Malwa	"	37,081.97	14,072,224	1,180.60	613,860	...	...	37,691.79	14,399,730	550.68	298,354
Batavia	"	7,721.79	2,934,280	212.40	80,713	...	...	9,173.20	925,816	5,760.99	9,198,176
Bencoes	"	8,100.00	2,946,400	33.60	12,066	...	...	2,659.60	910,656	5,694.00	2,949,840
Persian	"	1,601.59	642,804	148.00	56,240	...	...	1,692.84	643,279	144.75	55,008
Cotton goods—											
Shirtings, grey	"	4,183.947	5,648,328	686,134	926,331	544,278	734,775	4,133,984	5,580,757	191,909	259,077
" white, plain	"	848,504	1,290,337	319,149	462,766	30,016	39,092	11,617	1,291,835	236,023	342,246
" dyed, plain	"	23,075	47,304	28,381	57,915	4,210	8,680	18,665	38,068	28,651	58,531
" gentian	"	19,248	39,458	...	...	4,948	10,143	23,186	45,491	...	...
" white, spotted and breasted	"	820	1,312	...	...	950	1,590	3,433	5,491	...	...
" dyed	"	37,170	76,217	150	398	1,839	3,749	31,149	63,555	4,351	8,921
" American	"	5,900	7,906	250	335	...	...	9,535	12,776	...	...
" Oxford	"	131	701	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
T-cloths, 22 inches	"	1,817,949	1,690,693	666,104	619,477	73,351	73,866	1,697,583	1,579,078	707,760	658,928
" 36 inches	"	355,194	463,039	296,413	385,357	3,700	4,810	306,479	401,023	340,118	449,543
" printed	"	25,228	47,933	...	...	...	...	390,390	401,741	34,838	47,162
Drills, English	"	628,199	1,130,756	72,236	130,025	27,118	48,819	432,364	760,955	250,953	431,716
" American	"	172,833	449,366	9,430	24,492	3,116	8,102	277,841	799,587	...	...
" Dutch	"	61,619	106,819	1,980	4,059	180	248	60,970	133,633	...	...
Jeans, English	"	944,930	442,178	5,901	8,558	450	663	153,870	233,111	...	...
" American	"	43,000	106,650	450	923	...	...	10,320	22,917	156,531	226,970
" Dutch	"	11,890	30,213	...	...	...	...	10,120	17,201	18,149	26,356
Sheetings, English	"	186,820	354,968	12,305	23,390	...	...	141,966	298,063	58,639	3,009
" American	"	671,861	930	9,320	9,320	...	...	141,966	298,063	58,639	3,009
Chintzes and furnitures	"	201,064	1,687,153	3,638	3,310	5,197	908	141,250	1,411,250	114,006	110,275
Turkey red cloths or cambrics	"	246,427	310,534	37,903	47,379	10,445	5,467	124,751	130,969	74,744	286,016
Turkey red muslins	"	1,039	788	...	...	...	...	246,784	310,913	27,123	33,904
Damaaks, dyed	"	12,064	38,846	49	136	...	...	...	...	1,029	788
Velvets	"	63,275	317,693	8,353	49,498	16,511	79,616	10,278	33,094	1,835	5,898
Cambrics and Jaconets	"	10,159	45,716	3,761	10,224	383	1,639	31,866	172,717	21,131	107,767
Dimities	"	2,881	1,962	2,749	1,976	...	...	56,851	56,851	929	4,180
Twills	"	4,930	7,857	1,160	1,376	...	...	1,160	1,814	2,881	1,903
" printed	"	102,827	195,090	5,102	8,163	...	...	12,918	20,669	1,688	1,857
Muslins	"	94,976	31,298	...	...	9,207	3,531	79,808	143,654	20,812	37,904
Lawns	"	57,256	31,461	12,405	6,698	41,060	22,167	25,814	18,939	10,519	21,890
				61,686	33,297	61,306	33,693	13,250	7,294	14,486	24,465

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.
Cotton goods (<i>continued</i>)—											
Yafachellas	Pieces	25,596	34,087	900	1,320	52	74	5,016	6,772	91,428	23,591
Blue denims	"	2,404	2,870	120	160	...	...	68,580	6,472	1,964	2,354
Lastings, cotton	"	80,401	340,104	1,815	6,897	...	...	...	259,362	29,226	87,499
Chintzes, cotton	"	3,345	941	...	...	...	...	77,820	24,783	2,345	911
Cloth, Mohammedan	"	12,872	43,074	699	1,939	...	...	...	...	6,611	20,280
Long cloth	"	41	43	...	...	...	...	100	340	41	43
Ginghams	"	15,322	91,932	1,987	11,622	793	4,758	8,653	51,912	7,814	40,384
Linen, fine	"	155	620	35	140	...	...	...	...	190	760
" coarse	"	23	89	...	...	...	...	...	...	132	69
" and cotton mixtures	"	112	476	20	438	...	...	...	...	...	914
Brown holland	"	3,938	20,623	1	5	69	362	207	1,067	3,653	19,178
Canves	Bolts	792	5,344	13	54	64	418	89	623	651	4,337
Cotton duck	Pieces	17,508	31,967	2,707	7,464	220	440	5,750	11,213	14,245	27,678
Cottonades or cottons unclashed	Dozens	29,360	104,134	56,065	50,183	1,695	610	199,165	71,699	144,465	52,068
Cotton handkerchiefs	"	4,560	3,573	...	...	1,138	876	2,621	1,966	901	731
" quilts	Pieces	172	94	72	4,185	1	68	156	9,099	87	5,049
" thread	Piculs	17,066	426,073	5,336	133,170	799	19,961	15,736	393,400	5,868	146,462
" yarn	"	5,305	9,058	344	729	70	119	2,161	4,033	3,418	5,685
Mosquito-nets	Pieces	77	712	21	168	...	...	...	...	98	880
Woolen goods—											
Alpacas	"	4,070	11,396	889	2,486	456	1,276	2,196	6,149	2,306	6,457
Blankets	Pairs	365	1,497	...	...	...	...	140	738	155	759
Bunting	Pieces	106,633	1,099,320	4,411	43,433	1,830	18,746	98,751	965,635	13,473	159,872
Camlets, English	"	2,520	40,320	250	4,000	40	601	691	14,256	1,849	29,434
Camlets, Dutch	"	67,124	540,348	5,892	47,431	687	6,530	63,261	509,375	9,085	72,974
Lastings	"	14,074	63,333	360	1,620	130	540	5,163	26,229	9,163	41,194
" crape	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" imitation	"	94,120	508,248	9,299	50,214	2,660	14,364	78,301	422,835	25,448	121,273
Long ells	"	53,375	617,738	9,877	95,867	1,537	14,812	39,714	385,235	25,011	213,506
Spanish stripes	"	211,569	571,290	21,975	70,132	8,639	21,706	118,913	321,065	110,613	596,653
Lastres and Orleans figured	"	17,539	47,355	...	...	7,986	21,563	3,997	7,776	6,673	18,017
" plain	"	3,830	11,605	...	...	...	...	...	12,111	...	...
Cloth, habit, broad, and medium	"	90,999	498,726	907	21,541	60	1,425	12,467	296,091	9,379	222,731
" Russian	"	24,953	748,590	721	21,630	170	6,100	19,310	7,394	7,394	218,820
" narrow	"	187	1,964	...	...	...	...	...	...	187	1,964
" pilot	"	207	4,376	...	...	...	...	144	9,890	414	6,250
" poucho	"	444	7,993	331	6,934	...	...	103	3,466	263	4,538
" Italian	"	19,548	82,882	975	2,370	3,362	14,304	5,821	24,494	11,320	46,864

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Woolen goods (<i>continued</i>)—											
Cloth, union	Pieces	903	14,486	331	7,325	...	...	940	2,682	1,013	19,199
Atirakan	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	133	...	...
Casimires	"	7,447	55,953	673	5,047	...	...	1,605	12,713	9	77
Flannels	"	39	13	5	100	...	138	...	...	6,408	48,059
Merinos	"	89	948	5	65	...	...	...	...	51	1,048
Reps	"	65	1,258	2	29	...	...	...	...	60	1,313
Serges	"	109	1,874	3	39	...	...	...	...	111	1,703
Silases	"	202	1,045	...	...	...	...	...	...	903	1,045
Grenadine	"	6	104	1	25	...	...	...	...	7	129
Tweeds	"	331	3,834	...	...	...	...	...	...	331	3,834
Woolen goods, unclassified	"	2,045	9,343	82	311	...	...	255	1,148	1,872	8,316
and cotton mixtures	"	23	871	34	403	270	3,510	106	765	...	...
Metals—											
Copper, bar and rod	Piculs	9,261	141,234	...	...	398	6,070	5,431	82,834	3,431	52,320
Sheet	"	319	5,753	...	...	28	581	159	2,871	131	2,361
Nails	"	39	580	...	...	...	...	15	233	27	585
Wire	"	108	9,345	...	...	...	...	4	135	103	2,110
Ware and manufactured	"	106	9,444	...	...	...	...	131	3,208	...	...
Old	"	113	1,593	...	...	...	...	93	333	...	...
Iron plates and sheets	"	34,825	85,814	...	...	1,391	3,478	11,111	97,779	21,643	12
Bar	"	164,736	313,000	958	1,831	9,466	17,937	52,981	100,665	103,246	98
Nail-rod	"	319,974	591,954	3,641	4,701	21,319	39,956	146,584	271,180	154,712	53
Boop	"	1,712	8,495	...	...	173	945	5,675	11,351	...	...
Galvanized	"	3,191	8,635	...	...	133	563	288	720	1,773	61
Nails	"	3,234	14,459	...	...	418	1,870	548	2,453	2,370	39
Ware or manufactured	"	619	1,775	107	459	...	...	189	655	239	60
Wire	"	23,312	95,581	17	107	...	...	...	...	...	...
Old	"	179,160	325	1,841	5,601	1,451	5,931	91,259	87,164	1,912	81
Pig and kenledge	"	66,448	73,094	5,941	7,659	11,563	14,107	134,642	160,814	38,896	00
Lead, in pigs	"	86,262	362,303	898	890	6,831	6,415	13,914	15,306	47,311	21
In sheets	"	2,038	6,795	5,522	23,183	4,399	20,934	90,986	362,142	...	...
Pipes	"	396	1,950	...	...	75	334	318	1,913	1,644	74
Tin, in plates	"	4,252	76,547	38,490	583,037	...	...	35	172	381	31
Quicksilver	"	6,737	30,994	1,930	10,046	...	...	23,433	492,702	12,672	15
Zinc, sheets	"	167	8,635	1,190	46,829	425	1,971	7,450	34,411	1,109	55
Yellow metal and nails	"	3,921	6,067	438	176	...	...	1,733	73,530	...	...
Steel	"	18,732	57,133	312	8,304	134	778	2,599	48,003	1,439	57
Spelter	"	1,831	9,169	266	1,354	1,443	4,417	1,680	36,024	6,415	62
	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	767	96

[illegible]

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Cardamoms, superior	Piculs	2 00	300	410 22	61,554	...	H. Taels.	303 73	45,559	108 49	H. Taels.
Cardamoms, inferior	Pieces	63 71	1,274	4,232 62	86,050	...	286	3,983 13	79,062	288 80	16,375
Carpets	Piculs	274	1,561	...	...	...	...	280	1,597	...	7,976
Cassia lignea	Piculs	47 56	618	...	...	...	...	54 81	713	...	...
Cement	Pigs.	3,530	9,268	...	...	788	1,833	171	430	2,636	6,996
China-root	Piculs	189 43	1,187	...	...	...	...	35 45	248	184 08	7,633
Chinaware, fine	Piculs	206 57	7,230	...	...	...	...	4 18	147	303 39	7,633
Charcoal	"	35,365 19	17,683	...	...	...	...	...	...	35,365 19	17,683
Clams, dried	"	31,175 06	77,686	...	...	...	...	8,841 87	33,013	...	...
Cloths	Pieces	42,923	77,686	1,904	4,494	247	530	20,395	43,656	23,484	37,994
Cloths, cotton, Japan	Piculs	6,345	2,333	...	...	...	...	2,033	474	4,312	1,599
Cloths, emery, &c.	Value	...	1,928	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,928
Cloves	Piculs	2 27	68	1,317 71	59,532	56 94	1,768	1,078 82	32,364	184 92	6,528
Coal	Tons	183,919	760,232	1,237	1,237	...	...	154 71	1,083	94 96	174
Cockles	Piculs	2,483 87	5,169	1,023	6,694	...	...	4,553	18,881	180,388	748,045
Coffee	Piculs	79 74	1,108	...	...	...	...	304 78	1,341	2,279 09	4,138
Coin	"	48 65	268	...	...	...	...	...	365	...	7,117
Coke	Tons	2,681	19,770	...	...	...	...	...	...	398 66	2,193
Compuoy	Piculs	62 43	3,107	...	...	...	...	45	428	...	19,342
Copper cash	Strings	34,010	20,406	...	...	...	...	69 98	3,066	4 40	210
Cotton waste	Piculs	374 99	3,053	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,406
Corn	"	2 36	15,340	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,345
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,300
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,398
Covers, table	Pieces	1,638	2,860	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,860
Crocodiles' scales	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,860
Crucibles	Pieces	165	2,081	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,081
Cucurbit	Pigs.	154	6,219	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,031
Cutch	Piculs	47 00	1,179	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,492
Cattle-fish	Piculs	13,642 06	109,187	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	204
Dyes and colours	Pigs.	7,499	302,663	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,066
Elephants' teeth, whole	Piculs	1 31	14,067	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	121,008
Engines	Pieces	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35 01
Fans, paper	"	892,229	8,103	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,967
Fans, silk	"	35,022	2,452	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,640
Feathers, kingfishers'	"	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,442
Firewood	Piculs	4,780	1,419	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,740
Fish, dried and salt	"	477 87	3,564	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,419
"	"	24 84	795	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	885
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	437

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	H. Tael.	Quantity.	H. Tael.	Quantity.	H. Tael.	Quantity.	H. Tael.	Quantity.	H. Tael.
Sandries (continued)—											
Fish-skins	Piculs	924 59	9,471	300 01	3,299	...	...	107 47	1,182	417 13	4,588
Flints	Piculs	59,137 32	97,704	...	...	...	...	9,048 36	4,070	49,186 94	23,118
Flour	Piculs	9,532	28,198	9,655	38,540	...	...	2,354	9,416	10,813	67,232
Flowers, artificial	Piculs	...	5,567	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,817
Pencus	Piculs	386 19	11,066	91 41	...	...	...	38 92	824	378 68	10,702
Galangal	Piculs	...	...	537 79	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,891
Gambier	Piculs	264 98	1,102	485 83	2,186	...	...	360 43	1,622	390 39	1,168
Gamboge	Piculs	11 60	4,313	74 04	2,000	...	...	41 49	1,120	44 15	1,183
Gas-Mingos	Piculs	...	7,103	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,803
Gin	Piculs	3,570 69	13,119	21	42	...	...	...	...	...	7,181
Ginseng, Korean, 1st quality	Piculs	9 46	13,223	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,591	12,223
" " Japan, 1st "	Piculs	29 83	3,196	6 35	...	1 54	...	...	...	2 46	5,195
" " roots and beads	Piculs	821 12	30,847	32 70	5,715	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " American, clarified	Piculs	290 28	144,504	193 61	14,716	4 43	1,968	667 64	290,928	445 70	5,263
" " native	Piculs	...	3,602	1,160 97	2,079	...	...	735 34	183,835	415 63	103,908
Glass, broken	Piculs	...	...	31 11	2,111	...	...	19 92	1,993	1 18	118
Gold and silver thread	Piculs	...	2,439	35 61	1,846	...	...	...	...	35 95	4,275
Gum, dragons' blood	Piculs	527 80	1,056	1,042 62	2,698	...	...	389 60	...	1,280 92	2,328
" myrrh	Piculs	2 23	6,79	4 86	12,610	0 55	1,425	4 39	11,411	3 14	5,609
" oil-scum	Piculs	83 10	384	168 16	1,718	...	...	135 91	1,495	63 35	1,897
" resin	Piculs	...	...	602 16	4,017	...	...	339 76	2,638	173 39	1,879
Hans	Piculs	176 45	287	2,095 90	17,815	8 60	73	1,435 87	12,206	661 43	5,637
Hemp twine	Piculs	407 71	6,116	160 95	218	...	...	895 93	976	...	...
Hides, cow and buffalo	Piculs	136 24	2,534	11 92	179	7 09	106	23 76	356	388 78	6,833
Honey	Piculs	1,607 08	90,892	825 55	6,012	60 96	917	...	...	1,992 63	2,761
Horns, deer, young	Piculs	104 23	1,515	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,904
" rhinoceros	Piculs	262	12,670	69 80	3,635	...	...	198 06	5,773	...	16,205
Hose	Piculs	877 69	26,381	34 43	30,987	36	1,080	339 86	9,896	581 63	17,449
Indiarubber	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 54	17,316	16 19	13,671
Indigo, liquid	Piculs	46 25	1,776	6 88	268	...	...	...	...	...	9,044
Jeng-tas	Piculs	710 40	2,356	...	65	...	...	40 53	1,631	13 60	5,421
Lacquer-ware	Piculs	8,379 60	3,652	303 93	...	...	...	1,402 06	7,010	1,679 20	43,660
Lamps and burners	Pieces	247 91	217,870	...	7,903	...	...	7,004 33	189,113	149 06	7,453
Lamp-wicks	Pieces	619,576	93,556	3,480	...	0 45	23	98 40	4,920	460,603	25,768
Gross		11,220	2,568	20	6	...	...	980	269	10,290	2,805

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Lead, red	Piculs	814 29	6,107	10 00	75	118 63	867	...	...	708 67	5,315
" white	"	178 65	1,073	988 80	5,933	63 70	376	...	...	1,04 76	6,829
" yellow .....	"	...	...	847 86	5,111	101 67	661	...	...	1,743 19	4,880
Leather	Pieces	109 61	3,694	1,690 77	60,907	7 38	268	...	1,085	1,743 83	69,860
Looking-glasses and mirrors	Piculs	90,877	2,376	...	...	...	...	30 17	646	20,184	1,780
Lucraban seed	Piculs	648 46	1,606	847 66	3,120	...	...	967 40	3,394	533 73	1,333
Machine bolting	Value	...	5,389	...	...	...	...	45	6,111	674	6,389
Machinery	Piculs	685	71,088	53	1,979	19	450	...	...	13,176 14	67,486
Mangrove bark	Piculs	4,103 95	3,283	13,985 19	11,188	73	57	4,841 00	8,873	10,540	10,540
Matches, wax	Gross	7,547	311	480	311	...	...	8,183	13,884	...	...
" wood	Gross	984,935	383,033	86,135	30,712	5,160	1,764	679,813	908,444	493,088	143,836
Mails, coal	Pieces	741	1,676	...	...	...	...	...	...	741	1,676
Medicines	Piculs	2,904 99	14,973	85 89	514	...	...	530 79	2,801	2,470 09	12,686
Mother-of-pearl shells	"	561 19	1,683	147 10	441	...	...	365 63	1,097	543 63	1,097
Mushrooms	Pieces	5,697 63	185,051	260 43	8,595	4 73	166	4,132 66	136,047	1,740 67	57,443
Musical boxes and instruments	Pieces	5,855	6,115	264	323	...	...	1,881	3,035	1,238	3,403
Musk	Piculs	0 30½	2,460	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 30½	2,460
Mussels, dried	Mille	1,798 33	31,580	5,364 97	29,380	...	...	897 62	10,771	3,265 68	39,139
Needles	Piculs	819,643	134,913	240,995	35,369	15,060	2,408	659,425	113,835	186,163	54,038
Oilcloth	Piculs	...	...	144 33	9,383	...	...	131 15	8,525	13 18	857
Oil, linseed	Pieces	315 68	1,870	70 15	397	47 35	264	83 58	397	254 90	1,496
" kerosene and petroleum	Pieces	539	2,303	...	...	231	938	30	54	238	1,331
" paint	Gallons	10,375	6,737	250	160	...	...	378	186	10,247	5,701
" putty	"	3,123,580	383,753	103,400	14,418	55,500	6,660	1,698,740	215,436	1,501,740	156,074
" varnish	"	10,879	6,576	435	308	...	...	1,145	498	9,361	6,136
Paper, all quality	Piculs	6,570	2,686	236	124	800	265	319	120	5,687	2,335
" printing	Value	4,837 99	93,939	355 70	2,904	263 03	1,565	980 10	5,881	3,960 56	24,687
" red	Piculs	2,539 07	8,159	9 00	235	...	...	354 87	8,372	2,213 20	55,330
" white	Piculs	159	3,656	...	...	...	...	41	672	118	3,159
Peas, false	Piculs	9 88	7,343	...	...	...	...	0 03	9 85	9 85	7,343
Peel, orange	"	331 90	3,819	...	...	...	...	...	...	331 90	3,819
Pepper, black	"	2,898 02	19,417	26,766 18	179,333	46 33	310	31,687 27	212,305	...	...
" white	"	11 00	97	653 86	5,787	...	...	419 59	3,713	246 37	3,171
picric acid	"	83 40	4,684	...	...	...	...	43 74	2,329	44 18	2,633
Plate-glass	Pieces	1,789	11,418	1,195 90	...	...	...	...	...	1,739	11,418
Podas	Piculs	6,963 72	7,230	...	1,326	...	...	...	...	8,104 63	8,566
Portea, tobacco	Pieces	81,796	1,081	...	...	...	...	...	...	81,796	1,081
Prawns and shrimps, dried	Piculs	1,777 00	19,547	1,333 70	13,571	...	...	1,060 08	11,661	1,950 63	21,437

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		[Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries, continued—			H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Pumps	Pieces	82	7,513	...	...	...	...	...	...	82	7,513
" " wooden	"	2,710	814	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Putchuck	Piculs	309 96	2,413 21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Baldins	"	...	2,541	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rattans, whole ...	"	16,616 50	48,778	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rice	"	2 00	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rope, Europe	"	1,076 72	8,109	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " Manila	"	802 20	8,022	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " Russian ... ..	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " wire, old	"	3,991 19	7,861	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rose maloes ... ..	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rugs	Pieces	8,349	17,118	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sandal-wood	Piculs	38,533 61	115,034	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sapan-wood	"	4,113 66	10,454	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scales	Pieces	112	1,633	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sea-shells	Piculs	189 53	293	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sea-weed and agar-agar	"	288,113 82	598,007	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Seal, Japanese	"	242 80	1,083	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shells, sea	"	1,006 02	16,096	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shells, fish	"	479 26	19,182	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shells, fine, black ...	"	133 73	1,423	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shell-fish	"	7 72	4,632	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Silk piece-goods ...	"	6,209	9,314	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Skims, for, large and small	"	1,845	1,076	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " seal	"	1,359	3,850	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " dog	"	30,019	3,018	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Smalt	Piculs	15 10	302	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Soap	Boxes	87,786	61,450	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spirits of wine	Gallons	3,882	2,110	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stickies	Piculs	12 84	183	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sugar, brown	"	326 66	1,013	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " white	"	328 14	1,659	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " loaf	"	283 92	2,008	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sulphuric acid	Picls.	20,341 87	96,261	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tar	"	424	901	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tea, Japan, for re-exportation	Piculs	698 16	8,210	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " for local consumption	"	1,075 72	5,379	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " dust, Japan	"	879 37	2,468	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Telescopes and spy-glasses	Pieces	577	1,408	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Tinder	Piculs	311 24	1,953	635 98	5,691	...	H. Taels.	535 08	4,778	311 44	H. Taels.
Tobacco, stalk	Piculs	3,624 31	2,997	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,524 31	2,886
Tooth-powder	Pkgs.	167	1,413	...	...	...	...	...	...	103	2,987
Tortoiseshell, whole	Piculs	1 26	1,378	15 37	4,611	...	...	...	...	...	904
Towels, Japan	Pieces	46,843	2,696	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Towels, cotton	Dozens	68,706	25,141	1,040	398	333	...	...	...	46,843	2,696
Ty	Pkgs.	748	22,549	6	304	...	...	...	...	16,408	5,450
Ultramarine	Piculs	2,277 90	21,601	139 88	1,175	36 00	...	...	...	18,141	13,447
Umbrellas, silk	Dozens	1,055	15,825	100	1,500	...	...	...	...	1,433 18	6,000
Umbrellas, cotton	"	5,933	17,454	365	874	19	...	...	...	3,256	10,744
" alpaca	"	2,836	14,889	30	105	...	...	...	...	2,178	11,435
Vanilla	Piculs	94 01	1,964	8 10	100	5 03	...	...	...	84 20	1,774
Watches	Piculs	10,731	45,115	426	1,939	35	...	...	...	5,486	23,935
Wax, Japan	Piculs	385 81	4,185	...	...	...	...	...	...	330 42	3,531
Window glass	Boxes	39,823	87,608	...	...	540	1,188	24,394	53,602	14,890	33,762
Wine	Cases	23,116	104,093	1,937	8,716	...	...	5,346	24,037	19,707	88,681
Wood, camellia	Piculs	312 95	59,679	4,224 30	6,337	105 00	...	4,017 41	6,035	414 84	6,933
" ebony	"	17,031 01	9,678	674 92	2,363	67 44	...	15,818 47	55,365	1,840 03	6,440
" garoo	"	26 16	1,598	9 86	1,084	...	...	8 31	364	33 71	3,588
" kratjoo	Pieces	79	1,598	...	...	...	...	...	...	71	1,144
" lakta	Piculs	1,333 59	3,401	1,333 38	3,397	...	...	1,029 61	2,777	1,537 36	4,151
" pura	"	2,728 76	998	...	...	...	...	846 85	864	81 90	64
" rose and red	"	9,767 64	5,315	4,458 50	3,918	470 32	...	2,048 64	4,097	4,697 18	9,895
" scales	Pieces	34,149 49	3,690	3,690	443	...	...	3,653	455	44,416	3,409
" scented and fragran	Piculs	72 22	1,793	130 20	...	7 00	...	...	...	190 43	1,904
" unannounced	Value	...	86,798	...	17,202	...	14,928	...	29,945	...	59,239
Total		...	40,864,506	...	7,352,637	...	1,460,203	...	41,081,006	...	15,255,292
Excess of Re-export above Import of some articles during the year...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	679,278
Net total		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,575,924

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(Table 2.)—SUMMARY of Trade in Foreign Goods.

IMPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS.

(From Customs Returns.)

Imports—				H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
From Great Britain	..	..	..	21,551,317		
India	..	..	..	20,699,863		
Singapore and Straits	..	..	..	541,490		
Australia	..	..	..	209,142		
Continent of Europe	..	..	..	2,254,194		
United States	..	..	..	1,186,890		
British America	..	..	..	102,493		
Russian Manchuria	..	..	..	26,082		
Japan	..	..	..	3,221,552		
Egypt	..	..	..	9,752		
Cochin China	..	..	..	2,287		
Siam	..	..	..	59,444		
Hong Kong	..	..	..	6,181,992		
Total from Foreign Countries				..	56,046,498	
Chinese Ports	..	..	..	..	1,070,635	
Total Foreign Imports				..	..	57,117,133
Re-exports—						
To Great Britain	..	..	..	18,066		
India	..	..	..	42		
Singapore and Straits	..	..	..	976		
Continent of Europe	..	..	..	171		
United States	..	..	..	18,449		
Russian Manchuria	..	..	..	76,912		
Japan	..	..	..	1,345,390		
Philippine Islands	..	..	..	65		
Siam	..	..	..	132		
Hong Kong	..	..	..	710,829		
Total to Foreign Countries				..	..	2,171,032
To Newchwang	..	..	..	1,852,663		
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	7,793,199		
Chefoo	..	..	..	2,849,916		
Hankow	..	..	..	9,918,111		
Kiukiang	..	..	..	2,451,998		
Wuhu	..	..	..	2,057,546		
Chinkiang	..	..	..	7,580,297		
Ningpo	..	..	..	5,089,831		
Wênchow	..	..	..	196,964		
Foochow	..	..	..	525,387		
Tamsuy	..	..	..	5,175		
Amoy	..	..	..	33,059		
Swatow	..	..	..	13,563		
Canton	..	..	..	2,468		
Total to Chinese Ports				..	40,370,177	
Total Foreign Re-exports				..	..	42,541,209
Net Total Foreign Imports				..	..	14,575,924
(Signed)				P. J. HUGHES, <i>Consul.</i>		

(Table 3.)—TRADE in Native Produce.—Imports and Re-exports.

(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.
Silk—											
Raw, Ningpo	Piculs	878 18	103,109	...	...	8 00	2,160	293 14	76,178	88 04	28,771
" Chinkiang	"	65 60	14,891	...	...	...	...	36 00	8,172	29 60	6,719
" Wuhu	"	529 34	120,110	...	...	1 60	393	432 96	96,016	104 76	23,793
Yellow, Szechuan	"	7,500 53	1,650,114	...	...	743 88	163,433	6,548 94	1,440,767	208 70	46,914
"	"	537 77	139,830	...	...	23 65	5,899	511 66	133,031	8 46	900
Reeled, Dupion	"	1 44	187	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 44	187
Reine or waste	"	4,234 71	911,736	...	...	...	...	2,359 96	117,998	1,874 75	93,738
Wild, raw	"	9,437 51	268,126	...	...	...	...	2,176 54	239,419	203 88	23,429
Cocoons	"	2,145 83	44,153	...	...	...	...	1,459 46	29,189	686 38	14,963
Ribbons	"	540 76	259,585	0 28	110	470 74	235,955	...	...	70 26	83,790
Thread and tassels	"	16 14	6,294	0 12	47	10 06	3,923	...	...	6 20	2,418
Piece-goods	"	1,654 69	992,814	15 26	9,156	1,291 76	775,056	155 88	93,528	293 31	133,386
Pongee	"	1,621 42	463,104	9 80	887	48 02	13,685	1,580 88	450,549	...	...
Thrown	"	...	...	...	...	10 78	3,557	...	...	...	...
Silk and cotton mixtures	"	119 65	26,323	6 35	1,397	83 37	20,541	...	...	33 63	7,179
Tea—											
Black, Hankow	"	308,566 29	5,554,199	...	...	71,831 23	1,992,963	299,983 65	5,397,545	50,039 29	1,000,554
" Chinkiang	"	77,578 77	1,551,575	...	...	1,587 68	317	25,961 80	519,238	135 30	3,571
" Wuhu	"	384 64	7,308	...	...	...	...	249 24	4,737	788 20	18,401
" Ningpo	"	3,353 10	56,966	...	...	241 35	4,102	2,932 55	89,493	548 53	12,242
" Wanchow	"	1,351 49	20,279	...	...	...	...	803 98	8,030	...	...
" Foochow	"	443 42	7,558	...	...	8,574 43	145,764	161 69	2,747	...	...
" Amoy	"	80 63	581	...	...	...	...	3 80	76	...	...
" Swatow	"	3 93	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Canton	"	1 89	24	...	...	0 48	9	...	...	...	...
Green, Hankow	"	1,026 67	24,640	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Chinkiang	"	56,279 09	1,394,482	...	...	204 80	4,915	44,139 60	1,059,183	1,038 67	94,640
" Wuhu	"	17,073 89	17,026	...	...	...	...	9,912 33	11,939 09	11,939 09	268,385
" Ningpo	"	146,308 67	3,264,111	...	...	118 78	2,547	136,508 24	2,983,189	501 06	12,297
" Wanchow	"	142 65	8,135	...	...	...	...	133 80	2,468	19,746 56	280,426
Brick	"	174,866 83	961,977	...	...	173,372 51	948,048	13,699 25	73,346	...	...
Leaf	"	3,602 69	36,927	...	...	807 88	8,280	...	...	2,704 81	23,647
Dust	"	16,338 54	133,342	...	...	783 15	6,455	10,618 57	86,010	4,937 62	39,597
Seed	"	30 58	144	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 58	144
Stalk	"	49 41	173	...	...	...	...	...	...	49 41	173

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
Cotton—											
Raw, Hankow	Piculs	3 54	35	...	...	236	2,348	18,618 55	185,254	...	...
" Ningpo	"	22,330 46	223,068	...	...	5,887 84	55,599	...	...	16 06	160
" Canton	"	21 78	217	...	...	144	1,432	...	...	...	...
" Tien-tsin.	"	...	...	798 89	27,961	4,894 48	171,806	879 01	30,765	81 67	2,859
Nankow	"	5,056 27	176,960	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sundries—											
Alum, green	"	4,984 05	3,643	...	...	1,871 06	1,953	...	...	3,919 99	9,410
" white	"	48,048 36	38,430	...	...	17,947 02	14,557	13,987 32	11,094	16,334 02	19,983
Almseed, star	"	176 90	9,368	8,338 44	43,719	2,848 54	30,648	19 94	268	1,016 96	15,101
" broken	"	900 59	1,504	731 36	5,465	949 78	1,760	...	...	1,683 17	6,599
Arsenic	"	8,651 98	91,929	...	...	3,848 80	90,332	...	...	306 18	1,487
Bag, hemp and gunny	Pieces	2,932 754	63,092	905,096	8,506	690,093	96,469	1,000	358	17,16 57	49,804
" straw	"	435 433	19,804	1,986,350	60,083	1,898,353	48,437	3,410	133	5,401 89	96,466
Bamboo canes	"	86 331	3,508	477,690	14,331	8,600	253	18,004	540	5,57 617	10,129
" shoots, fresh	Piculs	2,343 63	3,933	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,343 63	3,233
" dried	"	43,715 14	181,593	76	387	28,141 92	120,784	10 76	36	15,212 16	61,390
" ware	"	191 07	9,983	922 16	11,066	1,189 38	18,673	6 72	81	...	...
Barley, pearl	"	745 84	3,245	51 00	100	1,482 32	13,270	174 06	534	...	...
Bean-cake	"	330,363 00	384,535	...	...	225,230 66	970,276	78,701 92	94,412	16,430 43	19,717
Bean-curd	"	709 04	3,118	...	...	213 80	638	...	...	497 99	1,469
Beans and peas	"	88 02	3,136	2 45	33	75,744 22	80,258	...	...	17,531 08	66,272
Bones, tiger	"	795 96	39,749	30 76	33	78 27	2,304	...	...	357 43	632
Books, Chinese	"	47 68	1,123	10 97	548	449 47	2,473	...	...	17,571	374
Bow strings	"	405 24	13,167	...	...	38 90	743	...	...	13 78	374
Brass foil	"	666 09	19,971	...	...	572 53	9,214	...	...	166 67	5,007
" ware	"	81,027 978	168,965	6,568 7	1,064	523 70	17,781	132 07	4,561	...	...
Brooms, bamboo	Pieces	3,815 92	785	12 58	165	190	3	360	7	87,113	1,139
Bulwons, brass	Piculs	1,798 41	8,992	46 57	983	2,276 86	184,611	1 25	75	550 39	83,024
Capoor cutchery	"	41,076	10,269	...	...	1,896 61	6,664	5 80	39	2,512	3,612
Caps, felt	Pieces	33,154	29,816	...	...	32,961	6,740	17,311	4,328	904	301
Carpet, native	"	206 63	3,383	900	180	32,006	28,846	959	863	389	337
Cassia buds	Piculs	1,609 98	3,839	6 40	103	840 84	5,453	...	...	...	...
" lignea	"	3,830 63	11,491	1,580 93	20,648	2,996 39	38,938	45 59	593	49 73	647
" twigs	"	9,882 65	4,843	285 08	865	3,686 17	10,755	0 10	1	530 57	1,690
Charcoal	"	13,410 19	96,871	31 87	333	9,002 83	63,017	4,360 78	30,446	9,883 65	4,843
China-root	"	6,383 09	186,408	17 90	696	4,119 97	144,198	1,389 47	48,631	89 76	631
China-ware, fine	"	5,768 88	67,698	0 40	...	4,333 36	42,333	537 12	5,371	...	...
" coarse	"	188 83	7,731	29 09	1,185	106 63	4,330	29 80	1,232	908 74	9,988
Cinnabar	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	81 99	3,493

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued).—</i>											
Cinnamon	Piculs	17 71	1,009	4 29	245	93 24	1,324	...	...	...	...
Clebs	Pieces	913	9,210	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Coal	Piculs	835,116 43	83,779	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cash	Piculs	3,188 34	19,159	286 94	1,302	780 55	4,993	...	...	...	...
Copper, old	Piculs	171 13	9,396	...	...	93 17	1,904	...	...	...	...
ore	Piculs	776 57	11,648	...	...	351 45	5,971	4 15	50	...	...
ore	Piculs	88 04	9,392	...	...	100 74	2,690	8 84	133	...	...
Cornelian beads	Piculs	18 03	9,159	...	...	7 79	1,038	...	...	...	...
Cow bone	Piculs	13 10	3,768	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cow bone	Piculs	13 10	3,768	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cattle-dung	Piculs	403	1,959	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cattle-dung	Piculs	19,244 94	153,959	...	...	19,939 80	153,916	302	33,992	...	...
Dye-stuff	Piculs	8,584	4,111	...	...	7,238 80	3,187	363 98	2,272	...	...
Dye-stuff	Piculs	10,500 29	33,231	35 88	766	2,942 73	16,486	49 75	280	...	...
Earth, red	Piculs	1,136 27	1,143	...	...	99,161 50	177	16,780	...	...	...
Eggs, preserved	Piculs	3,652 190	863	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed	Piculs	26,136	863	...	...	7,686,438	258,652	...	...	...	...
Fans, palm-leaf, untrimmed	Piculs	320	20,646,246	...	...	16,977,538	189,775	...	...	...	...
" paper	Piculs	2,992,329	96,216	...	...	3,034,679	359,740	7,034	556	...	...
" silk	Piculs	34,306	4,760	...	...	16,300 00	1,717	29	19	...	...
Feathers	Piculs	2,748 90	8,098	...	...	...	...	2,968 19	20,170	...	...
Felt	Piculs	308 45	4,318	...	...	...	...	306 25	4,345	...	...
Fire-crackers	Piculs	2,230 83	28,770	153 85	1,846	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fish, dried and salt	Piculs	33,623	32 63	...	...	3,566 56	26,678	38 10	433	...	...
" maws	Piculs	629 96	20,159	449 20	14,374	...	...	1,906 89	13,722	...	...
" skins	Piculs	605 90	5,665	...	...	681 66	7,497	7 40	297	...	...
" bones	Piculs	22 61	1,013	...	...	3 92	363	...	...	...	...
" glue	Piculs	420 63	10,938	...	...	644 34	14,163	...	...	...	...
" roes	Piculs	150 46	1,616	...	...	43 82	394	...	...	...	...
Flour	Piculs	5,092 26	7,498	142 20	268	...	...	...	...	...	...
Flowers, artificial	Piculs	38 41	1,229	...	...	...	...	106 41	130	...	...
" dried	Piculs	3,126	9,126	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" seed	Piculs	1,869 83	11,715	...	...	390 13	2,007	0 83	9	...	...
" plants	Piculs	630,390	5,313	130 40	960	1,092 56	9,091	...	...	...	...
Fruit, dried	Piculs	126,093 05	480,729	2,108	3,839	20,018	114,813	29,877 47	132,710	...	...
" fresh	Piculs	81,196 03	121,846	637 68	3,839	18,899 45	26,121	3,535 21	4,587	...	...
Fungus	Piculs	10,340 31	294,699	487 74	1,391	...	...	2,963 56	76,453	...	...
Gabriel	Piculs	68 57	223	...	...	3,331 43	10,660	19 98	64	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (<i>continued</i>)—											
Ginseng	Piculs	1,135 16	63,397	12 31	701	441 84	58,312	186 18	10,732	519 50	19,554
root " " 1st quality.	"	276 21	7,221	2 88	57	118 34	2,507	25 80	616	184 90	4,255
" Corean, 2nd "	"	46 12	115,800	...	...	12 89	32,225	29 69	7,225	3 54	8,850
Ginsware	"	35 13	38,332	...	...	0 38	494	6 05	7,865	19 21	94,973
Glue, cow	"	1,863 36	35,404	179 83	3,407	1,311 85	23,025	2 39	45	898 45	16,741
Gold thread, imitation	"	2,605 60	20,045	262 89	2,033	2,355 69	18,045	2 03	16	500 77	4,007
Grasscloth, fine	"	62 16	4,351	2 97	208	64 88	4,541	...	...	0 25	18
" coarse	"	648 63	63,268	2 00	192	212 26	20,376	...	...	435 89	41,846
Gypsum	"	4,502 95	180,118	205 96	8,238	3,290 28	131,611	155 14	6,205	1,263 49	50,540
Hair, goats'	"	81,120 00	40,560	...	...	13,844 70	6,922	20,934 00	10,467	30,341 30	23,171
" camels'	"	6,857 85	38,076	...	...	173 70	1,159	4,570 14	29,705	1,114 01	7,241
" horses	"	11,975 00	155,720	...	...	...	...	12,154 40	158,007	...	...
" pigs'	"	181 04	3,726	...	...	...	...	153 50	3,344	...	65
Hams	"	488 60	12,252	0 04	2	9 20	317	512 33	12,808	...	1,129
Hats, bamboo and straw	"	519 20	7,758	...	...	4 64	116	301 60	4,524	75 25	...
Hemp	Pieces	6,643 331	398,651	33,033	2,015	58,339	3,199	6,804,643	408,378	...	177,966
" "	Piculs	97,742 56	791,940	...	...	54,395 78	454,366	21,201 04	169,008	22,245 74	5,070
" skin	"	2,937 69	5,221	...	...	...	...	60 25	151	2,877 44	1,117
" twine	"	37 58	1,315	...	...	...	...	51 60	1,803	393,900	98,378
" sacking	"	431,000	31,549	64 70	9,265	36,600	3,131	500	40	7,031 54	91,411
Hides, cow and buffalo	Piculs	24,616 33	318,712	886 87	11,537	189 61	2,454	18,181 85	236,364	138 32	10,774
Horns, chamois	"	301 20	23,363	...	...	74 09	5,654	88 79	6,931	...	...
" deer, young	Pairs	233	7,997	...	...	...	9,485	48	1,680	...	...
" old	Piculs	12 06	363	0 43	19	36 91	807	...	...	...	...
" cow and buffalo	"	1,043 69	7,514	18 13	131	139 20	330	1,084 83	7,451	...	753
Hornware	"	51 08	1,277	31 25	531	42 25	1,056	...	...	...	9,416
Indigo, dried	"	724 53	11,634	5,528	6,528	475 39	7,606	8 13	130	589 51	205,639
" liquid	"	20,297 68	101,488	23,054 04	110,270	1,086 12	5,430	137 75	639	41,127 86	416
Inkstones	Pieces	11,151	1,149	...	...	5,595	734	...	...	5,556	1,337
Iron knives	"	83,583	1,680	15,969	343	15,969	563	...	...	77,714	3,509
" nails	Piculs	124 13	509	625 04	2,563	137 10	563	...	...	613 07	8,576
" old	"	8,388 73	8,576	...	...	2,715 92	27,514	...	...	8,388 73	18,983
" ware	"	8,455 87	46,573	8 55	61	68 97	1,481	36 01	295	5,712 49	...
Linglass	"	0 04	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,995
Ivory-ware	"	94 23	8,480	0 79	277	9 89	3,461	...	...	15 12	95,478
Jade-stone	"	99 49	26,089	1 45	1,130	26 96	1,731	0 01	1	74 18	5,380
Joss-sticks	"	763 91	4,103	55 05	440	105 14	841	47 79	382	665 03	6,711
" powder	"	5,581 37	4,705	8 00	177	...	...	...	...	5,584 37	...
Joss paper	"	5,167 77	63,036	44 40	...	5,574 27	67,131	0 94	3	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Jacquardware ..	Piculs	35 49	1,455	6 21	354	44 66	1,831	4 04	166	1,681 07	6,405
Lampblack ..	Pieces	8,276 83	8,990	...	...	1,655 76	2,516	...	...	43,973 94	7,336
Leads ..	Piculs	233,119	29,880	20,595	1,957	199,741	24,493	...	...	79 94	6,900
Lead, red ..	Pieces	115 21	864	...	...	35 37	264	...	...	1,096 60	6,160
" white ..	"	2,523 06	16,133	335 00	2,010	1,830 46	10,983	...	...	1,597 81	3,886
" yellow ..	"	3,335 70	21,693	578 47	1,810	3,016 36	19,606	...	...	1,376 35	14,590
Leather ..	"	2,071 93	21,700	55 56	556	552 75	4,632	...	2,984	303 83	12,153
" ware ..	"	405 96	16,338	8 33	333	95 90	3,836	298 39	582	...	...
Lily flowers, dried ..	"	40,338 30	296,369	...	...	15,841 47	96,049	14 56	206,015	...	6,635
" seed or lotus nuts ..	"	6,153 60	79,996	...	...	5,000 43	65,005	643 53	8,366	509 65	4,448
Liquorice ..	"	12,942 87	71,183	...	...	1,740 37	9,871	10,398 49	57,164	806 61	4,448
Long-angars, dried ..	"	27,847 60	167,085	3,156 65	18,911	23,619 72	141,718	5 50	33	7,379 13	44,275
Long-angars, pulp ..	"	2,310 01	80,080	2,397 23	31,164	4,383 83	55,690	75 23	978	348 18	4,526
Marble alabs ..	"	413 13	9,066	0 53	2	107 51	537	...	...	306 14	1,531
Mats, bamboo and rattan ..	Pieces	23,161	9,156	8,239	4,943	4,386	1,923	2,871	688	24,143	11,488
" straw ..	"	887,714	27,767	357,666	11,446	476,058	15,234	228,449	7,309	530,893	16,670
" tea and silk ..	"	80,792	3,556	3,335,188	74,726	782,918	25,053	14,100	450	1,618,963	51,808
Matting ..	Rolls	79	961	1,131	3,699	10	33	85	281	1,106	3,646
Medicines ..	Pieces	165,250 59	1,163,520	5,961 32	44,903	78,544 78	661,381	69,162 58	543,919	23,504 55	103,093
Mirrors with frames ..	Pieces	695,053	19,735	16,134	719	206,790	11,946	...	...	404,306	8,608
Mushrooms ..	Piculs	670 08	32,113	9 91	327	107 65	3,552	...	...	515 56	17,014
Musk ..	Pieces	38 064	304,595	0 23	1,840	6 354	50,925	66 78	1,874	...	36,830
Mussels, dried ..	"	443 70	6,394	...	...	2,096 78	50,925	27 34	218,730	...	...
Nutgalls ..	"	24,555 58	245,556	...	...	25,161	25,161	91 31	8,136	674 08	6,741
Oil, tea ..	"	10,943 29	65,060	...	...	9,945 03	28,469	21,034 58	210,346	5,700 11	34,301
" bean ..	"	430 90	1,745	...	...	5,115 03	30,090	38 15	169	480 90	1,745
" wood ..	"	88,199 09	474,095	...	...	35,398 86	197,448	5,742 00	31,581	44,558 23	245,071
" groundnut ..	"	4 80	24	...	107	...	...	119 46	597	...	...
" peppermint ..	"	2 05	483	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	493
Opium, Szechuan ..	"	718 36	208,396	...	...	...	10,477	...	...	681 98	197,776
" prepared ..	"	1 38	1,015	...	...	...	1,397	...	...	...	...
Paints, assorted ..	"	373 98	3,943	...	56	504 78	1,331	...	...	170 65	3,668
Paper, 1st quality ..	"	25,216 93	706,074	193 55	8,459	23,223 09	650,346	7,097 68	198,735	8,643 59	47,541
" 2nd ..	"	94,633 19	530,463	496 00	2,793	86,393 35	475,108	102 35	562	...	...
" 3rd ..	"	61 84	2,783	...	...	83 34	3,708	...	...	...	...
Pearls, false ..	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ped, orange ..	"	2,847 57	39,866	2,780 88	33,932	9,607 88	35,510	...	12	3,019 63	43,276
" pumelo ..	"	611 25	8,049	...	...	314 60	3,510	...	...	333 73	4,173
Pepper red, or chillies ..	"	277 01	6,921	...	...	103 80	4,618	...	61	185 99	6,187
Potash ..	"	906 10	2,580	...	...	43 03	170	...	...	863 07	2,710

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports (to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued).</i>											
Pottery, earthenware	Piculs	1,748 99	27,983	33 38	534	374 54	5,992	63 45	999	1,346 38	31,536
Prunus and shrimps, dried	"	681 80	7,499	9 36	26	1,610 67	17,717	39 50	438	...	...
Preserves and sweetmeats	"	2,008 08	18,073	497 23	4,475	2,992 05	18,838	75 95	694	337 25	3,035
Provisions, dried	"	1,314 08	20,806	11 90	67	790 14	10,617	993 26	4,493	263 53	5,933
Quartz	"	1,686 99	2,435	63 96	249	54 92	131	...	...	1,696 08	2,563
Rattans, split	"	531 23	9,763	3,287 12	17,093	2,414 58	12,555	...	...	1,408 77	7,300
Rattans, whole	"	194 43	7,723	902 23	2,831	69 92	978	2 47	34	324 25	4,541
Resin, gum	"	1,394 88	2,636	...	2,619	1,035 14	2,095	6 65	...	254 09	501
Rhubarb	"	6,771 94	244,106	67 16	...	800,657 28	960,789	5,601 71	192,874	34,347	34,347
" red	"	843,065 58	1,011,678	...	98	799 33	4,369	...	67	43,406 30	50,889
" Rouge	"	1,298 57	6,780	18 72	...	140 84	2,579	13 43	...	444 54	9,393
Safflower	"	158 21	3,553	29 63	463	1,163 36	66,187	1,917 66	121,920	46 00	1,417
Samshu	"	4,834 93	261,357	...	...	2,543 32	10,428	8,191 09	13,045	1,753 89	73,950
Seaweed and agar-agar	"	7,907 04	32,419	75 87	311	539 40	1,439	10 20	...	2,248 50	9,287
Seed, olive	"	504 63	1,371	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" scammum	"	340 27	3,743	14 10	155	...	...	...	...	354 37	3,898
Shoes, satin and cotton	Pairs	13,039 65	54,178	6	27	8,311 11	27,399	1,812 55	8,157	1,921 99	8,649
Silver and gold ware	Piculs	73,075	67,888	395	330	5,460	5,315	7,601	7,399	60,409	55,613
Skin clothing	Pieces	48,703	136,194	...	...	8,506	20,343	416	1,097	39,780	104,755
Skins, goat	"	81,330	31,743	...	...	2,545	878	113,250	45,335	...	...
" rabbit	"	34,110	4,083	...	...	8,445	21,800	1,000	1,220	4,395	...
" sheep and lamb	"	4,843	3,209	...	...	16,086	...	1,995	...	...	...
" racoon	"	1,915	3,830	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,915	3,830
" dog	"	18,613	6,553	...	...	4,581	...	5,479	3,563	9,437	9,437
" rug	"	145,727	198,825	...	...	24,932	...	107,736	98,963	37,991	31,963
" assorted	"	26,414	3,255	...	...	...	...	125	...	1,387	400
Snuff native	Piculs	931 04	6,331	...	...	...	...	...	...	196 21	5,857
Soap native	"	30,039 94	69,645	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,553 95	65,978
Spelter	"	100 00	45,355	...	...	1,477 01	8,657	...	...	170 00	500
Steel	"	6,047 32	45,355	...	...	3,855 62	28,917	...	6,202	1,864 83	10,936
Stockings, cotton	"	163 71	1,440	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,440 98	11,468
Stone, glass	Pieces	30,330	9,991	...	...	...	...	...	...	30,330	9,991
Stone, silver	Piculs	1,554 77	1,901	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,554 77	1,901
Straw braud	"	50,808 37	1,970,094	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,184 29	54,567
Sugar, brown	"	54,246 16	1,657,163	211,028 16	654,181	469,329 88	1,454,923	48,562 40	1,214,060	977,181 06	593,361
" white	"	481,296 69	2,066,019	117,464 86	639,013	393,841 43	1,983,247	13,963 11	24,060	230,937 06	834,920
" candy	"	39,574 37	277,338	7,260 86	47,193	29,568 39	192,129	4,376 10	25,446	12,900 26	58,563
Swansdown	Pieces	1,455	13,725	...	...	5,790	5,622	640	653	3,038	7,460

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>			H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Tallow, animal	Piculs	497 89	2,439	...	...	575 90	2,879	54 15	271	40,737 30	268,367
" vegetable	"	46,036 79	393,643	...	...	8,331 86	54,660	17 53	116	32 78	1,060
" Turbol "	"	255 68	8,192	...	...	284 03	9,098	...	...	21 36	705
" Turware "	"	30 71	1,013	61 13	1,956	8 94	295	...	297	...	...
Tobacco, leaf	"	67,466 49	404,799	...	...	22,608 78	138,653	14,101 20	297	30,756 61	184,540
" prepared	"	90,166 25	1,393,491	267 33	5,613	43,210 35	907,415	1,021 49	21,451	46,301 83	970,338
" stalk	"	2,698 53	2,794	99 08	83	1,301 46	1,613	...	...	784 10	1,344
Turmeric	"	9,210 49	27,631	83 17	250	4,135 14	13,375	...	266	5,079 83	15,240
Umbrellas, cotton	Pieces	5,998	1,679	...	...	...	...	88 70	...	6,998	1,079
" paper	"	137,872	17,902	...	...	28,330	4,034	65,739	10,518	83,313	3,350
Varnish	Piculs	4,878 26	204,887	...	...	2,146 66	90,159	19 06	801	2,712 54	113,997
Vegetables, dried	"	453 89	6,195	...	...	168 26	1,343	214 61	3,307	78 17	547
" salted	"	1,451 60	7,063	0 05	1	...	...	3 75	13	1,688 34	7,373
Vermicelli	"	73,994 33	443,966	140 49	323	7,570 96	48,435	67,372 86	404,238	889 81	55,168
Vermilion	"	809 49	19,188	18 25	109	1,389 63	79,957	28 55	1,770	1,218 06	58,467
Wax, white	"	8,789 94	419,517	1,898 60	117,707	3,373 74	161,939	4,148 15	199,111	...	...
" yellow	"	813 84	31,159	...	...	724 44	18,835	100 42	2,611	...	...
Wheat	Pieces	27,901 84	32,928	...	...	25,930 56	30,598	...	...	1,374 38	2,330
Wood, poles	Sq. ft.	147,821	65,041	...	...	41,057	18,045	...	...	106,764	46,376
" ware	Piculs	363,739	11,063	...	...	54,547	1,636	...	...	314,193	9,436
" fire	"	8,319 50	2,465	...	...	681 56	7,607	...	2,732	8,319 50	2,465
" coffin	Pieces	519	1,332	53 17	685	...	...	...	...	435	302
Wood	Piculs	1,865 73	13,137	...	...	84	430	...	...	...	...
Sundries, unenumerated	Value	...	71,450	...	7,335	25 15	163	2,340 98	14,566	...	14,601
Copper cash	Strings	233,980	139,788	...	...	13,000	50,263	...	13,821	290,980	133,668
Total	...	...	39,944,936	...	2,649,836	...	16,103,893	...	18,901,238	...	9,233,146
Excess of Re-export above Import of some articles during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,643,415
Net Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,589,731

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(Table 4.)—SUMMARY of Trade in Native Produce.

IMPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS.						
(From Customs Returns.)						
Imports—				H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
From Newchwang	..	..	..	1,269,621		
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	1,773,178		
Chefoo ..	..	..	..	2,509,834		
Ichang ..	..	..	..	121,056		
Hankow	..	..	..	14,807,088		
Kiukiang	..	..	..	4,683,418		
Wuhu ..	..	..	..	994,796		
Chinkiang	..	..	..	1,639,205		
Ningpo .	..	..	..	4,698,443		
Wenchow	..	..	..	82,747		
Foochow	..	..	..	516,533		
Tamsuy .	..	..	..	48,939		
Takow ..	..	..	..	282,691		
Amoy ..	..	..	..	487,536		
Swatow .	..	..	..	4,027,450		
Canton .	..	..	..	2,002,391		
Total from Chinese Ports				..	39,944,926	
From Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	2,649,936	
Total Native Imports				..	..	42,594,862
Re-exports—						
To Newchwang	..	..	..	722,287		
Tien-tsin ..	..	..	..	4,293,534		
Chefoo ..	..	..	..	578,713		
Hankow ..	..	..	..	3,363,548		
Kiukiang ..	..	..	..	565,002		
Wuhu ..	..	..	..	424,842		
Chinkiang .	..	..	..	1,715,235		
Ningpo ..	..	..	..	608,298		
Wenchow .	..	..	..	56,200		
Foochow ..	..	..	..	770,326		
Tamsuy ..	..	..	..	3,649		
Amoy ..	..	..	..	123,359		
Swatow ..	..	..	..	788,598		
Canton ..	..	..	..	2,095,302		
Hong Kong for Chinese ports .	..	..	..	2,184,169		
Total to Chinese Ports				..	18,288,062	
To Hong Kong for foreign countries	..	..	..	642,027		
Great Britain	..	..	..	8,490,349		
India ..	..	..	..	751,535		
Singapore, Straits, and Saigon	..	..	..	95,294		
Australia .	..	..	..	4,924		
Continent of Europe	..	..	..	1,443,695		
United States	..	..	..	3,960,430		
British America	..	..	..	60,878		
Russian Manchuria ..	..	..	..	190,262		
Japan ..	..	..	..	996,281		
Philippine Islands ..	..	..	..	800		
Egypt, Syria, and Aden	..	..	..	75,820		
Siam ..	..	..	..	4,774		
Total to Foreign Countries				..	16,717,069	
Total Native Re-exports				..	..	35,005,131
Net Total Native Imports				..	..	7,589,731
(Signed)				P. J. HUGHES,	Consul.	

(Table 5.)—*Opium Return* for the Year ending December 31, 1880 : showing also the Imports and local Consumption during 1878 and 1879.

(Compiled from Customs Returns.)

	Malwa.		Patna.		Benares.		Pertian.	
	Chests.	Pic. c.	Chests.	Pic. c.	Chests.	Pic. c.	Chests.	Pic. c.
Imported and stored on board receiving vessels	27,799	27,798 18	5,852	7,022 19	6,158	7,399 60	1,834½	1,834 50
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation, without being stored on board receiving vessels or landed	144	144 29	22	26 40	..	..	5	5 09
Landed direct from importing vessels	300	300 00	738	885 60	695	834 00	..	..
Total import—								
1880	28,243	28,242 47	6,612	7,934 19	6,853	8,223 60	1,839½	1,839 59
1879	33,951½	33,953 33	10,236	12,281 42	6,365	7,638 00	2,542½	2,542 24
1878*	28,895½	28,895 00	8,560	10,272 00	5,415	6,498 00	1,946½	1,946 50
Landed from receiving, or direct from importing, vessels (less re-exported and returned to receiving vessels), and intended for local consumption—								
1880	1,274	1,273 96	5,696	6,838 41	5,203	6,243 60	139½	139 50
1879	1,365	1,365 00	7,895	9,474 00	4,629	5,554 80	150	150 00
1878	1,376	1,375 39	6,909	8,290 80	4,108	4,929 60	139½	139 50

* 23 chests of Turkey were also imported during this year.

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, *Consul*.

(Table 6.)—TRADE in Native Produce.—Exports and Re-exports.

(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Silk—			H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Raw, thrown, and yellow	Piculs	59,456 12	17,886,856	290 29	75,067	656 38	197,988	8,587 63	1,929,565	68,960 43	20,029,476
Wild, raw	"	9,355 04	467,763	...	...	...	...	2,233 63	245,698	2,233 63	245,698
Refuse or waste	"	2,494 54	174,617	...	...	...	...	2,359 96	117,928	11,720 00	6,630,000
Cocoons	"	1 82	1,001	...	...	...	...	1,469 45	29,189	8,963 99	203,906
Clothing	"	159 34	95,004	571 34	169,804	4,265 73	2,495	...	868,584	6 34	3,487
Piece-goods	"	14 73	2,356	...	...	1 04	166	1,417 64	1,644 67	6,133 05	3,679,830
Pongees	"	9 73	2,141	...	...	72 03	15,846	1,628 90	461,234	1,176 92	466,756
And cotton mixtures	"	3,186 26	19,745	1 79	394	...	...	8,186 26	38,992	12,745	12,745
Wadding, old	"	80 20	11,778	...	4,046	...	33,062	...	3,923	187 73	53,711
Thread and tassels	"	...	...	13 69	10	5 15	2,472	...	225,955	475 91	228,437
Ribbons	"	...	...	0 02	71	...	...	470 74	...	...	...
Tea—			H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Black	"	526 89	7,903	4 73	...	1,565 54	23,483	411,600 85	7,446,446	413,698 01	7,477,903
Green	"	1,310 30	26,206	...	...	...	...	181,308 15	4,055,240	191,618 45	4,081,446
Brick	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,623,394	1,023,394	1,623,394	1,023,394
Dust	"	...	...	...	...	605 12	4,901	11,400 72	92,145	12,005 84	97,346
Leaf	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	807 83	8,280	807 83	8,280
Sundries—			H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Almonds	"	...	...	2 34	33	4 65	65	5,797 12	81,159	5,804 11	81,357
Alum, white	"	100 00	80	4 82	4	...	...	31,919 16	25,451	31,919 16	25,451
" green	"	0 90	1	...	...	...	...	1,671 06	1,253	1,671 06	1,253
Aniseed, star, whole	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,368 48	30,916	2,368 48	30,916
" broken	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	249 78	1,760	249 78	1,760
Arsenic	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,888 80	20,332	3,888 80	20,332
Bags, hemp and gunny	Pieces	90,590	2,065	...	...	20,600	691,093	27,137	711,693	27,137	97,927
Bags, grass and straw	"	2,860	56	380	7	10,600	161	1,831,793	46,560	2,932,963	48,796
Bamboo canes, dried	"	5 19	36	...	...	89,278	2,678	29,651 98	798	118,947	3,569
" shoots, dried	Piculs	3 70	44	...	8	493 00	6,101	1,146 10	13,770	1,575 49	18,906
" ware	"	...	...	0 69	...	88 23	1,960	480	18,753	88,741	18,906
" brooms	"	...	...	...	...	3,799 54	6,019	42 75	9	8,842 29	1,065
" split	Piculs	...	...	...	...	3,799 54	6,019	42 75	9	8,842 29	1,065
Barley, pearl	"	...	...	605 08	1,942	...	...	810 19	2,904	1,549 79	4,989
Beaucate	"	2,860 10	3,430	...	...	89,471 92	98,970	303,932 58	301,718	389,257 60	467,108

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (<i>continued</i>)—			H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Beancurd	Piculs	8 63	11	...	...	608 45	1,719	218 50	658	890 94	931
Beans and peas	"	10,724 66	17,159	41,324 07	...	158,140 14	253,026	128,681 07	167,699	338,790 94	508,990
Boues, cow, buffalo, and pigs'	"	...	...	18	36	2,835 48	3,138	...	...	2,563 48	3,171
Books, tigers'	"	...	...	...	...	4 30	138	...	...	82 57	9,642
Books, printed	"	16 16	808	...	...	690 30	84,510	449 47	22,473	1,163 90	58,160
Brass pipes	Pieces	...	...	...	...	1,835	1,679	...	...	1,935	1,679
Brass pipes	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" wire	"	319 87	6,596	...	...	572 73	17,188	973 83	8,314	273 83	8,314
Buttons brass	"	...	...	...	...	0 73	44	77 77	...	1,616 21	48,495
Capoor cutchery	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,978 11	136,686	9,978 11	136,686
Caps felt	Pieces	9,910	1,992	13,360	...	6,038	...	1,342 61	6,713	45,887	11,397
" silk	"	1,787	1,563	1,170	...	25,199	27,087	40,973	10,068	80,639	83,871
Carpets	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,965	39,606	61,001	54,940
Cassia buds	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	340 84	5,453	340 84	5,453
" hienca	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,040 88	89,531	3,040 88	89,531
" twigs	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,585 97	10,756	3,585 97	10,756
China-root	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,353 80	49,473	18,353 80	93,188
China-ware, fine	"	679 01	28,766	...	...	9 90	...	5,509 44	102,839	6,439 92	925,992
China-ware, coarse	"	1,763 02	17,630	...	...	210 65	7,873	4,770 48	14,704	6,439 92	925,992
Chow-chow	"	5 05	80	...	...	1,679 90	16,790	781 77	14,179	8,468 53	15,141
Cinabar	"	0 90	37	...	...	...	...	135 49	5,559	135 49	5,559
Cinnamon	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	135 49	5,559	135 49	5,559
Coin	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	135 49	5,559	135 49	5,559
Collars	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	760 55	4,293	760 55	4,293
Copper ore	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" old	Piculs	43 10	603	...	...	...	...	360 99	5,404	360 99	5,404
" ware	"	20 22	566	...	...	...	...	97 32	1,354	146 02	2,035
Coral	"	...	...	7	196	...	...	100 74	2,820	131 39	3,678
Cornelian beads	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ware	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton, raw	"	17,569 97	171,836	19,961 67	196,619	490,370 32	4,676,185	24,593 12	244,600	552,194 06	5,494,330
" seed	"	...	...	...	...	1,792 36	1,688	...	...	1,792 36	1,688
" clothing	"	...	...	...	...	32 46	2,271	...	...	2,299 28	8,561
" yarn and thread	"	176 83	6,990	...	...	28 63	815	...	...	24 58	815
" cord	"	...	...	...	...	50 67	1,754	...	...	50 67	1,754
" bed-quilts	"	1,690	1,521	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,690 88	1,521
" rugs	Pieces	1,571 70	2,619	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,451 88	4,419
" waste	Piculs	1,388 62	2,053	...	...	...	...	101 83	183	1,388 62	2,053

[1211]

C 2

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.
<i>Sundries (continued).—</i>											
Cow bezoar, native ...	Piculs	...	13,371	...	...	...	...	0 07	...	...	2,660
Curioities ...	Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36,790
Cattle-fab ...	Piculs	1 00	...	609 99	4,880	300 60	2,405	19,523 78	156,190	20,435 87	163,483
Dressing-cases ...	Piculs	...	...	...	...	21	...	86,380	3,187	7,359	8,233
Dusters, feather ...	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,095	86,360	1,095
Dye stuff ...	Piculs	...	1,016	...	...	4 66	97	9,893 47	15,775	9,897 13	15,873
Eggs, preserved ...	Pieces	145,300	6,180	165,900	...	2,398,920	16,757	118,390	838	2,893,310	19,763
...	...	2,013,290	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,013,290	6,180
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,686,438	253,653	7,686,438	253,653
" paper ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,977,538	159,775	15,977,538	159,775
" silk ...	...	540	...	2,105	147	9,215,501	155,086	3,041,713	240,396	5,359,859	395,567
Fenchons ...	Piculs	3,598	6,004	...	...	42,116	5,514	16,229	1,736	61,943	7,789
Felt ...	...	883 87	...	...	...	23 20	63	2,978 70	90,350	3,083 77	94,306
Fish bones ...	...	...	149	...	...	...	...	305 25	4,945	3,083 77	4,986
" dried and salted ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	229 63	2,756	243 10	2,905
" maws ...	...	8 34	...	113 40	883	...	...	3 93	383	3 93	383
" skins ...	...	...	...	...	...	583 96	4,202	5,473 96	39,400	6,178 96	44,487
" glue ...	...	...	...	...	...	96 08	885	961 98	30,794	983 06	31,619
" line, silk ...	...	...	...	...	...	778 19	30,183	568 44	14,780	1,344 63	34,963
Flowers, dried ...	...	...	...	...	...	4 50	...	691 56	7,497	696 06	7,547
Flower seeds ...	...	...	...	2 47	601	1 97	475	315 71	3,143	30 15	4,218
" plants ...	...	...	...	...	...	29 10	279	390 13	8,007	419 23	9,286
Fruit, dried ...	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,098 56	9,091	1,098 56	9,091
" fresh ...	Piculs	33 86	805	301 98	656	9,526	695	50,083 87	874	30,009	2,080
Fungus ...	...	30 73	97	27 67	27	1,003 40	9,768	47,246 87	145,584	48,584 05	149,180
Galangal ...	...	0 60	17	...	...	1,418 43	2,600	14,573 85	93,883	16,069 17	99,597
Garlic ...	...	...	...	...	...	13 30	348	6,946 63	197,860	6,949 43	198,315
Ginger, fresh ...	...	...	...	2,397 12	3,446	4,428 76	6,640	3,361 41	10,734	3,361 41	10,734
Ginseng ...	...	...	...	...	...	30,357 73	57,566	...	...	3,728 88	10,068
" root ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	637 97	44,044	30,687 73	57,566
" 1st quality ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	144 14	3,023	30,687 73	57,566
" 2nd ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42 56	106,460	144 14	3,023
Glassware ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 43	8,369	43 58	106,460
Glue, cow ...	...	18 08	344	...	...	316 33	6,010	1,314 24	93,070	1,548 65	29,434
Gold thread, imitation ...	...	2 00	18	...	...	13 49	...	2,367 78	18,061	2,375 31	18,177
...	...	0 79	53	9 12	148	13 34	934	64 85	4,641	61 13	5,675

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Grasscloth, fine	Piculs	1 00	96	0 43	42	12 63	1,212	214 74	20,614	238 90	21,964
"	"	12 28	491	28 72	1,148	1,412 95	56,519	3,446 42	137,816	4,899 37	193,974
Ground-nuts	"	403 80	1,009	...	...	...	...	13	30	415 80	1,089
Gypsum	"	...	...	...	...	217 00	...	...	17,389	34,995 70	17,498
Hair, camels'	"	...	...	...	...	388 65	6,102	12,154 40	158,007	12,154 40	158,007
" goats'	"	5 72	37	5 67	37	...	...	163 70	8,661	5,693 83	37,011
" horse	"	14 76	295	9 85	67	...	...	8 57	326	330 56	6,806
" human	"	311 99	5,960	...	...	...	...	616 97	12,923	638 37	15,958
" pigs'	"	191 40	3,035	...	...	...	...	6,857,973	6,659	6,823 21	99,318
Hams	Pieces	93 01	380	4,868 21	73,873	1,297 04	19,456	443 95	411,477	6,960,358	411,639
Hata, straw	Piculs	2,400	144	...	...	65 20	522	75,496 82	603,974	75,562 42	604,499
Hemp	Pieces	0 40	3	...	...	...	...	37,100	8,171	37,100	3,171
" cloth	Piculs	...	...	...	...	35 04	1,226	70 36	2,463	105 40	3,589
" twine	"	...	...	...	...	32 21	419	18,371 46	8,381	18,621 75	240,782
Hides, cow and buffalo	"	71 26	997	46 82	608	...	...	0 53	9	153 28	385
Hoofs	"	162 75	586	...	...	...	...	1,164 03	19,585	2,042 18	14,705
Horns	"	19 25	139	407 02	3,931	451 88	...	163 88	11,185	162 88	13,865
" deer, young—	Pairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,185	...	11,800
" deer, old	Piculs	...	1,090	...	...	21	735	26 91	807	340	2,017
Indigo, dried	"	34 00	...	...	...	6 20	190	483 59	7,736	483 52	7,736
" liquid	"	...	...	...	...	4 00	...	1,923 87	6,119	1,927 87	6,139
Iron, China	"	13 44	1,119	5 35	451	109 55	9,860	4 71	423	132 05	11,983
Ironware	"	10 65	59	...	...	351 63	1,481	2,761 93	27,740	3,113 21	29,598
Ivoryware	"	...	...	...	...	2 34	620	9 90	3,462	12 24	4,232
Jade-stone	"	...	...	...	...	2 58	151	...	1,751	29 54	1,872
" ware	Value	...	1,797	...	...	...	2,151	...	...	...	3,878
Joss paper	Piculs	0 84	11	...	...	113 53	1,862	5,674 51	67,134	5,788 97	68,827
" sticks	"	8 83	70	...	...	...	...	123 03	1,223	161 75	1,393
Lacquered	"	...	...	...	...	15 84	...	1,487 70	2,977	64 54	2,646
Lampblack	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,635 76	2,516	1,635 76	2,516
Lamps	Pieces	779 68	14,034	181 95	3,975	3,342	...	199,741	24,492	203,063	26,011
Lamp-wicks	"	...	...	...	...	256 63	...	...	...	1,318 26	21,927
Lead, white	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,830 46	10,963	1,830 46	10,963
" yellow	"	2,974 85	93,746	49 00	490	87 83	...	3,016 36	19,606	3,016 36	19,606
Leather	"	58 94	1,158	5 09	202	44 38	874	110 46	7,668	3,965 32	31,709
" ware	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,418	189 87	7,595
Lily flowers, dried	"	5 83	...	12,719 82	76,519	1,238 68	7,453	50,177 30	301,064	64,141 63	384,850

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports.)	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued).—</i>											
Lily-seed, or lotus-nuts	Piculs	...	...	118 87	1,545	68 88	831	5,645 95	73,371	5,926 71	75,747
Liquorice	"	...	...	...	...	" 1 30	8	12,133 76	66,735	12,133 76	66,735
Lung-nuts, dried	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,625 22	141,751	23,625 22	141,751
Manure cake	"	...	...	...	...	13,096 80	18,335	4,359 06	86,668	13,096 06	56,668
Mats, straw, bamboo, and rattan	Pieces	11,310	359	2,128	298	8,110	260	711,764	25,154	723,312	26,071
Medicines	Rolls	...	...	...	...	...	...	797,019	25,503	797,018	25,503
Mirrors with frames	Pieces	326 36	2,149	2,303 38	13,135	5,423 98	25,834	95	314	95	314
Mushrooms	Piculs	...	...	...	...	314	210	147,707 36	1,105,300	155,658 96	1,145,418
Musk	"	0 183	1,495	0 034	280	1 83	59	206,790	11,846	207,004	12,056
Mussels, dried.	"	...	...	...	...	0 274	2,215	164 43	5,426	166 36	273,635
Nankens	"	336 40	11,774	3,184 64	111,463	17,068 64	597,061	33 694	269,545	34 194	273,635
Nuts, white	"	...	...	...	...	8 80	47	2,368 09	28,297	2,361 99	28,344
Oil, bean	"	...	...	216 60	541	...	...	5,773 49	502,071	26,353 17	922,358
" castor	"	...	...	...	...	367 67	692	23,881 50	238,815	3,273 68	3,968
" ground-nut	"	139 94	208	1 78	9	401 09	1,621	2,739 31	2,825	401 09	1,621
" tea	"	2,943 46	11,213	...	...	1,016 00	5,080	72 50	115	292 44	323
" wood	"	19 73	118	...	...	1	6	119 46	597	3,879 70	16,899
" cotton-seed	"	3 60	30	...	...	73 80	408	5,143 18	30,859	5,163 91	30,983
" flower	"	...	...	...	...	40 56	122	41,640 86	229,024	41,718 36	329,450
Opium husk	"	...	...	...	...	11 30	56	...	...	40 56	122
Szechuan	"	...	...	...	...	60 10	3,050	...	...	11 30	56
" prepared	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	36 38	10,550	50 10	3,050
Paints, assorted	"	...	...	...	...	0 08	96	51 27	1,327	36 38	10,550
Paper, 1st quality	"	149 91	4,197	4 66	130	531 86	14,610	1,327	1,331	51 35	1,423
" 2nd	"	28 48	157	...	...	2,260 33	12,432	204 78	848,961	304 78	1,331
" ciled	"	...	...	8 70	113	86,484 60	475,664	30,997 30	867,918	89,773 41	867,918
Pearls, false	"	...	...	...	...	70 42	915	...	...	79 13	1,028
Pell, orange	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 34	3,706	82 34	3,706
" Pincto	"	...	...	...	...	8 68	121	2,604 77	36,532	2,617 45	36,543
Pean, Chinese	Pieces	66,780	753	...	...	314 60	4,616	917	...	314 60	4,616
Peppermint leaf	Piculs	...	...	313 09	745	80,999	917	250 61	877	147,779	1,670 4
Pistons	Pieces	123,764	1,392	77,384	585	105,050	1,139	306,198	...	306,198	3,045
Pottery, earthenware	Piculs	8,552 28	133,636	4 86	78	362 61	5,802	486 99	6,991	9,156 74	146,507
Prunus and thurapple, dried.	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,650 47	18,155	1,650 47	18,155

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Preserves and sweetmeats	Piculs	67 44	607	4 50	41	2,059 60	18,536	2,178 00	19,612	4,309 54	38,696
Rattans, split	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,414 58	12,555	2,414 58	12,555
Rattanware	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	72 39	1,012	72 39	1,012
Resin, gum	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,040 79	2,125	1,040 79	2,125
Rhubarb	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,614 64	232,378	6,614 64	232,378
Rice	"	...	...	...	...	2,407 900 50	2,888 640	800,657 23	960,789	8,907,857 78	8,849,489
" tribute	"	...	...	...	...	717,278 60	860,736	...	...	717,278 60	860,736
" red	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	802 75	4,436	802 75	4,436
" Eouge	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	140 84	2,579	135 92	3,101
Eouge, akin	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	107,736	96,963	107,736	96,963
Safflower	Piculs	328 02	1,336	417 00	1,770	...	...	8,081 04	190,407	8,081 04	190,407
Samahn	"	147 87	368	444 40	1,170	3,930 68	11,711	5,734 41	23,473	7,174 67	29,377
Sea blubber	"	119 50	368	...	...	1,539 87	984	580 63	1,460	4,813 08	14,116
Seaweed and agar-agar	"	59,269 73	35,562	...	...	1,034 52	7,446	10,123 66	45,556	60,309 00	36,486
Seed-cake, vegetable	"	32 34	146	...	...	64 20	970	4,860 25	20,413	12,486 94	56,191
Seed, sesamum	"	...	...	...	...	1,076	2,918	13,081	19,604	5,055 45	31,983
" melon	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,078	187	14,642	13,948
Shoes, silk and cotton	Pairs	606	290	209,325	18,329	31,198	540	...	...	243,156	21,884
" straw	"	555	50	...	...	0 36	540	8,993	21,439	9,301	23,067
Silverware	Piculs	...	...	...	...	103	388	1,069	191 38	...	1,069
Skin clothing	Pieces	176	239	...	...	...	...	340	840	397	445
Shins or hides, ass	Piculs	...	1,320	...	...	...	...	115,795	46,213	119,653	48,335
" fox, and tails	Pieces	3,888	2,722	...	...	...	...	79	5,753	5,753	1,538
" goat	"	...	...	...	...	5,071	1,457	89,715	3,565	64,015	10,425
" cat	"	...	...	1,600	380	32,700	6,340	18,081	23,110	87,050	23,110
" rabbit and hare	"	...	...	...	...	87,050	3,014	3,641	1,645	87,050	3,014
" sheep and lamb	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	30,558	4,706	33,813	7,381
" weasel and tails	"	...	...	...	...	2,392	56 88	1,877 01	8,687	1,833 87	7,381
" squirrel	"	843	711	...	...	29 50	44	861 26	957	1,680 76	3,731
" various	"	...	...	...	...	9,110	3,006	...	...	9,110	3,006
Soap	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,689 50	35,119	4,689 50	35,119
" seed	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,915,587	1,915,587	48,634 15	1,915,587
Spectacles	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	...	47,091 28	1,478,983	47,091 28	1,478,983
Steel	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	387,533 54	1,889,714	387,533 54	1,889,714
Straw braid	"	11 87	284	...	...	...	...	33,533 43	220,575	33,533 43	220,575
Sugar, brown	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" white	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" candy	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports.)	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Swansdown ..	Pieces	...	3,415	...	...	...	...	6,480	6,276	6,420	6,276
Tallow, animal ..	Piculs	683 03	...	...	...	273 50	1,358	630 05	3,160	1,586 58	7,923
" vegetable ..	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,299 49	54,776	8,299 49	54,776
Tin-foil ..	"	...	...	...	...	9	64	284 08	9,088	284 08	9,152
Tinware ..	"	...	...	...	...	0 60	19	17 95	593	20 51	676
Tobacco, leaf ..	"	0 30	2	...	...	6 80	41	36,709 98	230,259	36,717 78	230,306
" prepared ..	"	3 56	75	...	...	149 50	3,139	44,331 74	938,866	44,384 80	939,080
" stalk ..	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,901 46	1,613	1,901 46	1,613
Turmeric ..	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,213 84	12,641	4,213 84	12,641
Umbrellas, paper ..	Pieces	1,595	255	1,000	160	2,300	400	91,559 73	14,552	99,664	15,387
Varnish ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	20 79	873	2,165 73	90,960	2,186 51	91,833
Vegetables, dried ..	"	...	...	257 59	827	5,785 84	17,214	372 77	4,649	6,369 20	22,690
Vermicelli ..	"	34 71	111	268 75	626	134 11	968	8 75	13	441 33	1,747
Vermilion ..	"	16 23	109	323	1,938	583	3,498	74,948 82	449,653	75,868 05	455,204
Wax, white ..	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,318 18	81,727	1,318 18	81,727
Wax, yellow ..	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,631 89	361,050	7,631 89	361,138
Wheat ..	"	...	...	13 49	351	...	88	834 88	21,445	848 34	23,037
Wood, poles ..	Pieces	...	...	...	...	9 99	980	25,830 56	30,598	600 471 43	708,556
" planks, soft ..	Sq. feet	600	...	...	...	574,540 87	677,938	41,057	18,045	43,303	18,613
" ware ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	1,246	548	54,547	1,635	55,147	1,666
Wool, sheep's ..	"	...	...	...	...	1,441 14	...	2,839 95	10,339	1,317 18	14,489
Sundries, unenumerated	Value	1,315 86	8,553	878 46	5,697	1,461 98	9,523	2,866 13	14,729	5,923 43	38,508
Copper cash ..	Strings	...	4,788	4,000	2,857	2,085,985	1,251,591	19,100	65,038	2,101,985	93,688
Total ..	...	...	19,213,019	...	862,027	...	15,129,190	...	35,005,131	...	70,909,887

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(Table 7.)—SUMMARY of Trade in Native Produce.

EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS.

(From Customs Returns.)

To—	Exports.		Re-exports.		Total Exports and Re-exports.	
	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Great Britain	5,142,981		8,490,349		13,633,330	
India	331,611		751,535		1,083,146	
Singapore and Straits .	378,763		95,285		474,047	
Australia	1,171		4,924		6,095	
Continent of Europe ...	10,413,889		1,443,695		11,857,584	
United States	2,453,691		3,960,430		6,414,121	
British America	2,329		60,878		63,107	
Russian Manchuria ...	32,023		190,262		222,285	
Japan	303,773		996,281		1,300,054	
Philippine Islands ...	35,405		806		36,205	
Cochin China	6,314		9		6,323	
Egypt, Syria, and Aden	64,390		75,390		140,110	
Siam	46,880		4,774		51,654	
Hong Kong, for foreign countries	948,723		642,037		890,760	
Total to foreign countries ...	...	19,461,742	...	16,717,069	...	36,178,811
Hong Kong for Chinese ports	613,304		2,184,169		2,797,473	
Newchwang	406,485		723,387		1,130,773	
Tien-tsin	3,381,883		4,293,534		8,126,417	
Chefoo	322,163		578,713		904,816	
Ichang	5,490		...		5,490	
Hankow	4,330,433		3,363,548		7,693,981	
Kinkiang	689,587		565,002		1,154,589	
Wuhu	8,648		424,843		433,490	
Chinkiang	11,969		1,715,335		1,727,204	
Ningpo	64,650		608,298		672,948	
Wenchow	24,390		56,200		80,590	
Poochow	503,318		770,326		1,273,644	
Tamsuy	10,940		3,649		14,589	
Amoy	734,258		123,359		857,617	
Swatow	1,367,561		783,598		2,151,159	
Canton	2,911,475		2,095,302		5,006,777	
Total to Chinese ports ...	...	15,742,494	...	18,288,062	...	34,030,556
Grand Total ... ..	...	35,204,236	...	35,005,131	...	70,209,367

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, *Consul*.

(Table 8).—EXPORT of Tea for the Year ended December 31, 1880.
(From Customs Returns.)

	BLACK.			Leaf.	Dust.	Brick.	Japan Uncoloured.	GREEN.					Japan Dust.
	Congou.	Oolong.	Total.					Young Hyson.	Hyson.	Twankay.	Imperial.	Gun- powder.	Total.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Tea—													
Great Britain	285,340·94	...	285,340·94	...	10,429·77	10·50	15·69	17,576·66	4,917·77	300·15	3,674·38	21,067·43	47,566·39
Hong Kong	1,326·80	...	1,326·80	...	...	150·40	...	19·99	69·33	...	...	98·15	187·47
India	513·59	...	513·59	...	...	...	...	40·92	11,946·32	...	...	...	11,987·24
United States of America ..	28,346·97	0·60	28,347·57	...	188·80	65·00	429·39	47,188·39	6,455·23	1,058·19	13,021·34	51,020·11	118,743·26
Continent of Europe—													
France	1,669·52	...	1,669·52	...	...	...	...	...	55·49	...	8·85	...	64·34
Other countries ..	1,248·73	...	1,248·73	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russia (Odessa) ..	5,350·29	...	5,350·29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russian Manchuria ..	5,769·81	...	5,769·81	...	...	13,467·75	...	...	0·48	...	...	...	0·48
Japan	166·27	2·00	168·27	...	...	...	...	...	1·50	...	...	...	1·50
Straits	4·37	...	4·37	...	...	...	...	...	12·07	...	...	...	12·07
Saigon	0·52	...	0·52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Canada	150·40	...	150·40	...	...	...	...	1,404·54	251·04	18·30	364·89	665·41	2,704·08
Egypt and Aden	6·50	...	6·50	...	...	5·60	...	...	61·04	...	...	...	61·04
Total to foreign countries ..	329,894·71	2·60	329,897·31	...	10,618·57	13,699·25	575·08	66,230·50	23,770·27	1,376·54	17,069·46	73,851·10	181,297·87
Chinese ports ..	83,800·70	...	83,800·70	807·88	1,387·27	172,372·51	...	20·09	204·80	...	...	95·69	330·58
Grand Total	413,695·41	2·60	413,698·01	807·88	12,005·84	186,071·76	575·08	66,250·59	23,975·07	1,376·54	17,069·46	73,946·79	181,618·45
													928·95
													151·5
													1,080·45

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(Table 9.)—EXPORT of Silk for the Year ended December 31, 1880.

(From Customs Returns.)

To—	Raw.		Thrown.		Yellow.		Total.		Raw, wild.		Waste.		Cocoons.		Japan.	
	Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.	Bales.	Piculs.	Raw.	Refuse.
Great Britain .	19,354	15,505·94	...	...	313	319·94	19,667	15,825·88	1,780	1,794·11	3,693	8,753·55	676	1,586·10	...	Bales.
Hong Kong ...	316	256·69	...	...	149	180·66	465	407·85	...	...	7	8·30	...	...	...	...
India ...	1,374	1,167·56	...	...	1,980	1,968·49	3,264	3,138·05	...	...	310	597·89	2	3·57	...	...
United States of America ...	8,496	8,092·09	...	...	...	...	8,496	8,092·09	1	1·00	5	6·72	1	0·90	...	...
Continent of Europe—																
France ...	40,691	32,513·94	...	...	3,809	4,085·04	44,500	36,598·98	339	355·85	931	2,405·54	1,263	2,564·42	...	...
Other countries ...	2,202	1,763·32	...	...	137	163·70	2,339	1,916·02	38	35·58	6	13·00	...	...	...	...
Egypt and Syria ...	263	212·16	1	0·97	310	337·08	574	550·21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Japan ...	3	3·04	...	...	...	...	3	3·04	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Straits .	1,179	931·83	...	...	45	46·69	1,224	978·51	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to foreign countries	73,908	60,446·56	1	0·97	6,653	7,060·60	80,463	67,608·13	2,158	2,176·54	4,862	11,715·00	1,941	3,953·99	...	...
„ Chinese ports...	789	656·98	13	10·78	468	765·53	1,367	1,442·29	56	57·09	6	5·00	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	74,697	61,112·54	13	11·75	7,119	7,826·13	81,729	69,050·43	2,214	2,233·63	4,868	11,720·00	1,941	3,953·99	...	...

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(Table 10.)—TRANSIT TRADE. Foreign Goods conveyed to the Interior, 1880.

(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	To Kiangsu.	To Chekiang.	To Fukien.	To Anhwei.	To Kiangai.	To Honan.	To Shantung.	To Szechuan.	Total Quantity.	Total Value.
Cotton goods—											Hk taels.
Shirts, gray	Pieces	500	300	350	9,350	650	600	...	...	11,750	15,964
Shirts, white, plain . . . . .	"	...	...	100	400	...	...	...	...	500	725
Shirts, spots and broadens, dyed . . . . .	"	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	513
T-cloths, 36 inches	"	100	860	610	17,383	310	...	...	100	18,762	24,555
Drills, English	"	250	580	680	7,380	300	50	...	250	9,560	8,991
Drills, American . . . . .	"	...	...	...	375	30	...	...	...	405	729
Jams, English	"	30	90	15	185	30	180	...	...	450	1,170
Jams, American	"	...	140	...	680	...	...	...	...	890	1,189
Sheetings, English	"	...	60	...	165	...	...	...	...	925	461
Sheetings, American . . . . .	"	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	30	57
Chinches and furniture	"	20	...	...	60	110	140	...	...	190	300
Twills, printed	"	...	60	80	170	...	...	...	...	540	567
Velvets	"	...	24	...	366	...	...	...	...	80	144
Cotton handkerchiefs	Dozens	...	...	...	114	...	...	...	...	390	1,989
Woolen goods—											
Casimere, English	Pieces	...	...	90	490	110	...	...	...	690	7,107
Woolen, English . . . . .	"	...	...	20	140	120	20	...	...	300	2,415
Long cloths . . . . .	"	...	...	...	420	40	...	...	...	460	2,484
Spanish stripes . . . . .	"	...	...	12	306	190	6	...	...	444	4,307
Lastras and Orleans, figured . . . . .	"	...	...	60	180	240	60	...	...	540	1,458
Cloth: broad, medium, and habit . . . . .	"	...	...	13	78	46	...	...	...	136	3,230
Metals—											
Copper, Japan	Piculs	247 55	19 34	...	...	...	...	...	...	266 89	4,070
" sheeting	"	43 04	7 56	...	9 10	4 84	...	...	...	63 93	1,101
Iron, bar	"	653 80	9,169 44	...	59 20	...	...	...	...	9,870 94	5,455
" nail-rod	"	19,273 44	14,971 41	...	1,775 06	71 40	...	212 94	...	35,605 25	65,570
" wire	"	951 40	173 80	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,124 20	4,609
" old	"	26,999 68	1,471 00	...	1,973 53	100	...	1,290 0	...	31,823 20	34,597
" pig and knuckle	"	65 00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65 00	72
Lead, in pigs	"	2,387 78	1,119 52	...	1,413 26	...	475 80	...	...	5,396 36	93,694
Tin, in slabs	"	30 93	7,394 94	...	...	99 25	...	...	...	7,425 11	135,452
" compound	"	...	831 70	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,381 70	1,525
Steel	"	774 00	86 00	...	45 00	...	...	8 00	...	908 00	2,768
Zinc	"	...	33 60	...	...	...	...	...	...	33 60	185

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	To Kiangsu.	To Chekiang.	To Fuzien.	To Anhwei.	To Kiangsi.	To Honan.	To Shantung.	To Szechuan.	Total Quantity.	Total Value.
Sundries—											Hk. taels.
Agar-agar	Piculs	25 27	...	...	...	...	188 98	...	...	209 25	688
Aniseed, star, whole	"	52 06	...	...	...	...	57 43	...	...	139 34	1,981
Awabi	"	4 46	...	...	...	...	5 65	...	...	26 99	540
Bark, yellow, Japan	"	166 69	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	166 69	417
Betelnuts	"	13 71	...	...	...	...	246 80	...	...	311 26	935
Biche-de-mar, hulk	"	18 93	...	...	...	...	90 50	...	...	56 64	86
Biche-de-mar, black	"	93 03	...	...	...	...	14 19	...	...	134 53	5,391
Birds' nests, 2nd quality	"	30 23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76 66	1,217
Birds' nests, white	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 33	416
Borax	"	15 63	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 51	246
Bran wire	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 13	394
Candles	"	139	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132	264
Cane, bamboo	"	...	1,667,487	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,667,487	24,010
Cardamom, inferior	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	11 54	...	...	13 44	291
Cassia lignea	"	...	...	...	...	...	6 51	...	...	23 32	333
Chinmey, lamp	Dozens	853	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	761	761
Chams, dried	Piculs	64 08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 90	147
Cloves	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 228	93,803
Coal	Tons	11,697	...	...	...	...	3 60	...	...	131	1,435
Coke	"	144	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	386,000	12,738
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed	Pieces	273,600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,019,700	40,497
Fans, palm-leaf, untrimmed	"	2,312,200	1,099,900	...	637,600	...	...	...	...	6,850	480
" paper	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	179 47	1,975
Fish-skins	Piculs	178 32	...	...	...	...	3 15	...	...	11,171 10	5,251
Flints	"	2,613 60	...	...	...	...	5,083 30	...	...	233	82
Galangal	"	1 17	...	...	...	...	29 30	...	...	11 87	635
Ginseng, Japan, 1st quality	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84 17	919
" beard	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97 34	774
Gum, olibanum	Pieces	30 09	519,186	...	...	...	...	...	...	519,186	1,635
Handles, fan	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,921 98	6,110
Horns, deer, old	Piculs	54 10	140 50	...	...	...	...	...	...	389 84	6,089
Indigo, liquid	"	1,061 48	17 89	...	...	...	76 65	...	...	82 04	313
Langias	"	250 03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	219 23	1,435
Lead, white	"	48 24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	144 74	3,151
Lead, yellow	"	117 93	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53 78	1,033
Liches, dried	"	106 78	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,277 92	13,802
Laug-ugans, dried	"	573 56	15 00	...	...	...	...	...	...	39 434	395
Mangrove bark, pulp	"	21 98	...	...	...	...	139 40	...	...	218 81	5,544
Medicines	Gross	1,023 06	1,450	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Medicines	Piculs	96 05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mushrooms	"	79 20	16 60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TRANSIT TRADE. Native Goods brought from the Interior, 1880.

Description of Goods.	From Kiangsu.	From Chèhkiang.	From Fukien.	From Anhwei.	From Kiangsi.	From Honan.	From Shantung.	From Szechuan.	Total Quantity.	Total Value.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Pic.	Pic.	Pic.	Piculs.	Pic.	Pic.	Piculs.	H. taels.
Silk, waste	185·80	6,795·04	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,980·84	349,042
" cocoons	1,222·02	670·40	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,892·42	132,469
Lily flowers, dried	5,700·00	...	...	...	...	8,000	...	...	13,700·00	82,300
Medicines ... ..	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	100·00	400
Sheep's wool ... ..	...	592·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	592·00	3,848
Walnuts	400·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400·00	1,000
Total ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	568,959

SUMMARY.

TRANSIT INWARDS.				TRANSIT OUTWARDS.			
Province.			Value.	Province.			Value.
			H. taels.				H. taels.
To—				From—			
Kiangsu ... ..	...	...	380,916	Kiangsu ... ..	...	...	130,031
Chèhkiang ... ..	...	...	281,412	Chèhkiang ... ..	...	...	390,528
Fukien ... ..	...	...	4,075	Fukien ... ..	...	...	...
Anhwei ... ..	...	...	134,529	Anhwei ... ..	...	...	400
Kiangsi ... ..	...	...	18,081	Kiangsi ... ..	...	...	...
Honan ... ..	...	...	42,247	Honan ... ..	...	...	48,000
Shantung ... ..	...	...	3,100	Shantung ... ..	...	...	...
Szechuan ... ..	...	...	862	Szechuan ... ..	...	...	...
Total ... ..	...	...	864,672	Total ... ..	...	...	568,959

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, *Consul.*

(Table 11.)—Gross and Net Values of the Trade of Shanghai.
1878 to 1880.

(From Customs Returns.)

	1878.		1879.		1880.	
	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.
FOREIGN GOODS.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Imported from foreign countries and Hong Kong ...	49,117,021		58,847,069		56,046,498	
Imported from Chinese ports ...	804,418		1,152,092		1,070,635	
Total Foreign Imports ...	...	49,921,439	...	59,999,161	...	57,117,133
Re-exported to foreign countries and Hong Kong ...	2,180,158		2,218,265		2,171,032	
Re-exported to Chinese Ports (chiefly to Ningpo, the North-east, and the Yang-tsze ports)...	34,553,877		46,290,994		40,370,177	
Total Foreign Re-exports ...	36,734,035		48,504,259		42,541,209	
Net total foreign imports ...	13,187,404		11,494,902		14,575,924	
NATIVE PRODUCE.						
Imported (chiefly from Hankow, Kiukiang, and Ningpo) ...	...	32,861,230	...	40,339,011	...	42,594,862
Re-exported to foreign countries ...	11,972,330		14,166,460		16,717,069	
Re-exported to Chinese ports ...	14,865,964		17,370,394		18,288,062	
Total Native Re-exports ...	26,838,294		31,536,854		35,005,131	
Net total native imports ...	6,022,936		8,802,157		7,589,731	
Native produce of local origin exported to foreign countries ...	16,331,646		17,878,808		19,461,742	
Native produce of local origin exported to Chinese ports ...	11,841,959		13,257,519		15,742,494	
Total Exports of local origin .	...	28,173,605	...	31,136,327	...	35,204,236
Gross value of the trade of the port ...	...	110,956,274	...	131,474,499	...	134,916,231
Net value of the trade of the port (i. e., foreign and native imports less re-exports, and native exports of local origin) .	47,883,945		51,433,386		57,369,891	

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

Report on the Shipping Trade of the Port of Shanghai for the Year 1880.

THE year 1880 has been marked by an improvement in freights all over the world, in which the shipping trade of this port has largely participated, and there can be but little doubt that the year's trade must be considered satisfactory, not only to the ship-owner but also to a great extent to the shipper, inasmuch as freights have not been subject to violent alterations, but have been maintained, taking the whole year through, on a scale which proved remunerative to all interested.

As will be seen by the Return which shows the movements of British vessels, the increase in the number and tonnage of vessels is mainly to be attributed to the trade on the Chinese coast, Yang-tsze River, and with Japan ports, as will be seen by the following figures:—

	Total Number of Vessels entered and cleared.	Total Tonnage.
1880	2,254	1,689,001
1879	1,974	1,511,699
Increase, 1880 ..	280	177,302

	Total Number of Vessels : Coast, Yang-tsze, and Japan Ports.	Total Tonnage.
1880	1,754	1,135,608
1879	1,496	990,569
Increase, 1880 ..	258	145,039

The difference between 145,039 tons and 177,302 tons being made up in the increase of the direct trade with Great Britain and Hong Kong. The only other feature which is worthy of attention being the almost entire falling-off in trade to or from India and the Straits Settlements with this port in British bottoms.

The share taken by different nationalities in the whole shipping trade places Great Britain far ahead of any other country, and, in fact, the increase in number and tonnage of vessels which frequented this port is almost entirely due to the great increase in the trade in British vessels, the only other countries which do not show a decrease being Denmark, Japan, Sweden and Norway, and Russia, the latter country having more than trebled the number and tonnage of vessels under this flag, the figures for the past two years being :—

	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1880	21	16,639
1879	6	4,862
Increase, 1880 ..	15	11,777

Japan, however, takes precedence of the other countries, except Great Britain, in the increase of her shipping trade with this port, as follows :—

	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1880	193	164,220
1879	157	138,208
Increase, 1880 ..	36	26,012

This, however, only applies to the increase in number and not in tonnage, as China, although having 1,549 vessels in 1880, against 1,581 in 1879, had a tonnage of 70,328 tons increase over that year, and on the whole the flag is represented by 1,148,916 tons. This of course places her second to Great Britain; America, Germany, France, and Spain having a shipping trade, all show more or less a decrease, both in number and tonnage.

The total number and tonnage of all vessels which entered and cleared at this port during the two years appear in the following Table, and show the large increase made during the year:—

			Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1880	..	..	2,288	1,683,610	2,263	1,633,688	4,551	3,317,298
1879	..	..	2,183	1,528,996	2,193	1,533,686	4,376	3,062,682
Increase	..		105	154,614	70	100,002	175	254,616

The total amount of revenue collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs at this port during 1880 was 4,074,658 taels, of which 2,947,026 taels were paid on cargoes of British vessels, and which represents nearly three-fourths of the whole duties paid; to the first-mentioned sum, however, should be added the total amount of tonnage dues, which stand at 115,480 taels (the proportion paid by British vessels being no less than 72,974 taels), thus giving China a total revenue of 4,190,138 taels on duties and tonnage dues collected at this port during the year. Of this amount, 3,020,000 taels were paid on account of the cargoes carried in, and the tonnage dues levied on British ships.

The total value of the trade of the port for the year under review is 212,462,571 taels, of which 125,524,982 taels represents the value of the cargoes brought to or taken from this port in vessels under the British flag.

The coasting trade has very largely increased, and there appears to be but little doubt that steam-ships are gradually and steadily gaining a strong hold upon the carrying trade on the coast, notwithstanding the fact that sailing-vessels commanded a higher proportionate rate of freight during the year under review. This may be accounted for by the Chinese always creating a demand for what is not in supply, and also by the number of lay days which are inserted in charter-parties of sailing-vessels. I am, however, of opinion that before long steam-ships will secure almost the entire trade of China, both coasting or otherwise, that is carried on in foreign bottoms.

During the latter part of the year a considerable amount of tonnage proceeded to Chinkiang to load rice from that port to Canton, and, as the crop annually grown in the Delta of the Yang-tsze-kiang appears year after year to be increasing, it is more than likely that those ports in south of China, which always require to import large quantities of this grain (it being the chief article of food among the Chinese), will continue to draw supplies from this quarter yearly, thereby giving employment to numbers of steam-ships for a short season of the year at rates which, in almost all instances, have heretofore proved remunerative.

With the Russian ports of Vladivostock and Nicolaivsk, which are situated just beyond the north-east boundary of China, there has also been a growing trade, several steamers having run to and from those ports and

Shanghae while they continued open to trade; indeed, to Nicolaivsk Russian firms are now sending a portion of brick-tea, which was heretofore entirely shipped from hence to Tien-tsin, and thence, via Kiachta, forwarded overland through Siberia to Russian provinces. In the whole coast trade a considerable number of vessels from England found employment, besides the large fleet of steam-ships and sailing-vessels which hail from this port or Hong Kong.

With reference to the individual rates of freight carried by vessels on the various charters, or otherwise, between this and other Chinese and Japanese ports during the year, it would be almost impossible to give the fluctuations made in these rates, and I therefore confine myself to saying that I have been informed that, taking everything into consideration, the business done by local firms here was larger than in former years. In this increase it is to be noticed that in vessels under the British flag the greatest advance was made, and that, on the whole, the rates obtained have proved remunerative to both ship-owner and shipper.

The Yang-tze River trade is now carried on by four lines of steamers, three are British and one (the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company) Chinese. In consequence of the competition the result has not been so satisfactory to the two Companies, having large fleets of steamers, as has been the case in previous years; the trade, however, is expansive, and the native passenger traffic is gradually increasing, and I think will continue to increase yearly for some time to come. The new line of steamers started by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co. at the end of 1879, and which was referred to at length in Mr. Spence's Report last year, has worked well, and a new steamer is being built of a larger capacity, which will in a few months be launched and ready to take her place on the river for this line.

About the same amount of steam tonnage proceeded to Hankow in May 1880 as in last year, to load new season's teas. The "Glencoe" was first to get away at the end of the month, and had a freight of 6*l.* 10*s.* per ton, followed shortly after by the "Loudoun Castle," at 5*l.* 10*s.*, the "Glenartney," at 5*l.*, and the "Glencairn," at 4*l.*, two at 2*l.* 15*s.*, and one steamer, the last of the season, as low as 2*l.* 10*s.* So long as a direct steamer remained in Hankow the regular Companies (Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Messageries Maritimes, Glen, and Holt's lines) were content to take cargo for transshipment at Shanghae at through low rates; at the very opening of the market 2*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* was asked, later on 2*l.* 15*s.* was accepted, but immediately the direct steamers had left the rate was raised to 3*l.* 10*s.*, and subsequently much higher. This course may be considered strange and directly opposed to the interests of the owners of these vessels, but it must be borne in mind that those interested in the mail-steamers, the Glen, and the Holt's lines would prefer Shanghae as the port of shipment instead of Hankow: by those interested in mail-steamers, because their contract time for departure could be regulated as now, their speed and low rate of insurance insuring that a larger share of freight would be obtained by them than is at present the case; by the Glen and Holt's lines, because they and their agents are largely interested in the river traffic in small-draft vessels on the Yang-tze, a traffic which is greatly interfered with by the ocean steamers loading full cargoes of teas at Hankow instead of at Shanghae; and, lastly, because of the enormous risk which is undertaken by sending to Hankow large ocean steamers with a draft of from 20 to 25 feet up an intricate channel difficult of navigation, and, as pointed out by Mr. Spence in his Report for last year, the fact that when loaded some of these vessels race down the river at the rate of over 17 knots an hour both day and night, a risk which has on more than one occasion been attended with disastrous results, causing, in consequence of

the vessel running on shore, great expense to the Insurance Companies, who charge an extra premium for the risks incurred by them, and seem thereby nominally to approve of the course adopted; but I am informed such is not the case, and they also would prefer Shanghai as the port of shipment. Whether those interested in the Companies I have named will ever attain their end by making a change in the port of shipment is in my opinion most improbable; so long as the Yang-tze remains navigable to ocean steamers, even with the great risks that are incurred, and the Insurance Companies choose to accept these risks, so long will they be dispatched to Hankow, and the low through rate via Shanghai will only cause correspondingly low direct rates in Hankow.

I may, however, add here that this year all the steamers, generally speaking, suffered less detention at Hankow than usual, and all succeeded in passing up and down the Yang-tze without accident.

A feature in this year's trade in new season's teas from Hankow was the dispatching of two steamers, viz., the "Petersburgh" and the "Moskwa," belonging to the Russian volunteer fleet, to load there for Odessa and Sebastopol. In consequence of their enormous horse-power, it was expected that they would make remarkably fast passages, but this did not prove to be the case. In times of peace, I understand, it is contemplated employing the steamers of this fleet for trading purposes, and this may be considered a first experiment.

In the direct trade between Great Britain and this port, and *vice versa*, the Conference mentioned in Mr. Spence's Report terminated, so far as freights from Shanghai were concerned, almost immediately after the commencement of the year, and a new plan, based on the recommendations of the China agents of the Companies which had joined the Conference in the first place, was agreed to. The obnoxious penalty clause, and the equally objectionable return of 5s. per ton to regular supporters, was omitted; in fact, it was left entirely in the hands of the agents of these Companies to agree on the rates to be fixed and to work amicably together. There was, however, nothing binding in the agreement made between the parties; it was a matter of good faith one with another, and, with scarcely an exception, it has worked to the satisfaction of both ship-owners and shippers. The opposition line, named the Union Line, which originated when the Conference was first announced, confined its energies almost entirely to the trade between China, Japan, and New York; various rates were obtained, some good and some poor, but I doubt if the steamers belonging to this line have shown a satisfactory result on the whole year's working.

At Shanghai, freights, at the commencement of the year, ruled at Conference rates, but on the breaking up of this combination there was a drop, and freights at first fell to 2*l.* 10*s.*; a recovery, however, soon followed—they rose to 3*l.* 5*s.*, and shortly after, when a great demand set in, they reached 4*l.*; the average rate throughout the year may be considered at 3*l.* to 3*l.* 5*s.*. The German steamers, more especially those of the Deutsche Dampfschiffs-Rhederei zu Hamburg, were, however, prepared to load at comparatively low rates, and generally accepted 10*s.* a ton below the current figure.

Very few casualties occurred during the year to steamers from this port to London, and there were no total losses. I may, however, mention that the German steamer "Asia," bound from Amoy to New York, was totally lost off Socotra. The only other serious casualty was the total loss of the "Braemar Castle," on the voyage out to China, whilst at anchor in Penang Harbour. She was run into and sunk by the "Breconshire;" no lives were lost, but the vessel and most of her cargo at present remains at the bottom of the harbour.

The steam trade between China and New York increased considerably,

freights from Shanghai reaching as high as 4*l.* per ton, and never dropping lower than 3*l.*

The sailing-ship trade between this port, London, and New York showed no signs of improvement during the year; but at the same time it may be said not to have retrograded; for the former port ten large vessels loaded at from 2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.* per ton of 50 cubic feet, and to the latter port five large vessels at from 1*l.* 10*s.* to 2*l.* 5*s.* per ton of 40 cubic feet. In almost all cases many lay days were insisted on in the charter-parties as they were required for loading, and no less than four of the above-mentioned vessels found it necessary to proceed to Foochow or Amoy to obtain full cargoes.

No sailing-vessels went to Hankow this year for cargoes of new season's teas, and, in my opinion, there is not likely ever again to be a demand for this mode of shipment at that port.

A new feature in the shipping trade is that of a direct trade between Antwerp and Shanghai; some eleven sailing-vessels and two steamers, all British, arrived from that port laden with Belgian nail-rod iron and glass ware. An increased demand for these goods, and the fact that Belgian iron is far cheaper than the British manufactured article, created a change in the mode of shipment from Antwerp to this port, whereas formerly the trade used to be done on a smaller scale by steamers loading at London for Shanghai, thereby involving the transit from Antwerp to that port.

An important change in the conveyance of American piece-goods from New York to China is worthy of attention. During the year the American Steam-ship Companies united with the Panama Railway Company to oppose the steamers loading in London (to which port these goods were formerly sent, and thence by them via Suez Canal to China at through rates varying from 55*s.* to 75*s.* per ton of 40 cubic feet) by reducing the rate to 40*s.*, at which figure the vessels loading in London could not compete. The American Companies have therefore managed to obtain nearly, if not all, the conveyance of these goods to this port, but at a price which may eventually show a heavy loss to the carriers.

In the general trade with places not already mentioned, another feature in the shipping trade has been the number of vessels bringing coals from Australia; twenty sailing-vessels arrived with cargoes of coal from Sydney and Newcastle, four of which were large vessels and sixteen small, and there was besides one large steam-ship from Sydney with coal, and five small sailing-vessels with sandal-wood from Freemantle. There is but little doubt that these vessels sought employment in this trade in consequence of the freights ruling on the coast, but it may also be observed that, although Japan coal can be bought here for steam purposes at 4·50 taels per ton, yet the Chinese are willing to pay 7·50 to 8 taels per ton for Australian coal, which is suitable for working metals, all other Eastern coal appearing to contain too large a proportion of sulphur, and hence one reason for the increase in the importation of the former article.

It may also be mentioned that thirteen sailing-vessels cleared from this port for Manila, and fifteen for San Francisco, Portland, or Burrard's Inlet, in ballast. Almost all the above were large vessels, which had brought out coal, iron, kerosene oil, and other rough general cargoes from the United Kingdom, Continent, or New York, and proceeded to the above destinations under instructions from their owners at home; very few of them obtained charters in China.

The semi-official China Merchants Steam Navigation Company issued its Report, which was translated and published in September last, and from it alone can any information be obtained respecting the working of the

Company, the position and capital it at present holds, or of the statements made therein of the repayments to the Government on behalf of the loans granted by it. It is, however, generally accepted that the Company is gradually paying off the debt it owes, being enabled to do this in consequence of the enormous subsidy which is paid to it by the Government for the carriage of tribute rice to the North—the amount of which subsidy goes annually to decrease the amount of the Government loan. Should the Company eventually succeed in doing so, and should the subsidy be continued, there can be but little doubt that it may then have a fair chance of holding its own and obtaining a large share of the carrying trade of the port.

The owners of the English steam lines are not, however, alarmed; on the contrary, for, as a proof of the success of their working this year both in the coast and home trade, the fleets have been, and are to be, increased. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire have nearly doubled the number of their vessels on the coast, and increased the number of their vessels trading elsewhere; the "Glen" and "Castle" Companies have each contracted for two new steam-ships, all deliverable in 1881, and the former Company is building for 1882 a steam-ship capable of maintaining 14 knots per hour for the whole distance between China and London.

With reference to the Registry and Shipping Offices, I think it may easily be understood that, in consequence of the large increase in British shipping during the past year, the ordinary routine work in both offices has proportionately increased.

The following statistics give the number of vessels, their tonnage and crew, entered inwards and cleared outwards at this Consulate during the past year.

Inwards.			Outwards.		
No.	Tonnage.	Crew.	No.	Tonnage.	Crew.
984	763,150	35,005	977	762,675	34,847

The number of men shipped, discharged, reported dead, or deserted, belonging to British ships, amounted to over 1,100; this does not include the large numbers of Chinese Lascars and Asiatics, amounting in all to over 3,000 during the year, shipped and discharged at this port.

The total number of men left behind who became chargeable to the Board of Trade for expenses incurred in the hospital, sailor's home, or gaol, and the amount of money-orders paid in by seamen, are shown by the following figures:—

Number of Men.	Expenses incurred.	Amount of Money Orders.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
133	4,720	2,500

Of the expense incurred, the sum of 2,800 dollars has to be deducted, that amount having been paid as wages into the Consulate on account of the men, leaving 1,920 dollars, to which, however, must be added 1,040 dollars, balance of wages due to seamen who shipped or no longer required aid before the whole of their wages were expended, making, therefore, in all an expenditure of 2,960 dollars. The following is the

amount of fees received in this office and paid to Her Majesty's Consul during the two past years :—

				Shipping Fees.	Registry Fees.
				Dollars.	Dollars.
1880	..	..	..	5,874	490
1879	..	..	..	5,635	275
Increase				249	215

The institution of Shanghai as a port of registry for British shipping has answered expectations, and local capital is gradually attracted to shipping investments, confidence being created by the publicity of ownership and the ease of transfer which the office affords.

I may, however, suggest that, were the provisions of the Limited Liability Act extended to Shanghai, both Shipping and Insurance Companies would be greatly benefited. I am informed that action has already been taken in the matter by several local Companies of various descriptions, but with what result is at present unknown.

Year after year, since the formation of the port as a port of registry in 1875, it has gradually increased the number of vessels remaining on the register at the end of each year. The following figures are for the past two years :—

		Number on Register, Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Number on Register, Steamers.	Tons.	No.	Total Tons.
1880	..	34	11,182	9	5,135	42	16,317
1879	..	25	9,048	6	2,882	31	10,931

Sixteen vessels were added this year ; of these, seven were purchased from foreigners, four transferred from other ports, three registered as hulks, one registered anew, being a recovered wreck, and one new vessel built in Shanghai. On the other hand, four were struck off the register, three in consequence of sale to persons not qualified to own British shipping, and one a total wreck.

In addition to this, over thirty transactions in British vessels have been made in the register-book of those registered at this port.

During the first quarter eighteen casualties to British shipping were reported ; in the second, one ; in the third, fifteen ; and in the fourth, nine.

Before closing my Report, I think it right to draw the attention of the Board of Trade to one or two points affecting the Mercantile Marine trading at this port. Soon after my return to Shanghai last year, I thought it right to bring to the notice of the Honourable Board certain cases that had arisen respecting the undermanning and inefficient officering of several vessels. The practice I then complained of in the first case is now constantly reverted to, and ships not only leave this port with a less number of men in one capacity or another than they had when they left a port in the United Kingdom, but the masters of the steam-ships, some of over 800 tons, which seem to be allowed to leave the United Kingdom with a boatswain and five deck hands as a complement of the seamen crew, succeed, in consequence of the non-application of the Acts to foreign ports, and the difficulties attendant on a prosecution before a Naval Court, in reducing even this small number, and they also have, on more than one

occasion, refused to ship a man in the stead of one who was left behind from the ship in hospital, giving as an excuse an answer that seamen are not now required on board a steamer. The practice, however, of reducing the crew when ships are trading on this coast is not alone availed of by the masters of steam-ships. Sailing-ship masters also succeed in finding out the difficulties which would necessitate a prosecution before a Naval Court, and they distinctly refuse to fill up vacancies which occur, and unless the aid of Insurance Companies is brought to bear on them, which pressure succeeds in some cases; but I regret to say, in consequence of competition, the ship in many others is allowed to proceed to sea either short-handed or under-manned, or with officers who do not hold certificates of competency. I have endeavoured on many occasions to point out to the Honourable Board the necessity which exists for some amendment in, or extension of, the law by making the Acts apply to ports "other than those in the United Kingdom." Until something is done in this direction there will always be found men to go as masters who will take ships to sea and trade to and fro on this coast with a reduced complement of crew in order, as I have been more than once informed, to run the vessel with as few hands as they are allowed for the sake of cheapness, in many instances to the serious danger of life and property.

The other point I would draw attention to is the absence of facility at Shanghai for officers in the mercantile marine passing an examination as to qualification and competency at this port. So long ago as the year 1873 I brought this subject to the notice of the Honourable Board, and a scheme, showing in detail how such an office could be worked, was added to the draft Maritime Order in Council, 1874, under which Shanghai was made a port of registry, but I regret to say the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen felt himself unable to give the project his sanction, and I was informed that it must be abandoned. The hardships that exist in consequence of there being no means of granting certificates of competency to those who may be able to qualify themselves are many and much felt. There are numbers of young men holding subordinate positions on board vessels trading on this coast who have proved themselves good navigators, and who are anxious and willing to advance their professional position, but to do so they must proceed to Hong Kong, 800 miles from Shanghai, to the inconvenience of their employers and expense to themselves.

Attention was drawn to this subject also by Mr. Spence in his Report for last year, and the scheme submitted by me in 1873 would include in it all the restrictions laid down in last year's Report, should such scheme be adopted.

In conclusion, I append the following Returns, which are all referred to in my Report:—

1. The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared under each flag for the year under review.
2. The number of British vessels frequenting the port, their tonnage, the number of their crews, and their movements during the year.
3. The share taken by each nationality in the carrying trade from and to foreign countries, and between Shanghai and the other Treaty ports of China.
4. The share taken by each nationality in the carrying trade with foreign countries, and between Shanghai and the other Treaty ports of China, showing the proportion borne by each share to the whole trade.

(Signed) WM. HANDYSIDE TAPP,

Registrar.

Shanghai, June 15, 1881.

(No 1.)—RETURN showing the Number and Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared under each Flag, for the Year 1880.

SHIPPING.—STEAMERS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.						Cleared Outwards.						Total Entered and Cleared.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.			
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ..	918	755,666	17	15,141	935	770,807	856	701,973	54	44,080	910	746,053	1,845	1,516,860
American ..	9	6,714	20	2,012	29	8,726	5	4,806	18	4,156	23	8,962	52	17,688
German ..	35	27,196	2	1,571	37	28,767	33	27,361	1	788	36	28,149	73	56,916
French ..	28	62,165	..	..	28	62,165	26	57,504	..	..	26	57,504	54	119,669
Danish ..	1	880	5	2,766	6	3,646	5	3,753	5	1,226	10	4,979	16	8,625
Swedish and Norwegian ..	1	905	..	..	1	905	1	905	..	..	1	905	2	1,810
Russian ..	10	6,100	1	2,502	11	8,602	9	7,586	1	451	10	8,037	21	16,639
Belgian ..	1	1,125	1	1,125	2	2,250	2	2,250	..	..	2	2,250	4	4,500
Japanese ..	93	80,707	1	612	94	81,319	50	58,584	42	21,224	92	79,808	186	161,127
Chinese ..	585	552,580	27	22,876	612	575,456	569	519,364	38	27,712	607	547,076	1,219	1,122,532
Total Steamers ..	1,681	1,494,038	74	48,605	1,755	1,542,643	1,558	1,384,086	159	99,637	1,717	1,483,723	3,472	3,026,366

Number and Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared, &c.—*continued.*

SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.				Cleared Outwards.				Total Entered and Cleared.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ..	191	78,042	8	2,439	199	80,481	156	58,207	54	33,453
American ..	87	27,324	1	50	88	27,374	79	19,006	20	9,473
German ..	38	10,018	2	242	40	10,260	31	7,375	5	899
French ..	1	300	..	..	1	300	2	687	..	..
Danish ..	24	3,767	1	782	25	4,549	19	3,023	3	345
Spanish ..	3	552	1	143	4	695	4	694	..	..
Swedish and Norwegian ..	2	1,163	..	..	2	1,163	2	1,164	..	..
Japanese ..	5	2,207	..	..	5	2,207	..	..	2	886
Siamese ..	3	845	..	..	3	845	3	844	3	886
Hawaiian ..	1	309	..	..	1	309	1	309	..	..
Chinese ..	163	12,630	2	154	165	12,784	148	11,725	17	1,875
Total Sailing Vessels.	518	137,157	15	3,810	533	140,967	445	103,034	101	46,931
									546	149,965
									1,079	290,932

Number and Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared, &c.—*continued*.

TOTAL STEAMERS AND SAILING-VESSELS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.						Cleared Outwards.						Total Entered and Cleared.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.			
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
British	1,109	833,708	25	17,580	1,134	851,288	1,012	760,180	108	77,533	1,120	837,713	2,254	1,689,001
American	96	34,038	21	2,062	117	36,100	84	23,812	38	13,629	122	37,441	239	73,541
German	73	37,214	4	1,813	77	39,027	66	34,736	6	1,687	72	36,423	149	73,450
French	29	62,465	..	..	29	62,465	28	58,191	..	..	28	58,191	57	120,656
Danish	25	4,647	6	3,548	31	8,195	24	6,776	8	1,571	32	8,347	63	16,542
Spanish	3	552	1	143	4	695	4	694	..	..	4	694	8	1,389
Swedish and Norwegian	3	2,068	..	..	3	2,068	3	2,069	..	..	3	2,069	6	4,137
Russian	10	6,100	1	2,502	11	8,602	9	7,586	1	451	10	8,037	21	16,639
Belgian	1	1,125	1	1,125	2	2,250	2	2,250	..	..	2	2,250	4	4,500
Japanese	98	82,914	1	612	99	83,526	50	58,584	44	22,110	94	80,694	193	164,220
Siamese	3	845	..	..	3	845	3	844	..	..	3	844	6	1,689
Hawaiian	1	309	..	..	1	309	1	309	..	..	1	309	2	618
Chinese	748	565,210	29	23,030	777	588,240	717	531,089	55	29,587	772	560,676	1,549	1,148,916
Grand Total	2,199	1,631,195	89	52,415	2,288	1,683,610	2,003	1,487,120	260	146,568	2,263	1,633,688	4,551	3,317,298

British Registry Office of Shipping for China and Japan,
Shanghai, June 15, 1881.

(Signed)

WM. HANDYSIDE TAPP, Registrar.

(Table 2.)—RETURN showing the Movements of British Vessels at the Port of Shanghai during the Year ended December 3, 1880.

Distribution.	Inwards, 1880.		Outwards, 1880.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Great Britain	121	157,993	89	129,404
Mail steamers	24	44,091	24	44,091
Hong Kong	94	71,456	82	57,251
India, Straits Settlements, and Siam ..	2	1,566	2	1,062
Philippines .. .. .	..	..	8	5,046
Chinese coast ports	422	253,858	425	258,271
Yangtze river ports	294	213,712	312	228,676
Japan	149	88,562	152	92,529
British America and United States ..	6	6,981	25	20,535
Australian Colonies	22	13,069	1	848
Total	1,134	851,288	1,120	837,713
No. of Crew	37,427		37,110	

(Signed)

WM. HANDYSIDE TAPP,
Registrar.*British Registry Office of Shipping for China
and Japan, Shanghai, June 15, 1881.*

(Table 3.)—SHARE taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade from and to Foreign Countries.

FOREIGN IMPORT TRADE.									
Flag.	Tonnage Inwards.				Values.	Duties.			
	Vessels employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage employed.		Foreign Imports.	Import Duties.	Tonnage Dues.	
British	178	185,109	339	324,606	Hk. taels. 46,165,517	Hk. taels m. c. c. 2,349,077 1 1 2	Hk. taels m. c. c. 58,137 2 0 0		
American	16	14,756	26	19,909	852,572	34,661 4 8 3	6,241 9 0 0		
German	19	10,859	22	12,782	1,593,207	42,737 4 4 2	3,036 4 0 0		
French	12	23,811	29	62,465	4,131,767	159,740 4 2 3	5,060 0 0 0		
Dutch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	4	5,416	4	3,416	4,387	7 8 1 5	1,366 4 0 0		
Spanish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swedish and Norwegian	3	2,068	3	2,068	61,196	3,480 0 5 3	827 6 0 0		
Russian	4	5,331	10	8,037	59,233	2,435 7 0 7	2,312 8 0 0		
Austrian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian	1	1,125	2	2,250	20,205	969 1 6 0	450 0 0 0		
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	8	7,235	99	83,526	2,267,409	77,455 0 0 5	5,940 0 0 0		
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	58,614	2,061 6 6 1	461 6 0 0
Nor-Treaty Powers	4	1,154	4	1,154	842,391	62,393 1 3 1	..		
Chinese	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	249	254,864	538	520,213	56,046,498	2,735,018 9 9 2	83,833 9 0 0		

Share taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade from and to Foreign Countries—continued.

FOREIGN EXPORT TRADE.

Flag.	Tonnage Outwards.				Values.			Duties.
	Vessels employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage employed.	Native Exports.*	Re-exports.†		
						Foreign.	Native.	
British ..	156	167,828	289	276,963	Hk. taels. 5,136,251	Hk. taels. 660,963	Hk. taels. 12,464,078	Hk. taels m. c. c. 179,816 9 8 5
American ..	16	14,073	25	18,709	9,317	10,521	447,520	886 2 8 2
German ..	7	4,745	8	5,038	19,095	83,506	184,534	1,443 0 7 9
French ..	9	20,415	25	56,495	11,586,078	15,127	1,859,107	398,788 5 4 7
Dutch ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish ..	2	1,856	2	1,856	..	..	239,286	..
Spanish ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 5 5 0
Swedish and Norwegian	2	1,487	2	1,487	52,582	..	40,335	..
Russian ..	3	4,766	7	6,570	5,020	7,348	129,876	475 2 5 3
Austrian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	317 6 2 1
Belgian ..	1	1,125	2	2,250	..	..	40,383	..
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese ..	8	7,234	94	80,694	2,565,841	1,257,297	1,190,295	85,093 3 5 9
Peruvian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	3	853	3	853	52,475	..	4,332	594 2 6 6
Chinese ..	1	561	1	561	35,083	136,138	117,323	4,157 5 6 0
Total ..	208	224,943	458	451,476	19,461,742	2,171,032	16,717,069	671,554 5 0 2

* Original shipments direct.

† Reshipments direct.

SHARE taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade between Shanghai and the other Treaty Ports of China.

The trade coastwise of all the Treaty Ports, carried on under Foreign Flags, Outwards and Inwards, was divided between them as follows :—

COAST TRADE OUTWARDS.

Flag.	Tonnage Outwards.			Values.			Duties.	
	Vessels employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage employed.	Native Exports.	Re-exports.		Export Duties.
						Native.	Foreign.	
British .	111	78,454	831	560,750	Hk. taels. 9,210,239	Hk. taels. 10,163,056	Hk. taels. 19,203,879	Hk. taels m. c. c. 275,649 9 3 2
American .	24	5,599	97	18,732	238,906	122,874	188,773	14,836 9 0 0
German .	22	11,632	64	31,385	509,079	538,398	149,105	8,977 4 7 8
French .	3	1,696	3	1,696	175,960	317,409	1,235	22,848 2 8 6
Dutch .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	722 0 7 6
Danish .	9	2,793	30	6,491	86,111	20,039	47,391	..
Spanish .	4	694	4	694	..	..	1,434	4,346 3 6 9
Swedish and Norwegian	1	582	1	582	..	2,092	10,408	..
Russian .	2	1,016	3	1,467	17,093	2,654	58	681 5 8 3
Austrian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Peruvian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	1	300	1	300	90	..	..	1 0 5 0
Chinese .	48	22,954	771	560,115	5,505,016	7,121,540	20,767,894	106,967 4 8 4
Total ..	225	125,720	1,805	1,182,212	15,742,494	18,288,062	40,370,177	420,194 2 5 8
								13,022 1 0 0
								31,646 6 0 0

Share taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade between Shanghai and the other Treaty Ports of China—*continued*.

COAST TRADE INWARDS.

Flag.	Tonnage Inwards.				Values.		Duties.
	Vessels employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage employed.	Native Imports.	Foreign Imports.	
British	69	38,948	795	526,682	Hk. taels. 22,088,467	Hk. taels. 432,532	Coast Trade Duties: Import Duties on Foreign Goods re-entered included.
American	22	4,113	91	16,191	527,855	3,046	Hk. taels m. c. c. 142,482 3 6 5
German	12	6,795	55	26,245	858,004	16,263	5,644 8 5 6
French	..	..	..	..	39,630	..	10,176 5 1 5
Dutch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	7	1,220	27	4,779	147,485	1,106	..
Spanish	4	695	4	695	..	..	..
Swedish and Norwegian	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,640 4 6 5
Russian	1	565	1	565	2,615	..	..
Austrian	..	..	..	..	5,667	..	..
Belgian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chinese	43	21,458	777	588,240	18,925,139	617,688	87,947 0 2 9
Total	158	73,794	1,750	1,163,397	42,594,862	1,070,635	247,891 2 3 0

British Registry Office of Shipping for China and Japan,
Shanghai, June 15, 1881.

(Signed)

WM. HANDSIDE TAPP, Registrar.

(Table No. 4).—SHARE taken at Shanghai by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade from and to Foreign Countries, and with the other Treaty Ports of China; and in the Transit Trade: with the proportion borne by each Share to the whole trade.

Flag.	TOTAL TONNAGE.			TOTAL VALUES.				
	Foreign and Coastwise, Inwards and Outwards.			Foreign Trade.		Coast Trade.		Total Values, Foreign and Coast Trade.
	Vessels employed.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage employed.	Imports.	Exports.	Outwards.	Inwards.	
British .	514	2,254	1,639,001	Hk. taels. 46,165,517	Hk. taels. 18,261,292	Hk. taels. 38,577,174	Hk. taels. 22,520,999	Hk. taels. 125,524,982
American .	78	239	73,541	852,572	467,358	550,553	530,901	2,401,384
German .	60	149	75,450	1,583,207	287,135	1,196,582	874,267	3,941,191
French .	24	57	120,656	4,131,767	13,460,312	494,604	39,630	18,126,313
Dutch .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish .	22	63	16,542	4,387	239,286	153,541	148,591	545,805
Spanish .	8	8	1,389	..	..	1,434	..	1,434
Swedish and Norwegian	6	6	4,137	61,196	92,917	12,500	2,615	169,228
Russian .	10	21	16,639	59,233	142,244	19,805	5,667	226,919
Austrian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian .	2	4	4,500	20,205	40,383	..	..	60,588
Italian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese .	16	193	164,220	2,267,409	5,013,433	..	..	7,230,842
Peruvian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	8	8	2,307	58,614	56,939	90	..	115,643
Chinese	92	1,549	1,146,916	842,391	288,544	33,394,450	19,542,827	54,068,212
Total ..	840	4,551	3,317,298	56,046,498	88,349,843	74,400,733	43,665,497	212,462,571

TOTAL DUTIES.

Flag.	Foreign Trade.		Coast Trade.		Total Duties, Foreign and Coast Trade.	Total Tonnage Dues.
	Import Duties.	Export Duties.	Export Duties.	Import and Half Duties.		
British ..	Hk. taels m. c. c. 2,349,077 1 1 2	Hk. taels m. c. c. 179,816 9 8 5	Hk. taels m. c. c. 275,649 9 3 2	Hk. taels m. c. c. 142,482 3 6 5	Hk. taels m. c. c. 2,947,026 3 9 4	Hk. taels m. c. c. 72,974 1 0 0
American ..	34,661 4 8 3	886 2 8 2	8,977 4 7 8	5,644 8 5 6	50,170 0 9 9	7,686 8 0 0
German ..	42,737 4 4 2	1,443 0 7 9	22,848 2 8 6	10,176 5 1 5	77,205 3 2 2	4,758 3 0 0
French ..	159,740 4 2 3	398,768 5 4 7	722 0 7 6	..	559,231 0 4 6	5,214 8 0 0
Dutch ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish ..	7 8 1 5	1 5 5 0	4,346 3 6 9	1,640 4 6 5	5,996 1 9 9	1,832 4 0 0
Spanish ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swedish and Norwegian ..	3,480 0 5 3	475 2 5 3	..	..	3,955 3 0 6	827 6 0 0
Russian ..	2,435 7 0 7	317 6 2 1	681 5 8 3	..	3,434 9 1 1	2,312 8 0 0
Austrian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian ..	969 1 6 0	..	..	..	969 1 6 0	450 0 0
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese ..	77,455 0 0 5	85,093 3 5 9	..	..	162,548 3 6 4	5,940 0 0 0
Peruvian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Ports ..	2,061 6 6 1	594 2 6 6	1 0 5 0	..	2,656 9 7 7	461 6 0 0
Chinese ..	62,393 1 3 1	4,157 5 6 9	106,967 4 8 4	87,947 0 2 9	261,465 2 0 4	13,022 1 0 0
Total ..	2,735,018 9 9 2	671,554 5 0 2	420,194 2 5 8	247,891 2 3 0	4,074,658 9 8 2	115,480 5 0 0

TRANSIT TRADE.

Flag.	Inwards.		Outwards.			Total.	
	Number of Passes.	Value of Trade.	Transit Dues.	Number of Passes.	Value of Trade.	Transit Dues.	Value of Trade.
		Hk. taels.	H. taels m. c. c.		Hk. taels.	H. taels m. c. c.	Hk. taels.
British	2,441	315,974	8,395 0 6 5	156	359,178	4,793 1 4 7	13,188 2 1 2
American	1,766	273,237	6,401 0 7 8	20	66,388	1,331 0 9 7	7,732 1 7 5
German	546	54,737	1,450 1 3 9	24	29,783	396 7 3 0	1,846 8 6 9
French	..	..	..	23	57,260	920 7 9 0	920 7 9 0
Dutch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Spanish	1,523	191,058	4,955 8 1 0	53	55,000	1,252 0 0 0	6,207 8 1 0
Swedish and Norwegian	136	7,885	185 6 7 6	..	..	..	185 6 7 6
Russian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Austrian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chinese	308	21,781	468 6 8 8	2	1,350	32 2 5 0	500 9 3 8
Total	6,720	864,672	21,856 4 5 6	278	568,959	8,726 0 1 4	30,582 4 7 0

PERCENTAGES.

Flag,	Tonnage.		Trade.				Revenue.			
	Total Trips.	Tonnage employed.	Foreign Trade.	Coast Trade.	Total Foreign and Coast.	Transit Trade.	Duties on Cargoes.	Tonnage Dues.	Transit Dues.	Total Dues and Duties.
British .	49.53	50.91	68.25	51.75	59.08	47.09	72.33	63.19	43.12	71.86
American	5.25	2.21	1.40	0.92	1.13	23.68	1.23	6.66	25.28	1.55
German	3.27	2.27	1.98	1.75	1.85	5.90	1.89	4.12	6.04	2.01
French .	1.25	3.64	18.64	0.45	8.53	4.00	13.72	4.51	3.01	13.39
Dutch ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish .	1.38	0.50	0.26	0.26	0.26	..	0.15	1.59	..	0.18
Spanish	0.18	0.06	..	..	..	17.17	..	..	20.30	0.15
Swedish and Norwegian	0.13	0.12	0.16	0.01	0.08	0.55	0.10	0.72	0.61	0.12
Russian	0.46	0.50	0.21	0.02	0.11	..	0.08	2.00	..	0.14
Austrian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian .	0.09	0.14	0.07	..	0.03	..	0.02	0.39	..	0.03
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	4.24	4.95	7.71	..	3.48	..	3.99	5.14	..	3.99
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	0.18	0.07	0.12	..	0.05	..	0.07	0.40	..	0.07
Chinese	34.04	34.63	1.20	44.84	25.45	1.61	6.42	11.28	1.64	6.51
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

POPULATION. (FOREIGN).

	Number of Firms.	Number of Residents.
British	105	1,057
American	16	230
German	43	159
French	15	41
Dutch	1	5
Danish	1	32
Spanish	2	108
Swedish and Norwegian ..	1	22
Russian .. ..	..	3
Austrian .. ..	..	31
Belgian .. ..	..	18
Italian .. ..	..	9
Japanese	2	168
Peruvian .. ..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	5	331
Chinese .. ..	..	..
Total	191	2,214

Chinese population estimated at—

Foreign Settlements—

British 73,652

American 28,082

French (including northern and north-eastern
suburbs of Chinese city) 33,000

134,734

Boat population of three Settlements 10,500

145,234

City and eastern and southern suburbs 120,000

Boat population 7,000

127,000

Total 272,234

(Signed) WM. HANDYSIDE TAPP,
Registrar.*British Registry Office of Shipping for China
and Japan, Shanghai, June 15, 1881.*

TAIWAN.

Report on the Trade of Taiwan for the Year 1880.

GREAT as was the improvement in the foreign trade in the Taiwan Consular district during the year 1879, as compared with any previous year, there is still greater improvement to be noted in the year 1880, which I am now passing under review. The total value of the trade in 1880 was 1,313,097*l.*, as against 1,078,390*l.* in 1879, or an increase of 234,707*l.* over the preceding year.

The chief cause of this great increase was, as in 1879, due to another fine crop of sugar, gathered in the season 1879-80.

The partial failure of the beet-root crop in Europe enabled merchants to take advantage of the superabundant sugar crop here, and ship sugar to London with advantage.

A large quantity of sugar was also shipped to the United States, there being a deficiency also in the crop in the countries from whence they draw their supplies.

SHIPPING.

The tonnage of the foreign vessels employed in carrying on the trade of the port exceeded that of the previous year by 14,947 tons.

The tonnage of British vessels remained stationary, while the tonnage of German and American vessels showed a large increase. The total tonnage of sailing-vessels employed in this trade was 12,706 tons entered and 13,028 cleared.

The British trade is, however, confined chiefly to steamers of Douglas, Lapraik and Co., which run regularly between this and Hong Kong via Amoy and Swatow, and also to Tamsuy. The above steamers bring from Hong Kong and Swatow a great deal of the cargo which formerly found its way here in junks. The number of junks trading between Taiwanfoo and the mainland is yearly decreasing.

During the past two or three years a few steamers have run direct from Taiwanfoo to Ningpo and Shanghai in the sugar season. Last year there were seven steamers employed in this trade, viz., four British, one German, and two belonging to the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company.

The placing of steamers on this line threatens to completely put a stop to the junk trade between Taiwanfoo and the North.

IMPORTS.

The total value of the import trade in 1880 exceeded that of the previous year by 67,242*l.* To this increase opium, as may be seen by Table No. 9, contributed 51,096*l.*

Benares opium was in excess 95·18 piculs, valued at 20,237*l.*

Persian opium was in excess 251·16 piculs, valued at 50,071*l.*

There was a decrease in Malwa opium of 28·41 piculs, valued at 3,362*l.* Also a decrease in Patna of 37·20 piculs, valued at 2,925*l.*

Turkey opium also shows a large decrease of 106·71 piculs, valued at 12,925*l.*

Only one chest of native opium was imported in a foreign vessel, and

some five others are said to have been imported in native junks. Native opium does not, however, find favour here.

Sesamum-seed cake was at one time imported largely to be mixed with foreign opium, but its importation was in the spring prohibited by Proclamation by the Taotai.

Cotton Goods.—These show an increase in value of 4,338*l.* over 1879.

In grey shirtings there was an increase of 7,028 pieces.

White shirtings show an increase of 945 pieces.

In T-cloths there was an increase of 2,087 pieces.

Woollen Goods.—These also show an increase in value of 6,917*l.*

This increase does not appear to be confined to one particular article ; all appear to have contributed to the increase.

Flannel and broad-cloth show the greatest increase.

The trade of these cotton and woollen goods is entirely in the hands of Chinese, Cantonese, who keep shops in the city of Taiwanfoo, and sell these goods in much smaller quantities than the foreign merchant cares to do.

Many of these shops have been but recently opened, and their owners draw their supplies direct from Hong Kong through an agent, or, as is most usually the case, they pay periodical visits there themselves.

Foreign goods of every description are to be met with in these shops. Oilmen's stores, chiefly from Morton and Co., biscuits from Huntley and Palmer's and Peek and Freans, all kinds of cutlery and hardware and foreign wines, and also kerosine oil, the consumption of which is yearly increasing.

A good stock of the above goods is always kept up, owing to the facility of replenishing their supplies by the direct steamers of Douglas, Lapraik and Co.

This class of trade is greatly on the increase. The increase in goods of that kind, which appear in the Returns under the name of sundries, was 3,378*l.* more in value than in the preceding year.

NATIVE IMPORTS.

The increase under this head was over 6,000*l.* as compared with the previous year. This was made up chiefly by the great number of mats imported, which were required to pack the sugar in for exportation.

EXPORTS.

The export of brown sugar, the staple product of this district, shows a great increase over 1879 ; in fact, there was last year the largest export of that article since the port has been open to foreign trade.

The only year at all approaching it was 1876, and the export exceeds that year by 146,137 piculs, equal to 8,677 tons. The total export in 1880 was 997,625 piculs, or 59,234 tons. Of this, 7,744 tons went to New York, 9,038 tons went to London, and 2,736 tons to Australia, while Japan took as many tons as the three above-named places put together.

The export to the northern ports of China and Hong Kong was greatly in excess of that of any previous year. It is a great question, however, whether this large export will continue.

This year the prospects of the crop up to the present are poor, storms in the autumn having done much injury to the crops.

The growth of sugar being found to be so profitable, much more ground is now being put under sugar cultivation than formerly. In many parts it is taking the place of rice.

In white sugar there is also a slight increase of some 3,000 piculs over the preceding year.

The other articles of export, such as turmeric, lung-ngans, hemp, &c., remain stationary.

Some 8,000 piculs of rice were exported in foreign vessels in 1879, but none appears to have been exported in 1880.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Although the trade of the port has been so good during the years 1879 and 1880, I fear the improvement cannot be looked upon as permanent. The causes that brought it about were exceptional, and due to two good sugar crops following each other.

The export of sugar for 1881 as far as can be now seen will not be much more than the half of last year's, a great part of the sugar crop being destroyed by a severe typhoon last autumn. The business prospects of the port are, however, fair, and if the authorities could only be induced to dredge the Takow bar, and to deepen the harbour in places, a new stimulus would be given to the trade of the place, and the harbour of Takow would be second to none in Formosa. All this might be brought about at a comparatively small outlay.

The telegraph between Takow, and Taiwanfoo, and Anping, its port, still continues to work, and is a great boon to the mercantile community. There is a telephone in connection with the telegraph, and is in good working order.

The plant of the Wusung Railway is still stored at Taiwanfoo, and is spoiling and rusting, and will soon become utterly useless.

No new lighthouses have been erected during the year under review, although their necessity has been strongly advocated. There are signs, however, that the lighthouse at the South Cape will shortly be commenced. The Taotai appears to be strongly averse to it, saying it will be impossible to protect foreigners superintending its erection.

No trading steamers now visit Takow; they all go to the roadstead of Anping (Taiwanfoo), which they consider safer and nearer the city. There is a daily correspondence between Takow and Taiwanfoo by the small steamer of Messrs. J. Mannich and Co., a German firm, and also by another steamer, British owned, which plies two or three times a week.

No new industry has been started here during the year.

Owing to the possibility of the outbreak of hostilities with Russia during the past year, great attention was paid to the building of forts and the purchase of guns, and Takow is now defended by two forts mounting two 6-ton guns in the fort on a level with the entrance to the harbour, and four 6-ton guns in a fort on a height opposite.

These guns were not placed in position till the end of the year, and to the credit of the military authorities they were so placed without foreign aid; some alterations have yet to be made in the forts to suit them for the new guns.

One of the greatest boons to the foreign merchant last year was the opening of a Customs bank at Anping for the payment of duties, which works well and is of great convenience.

Traces of the Dutch occupation of the island are being gradually swept away. Old Fort Provintia, which was built in 1653 at a place then called Saccam, and afterwards inclosed by the Chinese and made the capital of the island under the name of Taiwanfoo, has been levelled to the ground. A temple, dedicated to the Hai-lung-wang, God of the sea, is now in course of erection upon its ruins.

The Tables appended to this Report are :—

1. Comparative Statement of Trade, 1876-80.
2. Foreign Imports.
3. Native Imports.
4. Exports.
5. Comparative Table showing Export of Sugar, 1876-80.
6. Comparative Table showing Import of Opium, 1876-80.
7. Table showing Import and Export of Treasure during 1880.
8. Table of Shipping for 1880.
9. Table showing Increase in Foreign and Native Imports during 1880.
10. Table showing Increase in Native Exports during 1880.
11. Table of Re-exports.

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 1.)—COMPARATIVE Statement of Trade, &c., for the Years 1876 to 1880.

Years.	Value of the Trade.				Treasure.		Shipping.	
	Net Imports (Native and Foreign, less Re-exports).	Exports (not including Re-exports).	Total Imports and Exports.	Re- Exports.	Imported.	Exported.	Tonnage Entered.	Tonnage Cleared.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Tons.	Tons.
1876 ...	1,282,576	1,416,744	2,698,320	19,007	473,979	437,015	62,351	63,268
1877 ...	1,512,244	1,326,470	2,837,714	30,914	368,437	455,316	42,440	42,021
1878 ...	1,372,660	1,190,723	2,493,383	77,818	197,410	547,372	38,012	36,897
1879 ...	1,711,509	2,039,416	3,750,925	56,011	683,177	527,060	52,183	52,189
1880 ...	1,966,466	2,661,078	4,527,544	19,876	914,125	471,746	59,045	60,274

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 2.)—NET Total Imports of Foreign Goods for the Year 1880.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
Opium—			Taels.
Benares	Piculs ..	1,978 80	697,513
Malwa .. .. .	.. ..	42 29	17,859
Patna .. .. .	.. ..	49 20	18,469
Persian .. .. .	.. ..	1,546 24	699,292
Turkey .. .. .	.. ..	30 85	13,260
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	28,438	47,814
.. white .. .. .	.. ..	10,591	24,540
.. .. brocaded .. ..	.. ..	190	397
.. dyed, plain .. ..	.. ..	1,519	3,935
.. .. spotted and figured .. ..	.. ..	1,298	3,637
Chintzes .. .. .	.. ..	756	1,151
Drills .. .. .	.. ..	3,749	7,725
Muslins .. .. .	.. ..	3,363	2,976
T-cloths .. .. .	.. ..	9,341	11,958
Turkey reds .. .. .	.. ..	2,214	3,755
Damasks .. .. .	.. ..	215	983
Velvets and velveteens .. ..	.. ..	130	1,014
Cotton goods, unclassified	Value ..	..	2,198
.. thread	Piculs ..	62 10	2,862

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			Taels.
Woollen goods—			
Blankets.	Pairs ..	255½	1,011
Camlets, English	Pieces ..	3,081	39,642
Lastings	" ..	1,311	14,486
Long ells	" ..	981	7,146
Lustres and orleans, plain and figured .	" ..	1,297	5,164
Spanish stripes	" ..	301	3,786
Cloth, broad, habit, and medium ..	" ..	335	8,320
Flannels	" ..	274	4,082
Woollen goods, unclassified ..	" ..	557	2,229
Miscellaneous piece goods—			
Woollen and cotton mixtures ..	" ..	113	1,631
Metals—			
Iron, nail rod	Piculs ..	1,053 68	4,077
" old	" ..	1,542 49	2,260
Lead, in pigs	" ..	134 01	793
Quicksilver	" ..	13 18	735
Metals, unclassified ..	Value ..	..	1,503
Sundries—			
Bêche de mer, black and white ..	Piculs ..	62 10	1,266
Birds' nests, 2nd and 3rd qualities ..	" ..	3 18	3,757
Buttons, brass	Gross ..	1,421½	1,086
Camphor, Baroos	Piculs ..	0 54½	806
Cardamums, superior	" ..	6 01	416
" inferior	" ..	33 05	826
Cloves	" ..	20 43	628
Clocks	Pieces ..	791	2,090
Cuttle fish	Piculs ..	643 63	8,712
Dye	Bottles ..	8,278	1,813
Fish, dried	Piculs ..	83 25	591
Flints	" ..	514 81	666
Flour	" ..	5,900 94	17,962
Gambier	" ..	330 66	2,634
Ginseng, American, clarified ..	" ..	52 62	10,465
" Corean, 2nd quality ..	" ..	0 78½	839
Isinglass	" ..	47 77	1,473
Mangrove bark	" ..	927 85	1,181
Matches	Gross ..	5,694	2,268
Oil, kerosine	Gallons ..	6,000	1,112
Pepper, black	Piculs ..	213 79	1,893
Prawns, dried	" ..	358 29	4,244
Sandal wood	" ..	490 78	2,324
Shell fish	" ..	297 39	3,921
Timber	Value ..	..	1,548
Umbrellas	Pieces ..	1,672	1,410
Window glass	Boxes ..	309	908
Wood, Garros	Piculs ..	8 11	749
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	6,831
Total .. ..	..	..	1,742,622

1,742,622 taels, equal to 501,003*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* at 5*s.* 9*d.*

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 3.)—NET Total Imports of Native Produce for the Year 1880.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. Taels.
Almonds	Piculs ..	24 07	460
Bags, hemp	Pieces ..	102,065	3,123
Bamboo ware	Piculs ..	11 81	334
Brass buttons	" ..	67 39	4,622
" ware	" ..	69 94	2,587
Bricks and tiles	Pieces ..	273,188	2,342
Cassia lignea	Piculs ..	86 25	824
" twigs	" ..	22 52	155
China root.. ..	" ..	140 01	1,260
China ware, fine	" ..	10 35	158
Cinnabar	" ..	6 70	521
Clothing, cotton	" ..	1 54	68
Coal	" ..	1,849 00	388
Cornelian beads	" ..	3 22	404
Dates, black	" ..	73 03	368
" red.. ..	" ..	103 64	444
Fans, palm leaf, trimmed	Pieces ..	13,900	735
" paper	" ..	10,834	536
Fire crackers	Piculs ..	29 39	435
Fish, dried and salted	" ..	390 72	2,362
Fungus	" ..	92 57	2,179
Ginseng, native	" ..	5 99	941
Glassware	" ..	122 18	3,657
Grass cloth, coarse and fine	" ..	118 71	5,830
Hams	" ..	30 80	564
Ironware	" ..	2,638 51	11,142
Jadestone ware	Pairs ..	10,622	14,745
Lamps	Pieces ..	12,245	3,832
Lead, red	Piculs ..	22 00	198
" white	" ..	46 32	394
Lily seeds or lotus nuts	" ..	83 01	952
" flowers, dried	" ..	597 40	5,944
Liquorice	" ..	108 19	726
Mats	Pieces ..	1,367,915	49,131
Medicines	Piculs ..	1,370 65½	11,195
Melon seeds	" ..	82 46	412
Mirrors and frames	Pieces ..	15,169	585
Mushrooms	Piculs ..	69 58	2,687
Nankeens	" ..	125 84	5,616
Oil wood	" ..	48 15	404
Opium-husk	" ..	3 70	296
Paint, green	" ..	18 00	380
Paper, first and second quality	" ..	39 15	626
Peas and beans	" ..	4,143 93	7,144
Pottery, earthenware	" ..	32 11	288
Prawns and shrimps, dried	" ..	3 07	30
Preserves	" ..	0 25	3
Rhubarb	" ..	33 01	810
Samahu	" ..	24 76	84
Shoes, satin and cotton	Pairs ..	1,019	817
Silk piece goods	Piculs ..	13 65	6,433
" ribbons and thread	" ..	25 44½	6,711
" and cotton mixtures	" ..	29 50	7,269
Tallow, animal	" ..	158 11	1,161
Timber poles	Pieces ..	600	240
Tobacco, prepared	Piculs ..	1,631 46	24,569
Varnish	" ..	10 00	225
Vermicelli	" ..	174 56	1,553
Wax, white	" ..	31 44	1,641
Woollen and cotton mixtures	Pieces ..	4,680	4,715

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
Woodware	Piculs ..	9 50	H. Taels. 210
Sundries, unenumerated	Value ..	..	12,148
Safflower	Piculs ..	21 18	1,237
Raisins	" ..	356 57	1,994
Total .. .. .	..	..	223,844

223,844 taels, equal to 64,355*l.* 3*s.* at 5*s.* 9*d.*

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 4.)—EXPORTS of Native Produce during 1880.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.	Totals.
			H. taels.	H. taels.
To foreign countries—				
Lung-ngans, dried	Piculs ..	816 68	1,512	
„ pulp	„ ..	1,809 22	7,785	
Sugar, brown	„ ..	752,629 51	1,618,067	
„ white	„ ..	38,124 77	184,975	
Tea	„ ..	1 80	40	
Turmeric	„ ..	773 75	2,130	
Sundries, unenumerated	Value ..	..	136	
				1,614,645
To Chinese ports—				
Bamboo-shoots	Piculs ..	895 65	4,292	
Ground-nuts	„ ..	1,680 01	3,205	
Hemp	„ ..	429 42	5,735	
Lung-ngans, dried	„ ..	1,591 21	2,694	
„ pulp	„ ..	1,434 09	6,012	
Salt	„ ..	7,601 20	5,321	
Seed, sesamum	„ ..	1,119 57	2,396	
Sharks' fins, black and white	„ ..	32 17	832	
Sugar, brown	„ ..	244,994 93	535,964	
„ candy	„ ..	184 62	1,027	
„ white	„ ..	28,395 92	140,341	
Turmeric	„ ..	13,390 16	36,778	
Sundries, unenumerated	Value ..	..	1,836	
				746,433
Total exports of native produce .. .. .	..	..	..	2,561,078

2,561,078 taels, equal to 736,309*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* at 5*s.* 9*d.*

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 5.)—COMPARATIVE Table showing the Export of Brown Sugar for the Years 1876 to 1880.

Year.	Tien-tsin.	Chefoo.	Newchwang.	Shanghai.	Ningpo.	Foochow.	Amoy.	Total to Coast Ports.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
1876 ...	36,028	233,799	16,340	60,023	8,087	...	17,754	368,081
1877 ...	35,918	91,442	...	8,586	2,594	...	5,561	144,101
1878 ...	15,985	117,926	2,107	18,208	3,746	...	1,034	159,016
1879 ...	35,487	159,964	4,850	62,225	1,947	...	5,922	270,415
1880 ...	41,025	127,187	7,486	68,909	...	13	395	244,995

Year.	Japan.	Australia.	London.	United States of America.	Valparaiso.	Hong Kong.	Total to Foreign Countries.	Grand Total to Coast Ports and Foreign Countries.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
1876 ...	275,685	5,831	142,374	...	11,249	51,318	489,457	851,488
1877 ...	242,421	79,264	18,500	73,077	...	10,219	423,481	567,589
1878 ...	165,367	49,409	11,676	...	...	5,786	232,838	391,854
1879 ...	294,663	139,799	...	...	...	6,807	431,269	701,684
1880 ...	331,894	46,079	152,220	130,431	...	92,006	752,630	997,635

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 6.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Import and Re-export of Opium for the Years 1876 to 1880.

Years.	Benares.	Malwa.	Patna.	Persian.	Turkey.	Total.	Total Re-Exports.	Net Total Imports.
	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.
1876 ...	1,402 80	117 30	369 60	802 65	0 75	2,693 10	34 71	2,658 39
1877 ...	1,720 80	9 00	176 67	1,324 87	1 98	3,233 32	65 38	3,168 04
1878 ...	1,480 44	19 74	38 40	1,435 08	85 08	3,058 74	205 94	2,852 80
1879 ...	1,883 62	70 70	56 40	1,331 66	137 56	3,509 94	123 13	3,386 81
1880 ...	1,978 80	42 39	49 20	1,582 82	30 85	3,683 96	36 58	3,647 38

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 7.)—TREASURE and Copper Cash Imported and Exported during the Year 1880.

IMPORTED.			EXPORTED.		
From—	Treasure.	Copper Cash.	To—	Treasure.	Copper Cash.
	H. taels.			H. taels.	
Hong Kong ...	440,369	...	Hong Kong ...	186,067	...
Shanghai ...	...	...	Shanghai ...	209	...
Foochow ...	...	...	Foochow ...	2,382	...
Amoy ...	378,293	...	Amoy ...	272,054	...
Swatow ...	1,805	...	Swatow ...	10,379	...
Tamsui ...	33,384	...	Tamsui ...	655	...
Japan ...	60,774	...			
Total ...	914,125	...	Total ...	471,746	...
Total import in sterling, 262,811 <i>l</i> .			Total export in sterling, 135,627 <i>l</i> .		

Rate of exchange, Haikwan tael equal to 5*s*. 9*d*.(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 8.)—NUMBER and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared under each Flag during 1880.

Flag.	Entered.						Cleared.						Total Entered and Cleared.	
	Sailing.		Steamers.		Total.		Sailing.		Steamers.		Total.			
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British..	33	12,706	40	16,037	73	28,743	34	13,028	41	16,403	75	29,431	148	58,174
American	8	6,380	..	..	8	6,380	8	6,380	..	..	8	6,380	16	12,760
German	62	19,377	1	783	63	20,160	64	19,918	1	783	65	20,701	128	40,861
Dutch ..	2	439	..	..	2	439	2	439	..	..	2	439	4	878
Danish..	5	1,068	..	..	5	1,068	5	1,068	..	..	5	1,068	10	2,136
Japanese	1	443	..	..	1	443	1	443	..	..	1	443	2	886
Chinese	..	..	2	1,395	2	1,395	..	..	2	1,395	2	1,395	4	2,790
Swedish and Norwegian	1	417	..	..	1	417	1	417	..	..	1	417	2	834
Total ..	112	40,830	43	18,215	155	59,045	115	41,693	44	18,581	159	60,274	314	119,319

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, Consul.

(No. 9.)—TABLE showing the Increase in Foreign Imports during 1880.

Description of Goods.				Decrease.			Increase.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Opium—									
Benares	..	..	..				20,236	16	9
Malwa	..	..	..	3,362	12	0	..		
Patna	..	..	..	2,925	0	6	..		
Persian	..	..	..	..			50,071	17	3
Turkey	..	..	..	12,924	17	0	..		
				19,212	9	6	70,308	14	0
							19,212	9	6
Total increase in opium..				..			51,096	4	6
Cotton goods	..	..	..	..			4,338	7	6
Woollen goods	..	..	..	..			6,917	5	0
Metals	..	..	..	..			1,512	5	0
Sundries	..	..	..	..			3,378	8	3
							67,242	10	3

				Taels.	£	s.	d.
Foreign imports in 1879	..	..	..	1,508,735	=	433,761	6 3
" " 1880	..	..	..	1,742,622		501,003	16 6
Increase in foreign imports in 1880				..		67,242	10 3

				Taels.	£	s.	d.
Native imports in 1879	..	..	..	202,774	=	58,297	10 6
" " 1880	..	..	..	223,844		64,355	3 0
Increase in native imports in 1880.				21,070		6,057	12 6

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul*.

(No. 10.)—TABLE showing the Increase or Decrease of Native Exports during 1880.

Description of Goods.				Decrease.			Increase.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sugar—									
Brown	..	..	..	..			153,182	0	3
White	..	..	..	..			9,821	17	3
Turmeric	..	..	..	..			735	8	6
Ground nuts	..	..	..	1,387	9	6	..		
Hemp	..	..	..	2,303	3	3	..		
Lung-ngans..	..	..	..	4,823	13	6	..		
Salt	..	..	..	2,451	16	0	..		
Sesamum	..	..	..	552	17	3	..		
Sundries	..	..	..	2,242	10	0	..		
Total	..	..	..	13,761	9	6	163,739	6	0

					£	s.	d.
Increase	..	..	..	..	163,739	6	0
Decrease	..	..	..	..	13,761	9	6
Net increase..				..	149,977	16	6

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul*.

(No. 11.)—RE-EXPORTS during 1880.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.	Total.
			Taels.	Taels.
Of foreign goods to Chinese ports and Hong Kong—				
Opium, Persian.. .. .	Piculs ..	36 58½	16,312	
Cotton goods	Value ..	..	1,753	
Woollen goods .. .. .	.. ..	..	1,122	
Sundries .. .. .	.. ..	..	385	
Of native produce to Hong Kong for Chinese ports—				19,572
Sundries .. .. .	.. ..	..	..	304
Total re-exports of foreign and native goods .. .. .	.. ..	..	..	19,876

19,876 taels, equal to 5,714*l.* 7*s.* at 5*s.* 9*d.*

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

TIEN-TSIN.

Report on the Trade of Tien-tsin for the Year 1880.

THE total net value of the foreign trade of Tien-tsin for the year 1880 was 21,668,434 Haikwan taels, equal to 6,139,389*l.*, showing a decrease, compared with the value of the trade during the preceding year, of 2,697,008 Haikwan taels, or 764,152*l.*

				1878.	1879.	1880.
				Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Imports—						
Foreign ..	..	..		7,694,805	13,279,624	10,169,133
Native ..	..	..		14,322,428	9,105,582	8,940,205
Exports ..	..	..		1,954,787	1,980,236	2,559,096
Total ..	..	..		23,972,020	24,365,442	21,668,434

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

The decrease is mainly in foreign imports, which show a falling-off of 3,110,491 taels, and is attributable in a great measure to the uncertainty which prevailed in 1880 as to the ultimate settlement of the Russo-Chinese difficulty.

The following are the principal articles in which a decrease is apparent:—

Imports.				Decrease.	
Shirtings, grey .	..	..	..	Pieces	243,810
„ white	..	..	..	„	20,136
„ dyed and brocaded	..	..	..	„	8,979
Drills, English	..	..	..	„	54,615
„ American	..	..	..	„	144,600
T-cloths	..	..	..	„	76,637
Sheetings	..	..	..	„	56,204
Handkerchiefs	..	..	..	Dozens	7,400
Opium	..	..	..	Piculs	1,962·58
Lustres and Orleans	..	..	..	Pieces	22,993
Kerosine oil	..	..	..	Gallons	70,579

The Tables below show the relative positions occupied in the Tien-tsin market by English and American drills, sheeting, and jeans from 1876 to 1880:—

	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Drills—					
English	272,409	120,005	61,662	145,780	91,165
American	104,366	90,500	113,589	259,380	114,780
Sheetings—					
English	128,350	39,257	20,045	36,445	33,951
American		144,786	187,105	409,442	355,332
Jeans—					
English	164,835	98,560	30,010	61,832	63,420
American		24,414	26,575	27,030	32,410

NATIVE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

In native imports there is a trifling decrease of 165,377 Haikwan taels, and in exports an increase of 578,860 Haikwan taels.

Amongst the latter, straw-braid shows an increase of 8,983 piculs, and camels' wool of 6,639 piculs.

OPIMUM.

As predicted in my Report for 1879, there was a great falling-off in the consumption of Malwa and Persian opium during 1880.

The decrease in all kinds was 1,962 piculs 58 catties, and was made up as follows:—

						Piculs.
Malwa .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,428·78
Patna .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	364·80
Banarès .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	66·00
Persian .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	103·00
Total .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,962·58

The decrease is partly to be accounted for by the stagnation of trade caused by the anticipated rupture between Russia and China on account of the Kuldja difficulty, but was mainly attributable to the excellence of the native poppy crop.

The area of poppy cultivation is extending in this neighbourhood, and in many districts is only limited by the want of suitable soil.

SHIPPING.

It will be seen by Table No. 5, appended to this Report, that in British shipping there is an increase of 23 vessels and 8,270 tons; whilst the shipping of all other nationalities shows an aggregate decrease of 74 vessels and 37,616 tons. In the total foreign shipping, therefore, there was a decrease in 1880 of 51 vessels and 29,346 tons.

MINES.

The Kaiping coal-mines, alluded to in my last Report, have progressed rapidly, and it is hoped will be able shortly to supply the whole of North China with coal at a cheap rate.

For the greater part of the following information I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. Claude W. Kinder, C.E.:—

No. 1 shaft has been sunk to a depth of 200 feet, and a drift 300 feet long has been driven, which cuts through six seams of coal, one of which

is 7 feet in thickness. About 3,500 tons of coal have been taken out of the prospecting drifts, but no attempt at working will take place till No. 2 shaft is completed, and a stone drift driven into No. 3 seam.

Extensive coke-ovens and coal-washing apparatus will shortly be erected, as the coal is of excellent coking quality, and the demand for coke in Peking and the neighbourhood is very large.

A gasworks for some 200 or 300 lights has been put up. It was entirely constructed in the Company's workshops.

From the colliery to Hsü Ko-chuang there is a single line of railway about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, of 4 feet $8\frac{1}{2}$ inch gauge, and with a maximum gradient of 1 in 100. The sharpest curve has a 1,500 feet radius. The rails are of steel, 30 lbs. to the yard, and the sleepers are of elm, rough-hewn. A locomotive has been built at the colliery and will be used when the prejudices of the Chinese against its employment are overcome; till then, native ponies will be employed on the line.

From Hsü Ko-chuang to Lu-t'ai a tidal canal has been constructed, which takes its water from the Lu-t'ai River, and is provided with gates, so as to secure about twelve hours' passage per day and a minimum of 4 feet of water, but during most neap tides the canal gates will be open for more than twelve hours out of the twenty-four. The length of the canal is a trifle over 21 miles.

At Hsü Ko-chuang a large basin has been excavated, with sidings for coal and stone waggons. Cranes and ample conveniences for loading boats will be erected. The boats are 40 feet long with 8 feet beam, and are constructed to carry 40 tons each.

This canal is the first waterway constructed in China on European principles, and is fitted with gates and substantial bridges of iron and stone of from 14 to 30 feet span.

The iron girders for two 30-foot span bridges were entirely constructed at the colliery out of the only iron procurable at all fit for the work.

From Lu-t'ai to Tien-tsin (a distance of 40 miles) the communication has been secured by the deepening of already existing creeks.

(Signed) HENRY B. BRISTOW,
Acting Consul.

Her Majesty's Consulate, Tien-tsin,
July 30, 1881.

(No. 1).—COMPARATIVE Table (from Customs Returns) of Principal Net Imports of Foreign origin, from 1878 to 1880.

	Classifier.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Cotton piece-goods—				
Shirtings, grey	Pieces	751,647	1,218,845	975,075
" white	"	251,439	442,067	421,941
" dyed and broadened	"	17,720	22,674	13,695
Prints, clintzes, and furnitures	"	29,166	61,957	58,704
Turkey red cambric	"	61,971	121,057	119,011
Drills, English	"	61,663	145,730	91,165
" Dutch	"	41,760	38,890	49,300
" American	"	113,589	239,360	111,780
T-cloths	"	390,100	570,767	491,130
Damasks, cotton	"	1,766	2,528	639
Jeans and twills	"	62,188	118,118	121,979
Muslins	"	8,507	14,868	10,958
Sheetings	"	207,150	445,487	389,285
Velvets and velveteens	"	844	845	2,730
Handkerchiefs, cotton	Dozens	9,627	21,153	18,753
Opium—				
Malwa	Piculs	3,530 40	4,189 48	2,760 70
Patna	"	164 20	873 20	8 40
Benares	"	21 66	66 00	...
Persian	"	290 93	553 00	450 00
Prepared	"	23 00	64 71	...
Woolen piece-goods—				
Spanish stripes, inferior	Pieces	5,138	6,435	6,633
Long ells	"	680	2,260	1,561
Camlets, English	"	4,090	9,060	6,570
" Dutch	"	100	130	540
Lastings	"	6,206	11,943	12,883
Lustras and Orleans	"	18,641	37,251	14,258
Broadcloth	"	289	50	...
Metals—				
Lead, in pigs	Piculs	5,596 43	12,049 90	8,046 86
Quicksilver	"	60 18	282 86	87 18
Steel	"	3,667 77	3,767 72	10,053 11
Iron, nail-rod	"	...	11,972 10	6,164 24
" bar	"	507 44	3,587 86	6,312 05
" hoop	"	...	4,898 45	2,704 10
" old	"	...	1,063 00	5,116 33
" pig	"	489 31	5,545 66	7,549 55
" sheet	"	...	244 99	523 35
" wire	"	...	756 46	2,970 56
Sandries—				
Brass buttons	Gross	27,750	59,294	52,393
Clocks	Pieces	1,716	7,894	10,079
Matches	Gross	75,129 1/2	89,460	92,060
Oil, kerosine	Gallons	86,570	385,800	315,221
Seaweed, Japan	Piculs	19,583 31	80,011 58	28,169 53
" Russian	"	875	12,471 58	...
Tea, Japan	"	5,335 05	6,081 23	3,713 79
Window glass	Boxes	17,461	10,804	10,831

(Signed)

HENRY B. BRISTOW,
Acting Consul.

Tien-tsin, July 30, 1881.

(No. 2).—PRINCIPAL Native Imports (Net).

	Classifier.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Bamboo brooms	Pieces	...	72,890	182,570
" canes . . . . .	"	...	...	107,574
" poles	"	5,321	12,196	84,524
Beans and peas	Piculs	354,063 00	12,717 82	25,167 04
Brass lamps	Pieces	54,990	18,238	50,453
Copper	Piculs	4,583 67	5,281 68	6,188 58
Eggs, preserved	Pieces	843,940	2,247,150	1,404,103
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed	"	207,963	69,940	842,807
" untrimmed	"	239,114	787,960	1,040,190
" paper	"	807,175	672,741	1,041,358
" silks and gauzes	"	15,703	24,163	29,155
Feather dusters	"	...	82,549	88,120
Flower plants	"	83,007	60,306	80,537
" roots . . . . .	"	...	...	217,120
Ginger, fresh	Piculs	20,564	26,139 63	28,155 34
Mats	Pieces	...	...	147,064
Opium bowls and pipes	"	27,616	86,472	43,586
Oil, wood	Piculs	33,930 00	21,975 58	23,477 20
Paper, 1st quality	"	18,961 41	28,910 68	25,980 09
" 2nd quality	"	52,606 53	38,892 62	63,497 29
Rice	"	1,552,392	553,295 56	555,471 40
" tribute	"	...	917,526 40	679,651 00
Sugar, brown	"	171,886 27	163,606 96	187,332 79
" white	"	78,913 23	83,184 88	125,891 00
" candy	"	16,590 24	15,989 12	30,355 74
Timber, plants	Sq. feet	684,835	394,961	700,335
" poles	Pieces	44,020	107,569	94,122
Umbrellas	"	...	7,450	85,080
Wheat	Piculs	513,471 00	147,933 35	135,460 40

(Signed) HENRY B. BRISTOW,
Acting Consul.

Tien-tsin, July 30, 1881.

(No. 3).—COMPARATIVE Table of Exports, 1878 to 1880

	Classifier.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Braid, straw	Piculs	9,216 25	10,973 39	19,961 96
Caps, felt	Pieces	162,510	198,639	281,886
Felt	Piculs	157 68	570 13	...
Hats, straw	Pieces	...	...	126,767
Medicines	Piculs	17,675	10,900	73,515
Shoes	Pairs	22,777 634	36,811 17	38,692 86
" 78,023	"	131,718	154,092	154,092
Skins, goat	Pieces	...	...	25,061
" raw	"	33,545	38,107	27,836
" lamb	"	7,832	35,008	11,102
" sheep	"	206,777	8,737	9,471
Rugs, goat-skin	"	76,518	94,672	125,328
Soap	Piculs	27,347 84	15,546 90	19,320 66
Wool, camels'	"	11,593 36	9,809 58	16,442 46
" goats'	"	6,491 51	976 12	5,037 70
Woollen and cotton mixtures	Pieces	19,392	43,133	38,907

For export of tea to Russia, see Table No. .

(Signed) HENRY B. BRISTOW,
Acting Consul.

Tien-tsin, July 30, 1881.

(No. 4.)—IMPORT of Grain, 1878 to 1880.

Kind.				1878.	1879.	1880.
				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Rice	..	..	..	1,552,393	1,450,821	1,238,122.40
Wheat	..	..	..	530,228	147,933	135,460.40
Millet	..	..	..	296,166	..	..
Beans and peas	..	..	..	362,671	12,767	25,167.04
Corn	..	..	..	48,253	..	..

(Signed)

HENRY B. BRISTOW,
*Acting Consul.**Tien-tsin, July 30, 1881.*

(No. 5.)—SHIPPING, 1878 to 1880.

Nationality.	1878.		1879.		1880.	
	No. of Ships Entered and Cleared.	Tonnage.	No. of Ships Entered and Cleared.	Tonnage.	No. of Ships Entered and Cleared.	Tonnage.
British	424	209,838	344	194,580	367	202,850
American . . .	52	23,570	54	25,474	6	2,582
German	110	34,868	94	29,382	87	26,981
Chinese	333	246,915	347	263,953	326	249,930
All others . . .	54	25,014	28	8,582	30	10,282
Total	973	,205	867	521,971	816	492,625

(Signed)

HENRY B. BRISTOW,
*Acting Consul.**Tien-tsin, July 0, 1881.*

(No. 6.)—IMPORT and Export of Treasure, 1872 to 1880.

						£
1872 . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	1,514,078
1873 . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	1,645,101
1874 . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	1,606,559
1875 . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	1,213,419
1876 . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	1,554,038
1877 . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	1,029,428
1878 . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	1,668,666
1879 . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	2,308,142
1880 . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	2,068,274

(Signed)

HENRY B. BRISTOW,
*Acting Consul.**Tien-tsin, July 30, 1881.*

(No. 7.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Russian Overland Trade for the Years 1877 to 1880.

	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
	Hk. tael.	Hk. tael.	Hk. tael.	Hk. tael.
Russian goods (chiefly woollen) brought via Kiachta to Tien-tsin, and exported thence to native ports	92	120	2,475	..
Chinese produce (chiefly tea) landed at Tien-tsin for carriage thence via Kiachta to Siberia and Russia	3,814,777	3,207,094	3,988,269	4,055,310

(Signed)

HENRY B. BRISTOW,
*Acting Consul.**Tien-tsin, July 30, 1881.*

(No. 8.)—IMPORT and Re-export of Opium during the Year 1880.

	Malwa.		Patna.		Benares.		Persian.		Total.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Pic. c.	Hk. taels.	Pic. c.	Hk. taels.	Pic. c.	Hk. taels.	Pic. c.	Hk. taels.	Pic. c.	Hk. taels.
Imports	3,084 70	1,595,638	51 60	22,587	6 00	2,850	510 00	234,137	3,652 30	1,855,207
Re-exports	324 00	151,100	43 20	20,520	7 20	3,420	60 00	27,740	434 40	202,780
For local consumption	2,760 70	1,444,533	8 40	2,067	..	..	450 00	206,397	3,219 10	1,652,997

Decrease in 1880, 1,962·58 piculs; value, 825,017 taels.

Tien-tsin, July 30, 1881.

(Signed) HENRY B. BRISTOW, Acting Consul.

(No. 9.) — Net Import of Opium into Tien-tsin, 1864 to 1880.

	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.
Malva ...	2,595 48	4,390 50	7,614 03	7,240 76½	6,879 59	4,584 50	6,443 00	6,359 50	4,419 48	4,675 50	5,128 43	3,693 73	3,446 28	3,769 24½	3,330 40½	4,159 48½	2,760 70
Patna ...	152 64	717 62	778 00	393 60	148 60	261 60	108 80	231 60	150 00	158 23	77 93	153 60	139 29	153 54	164 20	373 20	8 40
Benares ...	9 60	364 80	500 00	104 40	232 80	327 60	334 80	219 60	108 00	86 80	104 40	4 80	20 40	45 03	21 60	66 00	...
Persian ...	4 00	108 50	271 61	132 60	118 00	114 46	277 50	310 00	...	37 00	21 18	30 00	...	57 40	290 93½	553 00	450 00
Turkish ...	...	43 46	11 06	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Prepared ...	49 92½	65 18½	93 75½	33 57	43 87	134 66	123 79	99 64½	47 11½	87 81	73 67½	27 13	29 68	9 00	23 11½	64 71	...
Total ...	2,804 64½	5,695 07	9,162 86½	7,894 63½	7,421 86	5,423 83	7,994 89	7,150 36½	4,724 58½	5,045 34	5,405 60½	3,908 26	3,635 65	4,034 80½	4,030 25½	5,246 39½	3,219 10

Tien-tsin, July 30, 1881.

(Signed)

HENRY B. BRISTOW, Acting Consul.

WUHU.

Report on the Trade of Wuhu for the Year 1880.

THE total trade of the port of Wuhu in foreign vessels for the year 1880 is 4,026,074 Haikwan taels, equal to 1,157,496*l*. The total trade for the year 1879 was 3,669,605 Haikwan taels. The increase for the year under review thus amounts to 356,469 Haikwan taels, equal to 102,485*l*., which is almost the same as the increase of the year 1879 above the year 1878. The import of foreign goods for 1880 is 2,412,429 Haikwan taels, equal to 693,573*l*., against 2,372,594 Haikwan taels in 1879. The import of native produce is 552,971 Haikwan taels, equal to 158,979*l*., against 608,621 Haikwan taels in 1879. The total exports are 1,060,674 Haikwan taels, equal to 304,944*l*., against 688,390 Haikwan taels in 1879. In the course of the year, therefore, foreign imports have increased by 39,835 Haikwan taels, equal to 11,453*l*.; native imports have decreased by 55,650 Haikwan taels, equal to 15,999*l*.; and exports have increased by 372,284 Haikwan taels, equal to 107,032*l*.

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

The chief article under this head is opium, of which the gross import for the year is 3,501 piculs (of 133 lbs. avoirdupois), and the net import 3,431 piculs. The gross value is given as 1,798,370 Haikwan taels (517,031*l*.). The import consists almost entirely of Malwa, of which 3,432 piculs were brought into the port; next comes Persian, 61 piculs; then Patna, 8 piculs. No Benares was imported. During the first quarter of the year 1,031 piculs of all kinds were imported; during the second quarter, 689 piculs; during the third quarter, 830 piculs; and during the fourth, 951 piculs. The small import of Persian was distributed nearly equally through the four quarters. It is difficult to account for the fact that the general import is much larger in the first quarter of the year than in any of the other quarters, when there is hardly any business of any kind done for almost a whole month during the Chinese New Year holidays in January and February. It is not worth while to enter into the fluctuations of price, for rates at Wuhu, I am informed, are ruled absolutely by those in Shanghai, with which port we have communication by steamer, even in the least busy times of the year, once every two days. I am even told that opium sells in Wuhu at exactly the Shanghai price, as advised by last steamer, plus the cost of freight, insurance, and shipping and landing charges. The district supplied with opium from Wuhu consists of the part of the valley of the Yang-tse which is in the neighbourhood of the port. In addition to this, the important tea district of Huichow, better known by its Cantonese name of Fychow, draws about a quarter of its supplies from here. Huichow, though in the same province as Wuhu, is connected by water with Ningpo, through which port the greater part of its trade passes. Native opium from Szechuan makes its first appearance in the Customs Returns during the last quarter of the year just ended. The amount, 8·13 piculs, or 1,084 lbs., is not very formidable at present. This opium, I am told, is required to meet a local demand in the port itself, which sprang up very suddenly last year. A large dealer in the prepared drug, it is said, took to mixing Szechuan opium with the Malwa

he sold, hoping that the adulteration would escape detection, as he was able to preserve the proper colour of the paste. His fraud was soon discovered by his customers, whose taste was not to be deceived; but many of them, finding the mixture palatable, began to buy Szechuan opium and mix it for themselves, thus lessening considerably the cost of smoking. The proportion of Szechuan opium employed varies according to the taste of the smoker, those who mix it most largely using equal quantities of the two kinds. It is probable that the 1,084 lbs. which passed through the Foreign Custom-house does not represent the whole of the Szechuan opium which has found its way into Wuhu; but it does not, on the other hand, appear that any large amount is either passed through the Native Custom-house or smuggled into the port. I am told that a small quantity of opium is grown in the Department of Luchow Fu, to the north of Wuhu, but that the greater part of the crop, little as it is, is not consumed in Luchow Fu itself, but is sent away to districts more remote from this place. Beyond what I have here stated, I cannot learn that any native opium is either grown or consumed in this part of the country. If it is true, as has been said, that a small quantity has been produced in the extreme south-east of the province, the amount must be so trifling as not perceptibly to affect the trade in the foreign article. Messrs. D. Sassoon, Sons, and Co. have been established in Wuhu for some time. Messrs. E. D. Sassoon and Co. also opened a house in the port at the beginning of the present year.

Next in importance to opium come cotton piece-goods, 127,022 pieces, valued at 208,185 Haikwan taels (59,853*l.*), against 122,286 pieces, valued at 197,799 Haikwan taels in 1879. There is therefore an increase in the import, though far from a large one. It is noticeable what a small proportion the import of cotton piece-goods bears to that of opium, namely, less than one-eighth; while for the whole of North China, taking the Shanghai Returns of 1879 for one's guide, one finds that the proportion is as high as two-thirds, and in Chinkiang, which bears the reputation of being the opium port *par excellence* of North China, it is between one-third and one-fourth. I suppose this means—and an examination of the Customs Returns supports me in the supposition—that the trade in opium is more easily displaced than that in cotton goods; that is to say, that a large number of traders who formerly resorted to Chinkiang, Ningpo, or Kinkiang for opium, now come to Wuhu instead; but the dealers in cotton piece-goods from the same districts still for the most part make their purchases at those ports as before. The advantages which the dealers in opium from this neighbourhood would gain in coming to Wuhu instead of going to more distant ports would be, first, the payment of fewer transit dues, whether *li-kin* or local *octroi* duties, and, secondly, the quick and safe means of conveyance afforded by steamers. The first of these advantages would not be of equal weight in the case of cottons, which are almost always carried under transit pass when going for any long distance, and the second would naturally be of more importance with regard to a very valuable article such as opium than with regard to a comparatively cheap one such as cotton piece-goods.

The following Table gives the import of each kind of cotton piece-goods for the year under review:—

Shirtings, grey	48,080	pieces.
" white	2,852	"
" dyed, &c.	710	"
T-cloths	37,855	"
Drills, American	1,605	"
" English	3,474	"
Jeans	1,780	"
Sheetings, American.. .. .	7,050	"
" English	3,860	"
Twills	760	"
Velvets	1,994	"
Chintzes and furnitures	820	"
Handkerchiefs	14,782	dozens.
Cotton goods, unclassified	1,400	pieces.

Shirtings show an increase of 1,500 pieces, T-cloths a decrease 1,000 pieces. One is pleased to be able to remark that the import of English drills is rather more than double that of American drills, which is just the same proportion as in the preceding year. The most noticeable entry in the list is perhaps that of English sheetings, which appear as 3,860 pieces, against none in 1879. American sheetings are 7,050 pieces, against 6,920 pieces in 1879.

There is a decrease of nearly 20 per cent. in woollen piece-goods, the import being 8,219 pieces, against 9,998 pieces in 1879. Their value is given as 80,923 Haikwan taels (23,273*l.*). The quantity, though not large, bears a higher proportion to the import of cottons than is the case in Shanghai and most ports. The largest consumption is of English camlets, to the value of 30,315 Haikwan taels (8,715*l.*). Next come broadcloth and long ells, which figure at 4,722*l.* and 5,084*l.* respectively. The decrease is divided among all the different kinds, excepting Spanish stripes, which have risen from 636 to 690 pieces.

Metals of all sorts were imported to the value of 21,411 Haikwan taels (6,156*l.*), against 25,529 Haikwan taels in the preceding year. Nail-rod iron comes to 10,321 Haikwan taels (2,967*l.*), or nearly half the total. Lead, steel, tin, and copper all figure in the list, but in small quantities. Copper is the only article under this heading which shows an increase on the preceding year.

Sundries reach the respectable total of 303,540 Haikwan taels (87,267*l.*). The most important items are: 417,979 trimmed palm-leaf fans, valued at 12,144 Haikwan taels (3,491*l.*), and 2,352,310 untrimmed palm-leaf fans, valued at 14,415 Haikwan taels (4,154*l.*); kerosine oil, 71,110 gallons, against 59,190 gallons in 1879; sandal-wood, 5,666 piculs, valued at 22,071 Haikwan taels (6,345*l.*); and brown sugar, 13,373 piculs, white sugar 7,609 piculs, both of these coming from Hong Kong.

NATIVE IMPORTS.

The trade in imports of native origin is almost entirely in Chinese hands, at the ports of export as well as here. They are therefore not of much interest to foreigners, except as showing the amount of trade and the prosperity of the place. The most important items are: brown sugar, 15,569 piculs, white sugar, 32,914 piculs. Adding to these the quantities of sugar classed under the heading of foreign imports, we have a total of: brown sugar, 28,942 piculs, and white sugar 40,521 piculs, the two together being valued at 433,890 Haikwan taels (124,743*l.*), or more than twice the value of the import of cotton piece-goods for the same year. Next to sugar come wood oil, 54,451 Haikwan taels (15,655*l.*), coarse grass-cloth, 34,336 Haikwan taels (9,872*l.*), and nankeens, 32,548 Haikwan

taels (9,357*l.*). 63 per cent. of the native imports came from Shanghai, 30 per cent. from Hankow, 5 per cent. from Kiukiang, and the remainder from Chinkiang and Ningpo.

EXPORTS.

The total value of these is 1,060,674 Haikwan taels (304,944*l.*). Wuhu having no direct foreign trade, they are all, without exception, conveyed in the first place to other Treaty ports. The majority of them, indeed, are never destined to leave China, but still there is a certain portion which is sent from Shanghai to foreign countries. In this category one may place all the green and black tea, all the silk, and a small part of the silk piece-goods, perhaps one-tenth, which finds its way to Japan. These three together will give a value of 216,336 Haikwan taels (62,197*l.*) for foreign exports, and the remainder, 844,338 Haikwan taels (242,747*l.*), will be for native exports.

Black tea was exported to the amount of 1,027 piculs, valued at 29,253 Haikwan taels (8,410*l.*); green tea, 730 piculs, valued at 28,516 Haikwan taels (8,199*l.*). In 1879 the export was : black tea, 2,154 piculs, valued at 51,051 Haikwan taels; green tea, 232 piculs, valued at 5,459 Haikwan taels. There was thus a decrease this year in quantity, but not in value. The tea all came from the hills near the head-waters of the small river at whose mouth Wuhu is situated. It was placed on the market in part at Hankow and in part at Shanghai. Both the black and the green were said to be of good quality and carefully made. Notwithstanding this, the Chinese exporters, I am sorry to say, report a loss on both kinds, heavier in the case of the black, lighter in the case of the green. One is so much accustomed to hear of losses in tea, without the losers apparently being any the worse for them, that I hoped this might merely mean that profits had not been as large as expected. But the fact that one of the firms engaged in the business closed its doors at the end of last year is strong evidence in favour of the truth of the complaint. I understand that the tea produced in this district is in high favour for native consumption, and the area planted with it at the present moment being but small, the demand for it for this purpose is fully equal to the supply. The price of the raw leaf is thus kept at such a height that those who have bought it for the purpose of converting it into tea for the foreign market have steadily lost money thereby. If this be the case, one must wait till the cultivation of the tea plant is spread over a larger area before one can hope that a profitable export trade will spring up. Unfired tea was exported to the extent of 380 piculs, valued at 9,307 Haikwan taels (2,676*l.*), this being the first year that any of it has left the port in foreign vessels. We have no guide of any kind as to the quantity consumed locally.

The export of silk is 534 piculs, value 118,553 Haikwan taels (34,084*l.*). In 1879 it was 381 piculs. The increase for the year is therefore very considerable. The silk merchants are said to have done a very profitable business. The silk is all produced in the same neighbourhood as the tea, in the hills at the back of Wuhu.

Silk piece-goods from Nanking, which is just half way between here and Chinkiang, again form the most valuable article of export for the year. The quantity is 985 pieces, against 639 pieces in 1879, the value is 401,014 Haikwan taels (115,291*l.*).

The export of rice has increased from 53,662 piculs in 1879 to 210,369 piculs in 1880. The trade in this article is of great importance to the prosperity of the port, for on the size of the crop and the price which it fetches depends the purchasing power of the majority of the

surrounding population. The country round Wuhu was blessed with a very bountiful harvest last autumn. The supply was much greater than was required to satisfy the local want, but there was at first little demand for it for exportation, and prices consequently fell very low. The farmers, indeed, found themselves worse off than in many years with much inferior crops. Those who could store their grain of course did so; but most of them were obliged by their necessities to sell at least a portion of it, in spite of the unsatisfactory state of the market. In the course of the winter the export trade became brisker, and prices went up about 20 per cent., to the profit in some degree of the farmers generally, but more to that of the large speculators who had been able to buy when rice was at its lowest price early in the season. The lowest rate at which rice of ordinary good quality was sold in Wuhu at the beginning of the winter was 1 dol. 40 c. per tan of 140 catties (187 lbs.), that is to say, about 4 lbs. for 1½d. Its present price is 1 dol. 70 c. per tan. I heard not long ago that in one island district on the north side of the river, not very far from here, good rice could be bought at the rate of 192 catties (256 lbs.) for 1 dollar. The reason of this marvellous cheapness was that the district possessed no water communication with other places, and had no better means of transport than wheel-barrows can afford for a distance of 30 or 40 miles.

Raw cotton was exported to the extent of 5,701 piculs, against 1,435 piculs in 1879; first quality paper, 1,501 piculs, against 1,192 piculs; prepared tobacco, 1,153 piculs, against 741 piculs. In fact, there is a large increase in every important article of export except tea and coal. Verdigris appears in the list for the first time, 67·60 piculs, valued at 1,219 Haikwan taels (350*l.*). Shanghai took 83 per cent. of the exports, Hankow 8 per cent., Canton 7 per cent., Chinkiang and Kiukiang the remainder.

Of coal, only 1,010 tons passed through the Custom-house, against 3,315 tons in 1879. The ill-success of the Yin-chia-hui mine, from which this coal comes, is attributed to the great cost of transport between the pit's mouth and the nearest navigable river. For a distance of 17 miles the coal is carried on men's shoulders up and down mountain-paths, which are impassable for any wheeled carriage, even for wheel-barrows. On this account, except in times of exceptional scarcity, Yin-chia-hui coal cannot be laid down in Shanghai at prices which will enable it to compete successfully with coal from other districts; and locally, cheaper fuel is furnished by the tall reeds which cover large tracks of land in the neighbourhood of the Yang-tse. Mr. J. M. Molesworth, of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Tien-tsin, who was for a short time connected with the mine in question, has been kind enough to furnish me with the following interesting information concerning it:—

"There is, I know from personal observation, coal in considerable quantity in that part of An-hui lying south of the Yang-tse, and I am informed that coal is also worked north of Yan-king. But, although I intended to go, I was never able to get there. The coal I have seen is anthracite, very soft, has a large percentage of ash, burns slowly, but gives out great heat, and is unfit for steaming purposes, but I am told is liked by the Chinese for cooking purposes.

"The coal has in most places been much disturbed, so as to preclude its being worked on an extensive scale.

"The native mines are worked in the most primitive style. An 'adit' (*i.e.*, a shaft driven at an angle instead of being sunk vertically) is driven just below the out-crop of the seam or seams, till the coal is reached, when the seam is followed down until the miners are stopped either by water, bad air, or distance. For although the miners themselves assured me

that they could go 2 *li* (two-thirds of a mile) under ground, I always found they began to grumble about the distance when they got in only a few hundred feet, and that the old hands were constantly being changed for new ones. The water is pumped out of these adits by means of pumps of bamboo in about 20 feet lengths, at each of which one man was stationed. The means of ventilation was a small fan worked by a coolie. The coal after being cut is placed in small baskets, to which are attached rope slings. The coolies slip the slings over their shoulders and between their legs, and in this manner climb the ladders that are fixed in the adits, and bring the coal to bank. This is extremely hard work, and prevents there being a large out-put of coal in mines worked in this way.

"I put down two 'bore-holes' at a place called Yin-chia-hui, one to a depth of 400 feet, and the other only a shallow hole. The object of these bore-holes was to ascertain whether the area of the coal, the out-crop of which we proved by shafts or adits, was sufficient to justify its working according to European methods.

"In neither of these bore-holes did we strike coal, but ran into limestone. We therefore could not advise the Chinese to work the coal at this particular spot. Mining operations were commenced at a place called Chuan-shan on the Chinese principle, notwithstanding that we strongly advised them not to do so, on account of the position of the workings and the great difficulties of transport. At the place I mention they got out thousands of tons of coal for which they could not find a remunerative market, at least for any quantity, and it is, or was, lying exposed to the wind and weather, which will not improve it.

"Of the future prospects of these mines under present circumstances I have a very poor opinion. With regard to their capabilities with proper foreign supervision and machinery I cannot speak with certainty till a thorough survey of the whole district has been made, that is to say, until time and opportunity has been given for a reliable set of bore-holes to be put down and a regular section obtained."

RE-EXPORTS.

These are of a very trifling character, Wuhu being, as regards the other Treaty ports, neither a collecting centre for the export trade, nor a distributing centre for the import trade. Re-exports of Chinese origin amount to 8,111 Haikwan taels, and re-exports of foreign origin to 37,854 Haikwan taels, total, 45,965 Haikwan taels, equal to 13,215*l*. The foreign re-exports consist principally of Malwa opium, 65 piculs, which left the port at various times throughout the year. The remainder, both foreign and native, consists of small quantities of a great number of articles, which it is not worth while to particularize.

TRANSIT TRADE.

The value of goods sent into the interior under transit pass is 279,092 Haikwan taels, or 80,239*l*. The value for 1879 was 328,283 Haikwan taels. There is thus a decrease of 49,191 Haikwan taels. Exclusive of opium, which is not carried under pass, foreign imports into Wuhu were slightly less in 1880 than in the preceding year; but the difference, which is less than 40,000 Haikwan taels, is not nearly great enough to account for so marked a diminution in the transit trade. Nor have I heard any complaints that transit passes are disregarded or their bearers harassed. I am therefore inclined to think that the Native Custom-house and *Li-kin* authorities must have somehow relieved the burdens weighing upon uncertificated goods. Passes were taken out for

cotton goods to the value of 54,320 Haikwan taels (15,167*l.*) ; for woollen goods to the value of 18,251 Haikwan taels (5,247*l.*) ; for metals, 6,519 Haikwan taels (1,874*l.*) ; and for sundries, 200,002 Haikwan taels (57,500*l.*), of which more than three-fourths is for sugar.

No passes were taken out for native goods outwards.

TREASURE.

The amount of treasure imported during the year was 280,659 Haikwan taels (80,689*l.*). The amount exported was 3,493,402 Haikwan taels (1,004,353*l.*), including copper cash, value 1,802 Haikwan taels (518*l.*). Both the import and the export were carried on through all the four quarters of the year. Nine-tenths of the export was down river to Chinkiang or Shanghai. The total value of the trade of the port for the year in question was, exclusive of treasure, imports 852,522*l.*, exports 304,944*l.* The value of the imports therefore only exceeded that of the exports by 547,608*l.* Under these circumstances, it is worthy of being noted that the export of treasure exceeded the import by 923,664*l.* This must mean that treasure, like opium, is quick to avail itself of the most advantageous means of conveyance, and that some of the districts in this neighbourhood, which still receive foreign goods by junk from Chinkiang, find it cheaper and safer to remit the money in payment by steamer from Wuhu.

SHIPPING.

According to the Foreign Custom-house Returns, during the year 1880 816 vessels, of 725,327 tons, entered the port, and 814 vessels, of 724,736 tons, cleared from it ; total, 1,603 vessels, of 1,450,063 tons, of which 1,034 vessels, of 843,163 tons, were British. Under any system of Returns, at a riverside port of call, such as Wuhu, where steamers of perhaps 1,000 tons constantly come in, deposit or take up a few score of packages, and then continue their voyage, the amount of tonnage engaged in the trade must seem very large in comparison with the amount of the trade of the port. But the Wuhu Returns include all vessels which have their papers examined on passing, that is to say, all vessels plying regularly on the river, whether trading at Wuhu or not. It thus happens that we find the British tonnage entered and cleared recorded as 843,163 tons, and the value of cargo carried in British vessels as 20,588*l.* The fact is that none of the steamers belonging to the British lines running regularly on the river carry cargo for Wuhu. With the exception of a few ocean steamers, which come here to load with rice for Canton or Tien-tsin, and the lorchas bound for Hankow, which sometimes carry a few packages, the China Merchants Company has the whole trade of the port in its hands. One would be glad to see one of the English Companies moor a hulk here and commence to carry cargo, not merely on account of one's national feeling, but for the sake of the general trade of the place. Shippers of cargo are not treated here with quite the same consideration as in other ports. If there is more cargo at any moment in the various ports than the boats of the Company can carry, the shippers at Wuhu have to wait, and preference is given to those at the other ports where there are competing lines. At a busy moment, when every one wants to hurry his goods forward, the Wuhu merchant just as much as any one else, cargo has been known to be detained on the hulk here for a fortnight, because the passing steamers had no room for it. It is natural, perhaps inevitable, that such cases should occur under the circumstances. But they are none the less regrettable just at the time when local merchants are making their first

experiments in trade by steamer with distant ports; for they may easily be discouraged by a few adverse results at starting from making further attempts in the same direction.

Of the 1,630 vessels which entered or cleared, 1,565 were steamers, of 1,441,776 tons, and 65 were sailing-vessels, of 8,287 tons, all either lorchas or Chinese junks.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The success of Wuhu since it was open to foreign trade is already great enough to satisfy all reasonable expectations, and to justify its selection as one of the new Treaty ports in 1876. Even in the second year of its existence it had outstripped either of the two Formosa ports; and since then its trade has grown steadily, though not with the same rapidity as in the two first years. The situation of Wuhu is not such that it can ever hope to rival Hankow, Tien-tsin, or Chinkiang in the consumption of foreign goods, for the area of which it is the natural distributing-centre is comparatively limited, being bounded by districts having greater facilities for communication with Chinkiang, Ningpo, Kiukiang, or Hankow. But within these natural limits there is good reason to hope that its trade may grow before long to several times its present size. This it may effect partly by drawing to itself the commerce of certain districts which now trade with Chinkiang or Kiukiang, but for which it is really a more convenient centre than those ports, and partly, but in a greater degree, by an increased power of production and consumption in the surrounding country. It may be urged that the question of Wuhu's wresting a portion of the trade from other previously existing ports is a matter purely of local interest and has nothing to do with the real extension of commerce between China and foreign countries. But those who argue in this way forget that the reason why trade in such a case is diverted into a new channel is solely because through the new channel imports can be laid down more cheaply at the place of consumption, and exports can be brought at less cost from the place of production to the great markets elsewhere; and in China, at least as much as in any other part of the world, greater cheapness of any given article means an increase in the demand for it and in its consumption. If the trade between Chinkiang and any other district be diverted to Wuhu, we may confidently expect that it will become bigger under its new conditions than it was under the old ones. I also mentioned above that I hoped for an increased power of production and consumption in the surrounding country. Few districts can have suffered more from the Taiping rebellion than the country round Wuhu. In the immediate neighbourhood of the port the country has in a great degree recovered itself; but a few miles away one finds large tracts of lowlands remaining untilled from want either of population or of sufficient capital to break up the soil afresh and renew the broken dykes and embankments. These lands, which are among the most fertile in the country, must sooner or later be brought into cultivation again; and the stimulus afforded by foreign steamers to the export of rice will probably lead to the early accomplishment of the work. Besides this, the extension of the tea plantations and the mulberry groves is going on steadily in the hills at the back of Wuhu. The tea may be either for the foreign or for the native market; but of one sort or the other there will surely be an increased out-turn. With a considerable export of tea, silk, and rice, we may certainly expect a great accession to the local wealth, and a proportionate increase in the consumption of all sorts of foreign goods.

For the purpose of calculating the sterling values in this Report, I
[1211] L

assumed the Shanghai tael to be worth a very small fraction above *5s. 2d.*, and the Haikwan tael consequently to be worth *5s. 9d.*, which appeared a fair average value for the year under review.

I append comparative Tables of the principal imports and exports (deducting re-exports) for the years 1877 to 1880.

(Signed)

T. L. BULLOCK, *Acting Consul.*

March 19, 1881.

(No. 1).—COMPARATIVE Table of Principal Articles of Import for the Years 1877 to 1880.

Description of Goods.	Measure of Quantity.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Opium—					
Malwa	Piculs ...	1,157 09	2,324 50	3,086 50	3,367 00
Patna	" ...	2 40	2 40	9 60	6 00
Persian	" ...	2 00	54 00	92 50	69 00
Benares ... ..	" ...	...	...	2 40	...
Cotton piece-goods—					
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ...	24,920	43,240	46,539	47,980
" white, plain	" ...	1,001	2,258	2,680	2,802
T-cloths	" ...	23,680	50,470	38,601	37,855
Drills, American	" ...	660	1,445	1,920	1,605
" English	" ...	7,760	7,470	8,595	8,474
Jeans, American	" ...	40	520	280	400
" English	" ...	4,680	4,319	2,460	1,780
Sheetings, American	" ...	1,880	6,350	6,920	7,080
" English ... ..	" ...	...	...	...	3,840
Twills	" ...	460	1,030	820	760
Velvets	" ...	1,424	1,651	1,668	1,994
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ...	11,462	16,010	14,023	14,782
Woolen piece-goods—					
Camlets, English	Pieces ...	2,544	3,220	3,250	2,620
Cloth, broad and medium	" ...	764	1,026	850	702
Long ells	" ...	3,320	3,880	3,860	2,800
Lustres and Orleans, figured	" ...	1,011	1,120	1,170	900
Spanish stripes	" ...	510	720	636	690
Metals—					
Iron, nail-rod	Piculs ...	399 00	4,372 00	6,000 00	5,399 00
" wire	" ...	14 00	268 00	365 00	139 00
Lead, in pigs	" ...	66 00	627 00	1,191 00	680 00
Tin, in plates	" ...	253 00	303 00	265 00	327 00
" in slabs	" ...	10 00	155 00	161 00	71 00
Sundries—					
Dates	" ...	350 00	4,660 00	3,390 00	1,438 00
Matches, boxes of	Gross ...	...	...	...	16,300
Lungans, dried	Piculs ...	836 00	1,627 00	2,132 00	1,767 00
Medicines	Value, Taels ...	4,522	9,914	11,341	13,602
Nankens	Piculs ...	691 00	1,877 00	1,760 00	954 00
Oil, bean and pea	" ...	659 00	13,574 00	5,283 00	414 00
" kerosene	Gallons ...	2,190	20,040	59,190	69,410
" wood	Piculs ...	9,014 00	11,916 00	6,695 00	10,259 00
Sandal wood	" ...	5,515 00	5,319 00	7,161 00	5,664 00
Sapan-wood	" ...	524 00	682 00	598 00	465 00
Sugar, brown	" ...	28,670 00	28,198 00	32,621 00	28,941 00
" white	" ...	36,315 00	47,584 00	62,135 00	50,523 00
" candy	" ...	465 00	918 00	753 00	836 00
Tallow, vegetable	" ...	2,177 00	4,814 00	4,287 00	3,234 00

(No. 2.)—COMPARATIVE Table of Principal Articles of Export for
the Years 1877 to 1880.

Description of Goods.				Measure of Quantity.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.
Coal	..	..	..	Tons	22	2,245	3,315	1,010
Cotton, raw	..	..	..	Piculs	1,158	987	1,435	5,701
Medicines	..	..	..	Value, Tls.	3,553	9,415	22,886	17,126
Paddy	..	..	..	Piculs	8,580	32,839	2,274	..
Paper, first quality	..	..	..	"	754	1,031	1,192	1,501
Rice	..	..	..	"	95,887	102,389	64,062	210,369
Silk, raw	..	..	..	"	43	329	381	534
„ piece-goods	..	..	..	"	114	430	639	985
Tea, black	..	..	..	"	..	383	2,154	1,027
„ green	..	..	..	"	3,162	707	232	780
„ unfired	..	..	..	"	..	..	..	380
Tobacco, leaf	..	..	..	"	205	751	597	302
„ prepared	..	..	..	"	..	510	741	1,153

CHINA. No. 2 (1882).
(TRADE REPORTS.)

COMMERCIAL REPORTS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S CONSULS

IN

CHINA:

1881.

PART I.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1882.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

1882.

LIST OF REPORTS.

									Page
Amoy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Foochow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Hankow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Ichang	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Kiukiang	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
Kiungchow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	61
Newchwang	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	73
Ningpo	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78
Pakhoi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	93
Taiwan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	101
Tamsui	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	113
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	123
Wenchow	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	132

Commercial Reports by Her Majesty's Consuls in China: 1881.

AMOY.

Report on the Trade of Amoy for the Year 1881.

SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.

DURING the year 536 British steamers, of 414,448 tons, entered Amoy, and 538 steamers, of 415,331 tons, cleared thence, giving a total entered and cleared of 1,074 steamers, with 829,779 tons; 67 British sailing-vessels, with 23,056 tons, entered, and 70 vessels, with 24,283 tons, cleared during the same period, showing a total of 137 sailing-vessels, with 47,339 tons.

The steamers of all other nationalities entered and cleared during 1881 amounted to 138, with 78,116 tons; and sailing-vessels to 291, with 91,813 tons.

The percentage of the entire trade in British hands, as will be seen by the annexed Table, amounts to—

				Per cent.
In trips of all kinds, by all nationalities	..	..	..	73·84
Tonnage employed	..	..	..	83·72
Foreign trade	..	..	..	91·36
Coast trade	..	..	..	76·54
Transit trade	..	..	..	65·18
Dues and duties	..	..	..	84·92

There is an increase in the number of vessels of all classes entered and cleared during 1881, as compared with the previous year, of 166, with 115,463 tons.

The number of steamers running to and from Amoy is annually increasing. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's line has been augmented, and four new vessels are expected. The Indo-China Steam Navigation Company are about to establish a line here in connection with the northern ports, and the Netherlands Steam Company run a vessel periodically to and from the Dutch Colonies. A regular communication exists by two steamers with Manila, and other vessels under the Spanish flag occasionally visit us. The number of sailing-vessels is, of course, diminishing under the competition of steam.

Emigration.—During 1881, 52 ships cleared, with 19,743 emigrants for the Straits Settlements, under Ordinance No. 5 of 1874 (Hong Kong).

The casualty list for the year is not a long one. On the 25th February the brig "Lady Aberdour," from New South Wales, put in in distress, and was sold to foreigners. On the 4th April the steam-ship "Hailoong" stranded at Quemoy, but was towed off again. On the 18th April Her Majesty's ship "Lapwing" collided with the Chinese steamer "Hochung." The latter sank, but all lives were saved. This collision was the cause of a lawsuit at the Supreme Court of Shanghai, but the owners of the "Hoochung," not being satisfied with the decision,

have appealed to the Privy Council. On the 2nd October the brig "Minatitlan" was towed in disabled by a typhoon, and was afterwards sold for breaking up. On the 5th November the steam-ship "Pakhoi," of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's line, ran on the Brown Rock, in Amoy harbour, and sank some days after. Although the ship struck the rocks within 100 yards of a Chinese gun-boat, no help of any kind was accorded or offered, and within two hours the unfortunate ship was gutted by the crowds of thieves who swarmed over her sides. Representations made to the authorities have not resulted in the restoration of a single article, but, as the looting seemed general among foreigners and natives alike, the subject was not pressed.

IMPORTS.

As will be seen from Table No. 2, there is an increase in the importation of opium of all kinds amounting to 288,537 lbs., valued at 263,220*l.*, as compared with the previous year. This increase is attributable to the imposition of an extra *li-kin* tax on drug entered at Swatow. Malwa opium was never held in favour in the Amoy district, and the large amount imported this year is sent back overland to the Swatow consumers, and a portion penetrates as far as Kiang-si and Kwang-si. The cultivation of the poppy in this district is not worth mentioning, and the little grown during 1881 resulted in a failure of the crop.

Cotton Goods.—In cotton goods an increase will be noted, on reference to the Tables, in grey shirtings, brocades, dyed shirtings, dyed figures, T-cloths, sheetings, chintzes, Turkey reds, damasks, velvets, cambrics, and unclassified cotton goods. There is an insignificant decrease in white shirtings, jeans, twills, yarns, and threads.

If any reliance can be placed on the declared value of the goods as given at the Custom-house, the noticeable increase in the import of cotton goods does not represent an increase in the value of the trade, which is stated for 1881 at a less figure than the previous year, but much faith need not be placed on the declarations, the goods paying duties according to the Tariff, and not *ad valorem*.

Woollen Goods.—There is an increase in the import of blankets, cloth, Spanish stripe, flannels, lastings, crape, long ells, and unclassified goods, and a decrease in bombazettes, bunting, camlets, and mixtures. The trade in woollens is, however, insignificant and unexpansive.

Metals.—A considerable decrease in the import of all metals, except steel and tin, is observable.

Sundries.—Raw cotton, salt fish, matches, needles, and rice show a considerable increase, but there is a falling-off in the other articles mentioned on the list.

EXPORTS.

The export of tea has increased from 18,065,256 lbs. in 1880 to 21,839,319 lbs. in 1881. It comes principally from Formosa, and is sent to the United States. The production of tea on the mainland of China near Amoy is steadily decreasing, owing to the fiscal exactions of the officials and the poverty of the people. An attempt to ship common Amoy tea to Formosa, for the purpose of mixing it with the finer Formosa sorts, was happily frustrated last year. Had the scheme escaped notice a most serious blow would have been given to the tea-planting industry in Formosa, from which it would have had much difficulty in recovering.

Iron-ware manufacture is at present attracting much attention in Amoy, and the export of iron cooking-pans has risen from 1,242,639 lbs. to

1,420,864 lbs. during the year 1881. The consumption of iron pans in China itself is enormous, but the export in foreign bottoms is chiefly to our Straits Settlements, Java, and Borneo. The supply to this and the neighbouring districts has hitherto been in the hands of two great monopolists, whose works are situated at Fêng-shun Hsien and Ta Pu Hsien, in the province of Kwangtung, not far from Amoy. These firms were powerful enough a few years since to prevent the pans coming to the ports of Amoy and Swatow, the natural outlets for them, and avoid paying duty at the Foreign Custom-house. This restriction was annulled, as far as Amoy was concerned, about four years ago, owing to the vigorous representations of a former Consul, but Swatow still remains under the ban. The pans can be cast at Amoy at half the cost charged by the monopolists, and an attempt has been recently made by a British and German subject to manufacture them with imported iron at Amoy with a view of exportation. As soon as the foundries began work, however, a furious stand was made against them by the authorities, who requested that they might be at once closed, and directed the Foreign Customs to prohibit the export of the pans. The question is at present under discussion at Peking, and the result anxiously awaited. It will be a very important one for Amoy, for, if the manufacture is allowed, a new industry of great magnitude will spring up, the inland monopolies will be crushed, a great want will be cheaply supplied to the Straits Colonies, and Amoy become the Fatshan of this part of China. Agitation is on foot for exploitation of the iron and coal mines which exist quite near, but if foundries are prohibited at the port nothing will come of it.

A grave decline in the export of sugar took place during the year under review, attributable principally to the shipment of the Formosa supply direct to Swatow, where there is a foreign refinery, or to Hong Kong. The sugar actually produced in the Amoy district is poor in quantity and quality.

The stationary foreign community at Amoy numbers 275, besides a migratory number of people connected with ships. The following is a Table of nationalities :—

British	..	..	..	..	..	..	152
German	..	..	..	..	..	..	43
Spanish	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
American	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Portuguese	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Danish	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Russian	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	275

R. J. FORREST, Consul.

British Consulate, Amoy, April 20, 1882.

(No. 2.)—IMPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1880.		1881.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Opium—					
Malwa	Lbs.	817	886	38,413	40,456
Paina	"	334,680	268,379	286,140	226,901
Benares	"	663,680	506,438	616,680	646,741
Other kinds	"	111,706	90,098	260,067	216,778
Cotton goods—					
Shirtings, grey, plain	Pieces	59,471	32,989	60,858	27,386
" white	"	40,553	30,680	39,059	26,857
" figured, &c.	"	66	48	330	333
" dyed, plain	"	1,158	670	1,187	668
" figured, &c.	"	2,618	2,071	3,427	2,446
T-cloths	"	76,494	31,746	180,715	34,020
Drills: English, Dutch, and American	"	4,907	2,733	3,836	2,588
Shoetings	"	86	63	4,064	2,762
Jeans and twills	"	540	300	76	43
Chintzes	"	1,769	820	3,688	1,085
Turkey red cloths and cambrics	"	5,901	3,456	9,328	3,147
Damaska, dyed	"	333	467	573	1,238
Velvets, &c.	"	306	321	947	347
Jaconets, &c.	"	1,327	337	3,124	478
Handkerchiefs	Dozens	2,076	269	2,573	358
Cotton goods, unclassified	Pieces	1,607	469	3,292	1,107
yarn and thread	Lbs.	4,173,609	188,701	3,784,907	176,918
Woolen goods—					
Blankets	Pairs	609	514	911	769
Bombazines	Pieces	106	119	99	104
Bunting	"	14	16	10	11
Camlets, English	"	2,474	7,855	1,914	5,931
" Dutch	"	141	634	87	390
Cloth: broad, medium, and habit	"	315	2,083	240	2,199
Spanish stripes	"	866	1,513	409	1,696
Flannels	"	104	351	107	359
Lastings	"	940	2,845	995	2,519
" crapes	"	33	53	49	193
Long ells	"	637	1,058	776	1,900
Woolen goods, unclassified	"	309	286	761	626
Miscellaneous piece-goods—					
Wool and cotton mixtures	"	1,633	1,826	1,321	1,374
Linen goods	"	63	71	58	65
Canvas	Boles	506	1,278	36	91
Metals—					
Copper: sheet, nails, &c.	Lbs.	37,395	788	19,044	405
Iron, nail-rod	"	351,171	2,390	310,169	1,960
" bar	"	45,133	951	278,445	1,547
" pig and kentledge	"	15,869	40	6,790	17
" ware, &c., unclassified	"	49,399	307	132,167	1,325
" unmanufactured	"	816,336	2,367	809,184	2,637
Lead, in pigs	"	2,199,877	26,469	2,145,787	23,263
Quicksilver	"	54,943	5,166	49,584	4,219
Steel	"	80,085	648	91,732	737
Tin, in slabs	"	1,117,159	47,673	1,356,606	54,444
" in plates	"	43,615	503	45,109	476
Metals, manufactured, unclassified, &c.	Value . . . . .	...	317	...	1,540
Sundries—					
Sugar, brown	Lbs.	2,306	10	...	...
" white	"	91,547	318	24,457	360
Betel-nuts	"	107,068	586	6,067	33
Birds'-nests	"	10,704	15,685	9,763	16,070
Bicho-de-mar	"	565,889	11,141	626,540	13,735
Cloves and spices	"	46,556	2,698	28,679	1,845
Coal	Tons	957	2,152	1,203	2,708
Cotton, raw	Lbs.	862,439	16,195	1,650,895	34,890
Fish, dry and salt	"	3,013,913	38,061	6,035,853	66,976
Flint stones	"	370,333	465	312,013	395
Ginseng	"	11,301	6,198	13,057	10,015
Grain and pulse	"	159,183	345	499,636	1,133
Indigo	"	135,253	998	464,571	3,854
Isinglass	"	28,165	955	16,573	489
Matches	Gross	78,889	2,108	133,351	13,517
Mangrove-bark	Lbs.	1,679,667	2,014	536,301	565
Needles	Mille	1,967	138	2,990	190
Oil	Lbs.	114,037	900	195,160	1,482
Paints	"	38,791	1,355	48,639	1,088
Paper, black and white	"	55,709	770	36,980	376
Rattans	"	332,477	2,053	393,376	2,553
Rice	"	183,147	502	11,234,759	23,436
Sandal-wood	"	118,791	1,639	146,617	1,731
Sapan-wood	"	408,500	1,845	514,521	1,735
Wood, other sorts, unclassified	Value . . . . .	...	2,390	...	4,725

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1880.		1881.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Sundries (continued)—	Lbs. ...	2,159,604	44,660	2,903,461	65,337
Shell-fish, &c. ...	Value . ...	...	841	...	844
Timber, of all kinds. ...	Bores	1,504	1,994	1,481	1,350
Window-glass ...	Lbs. ...	...	...	2,300	131
Wax, vegetable tallow ...	Value . ...	...	89,918	...	64,671
Sundries, unenumerated ...	...	...	...	...	...

(Signed) R. J. FORREST, Consul.
British Consulate, Amoy, April 25, 1882.

(No. 3.)—EXPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1880.		1881.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Silk, raw and thrown .	Lbs. ...	196	78	...	...
„ piece-goods ...	...	490	409	...	...
Tea, black ...	...	18,065,256	732,081	21,839,319	821,113
„ dust ...	...	...	...	10,689	101
Bags, of all kinds ...	Pieces ...	373,840	3,590	724,630	7,964
Bamboo, of all kinds .	Value . ...	...	1,833	...	1,087
Beans and bean-cake .	Lbs. ...	8,954,399	91,845	7,330,381	18,554
China-ware, &c. ...	Value	3,498,215	14,339	2,745,463	11,309
Clothing; Chinese boots and shoes .	Value . ...	...	8,853	...	3,534
Fish, of all kinds ...	Lbs. ...	144,532	1,639	114,568	747
Fire-crackers ...	...	217,800	6,019	178,368	4,908
Fruits, of all kinds ...	...	634,353	2,903	523,973	3,500
Grass-cloth ...	...	16,565	5,006	25,448	10,978
Hair, of all kinds ...	...	11,379	843	17,403	1,047
Hemp ...	...	11,353	239	13,456	284
Indigo ...	...	97,800	731	6,440	48
Lung-ugans ...	...	465,048	4,910	243,499	2,641
Mats and matting ...	Pieces ...	20,700	524	54,375	1,360
Medicines ...	Lbs. ...	192,444	2,164	140,605	3,264
Metals, manufactured: iron pans, &c.	...	1,242,639	13,067	1,420,864	14,709
„ unmanufactured, unclassified	...	2,200	54	...	...
Nankeens ...	...	444	35	11,999	858
Oil, of all kinds ...	...	6,924	84	...	...
Paper, of all kinds ...	...	3,690,817	61,944	4,658,066	75,960
Preserves ...	...	150,456	2,531	110,195	1,847
Provisions and vegetables	...	1,868,699	5,719	1,973,561	6,376
Sugar, white ...	...	89,631	983	21,067	239
„ brown ...	...	4,865,300	21,603	32,515	146
„ candy ...	...	2,561,538	32,829	1,755,890	22,231
Tobacco .	...	398,271	16,799	342,776	10,562
Vermicelli and macaroni ...	...	1,813,141	21,583	1,738,137	13,110
Sundries, unenumerated ...	Value .	...	43,078	...	40,246

(Signed) R. J. FORREST, Consul.
British Consulate, Amoy, April 25, 1882.

(No. 4.)—RE-EXPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1880.		1881.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Opium—					
Patna	Lbs. ...	9,760	8,047	6,720	5,369
Benares	" ...	480	363	160	127
Other kinds	" ...	2,787	2,185	5,751	4,829
Cotton goods—					
Shirtings, dyed, plain	Pieces ...	20	11	...	...
Drills: English, Dutch, and American ...	" ...	...	...	630	425
Cotton yarn and thread	Lbs. ...	...	...	8,541	504
Metals—					
Copper: sheet, nails, &c.	" ...	240	5	...	...
Quicksilver ... ..	" ...	...	...	675	57
Steel	" ...	2,016	16	...	...
Tin, in alabs	" ...	7,723	342	21,514	862
Metals, manufactured, unclassified ...	Value .	...	3	...	...
Sundries—					
Betel-nuts	Lbs. ...	833	2	...	...
Birds'-nests	" ...	43	110	463	900
Fish, dry and salt	" ...	756	12	...	...
Matches	Gross .	50	5	2,400	270
Shell-fish, &c.	Lbs. ...	16,688	257	...	...
Wax, vegetable tallow ... ..	" ...	...	...	2,908	166
Sundries, unenumerated	Value .	...	651	...	239

(Signed) R. J. FORREST, Consul.
British Consulate, Amoy, April 25, 1882.

FOOCHOW.

Report on the Trade of Foochow for the Year 1881.

THE imports and exports this year come to 15,109,907 Haikwan taels, equal, at 5s. 8d. per tael, to 4,281,140l. 6s. 4d., against 16,023,930 Haikwan taels, or 4,673,646l. 5s. in 1880. The difference arises from the exports being less in 1881 by 1,108,872 Haikwan taels, and the imports more by 914,023 Haikwan taels. In other words, in tea alone, the staple export, there has been a smaller quantity exported in 1881 than in 1880, i.e., 730,918 piculs, or 97,455,733 lbs., against 798,846 piculs, or 106,512,800 lbs.

The treasure imported and exported, mainly from and to Hong Kong, to give life to this trade, amounts to 7,097,973 dollars, equal at 3s. 9d. to 1,330,869l. 18s. 9d.

The trade, so called foreign, because of the duties upon it, being collected by foreign employés, has yielded a net revenue of 2,022,934 Hk. t. 2 m. 6. c. 4c., equal to 573,164l. 15s. 2d., as compared with 2,167,463 Haikwan taels, or 632,176l. 14s. 2d. in the previous year, although ninety-four steamers under the Chinese flag participated in the trade.

With the exception of opium and lead the whole of the imports are on native account.

The share of the duties paid by vessels under the British flag is 1,791,315 Hk. t. 8 m. 9 c. 8 c., or 507,539l. 10s. 1d.; the Chinese flag figures next for 92,288 Hk. t. 7 m. 8 c. 8 c., or 26,148l. 10s. 4d.

The number of vessels employed in the foreign trade inwards and outwards is 597 of 473,735 tons, viz, 491 steamers of 429,561 tons, and 106 sailing-vessels of 44,174 tons; of this number 74 entered and 27 cleared in ballast. Of the 597 vessels entered and cleared, 459 were British, of 396,721 tons. A large proportion of the steamers are small craft employed in the carrying trade on the coast between Shanghai and Foochow northwards, and between Foochow, Amoy, Swatow, and Hong Kong, the terminus in the south. The Chinese steamers, ninety-four in number, are engaged solely in the coast trade between Shanghai and Foochow, so that this class of steamers making a number of trips during the year, figure in the shipping list several times over. The large steamers are chartered on foreign account for carrying teas during the six busy months to London and the Colonies.

The British flag continues to preponderate in the trade of the port, the percentage being estimated at 86 per cent. of the entire trade, while its proportion of the payment of the duties is put at 88 per cent., the number of British firms being 31 out of the 40 foreign houses of business in Foochow. Before going into further particulars, it will be well to mention that, during the first four months of each year, business transactions, as regards the foreign merchants at the port, are almost at a standstill, with the exception of making preparations for each coming tea season, in the shape of selling lead to send into the interior for the purpose of lining tea chests, and the obtaining loans of some lacs of dollars by the natives from the several foreign banks and merchants for the purchase of the first-crop teas.

IMPORTS.

					H. taels.
Total value ..	..	..	..	..	5,709,886
Foreign goods ..	..	..	..	..	3,837,891
Native goods ..	..	..	..	..	1,871,995

All the goods that are imported, with the exception of opium and lead, are getting more and more every year into the hands of the natives, the only European firm that has for some years made any attempt to compete with the Chinese in cotton goods, viz., Messrs. Holliday, Wise, and Co., having at last determined to close their business here at the completion of this year, thus leaving this branch of the trade of the port entirely in the hands of the native traders. All Manchester goods are shipped up from Hong Kong, while the native-manufactured stuffs are almost entirely imported from Shanghai. The quantity of business done remains steady and confined, the movement, if any, being a backward one. The market continues almost without variation on quotations twelve months ago, as, for example :—

Shirtings, import 83,007 pieces, are worth : 38½ yards, 10 lbs., 3 dol. 20 c.; 8½ lbs., 2 dol. 50 c.; 7 lbs., 2 dol. 20 c.; 6 lbs., 2 dollars.

T-cloths, import 281,984 pieces : 24 yards, 8 lbs., 2 dol. 30 c.; 7½ lbs., 2 dol. 10 c.; 7 lbs., 1 dol. 90 c.

Drills, English, import 3,047 pieces : per piece of 40 yards, 14 lbs., 2 dol. 45 c.; 15 lbs., 3 dollars; 18 lbs., 4 dol. 10 c.

American drills, import 3,793 pieces : per piece of 40 yards, from 4 dollars to 4 dol. 40 c.

Chintzes, import 3,721 pieces : per piece of 25 yards, best quality, 2 dol. 70 c.; 28 yards, inferior, 1 dol. 70 c.

The whole declared value of cotton goods imported is put at 704,623 Haikwan taels, or 199,642*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, a most meagre trade considering the large population.

Woollen Goods.—Camlets, English, import 8,571 pieces, from 14 dollars to 16 dollars per piece.

Camlets, Dutch, import 68 pieces, 27 dollars per piece.

Broad cloth, import 1,249 pieces : per yard, 1 dol. 5 c. to 3 dol. 80 c.

Blankets, import 1,796 pairs : per pair, 8 lbs., 4 dol. 40 c.; 10 lbs., 5 dol. 20 c.; 12 lbs., 6 dollars.

Lastings, import 3,608 pieces : from 10 to 14 dollars per piece.

Long ells, import 1,282 pieces, from 8 dollars to 8 dol. 40 c. per piece.

Spanish stripes, import 4,260 pieces, 1 dollar per yard.

Total value of woollens imported during the year is declared at 226,825 Haikwan taels, equal to 64,267*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*

The trade in cottons and woollens is, on the whole, of a most insignificant kind, and sufficient only to supply the retail dealers for local consumption. Not more than 120 pieces grey shirtings, and 1,080 pieces T-cloths, passed into the interior under transit passes. It must be that the upper departments in the Min Valley get their supplies from the adjoining Kiangsi province, from the port of Kewkiang, or elsewhere; or else Chinese nankeens are preferred on account of their warmth and durability as compared with the flimsy Manchester wares, or that the wealthy classes prefer silks and crapes for under clothing.

Metals.—Total value, 406,471 Haikwan taels (115,166*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*).

Lead is the principal class under this heading. A considerable quantity of it is used during the tea season for linings of tea-chests. The import this year is 62,618 piculs, of a value 264,226 Haikwan taels, or 74,864*l.*

Lead is the only article in which any barter takes place, many of the foreign firms paying for some of the teas in this form; in fact, very often advances are made during the first few months of the year on the fine contract chops of tea that arrive at the beginning of the season. The market is ruled by that of Shanghai and of Hong Kong, at both of which places a good deal of speculation is always taking place. Quotations for cash have varied from 5 dol. 90 c., at which figure it now stands, to 6 dol. 40 c. per picul of 133½ lbs.; and against tea, 6 dol. 25 c. to 7 dollars. The quantity of lead carried into the country during the year under transit duty certificate is 37,687 piculs. Other metals in use are iron, tin slabs, and tin plates; they are, however, used to a small extent, as, for example, iron nail rod, 8,702 piculs; tin slabs, 5,135 piculs; tin plates, 1,000 piculs.

Opium.—Net import, 4,784; value, 2,006,312 Haikwan taels; equal to 568,455*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*

This import is altogether in foreign hands, the firms of David Sassoon and Sons, and E. D. Sassoon being the chief houses engaged in this trade.

I am indebted to Mr. Ezekiel, agent of the first of the above-named firms, for the following information respecting opium :—

“The supply and consumption of the drug during the twelve months under review, with but slight deflections in sympathy with disturbing conditions in centres of supply, have diverged but little off the lines of previous years. Statistics of the net importation for the year, though prefiguring a marked increase on that of the preceding year, prove the actual gain and improvement in the circumstance of consumption to be but slight. Stocks of the drug yet unmoved, invariably the accumulation of but a short period preceding the close of the year, were yet greater and more significant at the close of the period under review. With such extensive and rapid influx of stocks, so marked a feature in the circumstances of this department of trade in Foochow, mere importation of figures in themselves, but partially reveal the measure and extent of improvement or retrogression actually established in the circumstances of the trade generally. The comparative figures below illustrate the preceding observations.

Net Importation in Piculs.

			Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.	Total.
1880	..	..	1,610	1,744	415	432	4,201
1881	..	..	1,808	1,778	521	676	4,783
Increase	..	..	198	34	106	244	582

Presumed Stocks.

				Piculs.	Piculs.
1880..	..	..	..	3,855	346
1881..	..	..	..	4,100	337

“The recognition of an increase of some 245 piculs in the consumption, as shown by the figures above, which furnish the basis of a correct comparative estimate, modifies considerably the initial conception of the prosperity, attested by the importation figures themselves; and though the

slight improvement shown is scarcely subversive of the average of extent and prosperity discovered in past years, it is yet a bit and a scrap to be welcomed in view of the partly receding health and vigour indicated in the circumstances of the opium trade in Foochow in recent years. With an adverse and inordinate *li-kin* Tariff, aggravated in its singularity and isolation amongst the lower and uniform scales of imposition in provinces adjoining our own, the marked and vital encroachments of the neighbouring provinces on the easier accessibility of commodities from Foochow to its own districts in the interior, have ever contributed deterrently to the legitimate expansion of the trade at this port, and completely dislodged Foochow from the position it once held, that of a centre of supply. When the transit and consumption of the drug at the intermediate ports in the south and at Ningpo in the north were restricted to their geographical limitations severally, Foochow imported and could account for 10,000 piculs of the drug annually. The large falling off in the importation has been concurrent with the successive accretions of the *li-kin* at this port, aggregating 65 taels. It used to be 19 taels then. To the evils attending such high and prohibitory Tariffs, mulcting this port in such a large share of its legitimate prosperity, the Board of Revenue has always testified, and the complete blockade at times established on the market here in consequence of large supplies of the drug reaching the interior from Ningpo, has on several occasions called for official protest and intervention. With such adverse conditions marking the course and development of the trade at this port, the gain of 245 piculs recorded this year is matter for congratulation. The instrumentality and share of the local Executive in the realization of the improvement, have been conspicuous by their absence, and we may with reason incline to the inference that the maximum of disturbance attending irregular fiscal incidence has been experienced and established.

"While referring to the circumstances of the *Li-kin* Office, it may be interesting to note that much of the evasion of its dues so flagrantly practised and successfully undertaken in recent years, has ceased, partly owing to the institution of greater vigilance and energetic system of collectorate, but mainly consequent on the smaller gains now yielded in smuggling the drug. There can be no doubt that smuggling has been on the wane in recent years, but the exact quantity that has paid *li-kin* during the past years is known to few not officially concerned in its collection. The once contemplated hypothecation of the *li-kin* on drugs imported into Foochow by importers in return for the advantage of a slight curtailment in the Tariff, with the supplementary scheme of farming proposed by the Cantonese in this province, so naturally the outcome of 30 per cent of the drug imported here annually, failing record in the *Li-kin* Office, will likewise testify the absurdity of promulgating an impracticable Tariff. It must be clearly understood that the consumption of the drug in China, and the vigilance and integrity of its fiscal administration are closely and inversely inter-dependent. The more complete the supervision of the Revenue Department, the lesser are the importation and consumption of the drug likely to become. Nor can the measures initiative of the ratification of the opium clause in the Chefoo Convention fail, if realized, in causing considerable disturbance in centres of supply and consumption of the drug in China.

"The increase shown in the figures of importation above given, is evidenced generally and by every item; and I shall now make a few remarks on each.

"Malwa and Persian. These have about the same status and footing on the markets in the interior, Persian passing as an inferior sort of Malwa. An increase in the one generally tells inversely on the other. But you will observe that the consumption of both these sorts has

increased this year, and this is because of the partial failure of native crops in this province, which also in its turn is a sort of a yet more inferior Malwa. The impetus thus given to the consumption of drug of foreign growth, Malwa and Persian, you see realized in the increase we are noticing. Moreover, if stocks of Persian in native hands, purchased and held over, as I have said, for a speculative feeling anticipated hereafter owing to failure of native crops, be considered, the consumption of Persian for the twelvemonth we are reviewing barely exceeds the aggregate of previous years. The natives who have speculated in the drug are now drawing on their stocks held back, to the almost complete exclusion of all first hand bargains. The Customs Returns for the current quarter will, I expect, compare unfavourably with the corresponding period last year.

"Yet another reason for the improvement both in Malwa and Persian is in that the tea operations of 1880-81 left few native teamen of standing in the trade. The loans current invariably in the beginning of the tea season had greatly to be curtailed, and the bankers in advancing funds to the teamen, as customary, were compelled to reduce their credits. Hence the anxiety discovered by teamen to take up merchandize and operate with the proceeds. They bought opium in excess of the usual quantity, on long credit, and thus effected a loan indirectly which they could not have obtained directly with the bankers in hard cash. The Customs Returns for treasure imported into Foochow in 1881, as compared with those of the year before, will bear out my remarks on the tightness and lack of funds in the money market this season. The effect of the tea trade on the opium market is appreciably great. Almost all the drug that is purchased during the months of March, April, May, and June is taken up on long credit, which is converted into cash for loans to teamen in the interior, upon whose expedition and punctuality of disbursements later further operations in the drug mainly depend.

"*Patna* does not show any marked increase and has well kept within the limits of past years. This is the description of drug that is smuggled most in this province.

"*Benares* discovers a decided gain, and this is a part of the demand that has of late been exhibiting itself in consequence of greater attention that is being directed in India to its preparation. A good portion of Benares placed on the markets in China this year consisted of chests avowedly with drug of higher touch, that is, in excess of the usual quantity of morphia sorted into balls. In some instances it forms a chief ingredient in a species of adulteration made with Malwa, Persian, and native drug.

"*Native Drug*.—The mean of several differing estimates would constitute the yield at 1,000 piculs in this and the next province annually. The place where it is most grown is Wenchowfoo in Chekiang. The price of a picul is about 480 dollars, and the rivalry with foreign drug is insignificant hitherto, in Southern China.

"The average values of the various descriptions of the drug imported into Foochow during the year with the duty included are:—

					Dollars.
Malwa, per picul	..	..	..	..	760
Patna, per chest	..	..	..	..	685
Benares, ,,	..	..	..	..	688
Persian, per picul	..	..	..	..	600

"During this period our market was greatly disturbed and extremes of fluctuation have been experienced. Chief of the disturbing factors has been the rumour, repeated more than once, of the proposed rise in *li-kin*; extensive speculations ensued thereon, and the *status quo* of affairs has injured a few of the dealers. Reshipments to the north and south have been

considerable, equalling fully those of the year 1879, when a large quantity of Patna had to be re-exported owing to the raids of the white ants in India itself. The bulk of reshipments this year has been in Malwa and to the north; the drug was markedly inferior and unsaleable in Foochow."

I have given above the views of Mr. Ezekiel in full as those of an Indian gentleman of large experience in the opium trade.

The remainder of the imports consist of the usual articles, and in about the same quantities: Bêche de mer, clocks, cuttle-fish, fish-skins, flints, flour, ginseng, isinglass, mussels, kerosine oil, pepper, rattans, sandal-wood, seaweed, shell-fish, window-glass, &c., all articles of foreign origin of a total value of 358,929 Haikwan taels, or 101,696*l.* 10*s.*

The native imported goods are bean-cakes, beans, China root, cotton (raw), date plums, fans; felt, and felt caps, fungus, grass-cloth, hemp, mats, medicines, melon-seeds, nankeens, oil (bean), paper, pears and apples, rice and paddy; safflower, silk piece goods, sugar and sugar candy, tallow, tobacco, varnish, vermilion, wax, wheat, &c., of an aggregate value of 1,330,246 Haikwan taels, or 376,907*l.* 4*s.*

The largest quantity of these native goods comes from the northern ports.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—Total export 730,918 piculs, equal at 133½ to 97,455,733 lbs., as per following Table :—

			Black.	Green.	Brick.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
To Great Britain	..	..	441,057 13	..	..
India	..	..	250 22	..	..
Singapore	..	..	36 59	..	..
Australia	..	..	154,267	8 95	..
New Zealand	..	..	12,814 90	..	..
South Africa	..	..	7,229 77	..	..
Continent of Europe	..	..	1,390 89	..	..
United States of America	..	..	22,041 59	..	0 57
Russia	..	..	478 25	..	..
Hong Kong	..	..	20,611 69	66 50	2 28
Chinese ports (to Tien-tsin for Russia)	..	..	..	..	50,259 74
Total	..	..	680,580 49	75 45	50,262 59

Owing to the heavy losses incurred by most of the Chinese tea hong's last season, borrowing dollars for the new season at any amount of interest was exceedingly difficult, as both the foreign houses and banks required a better security than had been the case formerly; the result of this was that instead of 5,000,000 being sent up country for the purchase of the first crop, as was the case in 1880, not more than 3,500,000 dollars could be obtained for that purpose; this of course had a considerable effect on the supply, the total arrivals of the first crop being about 80,000 chests short of last year's yield. Great care was taken by the natives to secure teas at very low rates, they having been well cautioned by the foreigners that low prices would be sure to predominate at the opening of the market.

The first musters to arrive were the Packlings, which were placed on the market on the 17th May; the contract chops from this district also arrived about this time and were immediately shipped to England.

Teas from the country districts arrived two days later (with the exception of the Kaisows, which district is about 300 miles inland from this port and the means of carriage very slow) and they were unanimously pronounced to be the most inferior crop that had been seen for many

years. The Kaisows, however, which arrived later, showed an improvement on the general crop, and in fact almost proved to be equal to the teas from this district the previous season.

This inferiority of crop can only be explained by the fact that scarcely any anxiety was exhibited in London for fine teas, the great demand being for common Congou; however, as the season proceeded, a demand sprang up for the fine teas.

The general opinion in the trade here about this time, viz., the latter end of May, was that the market would not open for at least a month, but to the general surprise it was finally opened on the 30th May by the settlement of three chops of Panyong tea at very remunerative prices to the teamen. The stocks were then standing at 124,000 chests of Congou, against 259,000 chests at the same date last year; the next day large settlements were made, nearly all being in the above-mentioned class of tea.

The business for the first week was almost entirely on colonial account. Five steamers were expected to load for the Colonies (Australia), a fact unparalleled in the history of the trade of this port; no less than 46,200 piculs were exported during the following month, while absolutely nothing had been sent to the Colonies up to the end of June the previous year. The extreme prices paid during the first week of the opening made it quite impossible for the London operators to enter the market; they consequently were obliged to remain quiet until the immediate wants of the Colonies had been satisfied, and the teamen after their late elevation felt inclined to accept lower prices.

Before the opening the teamen fully expected to have to face heavy losses, and they would have been glad to rid themselves of their teas at a slight loss so that they might be able to purchase the later crops at a lower range of price in the interior; this was, however, entirely "knocked on the head" owing to the sharp competition on the part of the foreigners to get the best of a bad crop; and there cannot be any doubt that they were quite satisfied to accept as much as 33 per cent. profit on many of their teas and pay higher rates for the second crop, which they previously wished to avoid.

The only tea out of the first crop which did not show a profit to the native was that called common Congou, probably owing to the fact that it was in such full supply.

After the arrival of the steamer in London some very fair profits were made by the shippers, especially in the best classes of the tea; this was scarcely expected as the quality of the first crop was so much inferior to that of last season, but for some unaccountable reason the London trade took a sudden fancy to Foochow teas, and considered them of better quality than those from the north, a decision quite the reverse of the best judges here. Home buyers concluded that they had the best of a bad crop, and were determined to obtain as much of these kinds as they could at once; the result of this was, that anything pertaining to quality was firmly held by the teamen and commanded its own price.

During the early part of July common Congou was reported to be losing heavily on the London market; this of course had its effect here, and this class was a mere drug on this market; as time advanced, however, a slight firmness manifested itself at home, it being apparent that the lowest point had been reached; the large buyers on this side soon reasserted themselves and a large business took place, with results that cannot have been very cheering to the shippers.

During the same month the second crop teas began to arrive; they were universally declared to be inferior to the same class last season; no anxiety was shown to purchase for some time, with the exception of the pretty

leafed teas; during the entire season these maintained their opening price.

Third crop teas arrived at their usual period, namely, the middle of August, and they also followed in the steps of the previous crops, exhibiting inferiority; nevertheless, a fair business kept progressing, principally for England, the shippers' standpoint being the certainty of a decreased export at the end of the season.

As the season has progressed the quality of the tea has deteriorated, and for the last two or three months nothing but the commonest class has been placed on the market, and the price of this kind in London has been steady.

Towards the beginning of December the stocks unsold stood at 62,200 chests, against 29,600 chests at the same period last year. The teamen at last made up their minds to sell as quickly as possible the remaining stocks, at a loss of 2 taels per picul, or something like 25 per cent., reducing the stocks to small dimensions.

EXCHANGE.

The money market has throughout the past season shown much less activity than during the season of 1880. One reason for this has been the decrease in the first cost of teas up country, only some 3,500,000 dollars having been sent into the interior for advances to the native cultivators, as against 5,500,000 dollars in 1880. This business of advances to the native teamen seems to be steadily falling into the hands of the native banks and financiers, the amount advanced by foreigners for 1881 being less than 10 per cent. of the total amount, as against some 18 per cent. in 1880, and over 40 per cent. in 1876.

Exchange on London has shown but little variation during the year, except early in July, at the time of the Silver Conference in Paris, when the rate for four months' mercantile bills rose to 3s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. With the subsequent reaction on the failure of the Conference negotiations the rate weakened to 3s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., the lowest point touched. Otherwise, the rate has fluctuated steadily between 3s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. and 3s. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. The average value of the dollar throughout the year has been 3s. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., the average exchange for four months' commercial bills 3s. 9d.

The market for sterling is mainly governed by the sterling markets in Hong Kong and Shanghai, which again are ruled by the price of bar-silver in London, the standard of sterling exchange in all countries where silver currency alone exists, such as India and China. There are, of course, local motives, such as an extraordinary activity in the export of teas, a deficiency in the supply of dollars, &c., and among others may be mentioned the amount of treasure imported by the exchange banks early in the season, and later on by the demand for remittances to Shanghai and Hong Kong among the Chinese which is supplied by the drafts of the banks.

The treasure imported and exported during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1881, according to the Customs' Returns, is as follows:—

IMPORTED.					Dollars.
From Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	3,709,180
Swatow ..	..	..	..	..	332,700
Amoy ..	..	..	..	..	313,972
Taiwan-foo	..	..	..	..	1,000
Shanghai	..	..	..	..	461,858
					<hr/> 4,818,710

EXPORTED.

					Dollars.
To Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	1,886,423
Swatow	..	..	..	..	11,190
Amoy	..	..	..	..	51,400
Shanghai	..	..	..	..	330,250
					<u>2,279,263</u>

It has been a feature of this year's trade that almost half the amount has been re-exported, the reason being the sudden and unexpected tightness in the latter half of the year, firstly in the money market at Canton, where Foochow currency of broken dollars sold by weight is accepted, and secondly and later in the year, by a tightness in the Indian money markets, causing a large export of Foochow currency from Hong Kong to the mints of Bombay and Calcutta for the purpose of coinage. Another reason undoubtedly is the decrease in the export and value of teas, which has caused a comparatively less amount of sterling bills to be purchased by the banks than in former years. The very large demand for remittances to Shanghai on Chinese account, estimated at nearly 11,500,000 dollars, has also tended to the same result. This demand, showing so large and steady an increase, would tend to prove a considerable expansion of the trade between this port and the northern parts of the Empire. Last year the estimated amount drawn by banks (native as well as foreign) on Shanghai, did not exceed 9,000,000 dollars. It would be interesting to know in what channels of trade this expansion has taken place.

Mr. Alexander Leith, Agent of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, has most obligingly given me the following Table, carefully compared from the Chamber of Commerce circulars for the seasons 1870-71 to 1881-82, showing, firstly, the total export of tea from this port for each season; secondly, the average sterling value per pound of the whole crop; thirdly, the gross sterling value of the whole crop; fourthly, the average rate of exchange (for six months' commercial bills up to and including the season 1878-9, and from thence of four months' commercial bills) for each season; and, lastly, the estimated amount of local currency required to move off the crops.

This Table cannot fail to be of great interest to persons engaged in the tea trade.

It demonstrates the large value of the trade at this port in one article of export alone.

Season.	Total Export.	Average Price per lb.	Sterling Value.	Average Rate of Exchange.	Value.
	Lbs.	s. d.	£	s. d.	Dollars.
1870-71 ..	72,740,000	1 1	3,940,000	4 5½	17,593,000
1871-72 ..	79,140,000	1 2	4,616,500	4 5½	20,855,000
1872-73 ..	81,265,000	1 3½	5,118,000	4 6½	22,533,000
1873-74 ..	77,445,000	1 2	4,517,000	4 4½	20,698,000
1874-75 ..	87,780,000	1 2	5,120,000	4 3½	23,979,000
1875-76 ..	91,670,000	1 2	5,347,500	4 1½	25,862,000
1876-77 ..	87,610,000	1 2½	5,201,500	4 1	25,476,000
1877-78 ..	82,100,000	1 1	4,447,000	4 0	22,235,000
1878-79 ..	99,550,000	1 1½	5,599,000	3 9½	29,533,000
1879-80 ..	98,500,000	1 0½	5,027,500	3 10½	26,088,000
1880-81 ..	110,725,000	1 0½	5,594,000	3 9½	29,506,000
1881-82 ..	97,230,000	0 11	4,456,000	3 9	23,765,000

(Signed) CHARLES A. SINCLAIR, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Foochow, December 31, 1881.

HANKOW.

Report on the Trade of Hankow during the Year 1881.

THE total Returns of trade show a considerable increase, but it must always be remembered that for a large proportion of the goods and produce which appear therein this is but a port of call.

As a commercial community the port shows a falling off, and the tendency is, more and more, to shut up the existing hong's out of the tea season, or, if the firm be agent for an important insurance office, to leave the business for ten months of the year in charge of a junior clerk. Even on the tea market, the *raison d'être* of the commercial community at Hankow, there is an effort being made to reduce the importance of the port, and it is vitally interesting to those residents here to watch the struggle going on to transfer the market hence to Shanghai.

This year a larger proportion of the supplies were settled on this market, to wit, 68 per cent. of the supplies against 65 per cent. last year, but there is still a falling off compared with former years.

The presence of the Russian tea factories keeps these large buyers on the spot, and as they give good prices for the finer teas, the Shanghai merchants are obliged to send their agents here to compete for the first crop, and two large English exporters remaining behind a greater number of the chops of the second and third crops were settled on the spot than was thought at the commencement of the season would be likely.

But the struggle to retain the market here is necessarily a hard one, for cheap river freights will always enable the native dealers to place their second and third crops to better advantage on the larger market at Shanghai; and it is the interest of the heads of houses there to have the purchases as much as possible made at a place at which they are themselves resident.

The supplies were very slightly in excess of last year, amounting to 998,695 half-chests, against 997,000 half-chests in 1880; 847,000 half-chests in 1879; and 750,000 half-chests in 1878, but did not reach the figures of 1876, when they amounted to 1,071,000.

There were also more Kiukiang teas settled here than last year, being 224,000 half-chests, against 206,000 half-chests in 1880, and 147,000 in 1877.

But while the total purchases here were larger, the direct shipments were less by 4,000,000 lbs., partly owing to there being less available tonnage (the low freight and numerous disasters of 1880 having deterred ocean steamers from coming in their usual numbers), and partly owing to the greater facilities for forwarding via Shanghai in the alliance of the River and Ocean Companies; and in the coming seasons there is a probability of still greater diminution in the direct export, for, although there is an undoubted advantage in the avoidance of transshipment, the cost and risk of bringing ocean steamers 600 miles up a dangerous river more than counterbalance it.

On the whole, the quality of the teas was poor, consequent on the heavy rains prevailing at the time the tea was picked, and the damage caused by a late frost following extraordinary warm weather at the end of the winter.

Prices for fine teas were as high as last year, the Russians, as usual, bidding for the finest chops; but ordinary teas were somewhat cheaper, and

the lower class teas were sold for less than has been hitherto known, falling at the end of the season to 6½d. per lb., with, it is to be hoped, satisfactory results to the European exporters.

Brick tea was exported to the extent of 191,541 piculs (255,388 lbs.), going as usual via Shanghai and Tien-tsin.

Attempts are being made to establish a route overland, with a view to the supply of the Thibetan markets; but the supply is not likely to increase largely, all available material being bought up and used as it is, and the Thibetan markets will probably be supplied later on from India.

In Manchester goods the Returns show a steady increase, but it is more apparent than real, the goods merely passing through Hankow on the way to the real distributing centre at Chinkiang, and so far as the foreign merchants are concerned the year would show, as noted last year, a continued decrease in the goods brought here in foreign hands for sale in the local market.

The cheap fares charged by the river steamers, the larger market in which to supply their wants, better financial facilities, and the varied attractions of Shanghai make the up-country dealers proceed there in preference to attempting to lay in stocks here; and although attempts have been made to attract them to the still-existing local foreign agencies by the offer of goods at Shanghai rates, it has been, so far, without success.

To deal with the individual figures therefore, save in regard of opium and some few other articles, would be but to go over ground better dealt with at Shanghai and Ichang.

Nor is there prospect of recovery until the introduction of railways again makes this the great commercial centre it was in the old days of China's history. For years to come, so far as the import trade is concerned, foreigners can only hope for an ever-decreasing and merely nominal interest.

In opium, the Tables show a net import of 3,922·94 piculs (5,230·59 lbs.), of a value of 2,442,006 taels (691,901l. 14s.), against an import of 2,952·95 piculs (3,937·27 lbs.), of a value of 441,555l. 12s. 4d. last year.

This increase is chiefly to be attributed to the reports, that the import duty and *li-kin* were to be largely increased, and the desire to lay in stocks before the new arrangements came into force rather than to any increased demand, for although the price at one time went up very largely and rapidly, on the report reaching Hankow that the increased import duty had been agreed to, the average rates have been normal, or, if anything, lower than in former years, and it is stated that the consumption, so far as can be observed, is less than heretofore in the increased amount of native drug in the market.

The bulk of the import is Malwa, though it is noticeable that while this shows 3,124 piculs against 1,905 four years ago, or not quite double the quantity, Patua has trebled its import in the same time, rising from 218 piculs in 1878 to 780 this year.

The import of Persian opium has gone down to what it was in 1878, 18 piculs only, and it would appear from inquiries I have made, unknown in the local market, as distinct from Malwa.

In kerosine oil, there is a small falling off on the enormous import of last year, but it is still double what it was in 1879, and four times what it was in 1878, and the actual consumption is steadily increasing. Difficulties in regard of the transport and storage are probably the reason of the decrease, but until the petroleum wells known to exist farther up the river are worked, as they probably will be before many years, and this part of China is supplied from its own resources, there will be a continually increasing demand.

And so also with matches of which the Tables show an import of

372,128 gross. A law protecting trade-marks is much needed in connection with this article, the market being flooded with vile imitations of Bryant and May's unrivalled productions; but good or bad, the Chinese find them better than nothing, and the days of flint and steel are past.

There is also a constantly-increasing demand for the miscellaneous articles of foreign manufacture, toys, tools, pencils, pictures, ornaments, umbrellas, cutlery, sham jewellery, soap, &c., which form the stock-in-trade of the general store, dozens of which are established in the streets of Hankow and the cities of Wuchang and Hanyang for the supply of natives, but, as with cotton goods, they obtain their supplies at the Shanghai auctions, and the trade locally is entirely in native hands. One foreign watchmaker has for years attempted to make a living as agent for Genevan and American watch and clock makers, but only with the result of finding himself overwhelmed with debt as the reward of his enterprise.

Of general exports, the trade in hemp, or China grass, has trebled in the course of the year, showing 226,261 piculs, against an average of 75,000 piculs in the three preceding years. Whether the foreign demand will be permanent, or whether the export is but a revival of the disastrous speculation of years past, remains to be seen. The material can, it has been shown, be worked into very beautiful fabrics, but it is said that it is too costly, from its bulk, to compete with home products in the home markets. In the meantime, however, it gives the foreign agents here a living in the shape of commissions.

The trade in hides also continues steady both for export to Europe, which is practicable now that exporters have learnt to preserve the hides and reduce the bulk of the bales by hydraulic pressure, and for the supply of the Shanghai tanneries.

Nut-galls show a slight falling-off, but not a very important one; and there is a satisfactory increase in the export of vegetable wax, which is becoming an important article of export.

In medicines foreigners are interested solely in musk and rhubarb, the former of which shows a considerable falling-off owing to the want of any one on the spot gifted with sufficient knowledge to distinguish what parcels could be bought with profit.

In tobacco, owing to the losses on the export last year, there is a falling-off, some account sales which passed through my hands in connection with a deceased estate showing the speculation to have been ruinous, even making allowance for the fact that an apparent loss may often be a real profit; but I am informed that profits have been made this year, and as the leaf is of good quality, it will eventually become a staple export.

Szechuen silk to the extent of 6,400 piculs appears in the Returns, but the market for this is Shanghai, and it only passes through this port.

The Shipping Returns show a large increase in the number of ocean steamers under the Chinese flag, consequent on the return of the troops sent hence last year, the native Company's vessels having been employed to bring them back from the north. The service was well carried out, and the troops were landed, disbanded and sent to their homes in the interior with surprising celerity and ease.

Two vessels of the Russian Volunteer Fleet came for tea for Russia direct, and two German vessels were employed in like manner, and it is probable that for some time at least these flags will have a monopoly of this branch of the trade, there being practically at present no competition on the part of English houses in the supply of the Russian markets via Odessa.

A new ocean line was to have been started this year between this port and the Amoor, but there does not seem to be any very strong desire to

commence operations. When established, if the difficulties of navigation in the fog-bound rocky approaches to the Amoor do not prove insuperable, the line will probably eventually be to some extent availed of, but there is certain loss to those interested in the commencement, and the local Russian merchants prefer to send their teas by the established routes via Tien-tsin and overland, or by sea via Odessa.

Of the carrying trade direct to Great Britain the British flag has the monopoly, and I should not be surprised to see the "Glen," "Castle," and "Holt" lines eventually getting it into their own hands.

This year the first steamer to leave was the "Glencoe," which obtained 6*l.* per ton, followed by the "Loudoun Castle" at 5*l.* per ton, and the "Glenfruin" at 4*l.*, the subsequent rates averaging 3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.* per ton of 40 feet.

The sailing vessels visiting the port are limited to lorchas, and I should be glad to see the proportion flying the British flag still smaller than it is, as, with few exceptions, the foreigners on whose declaration of ownership the vessels' registers are granted have no real interest whatever in them, they being almost invariably Chinese owned.

A foreigner is paid a sum of money, generally, I believe, about 100 dollars, to swear that the vessel is his, giving at the time a mortgage on the vessel to more than her value. Another foreigner is given 40 or 50 dollars a-month as nominal captain; a third foreigner is given 10 dollars per trip to enter and clear the lorcha, and come forward if there is trouble with the custom-house, and there the foreign interest in this class of boat as a rule ends. They are navigated and managed entirely by Chinese, and on Chinese behalf.

And so also with the chartered junks: to escape the visitation of the native custom-house, and avoid the dues to which they would otherwise be liable, the owners pay a foreigner a sum varying from 38 to 80 dollars to pretend to charter them, and thus obtain them a *quasi*-foreign character. Happily, the strictness that has been exercised at this Consulate in examining into these professed charter parties has had a deterrent effect, and the abuse of our flag has almost disappeared.

(Signed) CHAS. ALABASTER, *Consul*.

*British Consulate,
Hankow, April 2, 1882.*

Tables attached to Mr. Alabaster's Trade Report for Hankow, 1881.

1. Export of Tea.
 2. Comparative Statement of Export Trade.
 3. Comparative Statement of Import Trade.
 4. Imports of Treasure and Copper Cash.
 5. Imports of Opium.
 6. Shipping Table.
 7. Values of the Trade of the Port.
-

EXPORT TRADE.

(No. 2).—COMPARATIVE Table of the Export Trade for the Years 1878 to 1881.

Description of Goods.		1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Dye stuff	Piculs ...	8,181 45	9,734 21	8,930 85	12,390 96
Fungus	" ...	14,653 85	13,479 13	13,739 11	13,303 36
Gypsum	" ...	61,283 00	112,172 74	116,675 00	116,794 00
Hemp	" ...	73,019 82	72,701 60	77,885 15	226,961 93
Ilides, cow	" ...	35,265 26	21,063 32	22,288 88	26,265 99
Lily flowers, dried ...	" ...	8,488 50	20,973 64	10,065 93	10,370 83
Medicines	" ...	91,808 23	109,255 80	118,791 34	130,168 39
Musk	" ...	32 32	31 95	32 85	19 33
Nankeens	" ...	3,554 85	3,752 63	3,450 07	3,966 15
Nutgalls	" ...	21,742 53	28,391 82	25,664 20	23,778 36
Oil, wood	" ...	336,052 94	203,830 63	261,544 76	269,387 97
Opium, Szechuen ...	" ...	880 86	120 08	937 46	3,064 18
Paper	" ...	12,784 94	13,078 34	11,586 08	12,321 86
Rhubarb—					
Shensi	" ...	2,697 11	3,669 97	3,369 69	4,011 13
Szechuen	" ...	3,245 03	3,389 77	3,376 08	2,093 08
Safflower	" ...	6,543 90	5,152 47	4,914 76	3,983 31
Silk, Szechuen	" ...	3,257 24	6,849 78	7,471 33	6,413 40
Steel	" ...	5,869 95	5,323 45	3,455 26	3,089 40
Tallow, vegetable ...	" ...	89,269 16	90,413 64	102,166 13	103,233 83
Tea—					
Black	" ...	365,223 30	423,161 63	517,263 29	500,715 18
Kiukiang	" ...	90,256 73	111,811 91	98,781 17	100,631 50
" Wulu	" ...	177 73	1,493 14	643 44	970 78
" sundry	" ...	36 43	218 33	541 41	334 44
" brick	" ...	101,695 08	144,756 26	152,339 06	143,493 81
Green	" ...	15,946 36	25,650 80	15,936 65	47,949 04
Tobacco	" ...	111,312 55	121,273 92	133,883 40	108,105 01
Wax, white	" ...	5,316 13	6,943 44	8,891 94	13,765 28
Varnish	" ...	5,796 51	6,488 18	6,150 31	7,663 97

IMPORT TRADE.

(No. 3).—COMPARATIVE Table of the Net Import Trade for the Years 1878 to 1881.

Description of Goods.		1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Cotton goods—					
Shirtings, grey ...	Pieces ...	914,065	1,411,168	1,334,904	1,587,187
" white	" ...	151,536	253,997	326,991	465,979
T-cloths	" ...	338,042	434,886	462,554	431,504
Drills	" ...	174,247	263,617	231,284	216,235
Sheetings	" ...	37,935	40,496	69,730	120,710
Chintzes	" ...	38,403	50,707	55,150	82,174
Brocades	" ...	7,299	10,230	9,275	10,746
Damaaks	" ...	5,023	6,091	5,836	6,273
Velvets and velveteens ...	" ...	21,496	19,049	25,090	27,239
Woollen goods—					
Lustres	" ...	43,201	56,086	53,595	65,669
Cremlets	" ...	47,155	57,106	55,292	81,366
Cloths, medium, &c. ...	" ...	16,591	20,353	16,429	22,056
Lastings	" ...	22,564	31,957	29,053	39,876
Long ells	" ...	50,730	69,340	44,038	53,500
Spanish stripes	" ...	10,633	13,682	12,540	14,271
Metals—					
Iron, nail-rod	Piculs ...	23,611 65	26,019 17	30,162 06	48,333 97
Lead	" ...	29,726 85	19,450 32	22,335 40	49,242 76
Tin	" ...	2,944 84	3,251 36	3,705 16	3,689 43
Quicksilver	" ...	876 77	2,146 28	1,190 32	1,323 40
Opium—					
Malwa	" ...	1,905 00	2,678 62	2,303 64	3,124 39
Benares	" ...	1 20	...	4 80	...
Patna	" ...	218 63	579 22	584 51	790 55
Persian	" ...	17 43½	36 00	61 00	18 00
Sundries—					
Cotton, raw	" ...	143,638 67	150,893 66	375,648 90	10,806 50
Cattle fish	" ...	16,693 63	22,138 46	20,741 24	25,812 74
Matches	Gross ...	129,527	274,933	324,317	372,128
Medicines	Piculs ...	33,425 12	38,816 40	40,347 82	49,944 84
Oil, kerosene	Gallons ...	76,370	149,320	285,157	260,400
Pepper	Piculs ...	21,801 33	25,054 71	21,319 74	29,065 44
Sandal wood	" ...	19,211 50	15,582 49	21,855 33	24,529 37
Sapan wood	" ...	19,120 24	35,263 22	27,099 60	30,231 96
Seaweed	" ...	101,853 76	126,295 99	101,573 24	146,326 84
Silk piece goods	" ...	1,150 40	1,261 94	1,363 77	1,487 17
Sugar, brown	" ...	198,753 08	179,886 76	207,655 32	169,587 04
" white	" ...	55,157 82	105,080 50	100,114 15	113,972 05
Tea (imported)	" ...	1,174 16	1,223 72	58 61	844 24

(No. 4.)—TREASURE and Copper Cash Imported and Exported during the Year 1881.

IMPORTED.

Port.	Copper Cash.	Sycee.	Gold Bars.	Total.
	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Ichang .. ..	..	3,150	500	3,650
Kiukiang	325	122,400	..	122,725
Wu-hu	1,296	12,400	..	13,716
Chinkiang	94,095	17,325	..	111,420
Shanghai	3,900	4,994,374	..	4,998,274
Total	99,616	5,149,669	500	5,249,785

EXPORTED.

Port.	Copper Cash.	Sycee.	Gold Bars.	Total.
	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Ichang	1,300	..	1,300
Kiukiang	1,269,100	..	1,269,100
Wu-hu
Chinkiang	1,800	..	1,800
Shanghai	310,174	18,396	328,570
Total	1,582,374	18,396	1,600,770

(No. 5.)—Gross and Net Importation of Opium during the Year 1881.

Description.	Gross Import.		Re-export.		Net Total.	
	Pic. c.	H. Taels.	Pic. c.	H. Taels.	Pic. c.	H. Taels.
Malwa	3,213 95	1,633,083	89 56	45,702	3,124 39	1,587,381
Patna	806 95	859,617	26 40	11,932	780 55	847,686
Persian	20 00	7,600	2 00	660	18 00	6,940
Total	4,040 90	2,500,300	117 96	58,294	3,922 94	2,442,006

(No. 6.)—SHIPPING
Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared under each Flag for the Year ended 31st December, 1881.

STEAMERS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.						Cleared Outwards.						Total.	
	With Cargo.			In Ballast.			With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.	
	No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.
British steamers—														
River ..	262	226,363		..	..		260	224,104		..	..		522	450,467
Ocean ..	2	3,642		9	14,093		11	17,735		..	..		22	35,470
Chinese steamers—														
River ..	159	165,843		1	340		154	162,584		6	3,599		320	332,366
Ocean ..	..	..		23	16,278		..	..		23	16,278		46	32,556
German steamers ..	..	1,115		1	1,170		2	2,285		..	..		4	4,570
Russian steamers ..	..	..		2	4,315		2	4,315		..	..		4	8,630
Total steamers ..	424	396,963		36	36,196		429	411,023		29	19,877		918	864,059

SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.						Cleared Outwards.						Total.			
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.					
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
American lorchas .	53	7,896	1	247	54	8,143	51	7,549	..	..	..	..	51	7,549	105	15,692
British ..	38	7,637	..	..	38	7,637	37	7,327	..	..	..	..	37	7,327	75	14,964
British hulks, under special pass ..	..	..	1	40	1	40	..	..	1	40	..	..	1	40	2	80
Danish lorchas ..	1	131	..	..	1	131	2	262	..	..	..	..	2	262	3	393
German ..	9	1,402	..	..	9	1,402	10	1,552	..	..	..	..	10	1,552	19	2,954
Spanish ..	23	3,914	..	..	23	3,914	23	3,890	..	..	..	..	23	3,890	46	7,804
Chinese junks chartered by foreigners	34	2,662	..	..	34	2,662	93	8,627	..	..	..	..	93	8,627	127	11,289
Total sailing vessels ..	158	23,642	2	287	160	23,929	216	29,207	1	40	..	..	217	29,247	377	53,176

TOTAL SAILING VESSELS AND STEAMERS.

American ..	53	7,896	1	247	54	8,143	51	7,549	..	..	..	51	7,549	105	15,692
British ..	302	237,642	10	14,153	312	251,775	308	249,166	..	1	40	309	249,206	621	500,981
Chinese ..	193	168,505	24	16,618	217	185,123	247	171,211	29	19,877	..	276	191,088	493	376,211
Danish ..	1	131	..	..	1	131	2	262	..	..	..	2	262	3	393
German ..	10	2,517	1	1,170	11	3,687	12	3,897	..	..	..	12	3,837	23	7,524
Russian ..	..	..	2	4,315	2	4,315	2	4,315	..	..	..	2	4,315	4	8,630
Spanish ..	23	3,914	..	..	28	3,914	23	3,890	..	..	..	23	3,890	46	7,804
Grand total ..	582	420,605	38	36,483	620	457,088	645	440,230	30	19,917	..	675	460,147	1,295	917,235

(No. 7).—Gross and Net Values of the Trade of Hankow, 1879 to 1881.

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.
<i>Foreign Goods.</i>						
Imported from foreign countries and Hong Kong	H. taels. 8,545	H. taels.	H. taels. 27,841	H. taels.	H. taels. 1,941	H. taels.
Imported from Chinese ports	10,960,482		13,303,494		16,171,652	
Total foreign imports	..	10,969,027	..	13,331,385	..	16,173,593
Re-exported to foreign countries and Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	..	..
Re-exported to Chinese ports (chiefly Shanghai and Ichang)	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total foreign re-exports	254,811	..	1,144,219	..	947,199	..
Net total foreign imports	254,811	..	1,144,219	..	947,199	..
Net total foreign imports	10,714,216	..	12,187,116	..	15,226,394	..
<i>Native Produce.</i>						
Imported (chiefly from Shanghai)	..	8,795,261	..	13,513,967	..	9,073,075
Re-exported to foreign countries	2,582,353	..	2,544,638	..	1,538,890	..
Re-exported to Chinese ports	973,409	..	1,520,807	..	994,401	..
Total native re-exports	3,555,762	..	4,065,445	..	2,533,291	..
Net total native imports	5,239,499	..	9,448,522	..	6,539,784	..
Native produce of local origin exported to foreign countries.	4,510,462	..	5,099,638	..	3,775,525	..
Native produce of local origin exported to Chinese ports..	15,730,317	..	15,549,933	..	16,057,888	..
Total exports of local origin	..	20,240,779	..	20,649,571	..	19,833,413
Gross value of the trade of the port ..	..	40,005,067	..	47,494,873	..	45,080,081
Net value of the trade of the port (i.e., foreign and native imports, less re-exports, and native exports of local origin) ..	36,194,494		42,285,209		41,599,591	

ICHANG.

Report on the Trade of Ichang for the Year 1881.

Acting Consul Spence to Earl Granville.

My Lord,

Ichang, April 15, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to inclose my Report on the trade of this port for the year 1881.

In a previous despatch I informed your Lordship that I had taken the opportunity of my recent journey to Chungking to make inquiries regarding the cultivation of native opium in the Province of Szechuan. The result of these is embodied in this Report, and to that section of it I take the liberty of requesting your Lordship's attention. On the extent and conditions of opium culture in Western China, on the attitude of the Chinese Government thereto, and on the effect of opium-smoking on the people of the provinces where the habit is all but universal, my Report will be found, I think, to throw considerable light.

I have transmitted a copy of it direct to Calcutta, for the information of Her Majesty's Indian Government.

The small sum of 12 dollars, expended by me in procuring information, I have paid from my fixed quarterly allowance in the March quarter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE.

Inclosure.

Report.

THE statistics of the trade of Ichang during 1881, that is, of the trade passing through the Maritime Customs, are given in the following Tables appended to this Report:—

1. Direct Trade with British Empire and Foreign Countries.
2. Indirect Trade (Coast and River).
3. Shipping.
4. Foreign Goods imported.
5. Native Produce imported.
6. Native Produce exported.

The great increase in the trade of 1880 over previous years has not been maintained. The total value for last year is only 1,523,005 taels, as against 2,094,898 taels in 1880. This decline is due to one cause only, to be presently explained, and is common to all branches of trade, as will be seen at a glance from this Table:—

				1881.	1880.
				Taels.	Taels.
Imports of foreign goods	..	..	..	885,482	1,010,756
Imports of native produce	..	..	..	149,728	225,089
Exports	..	..	..	487,795	859,053
Transit trade	..	..	..	1,237,808	1,679,183

The revenue of the port has fallen in like proportion, being but 45,687 taels, against 68,627 taels in 1880.

In my Report for 1880 I pointed out that the trade of Ichang is simply a carrying trade in imports destined for, and exports from, the Province of Szechuan, that it is of great extent, and that its transfer from junks to steamers would not be accomplished until steam communication was maintained regularly throughout the year between Hankow and this port. The large increase in the trade of 1880 was caused by the running of a small steamer several trips during the winter of 1879-80, and the decrease in the trade of last year is the result of the withdrawal of the steamer during the winter of 1880-81. At the risk of repetition, I must add that, so long as steam communication is maintained between Ichang and Hankow only during the summer months, the trade of the port will never increase. With regular steamers, trade would increase with great rapidity.

SHIPPING.

The China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company is the only shipping line represented here at present. A small steamer, of about 450 tons, arrived here on the 26th April, and continued to make two or three trips a month up to the end of September, when she was replaced for a time by a larger boat. In the end of October regular communication ceased. The great shipping trade between Szechuan and the East is at its height in winter and spring, when the water is low and the rapids easy to contend with. During the summer and autumn freshets it ceases altogether, commencing again when the river begins to fall. Consequently it will be seen that the running of a steamer between Hankow and Ichang in summer only cannot be profitable. On the Upper Yang-tsze trade is almost at a standstill for three months, and it is not brisk for four more. These are the months in which the steamer plies to Ichang, while during five months of bustle and activity on the river it is withdrawn. The Chinese Company are aware of the folly of existing arrangements, and during the past twelve months they showed some anxiety to amend them. Failing to purchase a suitable steamer in Japan, they cut down their regular boat at considerable expense, and lessened her draught a few inches. Thus altered, she ran two trips last winter, without cargo, as an experiment, but she did not prove suitable to the conditions of the river at that season, and was withdrawn. The winter of 1881-82 sees Ichang cut off again, during the height of the junk traffic, from the lower river ports. What is required is a steamer that will carry 500 tons of cargo on a draught of 4 feet at a speed of 11 knots. Such a vessel running summer and winter would find most remunerative employment. I have put myself in communication with more than one of our leading British shipping firms on this subject, but, so far, my facts and figures have failed to induce them to get the requisite steamer, and to extend their operations to Ichang. An excellent shipping trade is going a-begging. During the year there has been some talk in foreign shipping circles in China of steam navigation to Chungking. To this subject I have alluded in

another part of my Report; but I may here state my opinion that the first step to that end is regular steam traffic between Ichang and Hankow. Until that is uninterrupted, the commercial success of a line to Chungking begging for a moment the question of its practicability, would be impossible, and the enterprise Quixotic. The only other important facts I have to notice in connection with shipping are that 4 taels per ton has been proved to be a prohibitive rate of freight during summer; and that last winter, in the absence of steamers, a considerable quantity of cargo was exported in chartered junks.

IMPORTS.

The import of cotton piece-goods has fallen off from 260,000 pieces in 1880 to 228,000 pieces in 1881. A decline in the consumption of piece-goods in Szechuan must not be argued from this, the cause being, as I have shown, purely local. The only variety of cotton fabrics which shows an increase is that of English sheetings, and although the increase is relatively large, and accompanied by a decrease in American sheetings, the figures are too small to form a basis for safe conclusions. Woollen goods, on the contrary, have increased from 24,000 to 27,000 pieces. The more valuable makes, such as Russian cloth, show a falling-off. A small quantity of foreign opium has been imported, 2 piculs 40 c., so small as to be no exception to the rule that in the provinces of China where opium-smoking is most prevalent, Indian opium is known only as a delicious but unattainable luxury. The important subject of native opium will be treated more appropriately under the heading of exports. Kerosine oil is largely imported both for local consumption and for transshipment to Szechuan, but as it is not carried by steamer it does not appear in the import list. Its sale inside large cities like Chungking is forbidden. The prohibition does not affect the trade in it, much of the business portion of Chinese cities being outside the city walls. Imports of native produce call for no special notice.

EXPORTS.

The cause which has produced a decline in imports has equally affected exports. Yellow silk, the most important Szechuan product exported by way of Ichang, has declined a-half. The capabilities of the province for the production of silk are very great; except, however, at very low prices, it is unsaleable in Europe, so dirty and uneven is it. Mr. Baber estimates the total production at about 42,000 piculs annually. Of this, 14,000 piculs come from the districts of Chiating Fu, 17,800 piculs from Hsi Chung, the balance from other parts. The value of this out-turn is about 7,000,000 taels, and one-third of it is exported to the north and east. The export and consumption of Szechuan white wax are falling off, but not, as yet, in proportion to the falling-off in production. The cause is the yearly increasing use all over China of kerosine oil for lighting purposes. Tea, as yet, finds no place amongst Ichang exports, the growers in Szechuan confining their attention to local and Thibetan markets. Green tea is produced close to Ichang; but the inexperienced cultivators do not know how to make "hung," or "black" tea. About 10,000 piculs are annually produced near the village of Lo Tienchi in this district. The plants are picked once a-year only; the leaves are dried over stoves so quickly that tea picked in the morning can be used at night. The total volume of the exports of Szechuan produce to the east cannot be much less than 40,000,000 taels per annum. Of this, 25,000,000 taels is represented by salt and opium; but a goodly part of the remainder will be shipped from Ichang when adequate shipping facilities are available at all seasons.

Of all the products of Szechuan, the most important now-a-days is—

NATIVE OPIUM.

In September last year it was my fortune to be sent on the public service to the commercial metropolis of Szechuan, Chungking. I was four months in the province. In the course of that time I visited parts of the great opium country, questioned many people regarding opium culture, consumption, and export, and carefully noted the observations and conclusions on these subjects come to by Mr. Colborne Baber and Mr. E. H. Parker during their official residence there, with a view to giving, as far as possible, exact information in my Trade Report on a matter of great commercial, and no little political, interest at the present moment.

1. *Where cultivated.*—The cultivation of the poppy is carried on in every district of Szechuan except those on the west frontier, but most of all in the Prefectures of Chungking Fu and Kweichow Fu. In all the districts of Chungking Fu, south of the Yang-tsze, and in some of the districts of Kweichow Fu, north of that river, it is the principal crop, and, in parts, the only winter crop for scores upon scores of square miles. The head-quarters of the trade are at the city of Fuchow, in the first of these Prefectures, and, in a considerably less degree, at Fengtu, a district city in Kweichow Fu. Baron Richthofen, writing in 1872, says that the poppy then was cultivated only on hill slopes of an inferior soil, but one sees it now on land of all kinds, both hill and valley. Baron Richthofen himself anticipates this change when he says: "The Government may at some time or other reduce the very heavy restrictions, and if Szechuan opium then should be able to command its present price at Hankow, the consequence would be an immediate increase in the area planted with the poppy." Since he wrote, the area given to the poppy has much increased, though not from the cause alleged. Being a winter crop, it does not interfere with rice, the food staple of the people, displacing only subsidiary crops, such as wheat, beans, and the like. When it is planted in paddy and bottom lands, which, now-a-days, is often the case, it is gathered in time to allow rice or some other crop to follow. It can hardly be said of Szechuan that the cultivation of opium seriously interferes with food supplies. The supply of rice remains the same, and the opium produced, less the value of the crops it replaces, is so much additional wealth to the province.

2. *Tenure of Opium Lands.*—Opium lands, like other lands in Szechuan, are either owned by the cultivator or held in metayer tenure by tenant farmers—the farmer paying a proportion of the summer crop as rent. This latter is by far the most common form in the neighbourhood of towns, the wealthy inhabitants of which invest their money in land. Large estates are not uncommon, and much land is held by Buddhist temples, corporations, and gentry as trustees to charitable, family ("gens"), or public uses. The incidents attaching to metayer tenure in Szechuan are, in brief, these:—At the commencement of the lease the tenant deposits with the landlord a sum of money as security for the rent, which, when the tenancy determines, is returned to him. Leases may or may not be in writing; in general, they specify no time, and are understood to run from year to year. Their practical effect is to give, as in England, a permanent lease to the tenant. The Government land tax is paid by the owner or his assigns, and is never paid by the tenant. The tenant's existence, for purposes of taxation, is not recognized by the Government. Rent being paid on the summer crop only, the winter crop is the tenant's great source of profit, and it is this fact which makes the question of tenure important in connection with opium cultivation. As I shall presently show, opium is a more remunerative crop than its only possible substitutes, beans or wheat, and no percentage of the opium crop being due to the landlord, its culti-

vation has been greatly stimulated in consequence. Of late years, however, in the districts I have named as being in winter one vast poppy field, owners of land have become alive to the value to occupiers of the opium crop, and have stipulated for a share of it in addition to their share of the summer crop. Rents, in fact, where opium is in universal cultivation, have practically doubled. Before leaving the subject of tenure, I may add that in the event of non-payment of rent from causes other than deficient harvests, the landlord helps himself to the deposit in his hands. In bad years remissions are willingly made by the Government to owners of the land-tax, and by owners to occupiers of the rent-produce.

3. *Wheat and Opium Crops compared.*—The question of the pecuniary advantage of opium over wheat receives a short and somewhat erroneous notice from Baron Richthofen. He assumes that 30 oz. is a good crop of opium from a *mow* of land, that is, 200 oz. per acre. In this he is far under the mark. Mr. Baber, after one may say years of observation, takes it to be more than double that amount. However, when Richthofen wrote, opium was apparently cultivated on poor land only, getting little attention and no manure, but now-a-days it is grown on good land carefully manured, and, under such conditions, it produces, as far as I could ascertain, an average amount only a little less than Mr. Baber's estimate. It must be remembered, too, that every single part of the poppy plant has a market value. The capsules, after the juice has been extracted, are sold to druggists and made into medicine; oil is expressed from the seeds, and largely used for lighting and adulterating edible oils; the oil-cake left in the oil-press is good manure, as are also the leaves; and the stalks are burnt for potash. Against these advantages opium is subject to a rent, and requires, for profitable cultivation, plenty of manure; whereas wheat, where followed by a summer crop, pays little or no rent and gets in general no manure. Into the relative profits of opium and wheat both Mr. Baber and Mr. Parker have gone very carefully, and their results correspond, in the main, with my own observations. The following are Mr. Baber's figures:—A piece of land, 100 feet square, will give 90 oz. of opium or 330 catties of wheat, the former worth 8·5 taels and the latter worth 4·2 taels. Calculated in English money and acres, 1 acre will give 408 oz. of opium or 1,600 lbs. of wheat, the opium being worth 153s. and the wheat only 75s. The out-turn of opium may be here slightly over-estimated, but the very best case is stated for wheat, as Mr. Baber allows 26½ bushels to the acre and 23s. a quarter for its market price, both excessive estimates, in my opinion. To 153s., the value of the opium, is to be added 20s. an acre for oil, capsules, and other poppy products, but this may fairly be set against the expenses of manure and extra labour opium cultivation requires. So that the advantage of opium over wheat, though not so overwhelming as I estimated it to be in my Report last year, is still very great, leaving abundant margin for the payment of rent. My own figures give an average of 350 oz. of opium per acre, but as I put the yield of wheat and its market price at a much lower rate than Mr. Baber, I obtain the same ratio in the value of the two crops. Opium, then, is twice as valuable a crop to the farmer, where he is owner, as wheat, and, where he is occupier, the advantage will depend on his rent. In districts remote from market towns, or hill country, the advantage of opium over wheat is much greater, because the cost of carrying wheat to a market is higher than that of opium.

- * 1 acre = 6·66 Chinese mow.
- 1,550 cash = 1 tael = 5s. 6d.
- 10 mace = 1 ounce = 1½ ounce avoirdupois.
- 16 ounces = 1 catty = 1½ lb. avoirdupois.
- 100 catties = 1 picul = 133 lbs.

4. *Poppy Cultivation*.—The poppy is now grown on all kinds of land, hill slopes, terraced fields, paddy and bottom lands in the valleys. Since 1872, when Baron Richthofen visited the province, a great change has taken place in this respect, for it appears to have been cultivated then on hill lands only. All the country people whom I asked were agreed that opium is most profitably grown on good land with liberal manuring. In India it is best grown on rich soil near villages where manure can be easily obtained, and the Szechuan cultivator has found this out for himself. Poppy cultivation, as practised in Szechuan, is very simple. As soon as the summer crop is reaped the land is ploughed and cleaned, roots and weeds are heaped and burnt and the ashes scattered over the ground; dressings of night soil are liberally given. The seeds are sown in December, in drills $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart. In January, when the plants are a few inches high, the rows are thinned, and earthed up so as to leave a free passage between each; the plants are then left to take care of themselves, the earth round them being occasionally stirred up and kept clear of weeds. In March or April, according to situation, the poppy blooms. In the low grounds the white poppy is by far the most common, but red and purple are also grown. As the capsules form and fill dressings of liquid manure are given. In April and May the capsules are slit and the juice extracted. The raw juice evaporates into the crude opium of commerce, increasing in value as it decreases in weight.

5. *Taxation and Government Interference*.—Government interference with the cultivation ceased some fifteen years ago, and long before that time it had been ineffective and fitful. When the present Governor-General Ting Kung-pao assumed office in 1878 he issued one of the most extraordinary Proclamations on the subject that have ever appeared in China. Beginning by denouncing the poppy growth, and by ordering the destruction of the growing crop, it went on to say that native opium did not bear its fair share of local burdens, and that in future a *li-kin* of 3 per cent. *ad valorem*, amounting to 4·8 taels for 1,000 oz., would have to be paid, instead of 3 taels as before. Mr. Baber very justly remarks of this Proclamation that it was not seriously intended to put down cultivation, it was seriously intended to raise the *li-kin*. The gentry of the province sent a deputation to his Excellency, shortly after the appearance of the document, to find whether anything was meant by it, and, if necessary, to warn the Governor-General of the danger of disturbing an industry so beneficial to the province. No remonstrances on their part were required, for they were assured that the Proclamations were in all cases accompanied by private instructions to district officials to confine their attention to the increase in *li-kin*, and, if possible, to prevent opium being planted along the main post roads. The *li-kin* was raised and remains at 4·8 taels for 1,000 oz., but the Proclamation did not have, and probably was not meant to have, any further effect. The cultivation went on increasing just as usual, along post roads as anywhere else, and to-day the poppies bloom close up to the walls of some of the principal cities, along high roads, over hill and dale, and the cultivation, so far as officials are concerned, is unfettered, free, and open to all. There is no system of excise, and no taxation of any kind on either producers or on the product *in situ*. Beyond the land tax, and its supplementary burdens, which fall equally on all land in cultivation, and are levied on the owners thereof, opium not in transit pays nothing to the State, and the rural opium-smoker smokes the untaxed product of his district. The opium revenue of the Government is derived from *li-kin* on opium in transit from one part of the province to another at the rate of 3 per cent. *ad valorem*, and from barrier dues on opium in transit to the east amounting, in the aggregate, to from 30 to 40 taels a picul, according to route. Very

little opium, however, pays as much as this. At Fuchow the *li-kin* officials reported an export eastward in 1879 of 40,000 piculs of duty-paid opium. It is greater now, and, in all probability, not less than 1,000,000 taels are received yearly from opium dues at this city. At Fêngtu, the centre of an opium country of much less extent than Fuchow, opium *li-kin* produced in 1880 twelve times as much as it did only a few years ago. Formerly only 12,000 taels a-year was received, but latterly over 150,000 taels have been collected in a year. There are many market towns, too, where at periodic fairs as much as 500,000 or 600,000 taels of opium changes hands, and where *li-kin* is received; and there are other barriers where opium for the east and north is mulcted. So that, allowing a large margin for the expense of collection and other more questionable appropriations, the Szechuan provincial exchequer benefits by opium to an extent not short of 1,500,000 taels per annum.

6. *Smuggling*.—The Szechuan dues, though not excessive as opium taxation goes, are a sufficiently onerous burden to make smuggling prevalent and profitable. Of the amount of the contraband trade eastward it is difficult to make even a guess. The *li-kin* officials at Fuchow estimate it to be nearly as much as the duty paid in their districts. At other places it is supposed to be more. In my last year's Trade Report I showed how common smuggling was amongst all classes of travellers. As additional evidence that, occasionally, the very highest officials in the Empire are not above a little opium smuggling, I may state that when, a year or two ago, the Commander-in-chief of one of the neighbouring provinces was transferred to a southern command, his personal luggage on passing this port consisted of four large passenger junk loads of Szechuan and Yunnan opium, which he sold in the east for over 300,000 taels. He is the author of many Proclamations to his troops on the frontier on the degrading habit of opium-smoking.

7. *Transit Eastward*.—Szechuan opium is not exported by the great highway of the Yang-tze, and the Szechuan Yang-tze barrier at Kweichow gets no revenue from it. A duty of 30 taels per picul at that barrier, irrespective of the amount of dues paid at stations further west, and a second duty of a similar amount at Ichang, are prohibitive, and send the opium export over the mountains which divide Szechuan from Eastern China. Fear of loss by shipwreck in the rapids may also have some effect in keeping opium away from the natural trade route. Be this as it may, the officials at this port, anxious to divert it to the channel of the Yang-tze, and to get a share of the taxation, now offer to pass a picul as 20 catties, thereby reducing the duty here to 6 taels a picul only, but I cannot learn that this has had any effect. It is an interesting fact, however, showing the freaks which fiscal authorities in the provinces sometimes indulge in. The opium is carried along difficult mountain-paths from Szechuan to Shashih on the backs of coolies. Each man carries 1,000 oz., receiving 7,200 cash from Fuchow to Shashih. At the latter port, some 80 miles below Ichang, it is sent in regular trade channels all over the east and south. The nature of the general carrying trade to and from Szechuan makes this laborious transportation a very easy matter. The crews of up-river junks are double or treble in size those of down-river ones, and, besides, no wages are paid on the down-river trip. There is, therefore, no lack of mountain porters. A large number of the strongest and most active of the trackers of junks bound to Szechuan have, as the most necessary part of their kit, a "ya pien pei lou," or back opium basket, a peculiarly shaped vessel which is strapped on the back in Alpine fashion when filled with opium. Having completed their voyage to Chungking, they walk to Fuchow, Fêngtu, or other mart, get a load of opium, and trudge back to Hupei with it over the mountains. At Hankow

Szechuan opium now figures to some extent in the export list of the Imperial Maritime Customs. In 1880, 927 piculs were exported to other Chinese Treaty ports, and last year no less than 3,891 piculs. It pays at Hankow an *ad valorem* export and coastwise duty of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the value being taken at about 300 taels a picul. As regards the Maritime Customs, therefore, Indian and Szechuan opium are about on an equal footing. It is worthy of note that Szechuan opium, after payment of dues in Szechuan, after further dues at one or other of the Hupei barriers, after an export duty of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *ad valorem*, and after the expenses of coolie transport and river freight, is still able to bear fresh taxation in the east, and be cheap enough to supply the poorer classes who cannot afford the high-priced Indian drug.

8. *Price; Adulteration.*—The cheapness of Szechuan opium is in some measure to be attributed to adulteration. Oil, glue, and other innocuous stuffs increase it in bulk; abominations of various kinds add to its strength, and as much as 30 per cent. of these foreign matters are mixed in it by Szechuan producers and dealers. When pure, it is not inferior to any other native growth except Kansuh, which, I may here state, is considered almost as good as Indian. Adulteration having been followed by heavy losses, an effort to be honest was made in 1881 with considerable success. The opium crop brought to market last year, though the produce of an unfavourable season, is the best Szechuan opium that has been seen for years, because the purest. Generally speaking, Szechuan opium is worth at Fuchow from 11 to 14 taels per 100 oz., according to the season, being dearer as it gets older. Until last year it was considerably cheaper than Yünnan opium, as the following price list shows :—

PRICE of 100 Chinese Ounces of Native Opium at Chunking in October.

				1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
				Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Yünnan	..	..	..	22	18 to 20	16	15
Szechuan	..	..	..	16	12 to 13	14	19
				but in December 15 taels.			

The extremely high price of Szechuan opium in October and November last year were caused by extensive purchases made in the east in fear of an immediate and large increase in taxation. This speculation had a widespread effect on the whole trade of Szechuan, and as it was the most important commercial event in the west of China during the year I shall give some account of it when I come to treat of the effect of opium on inland exchange.

9. *Yünnan Opium.*—The gradual decline in the price of Yünnan opium is, in my opinion, the result of its increased production. In 1875 the Grosvenor Mission reported that fully one-third of the whole cultivated area of the province was devoted to opium in winter. Writing in 1879, Mr. Baber, in his able Report on opium, estimated that 12,500 piculs of Yünnan opium came into Szechuan yearly; that the 3,000,000 inhabitants smoke about 7,000 piculs yearly, and that 5,500 piculs are exported in other directions than by way of Szechuan, making a total yearly yield of 25,000 piculs. Recent travellers describe the province as

rapidly recovering from the desolation produced by the suppression of the Mahomedan rebellion, and opium as being grown in every field as fast as it is brought back into cultivation. The yield for 1881 is reported to me as at least 40,000 piculs, and I see no reason to doubt it. Another reason for the cheapness of Yünnan opium in 1881 is that Shensi and the North-West, to which in former years a considerable quantity of Yünnan opium was sent, now produce opium of singularly fine quality sufficient to supply nearly all local requirements. This fact is a fitting commentary on the statements made last year by Tso Tsung-tang, when Governor-General of the North-West, that he had uprooted the poppy throughout his jurisdiction.

10. *Prevalence of Opium-smoking in West.*—Before giving an estimate of the amount of opium produced in Szechuan, I must refer, in explanation of the large figures I shall be obliged to use, to the extraordinary prevalence of the habit of opium-smoking in Western Hupei, in Szechuan, and in Yünnan. It prevails to an extent undreamt of in other parts of China. The Roman Catholic missionaries, who are stationed all over Szechuan to the number of nearly 100, and who, living amongst the people, have opportunities of observation denied to travellers, estimate that one-tenth of the whole male adult population of the province smoke opium. Mr. Parker, after travelling all over the thickly-settled parts of the province, estimates the proportion of smokers thus :—

	Per cent.
Labourers and small farmers	10
Small shopkeepers	20
Hawkers, soldiers	30
Merchants, gentry	80
Officials and their staffs	90
Actors, prostitutes, thieves, vagabonds	95

I agree with Mr. Parker that the proportion of smokers varies in different classes according to their means and leisure, but I feel sure his estimate of the percentage amongst the labouring classes is much too low. One of the most numerous class of labourers in China is the coolie class, day labourers who live by picking up odd jobs, turning their hands to any kind of unskilled work that may be offered. Certainly more than half of them smoke. Of the labouring classes who are not "coolies," as a whole this much may be said—they only have money at stated intervals; and when out of a gang of forty or fifty workmen or sailors only four or five smoke opium, it does not mean that only 10 per cent. are smokers. In all probability, half of the whole gang squandered their wages the day they got the money, and have nothing left to buy opium or anything else until the job or voyage for which they have been engaged is finished.

For example, of my junk crew on my voyage to Chungking, only four smoked opium regularly, but seven others, who had spent all their wages before we started, smoked whenever I gave them a few cash. The total abstinence of a British sailor at sea for months on end proves nothing; it is what he will do when he has 10*l.* in his pocket, and is in a street with fifteen public-houses, that decides his sobriety. So of workmen in the west of China, a large number smoke opium when they have money, and do the best they can when they have none. Whatever be the exact percentage of the opium-smokers in Szechuan in the whole population, it is many times larger than in the east.

An interesting Report, based on Returns by the Commissioners of Customs at the various Treaty ports, and published by order of the Inspector-General of Customs, tries to show that opium-smokers consti-

tute only two-thirds of 1 per cent. of the population. However true this may be of the seaboard provinces (I do not for a moment question its accuracy), it does not apply to the west of China. The impression one actually gets in a Szechuan city or village is that everybody smokes opium, and one is surprised to hear on good authority that 40 per cent. do not smoke. The percentage is here no question of fractions of 1 per cent., but of 30, 40, or even 60 per cent. of the whole male adult population, and thousands of women besides. In the city of Chungking, for instance, where there is a population of 130,000, there are 1,230 opium-shops. In winter, when the two rivers are crowded with junks, and the foreshores covered with booths, the population amounts to over 200,000, and Mr. Parker estimates the number of opium-shops then at 2,000. At no one of these is less than 2,000 copper cash worth of prepared opium sold a-day, or, at the smoker's price of 32 cash for 1 mace, 6 oz. of opium. This gives a daily consumption of 12,000 oz. of opium, or 2,740 piculs per annum. Ichang, again, has a population, including junks, of not more than 30,000, but it has 700 opium-shops at least. The minimum daily amount sold at each of these is 2,000 cash worth, or, at 48 cash for one mace, 4 oz. of opium, making a daily consumption for this small city of 2,800 oz., or 410 piculs per annum. In country hamlets and villages the state of things is just as extraordinary. Passing along the main street, every second house almost is an opium-shop, and wherever there are two or three houses grouped together one sees the ubiquitous opium signboard and lantern, and smells the fumes of the drug. In some rural districts they smear the lips of their idols with it, and burn at funerals paper *fac similes* of pipes and opium, so that their dead may enjoy in the next world the comfort and solace they loved in this. In all this vast region of opium-smokers Indian opium is unknown. Only a few dozen piculs of it reach Chungking yearly, where it is mixed with the Yunnan drug, and, under the name of "Canton opium," used for presents or for smoking on high days and at feasts by the rich.

11. *Effect of Opium-smoking.*—As to the effect of this habit on the people, amongst whom it is so widespread, there is but one opinion. Baron Richthofen, the most experienced traveller who ever visited Szechuan, after noticing the extraordinary prevalence of the habit, says: "In no other province except Hunan did I find the effects of the use of opium so little perceptible as in Szechuan." Mr. Colborne Baber, who knows more of the province and its people than any living Englishman, says: "Nowhere in China are the people so well off, or so hardy, and nowhere do they smoke so much opium." To these names of weight I add my own short experience. I found the people of Szechuan stout, able-bodied men, better housed, clad, and fed, and healthier looking than the Chinese of the Lower Yang-tze. I did not see amongst them more emaciated faces and wasted forms than disease causes in all lands. People with slow wasting diseases such as consumption are, if they smoke opium, apt to be classed amongst the "ruined victims" of hasty observers, and amongst the cases of combined debility and opium-smoking I saw, some were, by their own account, *pseudo*-victims of this type. There were some, too, whose health was completely sapped by smoking combined with other forms of sensual excess. And no doubt there were others weakened by excessive smoking simply, for excess in all things has its penalty. But the general health and well-being of the Szechuan community is remarkable: to their capacity for work and endurance of hardship, as well as to the material comforts of life they surround themselves with, all travellers bear enthusiastic testimony.

12. *Consumption, how estimated.*—According to the official Report

of the Imperial Maritime Customs alluded to above, 3 mace of opium is the "average" smoker's daily consumption. Although this is probably correct as expressing the amount smoked by those who are moderate, that is, neither heavy nor light smokers, it must be borne in mind that while there are hundreds of heavy smokers, there are hundreds of thousands of light, and 3 mace is therefore quite an erroneous average to be used as the index either to the number of smokers a given quantity of opium will serve, or to the amount of opium a given number of smokers will consume. The disproportion between the numbers of heavy and of light opium-smokers is so great that such estimate must be based on an index figure only slightly above the light smoker's daily quantum. This, in Szechuan, is about 20 copper cash worth, or five-eighths of a mace. The average amount smoked by all grades of smokers in the province must be very much nearer 1 mace than 3. To make sure of my not over-estimating the quantity consumed, I take the average or index figure to be 1 mace, costing 32 cash, or $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $1\frac{3}{4}d.$, as against $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ paid in the east for a similar quantity of the Indian drug. It would be impossible to apply this index to the proved daily consumption of the cities of Ichang and Chungking in order to find out the number of smokers, because the master, owner, and deck hands of every junk leaving these ports buy there large amounts of opium for consumption during the voyage. But in applying it to the whole province, it may be depended on to give the minimum possible consumption. From the amount thus arrived at due deduction will have to be made for resmoked opium, for I must explain that three "t'ao" or "drawings" are often smoked from the same opium, and from unadulterated drug sometimes as many as five. The leavings of the rich smoker are mixed with the opium sold to the poor, the refuse of the poor is smoked by him again, and the unsmokable dregs are drunk in tea by labourers, sailors, and others who have not time to knock off work for a smoke. An ounce of crude opium is often worked up in this way to weigh $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of prepared, although, if unadulterated, it would only turn out seven-tenths of an ounce, or even less.

13. *Consumption, amount of.*—To come to figures of consumption. The population of the province in 1812 was given at 21,000,000. Supposing it to have been very much less than that in reality, it can hardly now, after seventy years of a prosperity less interrupted by rebellion and famine than other parts of China, be less than 26,000,000. I should be justified indeed, so far as any information I got locally goes, in putting it at 35,000,000, but I deem it the more prudent course to take a low estimate. Of these, 13,000,000 would be males, and, roughly speaking, 6,500,000 male adults. I take as the minimum number of opium-smokers 30 per cent. of the male adults, 1,950,000; women and youths, 250,000; in all, 2,200,000 smokers of 1 mace per day. The total amount of opium smoked in Szechuan is therefore not less than 50,000 piculs of the prepared drug. With a low estimate of the population, a very low percentage of male adult smokers, with a small average allowance for each smoker daily not beyond the means of the poorest, I feel sure I have arrived at the minimum consumption of the province. It may be very much more—it likely is; but it cannot be less. To produce this quantity of prepared opium, 71,000 piculs of crude opium at least would be required; but the Szechuan drug is, as I have said, so adulterated with rubbish and opium already smoked, that these 50,000 piculs of prepared opium are probably made from as little as 60,000 piculs of crude. With the exception of some 5,000 piculs of Yünnan opium, smoked for the most part in districts west of Chungking, and a few piculs of Indian and Kansuh opium, the whole of this is grown locally. Baron Richthofen, following a similar line of inquiry in 1870, obtains the same result. In his calculation, however,

there are two erroneous postulates; one, that an ounce of crude opium gives an ounce of prepared, and the other that smokers pay for prepared opium at the same rate as dealers buy crude. The effect of the first is to make his result too small, of the second too large, so the two sources of error probably neutralize each other.

14. *Export, amount of.*—The amount of opium exported from Szechuan is increasing yearly. Mr. Baber, writing in 1879, estimates it at 130,000 piculs. The *li-kin* officials at Foochow gave the export from that section of the province in 1878 to the east as 70,000 piculs, of which 40,000 piculs were declared and dues paid thereon. The export to Shensi across the Ta Pa Shan was about one-fourth of this, and in other directions and from other parts of the province 43,000 piculs were sent out. Of this total export, 7,000 piculs was Yunnan opium re-exported, and 123,000 piculs locally grown. What the figures are now I cannot say. I believe the eastern export to be much larger than when Mr. Baber wrote, so large indeed last year, as I shall presently show, that its financing proved to be beyond the capabilities of the currency of the country, and brought collapse and disaster on Szechuan trade generally. The export to Shensi and Shansi has fallen off to some extent. I have not, however, such definite and precise information as would warrant any great alteration of Mr. Baber's figures, which, as giving the export of five years ago, may be taken to be as accurate as the nature of the subject will admit. As he himself says, they are not based on bald answers to leading questions, but on careful deductions from observations and inquiries lasting for months, or on information voluntarily tendered by merchants and officials, and substantiated by collateral evidence. Even allowing for the falling-off in the export to the north and north-east, the total export from Szechuan can hardly be less now than it was in 1878. In all probability it is very much greater.

15. *Total Production.*—The production of opium in Szechuan in recent years may with confidence be regarded as at least 177,000 piculs per annum, of which 54,000 piculs is consumed locally and 123,000 piculs sent to other provinces of China. Reckoning 50 oz. as the average product of a Chinese *mow* of land, or 333 oz. an acre, an estimate which cannot be considered high, since 896 English ounces (675 oz. Chinese) were gathered from an acre of poppies in Scotland in 1830, this produce is the winter harvest of 850,000 acres, and, continuing the method of calculations of the minimum, it represents a money value in Szechuan of 34,000,000 taels. Taking the above figures for Szechuan, and allowing to Yunnan the small increase of 10,000 piculs since 1878, instead of 16,000 piculs as reported to me, the total production of Szechuan and South-west China is :—

	Piculs.
Szechuan consumption of local opium	54,000
Szechuan export, less Yunnan re-export	123,000
Yunnan production (consumption and export)	35,000
Kweichow production, reported to me as	10,000
South-west Hupei, Ichang Fu, and Shihnan Fu	2,000
Total	224,000

Or $2\frac{1}{4}$ times the whole Indian import into China.

I have taken the production of South-west Hupei at the very small figure of 2,000 piculs, because last year, owing to drought at seed time and rains in spring, the crop was a short one. The opium of the Ichang Prefecture, grown in the Fatung district, has a high reputation, and is superior even to Yunnan growth.

16. *Effect of Opium on Exchange and Trade.*—As I have already



stated, the financing of this great export eastward, which in 1878 was of a value of 14,000,000 taels, and was last year much greater, involved the general trade of the province towards the close of 1881 in difficulties. The flow of bullion in this part of China is from west to east, and no silver comes to Szechuan from the east. Exports from Szechuan of local produce, where not negotiated against imports, are paid for by means of bills of exchange, payable at sight, drawn by Hankow and Shashih honges on their agents in Chungking or on the banks of that city, where the trade of the province financially centres. This latter is the case especially with opium, which has to be purchased at cities like Foochow and Fêngtu, where little or no import trade exists. Intending purchasers of opium in the east buy these bills and send them to their agents the payees in Chungking. There the bills are cashed and the silver sent to the opium markets. Exchanged for opium, it passes to the opium cultivators and dealers throughout a wide district, whose trade with Chungking is small and whose river or overland communications with Chungking are difficult. The silver eventually finds its way back to that centre, but it is a matter of time. The uncertainty and danger of this arrangement to a financial centre like Chungking, where there exists a highly organized system of exchange with all parts of China, is apparent. Until a year or two ago the currency available for trade purposes was ample for ordinary requirements, and even with a steady drain for eight or nine months of the year to the opium districts no great inconvenience was felt. The present Governor-General of the province, however, shortly after he came into office, instituted a new system of collecting the salt revenue, and when, in 1880, his reforms and new regulations came into full operation, their effect was to withdraw from circulation and keep locked up in the Provincial Treasury a sum exceeding 5,000,000 taels. For nearly the whole of this sum Chungking was drawn upon, but the extent to which the available currency had been contracted was not discovered until the opium of the 1881 crop came to market, and the usual drain to Foochow and other marts set in. In the meantime a memorial by his Excellency Tso Tsung-tang to the Emperor, recommending a large increase in the taxation on both foreign and native opium, was published in Shanghai, and at once attracted the attention of opium-dealers in the east. The memorialist was reputed to have, and at that time probably had, the highest influence with the Central Government; and in expectation that the proposed large increase in the *li-kin* on native opium was certain to be inflicted, whatever happened to the duties on the foreign drug, a rush was made to buy Szechuan opium for the anticipated rise. When I arrived at Chungking in November the speculation was at its height. Opium had risen from 13 to 19 taels per 100 oz.; the banks had been drawn upon in October and November for over 5,000,000 taels, and had advices of further drafts to be met in December of 1,200,000 taels, all for the purchase of the drug. A silver famine had set in in the commercial metropolis of Szechuan, with a plethora of it in the opium districts unavailable. Apart from the inconvenience to myself in that I found it impossible to negotiate bills for my own funds, the situation was a very interesting one. It evolved itself thus:—The first effect was to drive the weaker merchants and bankers to the wall, some half-dozen of whom closed their doors with heavy liabilities, including 600,000 taels drafts due. So far no great harm was done, as the dishonoured paper was promptly referred to the drawers, and most of the money recovered no doubt by the original purchasers of the bills. The second effect was the undue appreciation of silver, that is, the undue depreciation of everything for which silver is exchanged in Chungking, foreign goods and native produce alike, and, in short, the derangement of trade for a time. Great losses were incurred by all except the few holders

of silver, especially by dealers in piece-goods. As soon as the banks had time to communicate with their eastern agents, and to protect themselves by raising the exchange at Shashih and Hankow on Chungking, their special difficulties were over. But merchants suffered, and when I left in January they were looking forward to the future with apprehension. The liability of the large opium demand to fluctuations, which, in the absence of telegraph, it is beyond the powers of the Chungking banks to gauge the extent of or to control, and the difficulties attendant on an unduly restricted currency, will, they think, put trade in a constant position of unstable equilibrium in future, and make ordinary profit calculations and forecasts impossible. These fears appear to be justifiable. Although the course of exchange and the flow of the currency may be expected to readjust themselves to whatever new conditions the increase in the opium export and the working of the salt regulations impose on Szechuan trade, the difficulties of communication, and the lack of ready transport, not only between east and west but between different parts of Szechuan, will make the readjustment a slow process, and one at best imperfect. Until the facilities for the interchange of products are levelled up to the highly-developed system of exchange banking, the principal effect of the great opium export must remain what it is—to take money from where it is useful and lock it up for a time where it is useless for trade purposes, and the profits which the opium districts make will run a risk of being made at the expense of the general trade of the province. In other words, before Szechuan can experience an increase of wealth and of purchasing power fully commensurate with the value of the opium she now exports, Chungking will have to be connected by telegraph with the east, and steamers must ply, if not from Ichang to Chungking, at least along the great waters of Szechuan.

Résumé.—The main facts regarding native opium in the west are, in sum, these :—

1. Szechuan produces yearly not less than 177,000 piculs of opium; South-west China, including Szechuan, not less than 224,000 piculs. The exact figures cannot be ascertained, but they are probably higher. The limit of profitable production is infinitely far off.

2. The cultivation in Szechuan and Yunnan is not interfered with, discouraged, or taxed by Government. It is free and open to all. It has for years been, and is now, affected only by natural causes, the law of demand and supply, calculations of profit and loss, and conditions of soil and weather.

3. No Indian opium is consumed in all this region, although opium-smoking, it may without exaggeration be said, is a universal practice. In addition to supplying its own wants, Szechuan exports enormous quantities to the east, where it is smoked by the poorer classes.

4. The payment of this export at present tends to derange the currency of the province and to hamper trade, a state of things which can only be transitional. Improved communications and transport would soon remedy this.

5. Opium in transit affords a valuable revenue to the Government; to the Szechuan provincial exchequer a net sum of not less than 1,500,000 taels; to the Hankow Maritime Customs revenue, a yearly increasing export duty; to the exchequers of the other provinces it passes through or is smoked in, dues varying from 10 to 25 taels.

6. "Nowhere in China are the people so well off, and nowhere do they smoke so much opium." Thus, writing of Szechuan, Baber, Richthofen, Blakiston, Gill, and all travellers; thus, experience generally.

Although these facts speak for themselves, I may be allowed to add one or two obvious inferences. Were Indian opium the fatal poison and

scourge in the east it is sometimes asserted to be, one ought to find in the west, where ten-fold more opium is smoked, a debased, debilitated, and impoverished population. On the contrary, it is notorious that the reverse is the case, and that the people, both in body and estate, are amongst the most prosperous in China. Unless it can be proved that Indian opium contains some noxious principle which does not exist in the Szechuan drug, the hypothesis of the fatal poison is open to the gravest doubt. So far as my own experience goes, I have seen on a Saturday night in the streets of a large town in England more vice-born misery than I did in four months in the greatest opium-smoking province of this Empire. The ordinary Chinese opium-smoker is no more a "victim" to opium than a navy is a "victim" to his daily quart; and such part of the general flow of sympathy in England for misery in foreign lands as is given to him might well be retained at home for a worthier object. Again, if it be remembered that a great extent of the Province of Szechuan is under opium cultivation, that the industry is now a livelihood to countless families, that its product is deemed by millions to be essential to their daily happiness, the difficulty of putting down cultivation by force is apparent. The right of the people to grow and to smoke opium has been for years unquestioned by their officials; to compel them to surrender the right now would be to provoke a rebellion. Even if the Government were willing to incur this risk, and determined, *coûte que coûte*, to be rid of opium, which it would be at present nonsensical to affirm, success would require a vigorous Executive, free from venality and opium-smoking, having under its orders armies of constables equally free from these faults. But China has no such Executive, and no such armies. Of the local official class, their attendants, hangers-on, and constables, it may truly be said that if there is one quality more conspicuous than their venality it is their love of opium-smoking. Even were the prospects of a *bonâ fide* effort not a chimera, its success would be impossible.

What, under the circumstances, would be the practical effect of the rigorous prohibition of opium cultivation in India, and the attempted exclusion by China of foreign opium, it is easy to see. Its effect on opium-smoking in Yunnan, Kweichow, Szechuan, Kansuh, Shensi, and Western Hupai, where Indian and foreign opium are almost unknown, would be *nil*. Amongst the poor in the east, who now use the native drug, its effect would be equally *nil*. Many who now use Indian opium would take to native, and one effect would be to give a great stimulus to production in the west. But the well-to-do smokers in the east and seaboard provinces, amongst whom I include all the average smokers who spend 10*d.* a-day on Indian opium, would everywhere seek for high-classed smuggled opium. Smuggling would be organized all along the coast; Chinese desperadoes would find willing associates in running foreign opium into the country in European and American adventurers; the Maritime Customs Service would have to become an armed force; quiet seaports would be turned into hells of disorder, and international relations between China and foreign Powers be embittered to an intolerable degree. The opium which could not be grown in India would come in part from Turkey and Persia; new fields for its growth would be opened up in Mozambique and similar latitudes in Africa; and the profits of the trade, instead of passing, as they do now, to the support of our beneficent rule and civilization in India, would become the incentive to, and the reward of, lawlessness, disorder, and crime.

TRANSIT TRADE.

The following Table shows the value of the goods and produce carried under transit pass in 1881 as compared with the previous year:—

			1880.	1881.
			Taels.	Taels.
Inward transit .	..	..	989,188	831,484
Outward transit	..	..	689,995	406,324

There was a considerable increase in the number of passes issued; 1,681 in 1881, against 1,178 in 1880. No passes were taken out by Chinese merchants for inward cargo, although their right to do so is acknowledged by the local officials, and understood by the merchants themselves. Applications for inward passes are made in the name of a foreign Hankow firm, and outward passes are issued to Hankow firms at Hankow. In October last I had an opportunity of bringing to the notice of the Superintendent of Customs at Kweichow the excessive rigour with which the goods of British merchants under transit pass, especially tin-lined cases of woollens, were examined. He agreed to limit the opening and examination of such goods in future to one case in ten, provided the goods belonged to merchants who were not in the habit of attempting frauds at the barrier, and provided the marks and numbers of each case were undefaced and in agreement with the transit pass.

GENERAL.

I have little to add to my notes of last year regarding up-river navigation to Chungking. I have passed the rapids both at the height of summer flood, and at dead low water, but trips in a native boat by an unskilled and unscientific observer can add little to the elucidation of the problem of their passage by steamers. I am of opinion that they would, during the summer floods, be no obstacle to a steamer whatever, but during the rest of the year any attempt to steam from Ichang to Kweichow will be attended with risk until an accurate survey of the river at two or three different seasons is made. From Kweichow upwards there would be no difficulty. Both on the great river and its tributaries there are hundreds of miles of water-way navigable by light-draught steamers, and even in the event of the rapids being found too dangerous for steamer traffic, the question of the throwing open the Szechuan waters ought not to be lost sight of. The advantage of this to foreign trade, and especially to the province itself, would be very great.

No foreign merchants have as yet established themselves at Ichang, and except as steamer storage, and forwarding agents, there is no field for any. Foreign goods for the interior of China are now-a-days purchased at Shanghai, by the local Chinese merchants of the different inland cities. Shanghai, offering the double advantage of a large market to choose from, and a centre of gaiety and pleasure without a rival in the Empire, has absorbed the import markets on the lower Yang-tsze. Where Hankow even has failed, Ichang and Chungking are not likely to succeed.

The foreign community at Ichang consists of the staff of the Imperial Maritime Customs, three missionaries and their families, and myself. The summer of last year was hot and trying, and as we are all miserably lodged in Chinese houses, we were constantly ill. We can keep water out of our houses, but not dysentery and fever. The lonely life of a Consular officer in such a port as Ichang would be much more tolerable were he housed in a foreign-built house lifted a few feet from the level of the ground. I have been informed that what was good enough for my predecessor is good enough for me, but the contemplation of this fact, be

ICHANG.

13

it never so true and cogent, does not lift me above the influence of malaria.

I have to express my indebtedness to Mr. F. A. Morgan, Commissioner of Customs at this port, for the Tables appended to this Report.

(Signed)

WM. DONALD SPENCE,
Acting Consul.

Ichang, April 1, 1887.

(No. 1.)—DIRECT TRADE. Imports and Exports.

Nil.

(No. 2.)—INDIRECT TRADE. Coast or River Trade. Imports and Exports.

General Imports, in British and Foreign Vessels.	General Exports, in British and Foreign Vessels.	Total General Imports and Exports, in British and Foreign Vessels.	Imports in British Vessels, as distinguished from Foreign.	Exports in British Vessels, as distinguished from Foreign.	Total Imports and Exports in British Vessels, as distinguished from Foreign.	Remarks.
£ s. d. 284,682 15 0	£ s. d. 134,143 12 6	£ s. d. 418,826 17 6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Tael estimated at 5s. 6d.

Treasure.

Imported in British vessels	..	£ s. d. Nil	Exported in British vessels	..	£ s. d. Nil
Imported in foreign vessels	..	1,481 19 6	Exported in foreign vessels	..	4,388 14 6
Total	..	1,481 19 6	Total	..	4,388 14 6
Total treasure imported and exported in British and foreign vessels			..	£ s. d. 5,870 14 0	

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE, Acting Consul.

British Consulate, Ichang, April 1, 1882.

(No. 3.)—SHIPPING Return of the Port of Ichang for the Year 1881.

BRITISH.

Nil.

FOREIGN.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
83	11,906	..	£ 284,682	83	11,906	..	£ 134,143	166	23,812	..	£ 418,826

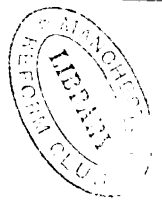
Tonnal estimated at 5s. 6d.

British Consulate, Ichang, April 1, 1882.

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE, Acting Consul.

(No. 4.)—IMPORTS of Foreign Goods into Ichang during the Year 1881.

Description of Goods.		Quantity.		Value.
				Taels.
Opium, Patna	Piculs	2	40	912
Cotton goods—				
Shirtings, grey	Pieces	143,160		257,688
" white	"	4,710		9,420
" dyed	"	220		660
" figured and brocaded ..	"	1,120		3,896
T-cloths	"	26,914		38,248
Drills, English	"	30,485		60,129
" American	"	2,145		4,290
Jeans, English	"	1,080		2,160
Sheetings, English	"	1,830		3,840
" American	"	4,970		10,960
Chintzes	"	6,818		13,036
Taffachelas	"	1,100		1,720
Cambrics	"	520		780
Damasks, dyed	"	1,010		4,040
Turkey-red cloth	"	1,400		3,120
Velvets	"	384		2,338
Velvetens	"	1,044		9,396
Handkerchiefs	Dozens	3,220		805
Yarn	Piculs	12	00	360
Woollen goods—				
Blankets	Pairs	25		94
Camlets, English	Pieces	5,940		77,220
Lastings	"	7,630		68,670
Long ells	"	5,800		41,500
Lustres and figured Orleans ..	"	5,037		19,064
Spanish stripes	"	678		10,170
Broad cloth	"	133		3,722
Russian cloth	"	1,800		54,000
Metals—				
Iron wire	Piculs	108	00	728
Quicksilver	"	287	81	14,457
Sundries—				
Aniseed, star	"	40	70	618
Betel-nuts	"	48	50	250
Bicho-de-mar	"	367	47	21,148
Birds' nests, 2nd quality ..	"	0	88	1,823
" 3rd	"	1	75	1,372
Brass buttons	Gross	6,549		8,624
" foil	Piculs	56	39	1,223
" ware	"	15	09	352
Cardamoms, superior	"	25	77	1,432
" inferior	"	136	80	3,423
Cassia lignea	"	309	34	2,477
" buds	"	19	65	171
" twigs	"	18	81	280
Clocks and watches	Pieces	425		663
Cloves	Piculs	35	87	1,116
" mother of	"	5	32	113
Cuttle-fish	"	625	73	9,382
Camphor	"	29	10	2,900
Dyes and colours	Bottles	93,074		33,172
Fans	Pieces	20,300		280
Fish-maws	Piculs	144	84	5,148
Ginseng	"	51	07	11,781
Glass ware	"	70	87	1,349
Gold thread, imitation	"	3	43	551
Horns, rhinoceros'	"	0	40	320
Isinglass	"	429	51	11,590
Lamps, kerosine	Pieces	8,916		1,025
" opium	"	11,562		1,550



Description of Goods.		Quantity.		Value.
				Taels.
Sundries, continued—				
Lungngans, dried	Piculs	49 50		200
„ pulp	„	15 40		296
Mats	Pieces	24,266		728
Medicines	Piculs	28 20		243
Nutmegs	„	4 10		286
Ornaments	Pieces	27,600		117
Paper, 1st quality	Piculs	57 21		1,058
Peel, orange	„	237 53		2,623
Pepper, black	„	403 73		2,101
Prawns, dried	„	254 43		4,483
Putchuck	„	35 01		524
Rattans, split	„	88 09		964
Rouge	„	10 68		334
Sandal-wood	„	25 00		200
Sapan-wood	„	152 40		737
Seaweed	„	2,863 33		11,779
Silk and cotton mixture	„	12 74		1,684
„ piece-goods	„	7 35		4,058
Sharks' fins, white	„	64 89		5,193
Silk ribbon	„	0 56		260
Tin-foil	„	39 46		1,114
Tin-plate ware	„	49 77		507
Umbrellas	Pieces	1,104		1,656
Wood ware	Piculs	18 12		253
Sundries, unenumerated	Value .. ..	.. ..		2,528
Total .. ..	.. ..	.. ..		885,482

(Signed) WM. DONALD SPENCE,
Acting Consul.
British Consulate, Ichang, April 1, 1882.

(No. 5.)—IMPORTS of Native Produce into Ichang during the Year 1881.

Description of Produce.			Quantity.		Value.
					Taels.
Bicho-de-mar, black	Piculs	19 00			1,140
Brass buttons	„	22 50			1,677
„ foil	„	6 65			206
„ ware	„	6 55			222
Cotton, raw	„	8,439 87			113,573
Cuttle-fish	„	404 94			5,460
China-root	„	162 03			1,620
Fans, paper	Pieces	25,920			2,070
„ palm-leaf, trimmed	„	1,634			48
„ fancy and silk	„	1,793			303
Glass ware	Piculs	27 69			548
Gold thread, imitation	„	10 31			1,795
Joss-sticks	„	56 75			370
Jadestone ware	Pieces	374			538
Lamps, opium	„	9,151			1,551
Lungngans, dried	Piculs	54 00			810
„ pulp	„	7 64			75
Medicines	„	177 97			1,514
Mirrors and glasses	Pieces	8,005			577
Ornaments	„	194,845			660
Paper, 1st quality	Piculs	42 76			487
„ 2nd „	„	12 60			75
[578]					Σ

Description of Produce.			Quantity.		Value.
					Taels.
Pearls, false .. ..	..	..	Piculs	9 22	802
Sea-blubber .. ..	..	..	"	415 55	1,478
Silk piece-goods .. ..	..	..	"	1 50	800
" ribbons .. ..	..	..	"	9 88	4,940
Spectacles .. ..	..	..	Pairs	23,169	1,012
Silk and cotton mixtures ..	..	..	Piculs	0 52	150
Sundries, unenumerated ..	..	..	Value	.. ..	5,227
Total .. ..	..	..	..	.. ..	149,728

(Signed)

WM. DONALD SPENCE.

*Acting Consul.**British Consulate, Ichang, April 1, 1882.*

(No. 6.)—NATIVE Produce exported from Ichang during the Year 1881.

Description of Produce.				Quantity.		Value.
						Taels.
Silk—						
Yellow Szechuan	..	..	Piculs	800	03	169,028
White	..	..	..	27	91	6,075
Refuse	..	..	..	615	60	24,269
Cocoons	..	..	..	69	06	2,197
Piece-goods.	..	..	..	0	23	23
Sundries—						
China-root	..	..	..	73	16	522
Coal	..	..	..	45,461	00	11,819
Copper ore	..	..	..	64	70	2,050
Fungus	..	..	..	394	79	10,471
Hemp	..	..	..	1,827	95	12,494
Leather	..	..	..	480	73	5,631
Medicines	..	..	..	12,517	09	131,912
Musk	..	..	..	1	87½	11,060
Nutgalls	..	..	..	264	19	1,766
Rhubarb	..	..	..	812	99	16,642
Safflower	..	..	..	457	61	25,658
Tallow, vegetable	..	..	..	48	40	240
Tigers' bones	..	..	..	75	00	2,090
Tea, black	..	..	..	50	15	1,245
Wax, white	..	..	..	965	44	51,933
.. yellow	..	..	..	3	80	80
Sundries, unenumerated	..	..	Value	..	..	590
Total				..	..	487,795

(Signed)

WM. DONALD SPENCE,

*Acting Consul.**British Consulate, Ichang, April 1, 1882.*

KIUKIANG.

Report on the Trade of Kiukiang for the Year 1881.

APPENDED to this Report are the following Returns, which have been furnished to me through the courtesy of the Commissioner of Customs :—

1. Return of British and Foreign Shipping.
2. Return of Foreign Imports.
3. Return of Native Imports.
4. Return of Exports of Native Produce.
5. Comparative Table of Imports for the past five years.
6. Comparative Table of Exports for the past five years.

The trade of this port during 1881 shows a slight falling-off as compared with the previous year, the totals being 12,130,000 taels, against 12,741,000 taels in 1880, being a decrease of 610,000 taels. An examination of the accompanying Tables shows this falling-off to be spread over the trade generally. Opium shows a decrease of 120,000 taels, cottons of 50,000 taels, and native imports of 230,000 taels. Tea shows an apparent decrease of 210,000 taels, but in reality the export of this article exceeded that of 1880 by some 13,000 piculs. The quality, however, was much below that of the previous year, and the prices paid to the Chinese dealers were proportionately less. The values which the Customs enter in their Returns are those furnished by the exporters, and according to these the average cost a-picul (of 133½ lbs.) was last year 26·5 taels, against 28·7 taels in the previous year. The average value of the Haikwan tael here last year was about 5s. 8d., but as this value fluctuates so much it is better for purposes of comparison to quote only in silver currency, which I shall do throughout.

Imports call for little special notice. Taking the three principal articles of British origin, cottons, woollens, and metals, the figures, as compared with the two previous years, are as follows :—

				1879.	1880.	1881.
Cottons	..	..	Pieces	307,000	408,000	385,000
Cotton yarn	.	..	Piculs	1,983	2,369	3,234
Woollens	..	..	Pieces	36,095	32,912	34,906
Metals	..	..	Piculs	23,038	21,942	26,090

The slight fluctuations here indicated are due to local and temporary causes which it is needless to point out. The importation of cotton yarn, though small, has been steadily growing year by year, and will doubtless increase. It is used for warp in the native looms. The fibre of foreign cotton is longer than native, and this, coupled with superior skill in manipulation, produces stronger yarn than any that can be locally manufactured.

There is a small increase in metals, but this item shows no great elasticity. It is made up principally of lead and tin for the linings of tea boxes, with a little nail-rod iron for the fine kinds of native work.

The import of produce of native origin shows a considerable decrease as compared with last year, but this is accounted for by the one item of raw

cotton, which last year was brought here to an unprecedented extent consequent on the failure of the crop in the interior of the province, and which this year has fallen to more nearly its normal proportions. Otherwise there is a slight increase, but this category has remained surprisingly constant over a number of years, thereby indicating that there has been very little increase in the wealth of the mass of the population. Such items as sugar, seaweed, sandal-wood, cuttle-fish, &c., which are luxuries to the ordinary agriculturist, and which he would buy willingly if he could afford them, exhibit year after year nearly the same figures. Raw cotton is different, that is a necessity for making wadded clothes, and if the province does not grow it, it must be imported.

TRANSIT TRADE.

It is satisfactory to note that the quantity of foreign goods sent into the interior under Treaty transit pass is greater this year than in any previous year. This business, like the rest of the import trade, is entirely in the hands of Chinese merchants, who are now permitted to avail themselves of this privilege when the merchandise is undoubtedly of foreign origin. The figures for the past five years are as follows:—

1877	..	..	..	..	..	..	828,495
1878	..	..	..	..	..	..	854,539
1879	..	..	..	..	..	..	849,447
1880	..	..	..	..	..	..	879,191
1881	..	..	..	..	..	..	934,443

Had this branch of trade not been so strenuously opposed by the officials of this province in former years, as has been shown in previous Reports from this Consulate, the import of foreign goods might have been considerably larger at the present moment. For a long time transit passes were contemptuously ignored at the *li-kin* barriers, and even when those in charge were forced to recognize them, they often took advantage of slight discrepancies of weight or in marks and numbers to detain and seize the whole consignment. Even yet it is curious to notice that articles in bulk, like sugar and seaweed, which are apt to gain or lose in weight through climatic changes, are scarcely ever sent through the Kiangsi barriers, though forwarded in considerable quantities to the neighbouring Province of Anhui; the reason being that dealers are afraid to run the risk of confiscation through accident or other causes over which they have no control, and prefer the more expensive but safer course of paying the transit duties as they go.

OPIMUM.

As above stated, opium shows a decrease of over 200 chests as compared with last year. The demand has been remarkably constant for a great number of years, and shows no tendency to increase, the average being about 2,000 chests. The amount of native-grown opium brought here for sale seems increasing. I learn from one of the principal dealers that about 30 chests of native are now sold for every 70 of foreign. It comes from Szechuan by way of Hankow. The selling price is about half that of Indian opium. A sudden demand for Persian opium set in four years ago, but it has not been kept up. The figures have declined from 201 in 1879 to 175 in 1880, and 96 last year. This province so far continues clear of poppy cultivation, with the exception of one district in the extreme south, and even there it is not, so far as I can learn, of any great extent.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—Long-continued wet weather during the tea-picking period spoiled much of the leaf, and the quality was found to be considerably under the average of former years. The total export shows an increase, however, being, in fact, the largest on record from this port. As in former years, only a small proportion was settled for on the spot, the great bulk being sent for sale on the Hankow or Shanghai markets. The transactions for the year have been, on the whole, fairly satisfactory to the foreign merchant.

Shipping, as before, remains, for the most part, in the hands of three Companies, two British and one Chinese, the total of British tonnage being nearly the same as last year. The Chinese line get, it must be admitted, the lion's share of the freights from this port, at least. Last year, with 36 per cent. of tonnage, they carried 48 per cent. of the cargoes. This year they are not quite so fortunate: with 38 per cent. of tonnage, they got 46 per cent. of freights. This, however, as it does not include the passenger traffic, does not represent the respective earnings. Both the British lines are largely patronized by the thousands of natives that travel up and down the Yang-tsze. This large and important branch of traffic is still in its infancy, and is capable of almost unlimited development.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Population and Industries.—When this port was first opened after the Tien-tsin Treaty, great expectations were formed of its future career. It was seen to be geographically situated as a distributing centre for a large area, and it was known to be the natural outlet for a great deal of the finest teas that China produces. A number of British merchants established themselves here at great expense, and for a few years good profits were made. But little by little they began to drop off, trade passed into the hands of Chinese dealers, where it is now, as far as imports are concerned, entirely concentrated. This change, which was not peculiar to Kiukiang, and which was inevitable sooner or later, was perhaps not so much to be regretted, inasmuch as it was brought about by the fact that native merchants could afford to do business on more favourable terms for the consumer. But the surprising thing is that, in spite of the lowering of prices which the competition between the foreigner and native thus produced, the demand should have continued so small. In order to illustrate this, I give in a tabular form the imports since 1866, distinguishing opium and cotton goods, and classing in separate columns the other foreign imports and native imports. I give both the quantity and value of cotton goods, because the price has fallen so much that values alone would not give a fair idea. In 1866 the average price a-piece was about 3 taels; in 1880 it was less than 2 taels.

TABLE I.—Imports since 1866.
Distinguishing Opium and Cotton Goods.

Year.	Opium.		Cotton.		Other foreign Imports.	Native Imports.	Total Value.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.			
	Piculs.	Taels.	Pieces.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
1866	2,415	1,444,000	114,000	848,000	1,138,000	1,133,000	4,053,000
1867	2,202	1,276,000	195,000	470,000	865,000	866,000	3,502,000
1868	1,923	1,012,000	376,000	842,000	1,015,000	594,000	3,463,000
1869	1,905	1,018,000	275,000	629,000	987,000	501,000	3,135,000
1870	2,110	1,088,000	300,000	635,000	1,121,000	452,000	3,296,000
1871	2,063	1,043,000	349,000	698,000	824,000	383,000	2,930,000
1872	1,934	944,000	362,000	724,000	1,056,000	463,000	3,187,000
1873	2,354	1,174,000	394,000	731,000	1,006,000	612,000	3,523,000
1874	2,905	1,260,000	431,000	876,000	1,297,000	589,000	3,932,000
1875	2,246	1,033,000	393,000	677,000	1,048,000	781,000	3,539,000
1876	2,043	950,000	452,000	791,000	983,000	692,000	3,416,000
1877	1,852	875,000	340,000	592,000	1,038,000	498,000	3,003,000
1878	1,653	966,000	319,000	572,000	976,000	649,000	3,163,000
1879	2,152	1,171,000	309,000	534,000	970,000	801,000	3,476,000
1880	2,289	1,268,000	408,000	773,000	913,000	962,000	3,916,000
1881	2,073	1,149,000	385,000	725,000	955,000	739,000	3,588,000

The first impression in casting one's eye over this Table is that the trade of this place is rather falling off if anything, but on examining the column showing the quantities of Manchester goods, it will be seen that, in the course of the ten years, they have risen from 114,000 to the respectable figure of about 400,000 pieces. And it is further to be remarked that the numbers gradually rise till 1876, when they reach a total of 452,000, after which they suddenly decrease, and then rise again. Now, 1877 was the year in which the neighbouring port of Wuhu was opened, and it is only reasonable to suppose that certain districts which formerly drew their supplies from Kiukiang thenceforward went to the nearer port. The inference, therefore, is that a steady rise has been going on which, for a time, got a slight check by the opening of Wuhu, but has now nearly recovered lost ground. Of course British trade is largely a gainer, as the two ports together take very much more than the older at its best did alone.

Still, in view of the very large area the supplies for which would naturally come through Kiukiang, the value of the trade is very small, nor is there any prospect of a considerable increase till the agricultural condition of the province has greatly improved. At present the mass of the people are poor in the extreme. This province was one that suffered very severely during the Taiping rebellion, and though twenty years have now elapsed since that frightful scourge passed over the land, the traces of it are still apparent everywhere. One enters a city, and the eye wanders over a huge waste of weeds and thistles. Perhaps not more than a tenth or a twentieth of the space inside the wall is built over, and even that by houses of the poorest description. A few are of brick, but the greater part are of wood or mere reeds and plaster. They are huddled together, as if for warmth or mutual support, close by the principal gate, and round about there hangs a fringe of the most wretched huts, occupied by squatters and beggars. Instead of the busy bustling crowd common to be met with in well-to-do Chinese towns, the traveller sees only a few listless straggling individuals, dirty, ragged, and idle.

Following the line of the street, the shops contain only the commonest necessities of life. For a few tens of dollars the most of them could be emptied of their whole contents. Once through the houses, the visitor wanders over acres and acres of broken bricks and stones, with here and there the pillars of an ornamental gateway still standing to mark where a

Confucius temple or other public building had been, or he stumbles over carved stone-work, now grass-grown and half-buried, to tell of the wealth of former inhabitants. Nothing has been disturbed since the sack and pillage of the rebels left a scene of blank desolation behind. The staring white walls and tall posts of the newly-built Yaméus are the only conspicuous objects amidst the general ruin.

This is no exaggerated picture of several cities in the north of this province. Even Kiukiang itself, with all the advantages of foreign trade, is not rebuilt over more than a fourth of its former area. In the country the effects, if not so apparent, are none the less real. There is no capital, no energy, no enterprise anywhere. Three-fourths of the soil in this immediate neighbourhood is waste. Looking southwards, the eye travels over miles of fine undulating land, all capable of bearing rich crops, but which now only grows a rough tall grass, useful for nothing but fuel, in the cutting and carrying in of which some of the poorer classes earn a scanty livelihood. For the most part the waste land is unowned, so wherever young trees spring up they are ruthlessly cut down with the rest of the herbage by the first comer. Even where the land is owned the needs of the proprietor are so urgent that promising young plantations are sacrificed for firewood as soon as they are worth cutting, leaving the whole country, except the inaccessible hills and a few favourite spots, denuded of trees.

Waste land, by the laws of the country, can become the absolute property of the first person who chooses to bring it under cultivation. Seeing so much waste land lying untilld year after year, one would be inclined to think that the fault lay in want of population, but, on the other hand, we are confronted by the fact that labour is abundant and exceedingly cheap, the ordinary wages of an agricultural labourer being no more than 4*d.* or 5*d.* a-day, without his food, and many are unoccupied even at that.

It cannot be said, either, that the Government land taxes are in any way prohibitive. For the class of ground of which I am speaking they would not amount to more than from 2*s.* to 4*s.* an acre, and even that would not be levied for the first ten years. There are no local rates or municipal taxes of any kind whatever. The difficulty lies mainly in the want of capital. To break up land of this kind requires some expenditure of labour and money before any returns can come in. But the great mass of the people live absolutely from hand to mouth. A hundred cash to them to-day is worth more than a thousand next year, and so they prefer, because they have no choice, the miserable pittance that they earn by cutting and selling the grass and underwood to the prospective large earnings to be got by preparing the ground for future crops. But even if they could afford to wait, they have no implements such as would be necessary for breaking up dry upland soil. An ordinary farmer's stock-in-trade consists of not more than a bullock or buffalo, a wooden plough, a harrow, and a few hoes and mattocks, costing, perhaps, some 3*l.* or 4*l.* altogether, all of the rudest description. With this he and his family farm from 1 to 5 acres of land or less. Out of this they make a livelihood, but nothing more. Silver money is hardly ever seen among them. What little surplus profits there are go in exchange for luxuries of a very moderate kind—a little pork, a little seaweed or salt fish as a relish to the rice, is about the height of their ambition. Many grow their own cotton, and the women of their family spin it and weave it into cloth. Clothes are worn till they are in very rags and tatters, but this home-made cloth stands wear exceedingly well; a suit, with patching and mending, will last a man for three or four years. The ordinary labourer always prefers home-spun cloth to foreign, even when obliged to buy—that is, when the women of his own family cannot supply it—on account of the wear he can get out of it. With the

same usage the latter would not last more than one or two years, even if of a superior quality, so that, though the cost is less to begin with, it is dearer in the long run.

The land under cultivation in this province is, generally speaking, confined to those portions where there is a natural supply of water for rice irrigation, the alluvial lands along rivers and canals, the sloping ground around the base of hills and small ravines, and moist places anywhere. Here it must be admitted Chinese agriculture is seen to perfection. A series of irregular terraces divides the ground into innumerable small patches, and guides the flow of water from the higher to the lower, which thus passes in turn through each tiny plot, often less than a tenth of an acre in size, a very primitive arrangement of dams and sluices enabling them to turn the water off or on at pleasure. Land of this kind will always grow two crops a-year, a wet one and a dry one, the wet crop being rice, and the dry one wheat or beans, cabbages, rape, &c. The yield of course varies greatly with the quality and situation, but the best lands are said to produce as much as from 40 to 50 bushels an acre of rice (unhulled) alone, without counting the other crops. If anything like a fair price could be obtained, there is no doubt that the owners ought to be wealthy, but it is needless to say that this is not the case. The selling price of clear rice at the ports generally averages only about 5s. 6d. a hundredweight, and in the interior it is probably not more than half that. In years of plenty it becomes a mere drug in the market.

For this there are many reasons, but two may be mentioned in particular: first, and chiefly, defective means of transport, want of roads, canals, &c.; and secondly, the prohibition by the Government of the export of rice to foreign countries. The latter may be a politic measure, the object of course being to secure a supply of food for the people and so prevent bread riots, but in a country where nine-tenths of the people are producers rather than consumers, its advantage is at least open to doubt. It certainly tends to perpetuate this state of affairs, that with the most fertile land in the world, the people live on from hand to mouth year by year, never accumulating capital, never laying by anything for a rainy day, unable to pay for any imported luxuries, the population always increasing up to the food limit till by-and-bye there comes a year or two of scarcity, and they die by thousands.

Such being the economic condition of the bulk of the people—I am speaking always of this immediate district, though my remarks are true of the greater part of China—it is not to be wondered at that foreign trade increases so slowly. And it is easier to point out the disease than to suggest a remedy. The primary difficulty is with the people themselves. Intelligent and enterprising as many of the Chinamen are, especially the Southern or Cantonese, the average agriculturist is stolid, stupid, and unimaginative to a degree. Frugal, honest, and law-abiding, he has no wish or thought beyond his own narrow circle, content if he can only get his daily bowl of rice and salt vegetables. He has a well-founded fear of officials and Yamén underlings, and only wishes to be left alone. All projects from that quarter are viewed with suspicion, as meaning only a squeeze under a new name. There is no local machinery of any kind for raising rates for public purposes, for making roads, bridges, or ferries, or for draining, lighting, or paving towns and villages. Joint stock enterprise of any kind is utterly unknown. With such people, improvement, if it ever comes, must begin from without. Left to themselves, they would go on from generation to generation without change to the end of time.

One of the first desiderata undoubtedly is increased facilities for the exchange of commodities, including the making of roads where water communication does not already exist; removal of taxes on transit, and removal

of all prohibition on the free export of whatever can find a foreign market. But what will most develop trade, whether foreign or native, is the creation of native industries, mining and manufacturing. By the upspringing of a new class of consumers as opposed to growers, a better price would be at once obtained for produce, and the cultivators of the soil would in turn be able to afford to buy more imported articles. Even if the new manufactories were such as to enter directly into competition with our own, we should in the end be gainers by the enormously increased demand that would inevitably be set up. If India, with a much smaller population, took, as the statistics for 1879 show, British manufactures to the extent of 22,714,000*l.*, against 8,268,000*l.* for China (including Hong Kong), it would be seen what enormous room there is for expansion of our trade with the latter, with its far superior soil, its greater mineral wealth, and its unique stores of tea and silk. It may safely be asserted that our exports, whether cotton, woollen, or metals, have not yet penetrated below the average middle class. The wearers of our cottons are the officials, merchants, and leisured classes generally, who can afford to take appearance into account in selecting their costume. If the day should ever come when our cotton fabrics shall be commonly worn by the Chinese labourer, the Trade Returns will show fifties and hundreds where they now show tens.

LOCAL.

There is little to notice under this heading. It has been mentioned in former Reports that by an arrangement between the Chinese and Consular authorities it was agreed that a sum of 30,000 taels should be raised by a wharfage due on all tea and opium passing through the custom-house to defray the cost of extending and repairing the bunds and jetties of the port. Unfortunately a considerable portion of the newly-erected river-wall gave way, and the sum originally allotted proved insufficient to complete the scheme. After some delay, it has now been arranged to continue the levy until an additional sum of 20,000 taels has been collected. The fact is worth noting, inasmuch as this port had, I believe, the honour to be the first where Chinese authorities were induced to consent to the imposition of a common rate for a common benefit. In most ports, whatever municipal improvements have been effected have been paid for by foreigners alone, with, at the most, some voluntary assistance from the Chinese, but here the matter was put on a legal and equitable footing from the first, neither side being indebted to the other.

Relations with the Chinese authorities continue to be of the most friendly character. The various missionaries, English and American, who are stationed in this neighbourhood continue their work unmolested. I have only heard of one anti-foreign placard during the year, and that was directed against the Roman Catholic missionaries at Pao-chao-foo, in the interior. From whatever reason, the Roman Catholic missionaries seem to be more objects of suspicion and dislike than those of the Protestant Societies. The numerous orphanages which they have established, secluded as they are from the general public, seem to give rise to the notion that all is not as it ought to be.

DUTIES.

The Chinese Government collected the sum of 794,205 taels at this port during the year, being the largest sum ever received. The increased export of tea explains that.

(Signed)

G. JAMIESON, *Consul.*

(No. 1.)—RETURN of British and Foreign Shipping at the Port of Kiukiang during the Year 1881.

ENTERED.

Nationality of Vessels.	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.		Value of Cargoes. .
	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	
British ..	297	262,380	223	183,307	520	445,687	H. Tels. 1,983,302 = 570,199
Chinese ..	177	179,521	102	96,897	279	276,418	1,557,295 = 447,722
American ..	14	1,980	1	189	15	2,169	23,563 6,774
German ..	2	300	..	..	2	300	4,263 1,226
Danish ..	1	131	..	..	1	131	1,800 518
Spanish ..	4	622	1	139	5	761	12,145 3,492

CLEARED.

Nationality of Vessels.	With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.		Value of Cargoes. .
	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	
British ..	290	261,552	230	184,135	520	445,687	4,491,605 = 1,291,337
Chinese ..	180	180,905	100	95,536	280	276,441	4,084,328 = 1,174,244
American ..	1	189	14	1,980	15	2,169	.. ..
German ..	..	..	2	300	2	300	.. ..
Danish ..	..	..	1	131	1	131	.. ..
Spanish ..	..	..	5	761	5	761	.. ..
Total entered and cleared .	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,158,301 = 3,495,512*

* Including re-exports.

British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1882.

(Signed)

G. JAMIESON, Consul.

(No. 2.)—RETURN of Foreign Imports.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
			H. Taels.
Opium—			
Malwa	Piculs ..	1,969 30	1,101,054
Patna	" ..	8 40	3,420
Persian	" ..	95 72	44,508
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	207,008	348,403
" white, plain	" ..	18,570	37,409
" brocaded, dyed	" ..	4,951	14,606
T-cloths	" ..	97,225	142,487
Drills, English	" ..	11,800	29,681
" American	" ..	830	2,010
Sheetings, English	" ..	60	126
" American.. .. .	" ..	7,762	18,888
Jeans and twills	" ..	1,068	2,484
Chintzes	" ..	5,056	7,503
Turkey-red cloths	" ..	1,203	2,948
Velvets and velveteens	" ..	3,161	20,220
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ..	23,408	14,707
Cotton goods, unclassified	Pieces ..	500	503
Cotton yarn	Piculs ..	3,245 00	83,075
Woollen goods—			
Blankets	Pairs ..	36	312
Camlets, English	Pieces ..	10,860	141,108
" Dutch	" ..	110	1,680
Cloth, broad, medium, and habit	" ..	1,459	38,946
Spanish stripes	" ..	5,640	63,855
Russian cloth	" ..	20	470
Lastings	" ..	4,269	44,215
Long ells	" ..	9,355	65,767
Lustres and Orleans.. ..	" ..	3,213	10,260
Metals—			
Iron : nail, rod, and bar	Piculs ..	2,799 48	6,282
" wire	" ..	1,453 14	10,476
Lead, in pigs	" ..	16,606 18	80,446
" tea	" ..	420 31	3,150
Tin, in slabs	" ..	4,709 93	99,696
" in plates	" ..	301 83	2,167
Sundries—			
Bicho-de-mar, black and white	" ..	450 80	14,303
Birds' nests	" ..	5 79	2,852
Cuttle-fish.. .. .	" ..	888 43	9,204
Dye	Bottles ..	24,017	5,799
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed	Pieces ..	122,050	1,193
" " untrimmed	" ..	244,880	1,481
Ginseng, American, clarified	Piculs ..	29 80	2,488
Matches	Gross ..	20,640	7,174
Mushrooms	Piculs ..	786 32	24,911
Oil, kerosine	Gallons ..	27,800	3,404
Paper, 1st quality	Piculs ..	177 73	2,168
Pepper, black and white	" ..	5,656 97	40,014
Prawns and shrimps, dried	" ..	456 59	5,638
Sandal-wood	" ..	5,423 42	24,702
Sapan-wood	" ..	1,147 18	4,676
Seaweed, cut and long	" ..	54,262 78	135,092
Sharks' fins, white	" ..	31 25	2,845
Sugar, brown	" ..	14,317 82	59,341
" white	" ..	1,920 33	10,713
Umbrellas, cotton	" ..	225	1,814

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
Vermilion	Piculs ..	31 13	H. Taels. 2,085
Window glass	" ..	1,080 00	3,336
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	21,298
Total .. .. .	..	..	2,829,398

(Signed) G. JAMIESON, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1882.

(No. 3.)—TRADE in Native Produce.

IMPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
Brass buttons	Piculs ..	16 62	H. Taels. 1,087
Birds' nests	" ..	5 40	2,437
Cotton, raw	" ..	19,615 28	134,620
Dates, black	" ..	686 51	3,581
" red	" ..	2,429 10	7,101
Cuttle-fish	" ..	21,943 19	123,975
Fish, dried and salt ..	" ..	949 02	5,645
Fungus	" ..	201 83	3,037
Lead, white	" ..	121 82	1,169
" yellow	" ..	543 31	4,923
Lunggans, dried	" ..	1,653 06	11,834
Lichees, dried	" ..	534 08	3,910
Medicines	" ..	740 35	4,835
Nankeen	" ..	1,236 60	52,918
Samshoo	" ..	467 46	1,425
Silk piece-goods	" ..	75 15	30,989
" pongees	" ..	16 22	3,792
" ribbons	" ..	12 88	4,142
Sugar, brown	" ..	23,072 38	90,070
" white	" ..	40,174 07	201,163
" candy	" ..	3,069 69	21,625
Sea blubber	" ..	613 24	2,200
Vermilion	" ..	15 83	1,077
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	21,718
Total .. .. .	..	..	739,273

(Signed) G. JAMIESON, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1882.

(No. 7.)—TRADE in Native Produce.

EXPORTS.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Total Exports.	
		Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Tea, black	Piculs ..	195,803 78	5,307,382
„ green	„ ..	59,680 81	1,809,810
„ brick	„ ..	8,025 86	50,079
„ leaf	„ ..	751 82	18,800
„ dust	„ ..	9,822 39	99,740
Sundries—			
Bamboo shoots, dried ..	„ ..	216 35	2,885
China-root	„ ..	6,220 54	33,659
China-ware, coarse ..	„ ..	6,649 34	34,852
„ fine	„ ..	5,943 74	45,224
Grass cloth, coarse ..	„ ..	6,188 29	172,535
„ fine	„ ..	382 82	15,622
Hemp	„ ..	27,649 57	210,382
Indigo, liquid	„ ..	4,158 03	19,279
Lotus-nuts	„ ..	254 67	2,681
Mats, bamboo	Pieces ..	28,869	3,773
Medicines	Piculs ..	390 26	1,008
Paper, 1st quality	„ ..	24,993 43	216,308
„ 2nd quality	„ ..	86,427 76	351,157
Tallow, vegetable	„ ..	7,664 33	50,109
Tobacco, leaf	„ ..	23,753 71	100,810
„ prepared	„ ..	338 72	7,256
„ stalk	„ ..	2,482 76	4,780
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	5,152
Total .. .. .	..	..	8,563,253

(Signed) G. JAMIESON, Consul.
British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1882.

(No. 5.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Import Trade for the Years 1875 to 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Opium—								
Malwa	Piculs ...	2,232	2,037	1,845	1,475	1,945	2,104	1,969
Patna	" ...	8	5	5	8	6	11	8
Persian	" ...	6	1	1	170	201	175	96
Cotton piece-goods—								
Shirtings, grey ...	Pieces ...	180,239	208,314	163,164	158,440	174,690	218,766	207,008
" white	" ...	9,999	10,572	10,533	11,759	12,609	15,093	18,570
T-cloths	" ...	137,914	162,152	97,249	102,723	90,362	116,185	97,225
Drills, all kinds ...	" ...	25,139	39,575	29,804	14,880	12,997	15,428	12,630
Brocades, dyed and white	" ...	3,448	3,448	3,002	2,850	6,328	3,720	4,951
Chintzes	" ...	6,663	4,291	4,243	3,648	3,595	4,550	5,056
Velvets and velveteens	" ...	4,391	3,470	3,686	3,209	2,742	2,911	3,161
Handkerchiefs ...	Dozens ...	22,331	19,300	25,322	18,914	17,552	23,326	23,408
Cotton yarn	Piculs ...	764	772	1,175	1,714	1,983	2,369	3,245
Woollen goods—								
Camlets	Pieces ...	9,629	9,490	9,633	8,906	9,103	8,801	10,970
Cloth, broad and medium	" ...	2,001	2,307	2,311	1,934	2,339	1,608	1,459
Lastings, plain and crape	" ...	3,632	3,100	3,384	2,984	3,443	3,352	4,269
Long ells	" ...	15,011	12,448	12,818	12,467	12,814	10,613	9,355
Lustres, crape and figured	" ...	6,125	4,287	5,900	3,513	3,313	3,272	3,213
Spanish stripes ...	" ...	5,684	7,214	5,082	4,819	5,082	5,266	5,640
Metals—								
Lead	Piculs ...	17,636	16,334	19,628	31,605	13,056	14,722	16,606
Tin	" ...	4,931	2,876	4,952	5,099	6,800	4,961	5,012
Sundries—								
Bicho-de-mar	" ...	344	272	232	266	264	208	453
Cotton	" ...	12,382	6,348	4,111	2,440	2,249	62,217	19,616
Cuttle-fish	" ...	21,294	35,515	11,235	15,185	14,029	13,344	22,832
Dates, red and black	" ...	2,264	1,666	5,050	5,339	3,636	2,317	3,116
Nankeens	" ...	265	410	627	667	1,119	988	1,237
Pepper, black and white	" ...	7,047	7,110	8,878	5,994	5,143	5,583	5,657
Sandal-wood	" ...	3,843	3,499	4,375	3,451	4,108	4,581	5,423
Sapan-wood	" ...	1,942	2,312	1,520	1,946	1,913	1,079	1,147
Seaweed, cut and long	" ...	42,573	50,396	50,257	57,462	47,898	45,953	54,263
Shell-fish	" ...	208	345	618	264	106	198	127
Silk piece-goods ...	" ...	119	87	47	68	61	76	76
Sugar, brown	" ...	39,434	32,766	36,303	39,981	45,491	43,805	37,390
" white	" ...	51,950	42,414	41,782	56,432	77,327	41,122	42,094
" candy	" ...	2,132	2,308	2,196	2,745	2,671	3,019	3,070
Window-glass	Boxes ...	1,117	1,218	1,245	1,391	982	1,321	1,090

(Signed) G. JAMIESON, Consul.
British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1881.

(No. 6.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Export Trade for the Years 1875 to 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.
China-ware	Piculs ...	10,569	14,157	11,332	6,079	5,046	12,141	12,592
China-root	" ...	3,335	3,933	3,942	6,750	2,461	4,788	6,220
Grass cloth	" ...	3,100	3,272	2,882	4,065	5,949	6,117	6,572
Hemp	" ...	19,636	28,198	32,469	29,795	29,779	40,985	27,660
Paper	" ...	47,806	62,474	79,692	96,675	100,528	106,244	111,431
Tallow, vegetable ...	" ...	2,747	2,132	3,837	6,207	4,560	7,697	7,664
Tea—								
Black	" ...	166,131	190,038	176,500	206,799	190,213	185,000	195,804
Brick	" ...	14,325	8,715	7,452	11,286	14,797	9,448	8,026
Dust	" ...	2,953	3,138	9,237	9,182	3,663	8,991	9,822
Green	" ...	65,322	49,830	51,477	40,316	40,368	57,015	69,881
Leaf	" ...	363	392	480	517	610	1,052	752
Tobacco—								
Prepared	" ...	56	22	16	10	...	376	339
Leaf and stalk	" ...	10,655	12,016	13,956	28,538	15,461	46,384	26,336

(Signed) G. JAMIESON, Consul.
British Consulate, Kiukiang, April 3, 1882.

KIUNGCHOW.

Report on the Foreign Trade of Kiungchow during the year 1881.

A GLANCE at the three following Tables will show the progress of the foreign trade ever since the 1st April, 1876, on which day this port was declared open.

1. NET Value of the Trade in Foreign Vessels, *i.e.*, Foreign and Native Imports less re-Exports, and Native Exports of local origin only, excluding Treasure :—

				Imports.	Exports.	Total.
				H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
1876 (9 months)	..	..	..	368,361	316,411	684,772
1877	..	..	..	604,619	604,704	1,209,323
1878	..	..	..	798,068	416,988	1,215,056
1879	..	..	..	823,128	550,291	1,373,419
1880	..	..	..	1,009,999	667,026	1,677,025
1881	..	..	..	1,061,872	759,871	1,821,743

2. FOREIGN Shipping, Entered and Cleared :—

						Total Tonnage.
1876 (9 months)	..	..	..	..	..	36,672
1877	..	..	..	..	..	62,656
1878	..	..	..	..	..	87,290
1879	..	..	..	..	..	106,362
1880	..	..	..	..	..	149,322
1881	..	..	..	..	..	230,280

3. TOTAL Dues and Duties paid to Chinese Government :—

						H. Taels	m.	c.	c.
1876 (9 months)	..	..	..	..	..	43,573	8	0	0
1877	..	..	..	..	..	63,150	7	2	9
1878	..	..	..	..	..	61,664	4	0	0
1879	..	..	..	..	..	68,989	9	8	5
1880	..	..	..	..	..	83,692	6	8	3
1881	..	..	..	..	..	83,134	0	1	9

Taking 5s. 7d. as the equivalent in 1881 of the Haikwan tael, the imports in that year were worth 296,439*l.*, the exports 212,131*l.*, and the total trade 508,570*l.* Re-exports are not included in these figures, but they amounted to a value of 231*l.* only. The value of the carrying trade was 509,032*l.* of which the proportion for British vessels was represented by 207,882*l.* The carrying trade should, however, properly include the imports and exports of treasure. These are not reckoned in the above valuation, which is based on that of the Customs Returns, but 33,357*l.* and 65,347*l.* are the respective items, or a total of 98,704*l.* The direct trade with foreign countries reached the value of 501,668*l.*, and with the other Treaty ports (two only, namely Swatow and Pakhoi) that of 7,133*l.*; but the trade with Hong Kong, which alone was represented by 491,849*l.*, included a large quantity of goods received from, or destined for, Chinese ports. The figures in the Shipping Table are apt to mislead, the fact being that, though there was a proportionately large amount of tonnage in 1881, the vessels employed mostly made this port only a place of call to complete their cargoes in their voyages to and from Haiphong, Touron, Pakhoi, and

Hong Kong. As is apparent in the third Table, there was a decrease in the revenue receipts in 1881 as compared with 1880. This was principally owing to a smaller importation of opium, the causes of which I shall presently advert to. The most of the foreign trade of the port continues in the hands of Chinese, against whose mode of doing business the resident foreigners cannot compete with much success. The proximity of Hong Kong enables the Chinese dealer to get expeditiously by steamer such goods as he wants in quantities small enough to suit him. Notwithstanding this, the opening of the port will probably eventually receive a sufficient justification in the employment of foreign vessels, and the extended distribution of goods of British origin.

IMPORTS.

Foreign goods reached this port—

		H. Taels.	£
From Annam, to the value of	.. ..	17,251	= 4,816
Siam, ..	.. ..	12,419	3,467
Hong Kong, ..	.. ..	793,391	221,488
Pakhoi, ..	.. ..	83	23
Total	.. ..	823,144	229,794

of which 687 taels (192*l.*) represented the portion afterwards re-exported leaving 822,457 taels, or 229,602*l.* as the net value, the corresponding amount for 1880 having been 826,850 Haikwan taels, and for 1879, 723,954 Haikwan taels. The imports from Annam were rice and sundries, and from Hong Kong, opium, piece-goods, metals, ginseng, raw cotton, cotton yarn, American flour, wheat, matches, kerosene oil, and miscellaneous articles from the Straits Settlements and Japan. Those from Siam were contained in a single sailing-vessel, and consisted of teak, rice, varnish, raw cotton, &c.

I have already alluded to a decrease in 1881 in the imports of opium as compared with the year 1880. The following Table will show that the total importation fell short of that in 1879 also:—

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.
	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.	Piculs.	H. Taels.
Malwa ..	98 29	55,227	15 36	7,840	13 80	7,407
Patna ..	992 50	399,901	1,255 39	566,587	1,011 45	477,523
Benares ..	26 98	10,243	32 30½	14,072	8 18	3,797
Total ..	1,117 77	465,371	1,303 05	588,499	1,033 43	488,727

At the end of 1880 the local dealers took advantage of a temporary cessation of the Haifang (provincial defence) tax, the farm contract having expired by lapse of time, and the new one not having been completely entered into, to introduce large stocks from Kong Kong, which became available in 1881. Besides the import duty, the taxes payable on a chest of opium last year were:—

Provincial defence, nominally	30 taels, but actually	27 taels.
Kaoli, ..	28 ..	25·2 ..
Collected by one office, total		
nominally ..	58 ..	52·2 ..
<i>Li-kin</i> and stamp duty ..	..	23 ..
Hainan coast defence, 6 dollars	..	4·2 ..
Total ..	..	79·4 ..

In the last quarter of the year, a new collector having endeavoured to enforce the payment of the full rate of the Provincial Defence and Kaoli taxes, for the benefit of the farmers of them, the five Guilds (Kuangchow, Ch'aochow, Kaochow, Foochow, and Kiungchow) that act as a sort of Chamber of Commerce in Hoihow, resisted, and even refused to allow the delivery of twenty-two chests that had been imported by Chinese dealers to take place. For two months there were no importations by Chinese, and the collector had, after referring the matter to Canton, to give in. The import of all kinds of opium in December quarter 1881 was, in consequence of the above, only 201 piculs, as compared with 273 in the preceding, and 295 piculs in the June quarter of the same year. Much grumbling having been indulged in by the Chinese importers because they had to pay the *li-kin* and other taxes at once on landing their opium and passing it through the Maritime Customs, while the foreign merchants had to pay nothing beyond the import duty, so that the latter could sell cheaper (to persons who probably never thought it to be their duty to report their purchases to the different tax offices, which suffered in consequence), a reduction was made in January of this year in the Provincial Defence and Kaoli rates, which together are now 31 t. 3 m. 2 c. per chest. A chest of opium, if landed by a Chinese, is, therefore, supposed to now contribute 58 t. 5 m. 2 c. to the provincial and local revenues; but it is rumoured that there is shortly to be a further reduction in the hope of diminishing smuggling.

Malwa is too dear for the Hainan smokers. Patna is very much liked. Formerly it used to be locally mixed with Benares. This last sort obtained high prices in 1881. The absence of Persian opium from the Returns is again noticeable; all attempts to introduce it have been given up for some time. The local opium smokers declare it to be too hot to the taste. Chinese opium, as far as I can learn, is not brought into this part of the island—at least, in any noticeable quantities. A writer in the Taotoi's Yamên, who is fond of that grown in Yünnun, has to send to Pakhoi for it.

NET Imports of the Principal Cottons and Woollens during the past
Three Years :—

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Pieces.	Values.	Pieces.	Values.	Pieces.	Values.
		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Shirtings—						
Grey	4,607	6,921	6,274	10,335	8,162	12,751
White, plain ..	11,651	24,544	21,309	48,755	28,905	62,398
Dyed	172	485	762	2,440	1,466	5,410
T-cloths	23,153	25,595	28,939	33,522	44,011	48,823
Drills, English ..	1,192	2,121	2,551	4,775	3,382	4,851
Camlets, English ..	180	1,592	216	2,291	287	2,876
Cloth, broad, medium, and habit	123	1,930	178	3,091	156	2,751
Lastings	186	1,616	240	2,110	358	3,268
Long ells	968	5,460	1,154	6,755	1,617	8,657
Woollen and cotton mix- tures	80	478	291	2,124	430	3,151

The trade in the above is entirely in Chinese hands. Cotton goods classed as sundries were imported in 1881 to the value of 4,770 taels, more than twice the value of 1879. American drills do not appear to be appreciated here for they are not mentioned in the Customs Returns for 1881,

and the import fell from 598 pieces in 1879 to 149 in 1880. The trade in Dutch camlets, Spanish stripes, and lustres, is a very small one, but it has been extending. Kerosene oil, which got no separate mention in the Returns since 1878, was imported last year to the extent of 266½ piculs. The trade in foreign matches fell off a little, but the quantities taken were still large for the place, and nearly three times those of 1879. 1,053 piculs of cotton yarn arrived in 1881 against 468 piculs in 1880 and 123 piculs in 1879. There was an increase in 1881, compared with 1880, in American flour, ginseng (American, Japanese, and Corean), raw cotton, lead, quicksilver, and steel, but a decrease in iron and uncleaned (seed) cotton. The imports of foreign rice rose, principally owing to the removal at Haiphong of the restrictions against export, from 2,477·92 piculs, in 1880 to 25,391·65 piculs in 1881, of which 9,823·15 piculs did not come directly from the producing countries. Of Hainan rice there are a large number of varieties, but it is not of superior quality or very abundant, and the cheapness of Annam rice makes ready sales. There was an increase on the whole in the imported foreign products of a miscellaneous class, such as beans, betel-nuts (decrease), cardamoms (decrease), cutch (decrease), dye-stuffs, Japanese paper fans, lamps, opium husk (said to be mixed by the savages with tobacco for chewing purposes), rattans, teak, towels, umbrellas, varnish (decrease), wheat (decrease).

Foreign goods are sent from Hoihow by junk to Chinglan, Chia-chik (through Shalo), and Wanchow, for distribution along the east coast of Hainan, to Howsuy, Tungsuy, and Puchin on the north end; to Tanchow in the west; and to the ports of Lingsuy and Yaichow for the south. Chiachik has been described to me as a place as large as Hoihow, and as being a mart of some importance, it having water communication with the interior, and supplying the districts of Lohui and Huitung. Foreign goods leave Hoihow, however, more frequently, I think, by the Konchew River for Konchew, which is a *dépôt* for goods from the interior, and by the inner routes to Chingmai, Tingan, Linkao, and even to Chia-chik, between Hoihow and which there is communication by rivers unbroken except for a short distance. I do not find that much foreign produce is re-exported to the peninsula, which is supplied by other places with which its trade is carried on. I understand that the town of Luichow takes Benares opium, T-cloths, shirtings, cotton yarn, English camlets, raw cotton, &c. Haian derives its principal supply from Macao, with which it has a long established trade; but it is visited by junks from Hong Kong also. Junks from the same foreign ports go to Tanchow and Chia-chik in this island, and those from Macao go even as far as Lingsuy. The ports in Yulin Bay and of the Wênchang district, trade with Singapore, and may, for all that I know, receive opium therefrom. Junks from Singapore reaching the south are stated to be the means whereby the savages receive, through middlemen, gunpowder and shot, to supply which to them is a crime in Chinese law.

Chinese Goods.—The importations were:—

	H. Taels.	£
From Pakhoi, value	268	75
„ Hong Kong, value	239,287	66,801
	<hr/> 239,555	<hr/> 66,876
Re-exports to Hong Kong for foreign countries and to Siam	140	39
Net value	<hr/> 239,415	<hr/> 66,837

In 1880 the net value was 183,149 Haikwan taels, and in 1879 99,174 Haikwan taels. The principal classes of goods will be found in the following comparative Table of values:—

				1879.	1880.	1881.
				H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
Beans .. .. .	..	..	..	3,282	4,939	5,076
Cotton, raw .. ..	..	..	..	13,974	57,653	111,455
Hemp .. .. .	..	..	..	7,586	16,243	12,349
Lily flowers, dried ..	..	..	..	6,852	12,524	10,674
Medicines .. ..	..	..	..	27,894	32,043	35,303
Nankeens .. ..	..	..	..	8,929	11,099	15,095
Silk, piece-goods ..	..	..	..	3,872	5,499	6,458
Vermicelli .. ..	..	..	..	12,998	24,086	20,995
Wax, white .. ..	..	..	..	2,011	3,242	7,065

The hemp, said to come from Hankow, is manufactured into bags and ropes. Rope-making is one of the industries of the town of Hoihow.

EXPORTS.

The following is the Customs' Summary of destinations (re-exports not included):—

				H. Taels.	£
To Annam .. .. .	..	..	value	3,367	= 940
Siam .. .. .	..	..	..	2,136	596
Hong Kong, for foreign countries	..	..	..	358,792	100,163
Total to foreign countries *	..	..	..	364,295	101,699
To Hong Kong, for Chinese ports ..	..	..	..	370,378	103,397
Swatow .. .. .	..	..	..	7,617	2,126
Pakhoi .. .. .	..	..	..	17,581	4,998
Total for Chinese ports † ..	..	..	..	395,576	110,431

The minor shipments in foreign vessels in 1881 were agar-agar, bêche de mer, coir, cuttle-fish, dried fish, honey, cow horns, indigo, kênch'a, split rattans, melon seeds, sharks' fins, shell-fish, cow sinews, deer skins, tobacco, wrapper leaves, yellow wax, fragrant woods. There was a general increase in this portion of the trade. Indigo, costing in Hoihow 3 dol. 50 c., is sent to Pakhoi to be mixed with the product there costing 6 dol. 50 c. a picul. Mr. Stuhlmann, of the Customs, in his Kiungchow Trade Report for 1877, writes thus about kênch'a: "A preparation for adulterating tea. Its name, kênch'a (i.e., root-tea), is an abbreviation of Lê-ti-shêng-kên, or *Briophyllum calycinum*, the Chinese term, which implies that the leaf when it falls develops a root, being intended seemingly to be descriptive of the characteristic manner in which this plant can propagate itself. It grows abundantly on roadsides and in waste places in this neighbourhood, and its thick and fleshy leaves are gathered all the year round. These are cut into strips, and the pieces exposed to the sun for several days, when, being still slightly moist, they are rolled up by hand so as to resemble tea, and after being completely dried, are ready for exportation." It is satisfactory to know that the export of this spurious tea, which is said to go mostly to Macao, is but a small one, the total in 1880 having been 1,809.39 piculs, valued at 1,143 taels.

The principal articles of export will be found in the following comparative Table:—

* In 1880, 332,577 H. taels; and in 1879, 281,508 H. taels.

† In 1880, 334,449 H. taels; and in 1879, 268,783 H. taels.

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.	Quantities.	Values.
	Piculs.	H. taels.	Piculs.	H. taels.	Piculs.	H. taels.
Betel-nuts ..	383 02	2,252	4,969 56	52,468	4,361 57	39,703
Galangal ..	5,661 57	6,583	4,918 87	8,910	6,956 86	15,202
Glue, cow..	2,800 50	13,220	2,228 05	12,814	2,161 01	12,357
Grasscloth—						
Pine ..	52 10	7,148	23 38	2,848	744 00	51,334
Coarse ..	691 16	43,257	1,271 95	78,825	17 38	865
Ground-nut cake..	14,612 33	17,968	27,828 77	31,681	61,089 02	76,990
Hemp ..	786 70	17,237	445 25	11,619	594 15	15,123
Hides, cow and buffalo ..	490 36	2,453	2,392 74	17,804	2,435 12	23,587
Leather ..	3,965 71	89,853	3,218 50	35,247	3,616 00	45,591
„ trunks ..	277 43	4,553	322 43	5,384	323 33	5,544
Lunggan pulp ..	275 78	2,549	242 71	2,481	1,412 48	11,291
Medicines ..	2,412 58	22,456	1,394 48	21,405	3,824 21	34,990
	Pieces.		Pieces.		Pieces.	
Pigs ..	4,283	19,138	3,399	17,677	13,377	77,211
	Piculs.		Piculs.		Piculs.	
Sesamum seeds ..	21,864 38	69,382	11,815 29	45,113	18,454 23	54,155
Silk—						
Wild, raw ..	233 74	18,260	72 06	5,405	377 16	34,292
Fish lines ..	24 50	5,586	36 24	9,625	43 74	11,119
Sugar—*						
Brown ..	47,023 59	134,674	67,603 70	162,574	58,761 96	132,771
White ..	17,225 31	71,498	24,536 42	89,620	13,113 29	47,964
Tallow, animal ..	2,688 13	18,676	3,005 74	19,804	2,671 26	17,978

There was a bad crop of sugar last year on the peninsula, and only a moderate one in Hainan. The Hainan prices were very high, preventing the resident foreigners from buying much, and the Chinese exporters sold at a loss. This year's crop is said to be a good one, and it is estimated that about 130,000 piculs will be the total production of this island, and 250,000 of the peninsula. The season commences in Hainan in January, and lasts till August. The opening prices this year were 4 dol. 20 c. per bag of 112 catties, but they soon fell to 3 dol. 80 c. At Hainan, which is the chief port of shipment of the sugar from the peninsula, the season begins in the end of June, and is over in about two months; the most of the sugar being sold at the outset, and sent off without delay by junk to Macao, where it is re-exported to Hong-Kong, North China, &c. A German merchant, resident in this port, attempted last year to buy sugar in Hainan, which he meant to bring over, under transit pass, to Hoihow for shipment by steamer to Hong Kong; but the producers declined to sell, giving various excuses, the truth, probably, being that the Macao dealers would not allow their trade to be interfered with.

The most of the galangal sent off from this port last year was destined for Germany. The best kind comes from the Luichow Hills, through Hainan; an inferior sort, that reaches Hoihow through Howsuy, is 50 per cent. cheaper, being smaller. The digging out of the galangal roots commences in February, and the export season lasts till October. The crop of ground-nuts having been exceptionally large in 1881, the manufacture of cake was carried on to a greater extent than usual. This caused the ground-nut oil to be very cheap, and the opportunity was

* 1 picul of sugar weighs 112 catties (149½ lbs.) instead of 100 catties (133½ lbs.).

taken to send some to London as an experiment. Correspondence is now going on as to future supplies. There was a large demand for hides, and prices went up to 16 dol. 50 c. per picul. They go to China, Saigon, Singapore, and even Europe. It is believed that the export will steadily increase. It will be seen from the comparative Table of exports that the shipments of sesamum seeds in 1881 fell short of those in 1879. The crop in the latter year was a very good one, and the prices were from 352 to 365 dollars per picul; in 1881, they were 415 to 425 dollars. The Chinese official guide to Hainan states that the natives do not themselves make much use of the oil. The best wild raw silk comes from Wênchang. Last year's prices were low. The cause of the insignificant export in 1880 was that the yield was limited, and was nearly all used up locally in the manufacture of pongees. The exported hemp is destined for Swatow, where it is used in the making of grasscloth. Quantities of the screw-pine fibre that, when weaved with the hemp, becomes the Hainan fine grasscloth (the screw-pine portion giving, it is said, the material its coolness), reach Wênchang from Singapore and Luichow. The screw-pine fibre, by itself, is made into bags, and is the basis of coarse grasscloth. A glance at the comparative Table will show that the fine grasscloths have taken the place of the coarse as to largeness of export; this is owing to the reclassification, by the Maritime Customs, of the qualities that Mr. Scott referred to in his Trade Report for 1880 as about to take place. The betel-nuts of this island have a great reputation in China. Cheaper nuts are imported into Hainan from Singapore, solely in order to be mixed with them prior to exportation—in the proportion of one to ten, according to the Customs Trade Report for 1880. Live pigs were taken away by nearly every steamer that was bound to Hong Kong. Many of the steamers proceeded first to Macao with deck cargoes of these animals; but I find that Macao is not entered in the Customs Returns as a port cleared for. I am told that 1 dollar is paid as freight on each pig, and that from 1 dollar to 1 dol. 50 c. is the amount of profit.

A comprador, in foreign employment, has kindly supplied me with the following list of the principal cargoes, in junks, clearing from various parts of Hainan and the peninsula.

From Wênchang (Ports Chinglan and Puchin).—Yellow and white silk, lungngan pulp, seaweed, coarse and fine grasscloth, cocoa-nuts, cocoa-nut fibre cloth, galangal, sea slugs, tortoise-shell rind, cotton cloth, silk piece-goods, silk and cotton mixtures, pigs, shell-fish (conch), turtle, cocoa-nut and tea oils.

From Chia-chik (junks leaving by Shalo Port for Kongmun in Kwangtung, Macao, &c.).—Betel-nuts, hides, deer skins, deer horns, prepared *Artemisia moxa* (for the manufacture of Indian ink), sesamum seeds, yellow silk, cocoa-nuts, pigs bishopswort, lily seeds, lungngan pulp, rattans, wrapper leaves, sugar, woods.

From Chingmai, through port of Tungsuy.—Sugar, ground-nut oil and cake, sesamum seeds, indigo, old man's rice.

From Linkao and Howsuy (junks clearing at Sinying).—Fish maws, cuttle fish, sea slugs, wild galangal, brick refuse sugar, sugar (chiefly brown), green and black beans, shell fish.

From Tanchow (clearance port, Sinying; junks going to Hoihow, Kongmun, Macao, and Hong Kong).—Melon seeds, brick refuse sugar, green beans, sharks' fins and skins, salt fish, tin, iron, fishing-lines, fungi, sesamum seeds, cuttle fish, shell fish.

From Yaichow, through port of Pili.—Kienan-wood scent, sandal-wood shavings, melon seeds, green and black beans, rattans, coffin planks, willow wood, fungi, salt fish, deer horn, velvet.

From Lingsuy (junks leaving for Macao, Kongmun, &c.).—Sugar

(chiefly brown), pigs, ebony, pearl barley, ground-nut oil and cake, marine delicacies, sesamum seeds, rattans, planks

From Wanchow.—Bishopswort, betel-nuts, brick refuse sugar, indigo, pigs, dried prawns.

From Tingan and Kiungshan districts, and other places, through Hoihow.—Betel-nuts, sesamum seeds, honey, yellow wax, yellow and white silk, silk piece-goods, silk and cotton mixtures, lunggan pulp, fishing-lines, roots of *Dendrobium ceraia*, wrapper leaves, indigo, horse and cow hides, deer skins, armadillo skins, cow horns, cow glue, deer-horn velvet, cardamoms, bitter cardamoms, snake skins, tallow, mats, pigs, sugar, beans, fungi, prepared *Artemesia moza*, wheat. Junks go to Haiphong, Pakhoi, Hong Kong, Canton, Swatow, &c.

From Luichow (junks to Macao and Hong Kong).—Mats, galangal, cloth made from roots of *Dolichos trilobus* (?), coarse grasscloth, black beans, ground-nut oil and cake.

From Haian.—Sugar, galangal, ground-nut oil and cake, hemp, in junks to Macao and Hong Kong.

The section of the Chinese official guide to Hainan that describes the products of this island is a lengthy one, but deserves to be translated into English, as new articles of commerce might be brought to light. The work would be somewhat troublesome, as many of the plants, for instance, would have first to be sent away for botanical determination. As I expect to be shortly removed from this port, I shall not be able to undertake the translation. Copper is to be found in Tanchow and Changhua, and silver in Yaichow and Tanchow. Gold also occurs in various places. The official guide just referred to gives a long account of the steps taken, about eighteen years ago, to prevent a Chinese named Lin, who had come with certain foreigners to Hainan in a steamer, from proceeding to the country on the borders of Tanchow and Changhua, occupied by savages, to search for copper and precious metals. It appears that he had really obtained permission from the Financial Commissioner of Kuangtung to work the copper mines, but the *literati* of the island sent a Memorial to the Governor-General and the Governor against Lin's attempt, as likely, when carried out, to destroy the magnetic influences of the mountains in which the mines are. The memorialists instanced the disasters, in the shape of rebellion, that had been the consequence of the reopening of the mines for a short period in the beginning of the reign of Kia K'ing (closing years of last century). The high authorities thus addressed, apparently not venturing to go against the *literati*, cancelled the permission given to Lin, on the ground that he had sought the assistance of foreigners, and brought them and the steamer to a non-Treaty port, for which no passport had been granted. It was decreed that the mines were to remain closed, and that Lin was to be punished.

Transit Trade.—No transit-passes for goods going inland were applied for last year. For goods to be exported six passes only, namely, for 1,285 piculs of galangal, were issued. The German merchant who made use of them has given me the figures below to show the saving effected by bringing galangal over from Haian under the pass-system.

Without pass—					Mace	c.
Duties at Haian ..	..	..	Per picul ..	..	1	8
<i>Li-kin</i> , &c., at Hoihow ..	..	..	..	..	1	8
Export duty at ditto ..	..	..	..	..	1	0
Total ..					4	6
With transit pass—						
Export duty and half-duty ..	..	..	Per picul ..	..	1	5
Saving ..					3	1

Similarly, I am told, there would be a saving of about 2 mace per picul on sugar brought hither from the same place and re-exported.

Revenue.—The Maritime Customs receipts during the year were these:—

				H. taels	m.	c.	c.
From general trade	..	..	..	47,688	1	6	9
„ opium	..	..	..	31,002	9	0	0
„ tonnage	..	..	..	4,378	7	0	0
„ transit trade	..	..	..	64	2	5	0

Making a total of 23,208*l*.

Shipping.—The total tonnage (entered and cleared) 230,280, was made up as follows:—

				Vessels.	Tons.
British	..	..	..	226	76,072
American	..	..	..	92	36,828
German	..	..	..	82	43,270
Chinese	..	..	..	126	73,260
Siamese	..	..	..	2	850

The Chinese vessels were steamers belonging to the Chinese Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, which has an establishment here. They ran with great regularity during the year between Hong Kong, this port, and Haiphong, and occasionally to Tonron. The Company's steamer "Kangch'i," is the only vessel coming to this port that has proper accommodation for European passengers. It is almost needless to state that these Chinese steamers are treated by the Maritime Customs in every respect as foreign vessels, and that this is the cause of their appearance in the Returns relating to foreign trade. The following Table of percentages, from one of the Customs Returns for 1881, shows the shares taken by the vessels of the different nationalities in the total trade, and the payment of dues and duties at this port:—

				Total Trade.	Total Dues and Duties.
British	..	..	..	40·84	39·66
American	..	..	..	15·12	15·76
German	..	..	..	15·03	13·91
Siamese	..	..	..	·72	·91
Chinese Merchants' Steam Navigation Company	..	..	..	28·29	29·76

GENERAL.

The revised Treaty between the German Empire and China having provided for the establishment of bonded warehouses at the open ports, the German Consul at Canton, within whose Consular jurisdiction Hainan lies, applied at the end of the year to the foreign merchants here for their opinions as to the possibility of instituting such a system at Kiungchow. Their reply was that the port was not yet prepared for the innovation.

The resurvey of the Hainan Straits was continued throughout 1881 by Her Majesty's ship "Magpie." I am glad to be able to state that her survey was completed in the first week of January of this year. The corrected chart will not, however, be published till 1883. Surveying

operations, principally on the west coast, were also carried on by the French aviso "Le Parseval," belonging to the Naval Division of Cochinchina. Her work was performed at a disadvantage, as, unlike Her Majesty's ship "Maggie," she possessed no steam-launches, and had only one surveying officer on board, in addition to which, she is of greater draught of water. She left this neighbourhood in the end of December for Haiphong, but she will, I hear, return before long and commence a survey along the coast of the Liuchow Peninsula—which has, by the way, hitherto erroneously appeared on maps as the Lienchow Peninsula.

The German steamer "Quinta," carrying goods and Chinese passengers from Hong Kong to Saigon, was wrecked, on the 4th October, at Tinhosa, while trying to take refuge from a furious storm that then raged along the south of China. One of the anchor chains parted, and she was at once driven on shore. There were more than 100 passengers in her; three of them (two women and a child) were drowned in an attempt to land the same day, they having been carried out to sea, after two gigs that were taking the women and children from the steamer had been driven among the rocks by the current and capsized. In consequence of this the rest of the passengers were kept on board until the next morning, when they were all safely landed. On the 6th all hope of getting the steamer off was abandoned, she having filled with water to the water-line, and the crew were employed instead in landing stores and putting up tents. That night fishermen began to come to the island and give molestation, so that an armed guard had to be mounted. The next morning about 100 piratical boats came alongside the steamer, and the conduct of the men in them was such that the captain and crew had, in order to save their lives, to leave it, on which plundering at once commenced. This continued throughout the 7th, in the evening of which the pirates set fire to the steamer, by accident, as is supposed. This did not put an end to the plundering, for it went on till the 11th, on which day five or six soldiers arrived, and, with the assistance of the crew, drove the wreckers away. They returned, however, the next day, and attempted to carry the provisions and stores away from the encampment. They overpowered the soldiers, but were driven to their boats by the crew, who charged them with bayonets. On the 14th a party of men from two newly-arrived junks having attempted to land on the island, but were repulsed; the captain sent the second mate with a Chinaman off in the soldiers' boat to seek assistance from the mandarins on the opposite coast. Thirty-five soldiers shortly afterwards arrived, after which no molestation appears to have been attempted. The shipwrecked people were at length relieved and taken away by the Chinese Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamer "Kangchi," on the 17th October, the Commissioner of Customs here having persuaded the Taotai to dispatch her to the scene of the wreck immediately after her arrival the day before in Hoihow.

The news of the wreck reached this place on the 14th by means of letters sent overland and by junk, by the captain, and she was the first vessel that could be employed on the service, no other having entered the port during the interval, or being within reach. There being civil and military mandarins at Wanchow, which is only a few miles distant from Tinhosa, their delay in sending assistance is worthy of notice. It is well known that the wreckers came from a village called Sên Tan, and it subsequently leaked out that some men, sent by the sub-Prefect of Wanchow to make lists of the persons in possession of the stolen things, were chased out of the village. It was even stated that the villagers fortified themselves against the Taotai when he went in person to Wanchow in November. The captain of the "Quinta" having made an official report of the plundering to the German Consul at Canton, the latter dispatched His Imperial

German Majesty's gun-boat "Wolf" to the scene of the wreck, and requested her Commander to inspect the hull and to state whether, in his opinion, the "Quinta" could, if she had not been set fire to, have been towed to Hong Kong and repaired? The reply having apparently been in the affirmative, the German Consul, who had been in vain demanding the arrest of the plunderers and the recovery of the booty, sent in a claim for a large amount against the Chinese Government for losses sustained. The local authorities, finding themselves unable to make the arrests, or being unwilling to do so, coolly denied the occurrence of the plundering, though the fact must have been known to them from the examination of the Chinese passengers by a mandarin that was sent down in the "Kangch'i" to attend to their relief. Not content with the denial, the officials declared that the goods found on shore had been salvaged, and produced some men who deposed that they had been hired by a (fictitious) *compradore*, or *linguist*, from the steamer to land as much of the cargo as possible, for which service they were paid with broken or damaged parcels of tea, &c., and that the same man, after consultation with a foreigner, sold them what they had landed—thirteen boats' loads—for 52 dollars. A constant correspondence went on between the Governor-General in Canton and the German Consul until at length, under pressure, the former dispatched General Pêng from Canton to Tinhosa, with orders to investigate the matter locally. He travelled in one of the Provincial Government's steam cruisers, taking another of them with him; and the result of his visit was, that after a few days he handed a number of prisoners over to the local mandarins. No cargo was found, everything having already been sold and sent away. The above is the history of the case up to the present date. The "Quinta" belonged to Flensburg.

Piracies on the coast of Hainan are not uncommon events. A steam gun-boat is at present being built in Hong Kong for the Local Government, which, when completed, will be made use of on this coast exclusively. It is understood that it has been presented by a young inhabitant of Canton, who hopes by this expensive means to obtain official rank that would otherwise be beyond his reach. He has also been promised the command of the steamer. I hear that the Commandant at Hoihow is likely to obtain a steam-launch for local cruizings. This officer, an ex-*compradore*, speaks English, and associates very freely with the foreigners here. He is treated by the Taotai as a confidential adviser on international matters. He took up his post in the beginning of October 1881, and I am glad to be able to record of him that he then caused, and still causes, a bright light to be exhibited every night from each of the two forts at the entrance of the river at Hoihow. The lanterns serve as guiding lights to boats coming from the roadstead, and are very useful, as the land is quite flat, and cannot be seen.

The Taotai left Kiungchow in the beginning of November on a peculiar expedition, which has kept him and the Chên't'ai (General of the Kiungchow Brigade) away ever since. The savages, during the earlier portions of last year, made frequent incursions into some of the Chinese-inhabited parts of the island. A Censor having, in a Memorial to the throne, expressed his belief that this state of matters was but the natural consequence of the mismanagement of the late Hakka rebellion in Hainan, orders came from Peking through the Governor-General to the local authorities to quiet the savages and take such measures as would secure lasting peace. The Taotai, who has a special authority here to make use of military or naval force when necessary, accordingly undertook the work of pacification in the south-east, and the Chên't'ai that in the south. The former at first made Wanchow his head-quarters, and took the opportunity, being near the spot, to look into the question of the plundering of the "Quinta"—

with what result has been seen. Having, after some delay, obtained from the savages to the west of Wanchow promises to send hostages for their future good behaviour, he went off to the country north of it, where he had to fight. The savages there having thereupon given in, he returned to chastise the tribes who had promised hostages, nothing having been seen of any such. When this has been done he will, it is stated, proceed to Lingsuy to assist the Chènt'ai, who, by all accounts, does not appear to have been very successful in his operations. He managed, however, about two months ago, to capture nineteen pirates, two of whom were Annamese, that he came upon near Yaichow. Reinforcements were sent to him in January. Train-bands, under the charge of Committees of the local gentry, are the standing means of defence against raids by the savages.

My short stay here has shown me that the Chinese in this port and its neighbourhood are very friendly in their demeanour to foreigners; and visitors from other ports have, while walking about, been much struck by the absence of unfriendly looks and insult.

(Signed)

A. FRATER, *Consul*.

Kiungchow, March 3, 1882.

NEWCHWANG.

Report on the Trade of Newchwang for the Year 1881.

IN remarking on the trade of the port for the past year, I must premise that, as I only returned to my post late last autumn—that is, just before the business season closed—I have been obliged to work entirely on information supplied by the foreign residents, to whom, as well as to the Commissioner of Customs, who courteously placed his Returns at my disposal, I beg now to offer my acknowledgments.

The total value (net) of the trade of the port amounts to 6,080,432 taels, equal, at 5s. 9d. per tael, to 1,748,124*l.*, which shows a slight decrease as compared with the trade of the previous year, and this decrease would have been greater if it had not been for the increased export of beans. The following comparative Table will help to elucidate this fact:—

	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Foreign imports ..	2,075,862	1,541,288	..	534,574
Native imports ..	1,295,803	987,081	..	308,722
Exports ..	3,353,371	3,552,063	198,692	..
Net values ..	6,725,036	6,080,432		
Total decrease ..	644,604			

Out of the decreased importations, foreign opium is responsible to the extent of 434,728 taels; but, apart from this fact, there is no doubt that business was greatly affected by the action of the Swatow native Guild, who refused to ship produce for this port because they disapprove of the Customs withdrawing certain facilities for doing business from one of their number, and thus tried to "Boycott" the foreigner.

For a whole month no vessel entered the port, about 100 native shops failed, and trade was generally in an unsatisfactory state. Towards the close of the season, however, the Guild having been forced to cease their intimidating action, a fleet of sailing-vessels arrived, and matters improved.

Opium.—It is, perhaps, too soon to prophesy the extinction of the foreign opium trade here in consequence of the increased cultivation of the poppy in this and adjoining provinces; but I hear that the opposition of the Chinese officials has ceased to be strenuously exerted; and I have before me a Proclamation issued by the authorities at Moukden, stating that foreign opium is only allowed to be sold at the shops, but not smoked on the premises, as these shops are apt to become a resort for thieves and bad characters to the detriment of the locality. The amount of drug sold here last year is far less than it has ever been since the port was opened to trade, and 132 per cent. under the amount sold in 1880. The decrease in Malwa is specially noticeable. The following Table shows the number of piculs imported since 1877 each year:—

Year.	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.	Total.
	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.
1877 ..	988 00	36 00	43 20	31 00	1,098 20
1878 ..	1,112 25	57 40	27 40	26 00	1,223 05
1879 ..	2,141 34	98 40	62 40	151 00	2,453 14
1880 ..	1,077 34	30 30	54 60	32 48	1,194 60
1881 ..	358 56	39 20	44 40	10 82	553 58

The price of Malwa at the beginning of the season was 580 taels per chest, but it soon fell to 550 taels. In August and September it was quoted at 500 taels, but in October the price again rose to 550 taels, the report of the native crop being unfavourable, for the heavy rains had spoiled it, and in many places it never attained maturity.

Patna was 26 taels and Benares 10 taels per chest cheaper than in 1880.

I hear that at least four-fifths of the native opium is smuggled, and its comparative cheapness will be sure to cause it to find a readier sale than the Indian drug if the manufacturer succeeds in making it more palatable to the Chinese taste. The last mode adopted is adulterating the native drug with a sort of slime produced by boiling down pig's skin.

The following Table shows the principal imports, exclusive of opium, of which I have already treated, for the past three years:—

				1879.	1880.	1881.
Shirtings, grey ..	..	Pieces	..	205,433	90,670	74,381
" white ..	..	..	..	23,202	16,744	15,100
" dyed ..	..	..	..	10,835	3,434	50
T-cloths ..	..	..	..	141,161	178,720	74,200
Drills, English ..	..	..	..	38,709	22,800	48,589
" American ..	..	..	..	95,260	59,838	118,845
Sheetings, English ..	..	..	..	12,975	31,598	14,945
" American ..	..	..	..	71,597	49,855	33,075
Chintzes, &c. ..	..	..	..	12,246	9,631	3,482
Turkey red cloths ..	..	..	..	8,732	14,914	19,948
Mahommedan red cloths ..	..	..	..	3,915	2,010	3,538
Muslins and lawns ..	..	..	..	15,490	3,584	4,512
Twills ..	..	..	..	10,330	6,990	8,851
Velvet and velveteens ..	..	..	..	3,044	2,421	3,948
Cottonades ..	..	..	..	15,635	11,406	9,074
Handkerchiefs ..	..	Dozens	..	13,393	13,170	23,180
Camlets, English ..	..	Pieces	..	2,640	2,488	3,163
Lastings ..	..	..	..	7,753	9,621	9,429
" crape ..	..	..	..	2,970	2,153	3,623
Lustres and Orleans ..	..	..	..	9,079	3,450	4,140
Long ells ..	..	..	..	1,518	1,384	780
Spanish stripes ..	..	..	..	548	801	712
Cloth, broad and medium ..	..	..	..	200	550	16
" Russian ..	..	..	..	1,370	950	695
Iron, bar ..	..	Piculs	..	76,457	32,870	14,343
" nail-rod ..	..	..	..	27,249	15,384	9,063
" wire ..	..	..	..	1,535	1,567	1,332
" hoops and old iron ..	..	..	..	104,600	68,045	50,217
Steel ..	..	..	..	4,268	431	629
Lead ..	..	..	..	5,584	2,209	3,137
Tin plates ..	..	{	..	1,120	..	1,519
" Slabs ..	..	..	..	..	137	..
Copper sheathing ..	..	Piculs	..	1,181	331	444
Bags ..	..	Pieces	..	373,060	158,100	312,227

			1879.	1880.	1881.
Brass buttons, foreign ..	Gross ..	..	14,552	8,855	7,900
„ native ..	Piculs ..	..	1,127	785	618
Brass-ware ..	„ ..	..	407	676	272
Clocks ..	Pieces ..	..	2,736	2,221	1,759
Dyes and colours ..	Bottles ..	..	28,638	79,168	110,038
Fans ..	Pieces ..	..	616,639	869,401	784,950
Grass-cloth, coarse ..	Piculs ..	..	798	523	435
Lead, red ..	„ ..	..	1,405	..	..
„ yellow ..	„ ..	..	1,223	231	456
„ white ..	„ ..	..	2,759	2,649	1,431
Matches ..	Gross ..	..	21,579	52,374	66,954
Medicines ..	Piculs ..	..	8,575	5,311	3,449
Nankeens ..	„ ..	..	128	1,196	1,780
Needles ..	Mille ..	..	121,485	105,304	161,425
Oil, kerosene ..	Gallons ..	..	1,590	6,445	12,000
Paper, 1st quality ..	Piculs ..	..	7,747	5,192	2,765
„ 2nd quality ..	„ ..	..	6,546	12,553	6,339
„ joss ..	„ ..	..	2,513	1,485	1,714
Pepper, black ..	„ ..	..	1,435	757	1,011
Preserves ..	„ ..	..	1,959	4,406	2,942
Rice ..	„ ..	..	2,199	277	..
Sapan-wood ..	„ ..	..	15,536	4,847	4,051
Seaweed ..	„ ..	..	28,525	38,438	19,876
Silk piece-goods ..	Pieces ..	..	943	868	672
Sugar, brown ..	Piculs ..	..	91,117	88,757	74,418
„ white ..	„ ..	..	16,820	41,628	25,880
„ candy ..	„ ..	..	7,076	9,271	9,660
Tobacco, prepared ..	„ ..	..	6,629	13,353	6,184
Wax, white ..	„ ..	..	257	54	222

Cotton goods, taken one with another, show a slight decrease, viz., 78,500 pieces as compared with the import of 1880. There was a very good market for English and American drills, especially the latter for Corea, but, on the other hand, the sale of T-cloths and shirtings fell off, the quality being said to be inferior to that of former years. Dyed shirtings did not retain their colour, and very few were sold. The market for sheetings was not good, as prices in Shanghae were too high to suit the purses of the Chinese here.

Turkey red cloths are much appreciated, and the import has in two years more than doubled itself. Handkerchiefs show an increase of over 10,000 dozen above last year's importation. Many new and gaudy patterns have been introduced, and as they are now made larger, and comparatively cheaper than chintzes, they have to a great extent superseded the rise of the latter in making garments for the rising Chinese generation.

We have 1,162 pieces of woollen goods more than were imported in 1880. Camlets and crape lastings were cheaper than they used to be, and so found a ready sale. Lustres were in favour, as being more varied in colour.

Prices of cotton and woollen goods at the beginning and end of the season are here given:—

	Tls. c.	Tls. c.
Grey shirtings, 8½ lbs. ..	1 30	1 42
White shirtings, 60 reeds ..	1 45	2 02
T-cloths, 6 lbs. ..	0 91	1 21
„ 7 lbs. ..	1 17	1 35
Drills, English ..	2 16	1 60
„ American ..	3 20	3 10
Sheetings, American ..	2 88	2 275
„ English ..	2 00	2 49
Camlets ..	9 70	10 90
Lastings ..	9 00	10 50
Long ells ..	5 75	5 54

Iron shows a falling-off. There was an excessive import in 1879, and at the beginning of last season there was a large stock on hand.

Lead was in demand for Corea, and tin plates find favour, as the Chinese are attracted by the variety of colour seen in the oxydized tin.

Of miscellaneous foreign imports, we observe an increase in dyes on account of their cheapness, matches (especially "Fürth's Vienna"), needles, which are sent in large quantities to Corea, and kerosene oil, the import of which has nearly doubled itself in a year, as it is so much cheaper than it was.

Among native imports, nankeens have found a fair market, as the Kaichow cotton crop having been damaged by heavy rains both last year and the year before, native cloth was not to the fore.

The failure of many bean-cake hongs of long standing, and small banks, in the middle of the year, created a temporary panic, and consequently, as purchases had to be made in ready cash, the holders of sugar and silk piece-goods found it difficult to realize satisfactory rates.

EXPORTS.

The principal exports for the past three years are given in the Table below :—

		1879.	1880.	1881.
Beans	Piculs	1,553,444 00	2,130,819 00	2,261,067 00
Bean-cake	"	1,800,523 00	1,350,918 00	1,443,813 00
Bean-oil	"	11,630 00	26,835 00	23,532 00
Deer-horns	Pairs	690	1,079	854
Fungus	Piculs	552 00	1,068 00	925 00
Ginseng, native	"	2,306 00	2,533 00	2,199 00
„ Corean, 1st quality	"	99 00	111 00	171 00
„ „ 2nd quality	"	67 65	68 00	23 88
„ wild	"	1 56	2 84	1 64
Medicines	"	6,774 00	10,759 00	11,632 00
Melon-seeds	"	16,191 00	16,070 00	15,826 00
Prawns, dried	"	4,797 00	8,412 00	7,225 00
Samshu	"	11,359 00	16,308 00	16,865 00
Silk, wild, raw	"	61 00	1,358 00	935 00
Skins, of all kinds	Pieces	17,665	46,919	108,165

Although the exports do not much exceed those of 1880, their value is for the first time in the annals of the port greater than that of the imports, and that by 1,023,694 taels. The harvest of peas was good, and prices were generally low. Bean-cake varied from 2·80 to 3·35 taels per 10 piculs; peas, from 2·30 to 2·72 taels per 300 catties; and oil, from 2·55 to 3·08 taels per 95 catties. Seven-ninths of the export of bean-cake went to Swatow, the rest going to Shanghai, Amoy, and Foochow,

being probably destined for Formosan sugar plantations. Of peas, about three-fifths of the whole amount exported was shipped to Hong Kong, Amoy and Swatow together also taking fully as much. Most of the bean-oil was shipped to Amoy. The increase in the export of raw silk and skins of all kinds the last two years must be noticed. A good deal of silk was also exported in junks from the small ports down the coast during winter.

Freights were better during October and November than they have been for years, and in one instance 43 cents per picul was obtained for a charter hence to Amoy.

SHIPPING.

The first vessel of the season arrived on the 28th March, and the last left on the 22nd November. On comparing the shipping with former years, one observes an increase in the number of British steamers—and British tonnage now far exceeds the tonnage of all other nationalities put together—as may be seen by the following Table :—

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British steamers	60	41,204	72	51,547	90	66,929
„ sailers	81	29,512	72	25,172	70	24,227
	141	70,716	144	76,719	160	91,156
Foreign steamers	29 }	89,025	{ 46 }	84,428	{ 24 }	67,942
„ sailers	184 }		{ 148 }		{ 148 }	

Casualties.—The French barque “Solidor,” 241 tons, ran on the banks near Kaichow on her way from Tien-tsin hither, and arrived in a leaky condition, but was able to go to Shanghai in ballast to be docked and repaired. A Siamese barque, “Kimyungtai,” master, R. Kofoed, was wrecked near Basil Bay in Corea. The crew, consisting of Chinese and Siamese, were well treated by the authorities, and sent to this port over-land. Some of them suffered from frost-bite, and one Siamese died on the way between Moukden and this port.

(Signed) HERBERT J. ALLEN, *Consul*.
Newchwang, April 1, 1882.

NINGPO.

Report on the Trade of Ningpo during the Year 1881.

THE gross value of the trade of Ningpo during the year 1881, as shown by Customs statistics is, 13,593,064 Haikwan taels, equal at 5s. 9d. per tael to 3,908,005*l.* 18*s.* The following Table gives the comparative amounts of exports and imports during the three last years :—

				1879.	1880.	1881.
				H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
Foreign imports	..	..	..	6,803,105	5,981,239	7,233,289
Native imports	..	..	..	1,715,773	1,628,728	1,822,522
Exports	..	..	..	4,869,972	5,131,929	4,537,223
Total	..	..	..	13,388,850	12,741,896	13,593,064

It will be seen from this that there is a large increase in foreign imports, a smaller one in native imports, but a slight decrease in exports.

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

Opium, of course, heads the list. 9,146 chests valued at 4,440,586 Haikwan taels were imported in the year under review. The total is thus divided among the various descriptions of opium.

						Piculs.
Malwa	..	..	..	..	..	7,548
Patna	..	..	..	..	..	640
Benares	..	..	..	..	..	948
Persian	..	..	..	..	..	10
Total	..	..	..	..	..	9,146

THE figures for 1880 are :—

						Piculs.
Malwa	..	..	..	..	..	5,889
Patna	..	..	..	..	..	321
Benares	..	..	..	..	..	492
Persian	..	..	..	..	..	57
Total	..	..	..	..	..	6,759

Thus an increase of about 40 per cent. is shown. The increase in the imports of Malwa is accounted for by the exportation on the part of the Chinese of a rise in the import and *li-kin* duties on the drug. The off-take and consumption of opium also exhibits an increase, though this increase is not quite proportionate. One of the merchants of Ningpo estimates the consumption at 7,342 chests in 1881, against 6,097 in 1880. Patna and Benares opium are principally consumed in the Chia Hsing (Kashing) district, which, although in this province, gets most of its opium from Shanghae; the *li-kin* duty levied by the Kiangsu officials, in addition to the Chekiang dues being counterbalanced by the smaller expense incurred for freight, and the increased chances of smuggling the

goods past the *li-kin* stations. The opium dealers of the Chia Hsing district are under a promise to take fifty chests of Bengal opium a-month from Ningpo. The increase in the imports of Bengal opium leads us to infer that more of the drug is being sent up country in a legitimate manner, and that smuggling does not pay, or is being put down.

The *li-kin* taxes on opium in the Ningpo, Huchow, and Chia Hsing districts are farmed by a wealthy consumer for the sum of 150,000 taels per annum. The importer, foreign or Chinese, gives the *li-kin* office notice of the clearance of every chest of opium, and the name of the buyer, from whom the duty is collected before the drug is allowed to go up country. The rate is at present 31.79 taels on a chest of Malwa, and 34 taels on a chest of Bengal opium, the former being estimated to weigh 93½ catties, and the latter a little over a picul of 100 catties or 133½ lbs. avoirdupois. The opium farmer is said to have collected 190,000 taels in 1880, and 250,000 taels during 1881. He only pockets 28 per cent. of the surplus, the remainder going to the Governor of the province.

It will be seen from the above that the provisions of the IIrd Article of the 3rd section of the Chefoo Convention are already carried into effect at Ningpo, except that the foreign importer, having to pay the Tariff duty at once, loses the benefit of depositing the opium in bond, and that there is no area exempt from *li-kin*. The ratification of the Convention is therefore looked for with much anxiety, though it is expected that the duties on opium will be raised when it is ratified. But what most excites the minds of the native dealers is the projected scheme of a Chinese Syndicate to be established in Hong Kong to buy up all the opium on its arrival from India, and to distribute it thence at their own price, and to have a full command and monopoly of the opium trade all over the Empire. This Syndicate, if established, would only be an exclusion of the powerful Guild system, which at Ningpo, as elsewhere in China, robs the foreign importer of his trade and profits. The opium Guild at this port consists of natives of Chekiang and Fuhkien. The Guild merchants completely control the trade. At present they are on good terms with the foreign merchants, which means that the latter, being obedient to their behests, are allowed to sell the drug to customers of whom the Guild are pleased to approve; but if a foreign merchant were to venture to withhold the name of his customer, or to sell his opium to any one against whom the Guild had a grudge, he would be promptly tabooed, and not a man in Ningpo would dare to buy a ball of opium from him. I see no hope of a better state of things. The large Indian houses are content to do business on these terms, and the smaller merchants and commission agents are not strong enough to fight the battle. At the same time, it is only fair to say that when any member of the guild is in difficulties, the others come to his assistance, and thus the foreign merchant seldom makes a bad debt. The Chinese authorities are, of course, delighted with a system by which their revenue is secured on tolerably easy terms, without the incessant smuggling, and its consequent disputes, lawsuits, fighting, and bloodshed, that a free and open trade in opium gives rise to, as we see at Canton, Foochow, and elsewhere. The ratification of the Chefoo Convention ought to give foreigners a certain amount of relief, as the Customs authorities would assuredly never keep the Guild informed of the names of the seller and buyer of each chest of opium, and thus the power of taboo would be to a great extent checked.

During the year 1881 neither the provincial nor the local authorities have taken any measures interfering with the opium trade or the cultivation of the poppy. I think that every one has been waiting to see what result the conferences of their Excellencies, the two Superintendents of Trade, with Her Majesty's Envoy will lead to.

Although the area of land devoted to the cultivation of the poppy has increased, yet the crop for this last year has been below the average. It is estimated at something over 4,000 piculs. The manufacture of the native drug must certainly have a tendency to check the rate of increase in the importation of Indian opium, and I venture to predict that this tendency will be more marked in a year when the present exceptional reasons for such large imports do not exist. Szechuen opium, too, must be taken as a factor in estimating the total amount consumed in this district. The Customs statistics only give 65 piculs as the total import, but there is good reason to believe that many times this quantity are imported by junk, a large proportion being smuggled.

During the first three months of the year the demand for Malwa was steady and prices high, viz., 536 taels to 545 taels per picul. In May the price went down to 488 taels, but rose gradually till November, when it was 520 taels. The price of Bengal opium ranged from 435 taels to 455 taels in January, February, and March. In May it went down to 418 taels, but rose to 448 taels in the latter half of the year. The only quotations which I have for Persian opium are, one chest of medium 410 taels, and one of good quality 488 taels.

Cotton and Woollen Piece-goods.—The total number of pieces of cottons imported in 1881 was 645,587, against 536,729 imported in 1880, and 16,616 pieces of woollens, against 15,503. I append a comparative statement showing the quantities of each description of goods imported in these two years:—

					1880.	1881.
Cotton goods—						
Shirtings—						
Grey ..	..	..	..	Pieces ..	297,330	331,869
White ..	..	..	..	" ..	29,999	35,031
Dyed ..	..	..	..	" ..	7,652	51,936
Brocades ..	..	..	..	" ..	900	1,150
T-cloths ..	..	..	..	" ..	133,215	140,750
Drills—						
English ..	..	..	..	" ..	8,200	9,624
American ..	..	..	..	" ..	7,115	7,720
Jeans—						
English ..	..	..	..	" ..	23,120	26,770
American ..	..	..	..	" ..	2,190	2,090
Dutch ..	..	..	..	" ..	3,210	960
Sheetings—						
English ..	..	..	..	" ..	390	490
American ..	..	..	..	" ..	2,445	3,111
Chintzes ..	..	..	..	" ..	5,710	7,234
Turkey reds ..	..	..	..	" ..	3,698	6,389
Velvets ..	..	..	..	" ..	1,963	1,790
Velveteens ..	..	..	..	" ..	180	238
Dimities ..	..	..	..	" ..	..	430
Muslins ..	..	..	..	" ..	300	1,130
Canvas ..	..	..	..	Bolts ..	63	129
Handkerchiefs ..	..	..	..	Dozens ..	5,450	6,923
Cottonades ..	..	..	..	Pieces ..	470	290
Woollen goods—						
Camlets—						
English ..	..	..	..	" ..	1,910	1,991
Dutch ..	..	..	..	" ..	60	50
Lastings ..	..	..	..	" ..	1,170	1,182
Ditto, imitation ..	..	..	..	" ..	1,530	1,440
Long ells ..	..	..	..	" ..	720	720
Spanish stripes ..	..	..	..	" ..	2,052	2,043
Lustres ..	..	..	..	" ..	6,042	5,545

					1880.	1881.
Woollen goods—						
Cloth—						
Medium ..	..	..	..	Pieces ..	927	911
Union ..	..	..	..	” ..	..	259
Italian ..	..	..	..	” ..	460	1,172
Woollens unclassified ..	..	..	..	” ..	10	53

It will be seen from the above that cotton goods, almost without exception, show a favourable increase, though the smaller and less important trade in woollens is almost stationary. It was thought a few years ago that the American fabrics, being stouter and less sized, would supplant English cottons. The above Table does not seem to verify this idea. Prices have on the whole been low. Grey shirtings of inferior quality averaged during the year 1 dol. 80 c. to 1 dol. 85 c. per piece. Heavier qualities fetched about 3 dol. 10 c. per piece. The highest prices were realized in the first half of the year. In September and October the price was as low as 1 dol. 35 c. Common T-cloths were sold at 1 dol. 5 c. to 1 dol. 15 c. Cloths of 8 to 8½ lbs. at 1 dol. 85 c. to 1 dol. 90 c.; and best qualities at 2 dols. 10 c. to 2 dol. 35 c., the last named being the highest price in October. At the beginning of 1881 stocks of cotton goods were not heavy, and stocks of woollens very small. When the year closed there was a stock of cottons enough for three months' consumption still in hand, but the stock of woollens had fallen low.

The trade in piece goods amounting annually to over 1,000,000 taels or nearly 300,000Z., shirting ought to bring in a handsome commission to the foreign importer, but unfortunately foreigners have been completely shouldered out of the trade by the Piece Goods Guild and the *Li-kin* Office. The Piece Goods Guild owes its power very much to the malpractices of foreigners in days gone by. At one time the foreign commission agent would have goods sent to him for sale in Ningpo, which he would either sell on the spot or send up country to be sold at one of the inland marts, under the transit passes issued in accordance with the Regulations of the Treaty of Tein-tsin. The goods thus escaped native inland taxation. The Chinese dealers, seeing the advantage granted to foreigners, came forward offering to pay the foreigner a small sum if he would take out transit passes in his own name on goods belonging to them. Some were suspected by this easy method of making money, and the Chinese dealers thereupon, instead of buying their goods at Ningpo, imported them from Shanghai, just paying a foreigner so much to pass them through the Custom-house. Afterwards it was decided that the ownership of the goods was unimportant, the foreign origin of the goods being the sole thing to be considered. This threw more power into the hands of the Guild, who now completely control the trade. The Piece Goods Guild is not in the habit of tabooing foreign firms, or, in fact, of committing any illegal practices whatever. They are so strong that such proceedings are unnecessary. The fact simply remains that every foreigner who has imported a single bale has found it unsaleable, except to a member of the Guild at the Guild's own price. No one else comes forward to bid, and any customer to whom the merchant may offer it declines to buy. The great strength of the Guild lies in its arrangement with the *Li-kin* Office. The Guild pays the *Li-kin* Office (I quote from a Report by Mr. Commissioner Drew), monthly the sum of 1,000 strings of cash, or 585 taels, as a commutation for all import *li-kin* on cottons and 125 taels as commutation on woollens. *Li-kin* is levied whether the goods go into consumption at Ningpo, or are sent inland. There is another duty

levied in the interior called the "Lo Ti Chüan," which has also been commuted by the Guild by the payment of 614 taels a-month on woollens and cottons alike. The Guild recoups itself for these payments by levying an assessment of so many cash on each piece of cloth imported. The amount is about 70 cash on a piece of grey shirting. The Guild knows the name of every importer and the amount which he imports, so that there can be no evasion. We see from this the difficulties that beset a foreigner who would venture to compete with a Chinese merchant. The latter having once taken out a transit pass, and settled with the Guild, can send his goods all over the province without let or hindrance. The foreigner may resist or pay the *li-kin* duty in Ningpo, may take out a transit pass covering the goods to some inland market; but when once the goods were disposed of there to some native buyer, the latter, not being under the protection of the Guild, would be mulcted of the "Lo Ti Chüan" duty, which would act as a salutary warning to him not to deal with foreigners again. Besides this, each member of the Guild at Ningpo has an agent at Shanghai, a member of the Piece Goods Guild there, to keep watch and see whether any outsider from Ningpo tries to buy on the Shanghai market without the knowledge of his fellow townsmen.

There are only two redeeming features in this aspect of affairs. One is that the existence of the Guilds doubtless stimulates the trade to the benefit of the Lancashire and Massachusetts manufacturer. The other is that in any case the proximity of Shanghai would induce the majority of purchasers to buy there rather than in Ningpo. A steamer leaves each end of the line at 4 P.M., arriving at the other end the following morning at daylight. This enables the Ningpo merchant to run up to Shanghai, take his pick out of perhaps 100 samples, and be back again at his business the following day. The same story comes from the river ports, and from Chefoo and Tien-tsin. The native merchants will not buy from foreigners at the outports. The larger market of Shanghai, with its chance of picking up a bargain at the auction sales there, is more attractive.

Metals.—The various kinds of metal all show a satisfactory increase in their imports during the three last years, as will be seen from the following Table:—

				1879.	1880.	1881.
				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Iron, nail, rod, bar, &c.	..	..	..	37,331	29,486	48,493
Lead	..	..	..	9,107	9,520	9,649
Tin	..	..	..	13,839	15,052	21,089
Steel	..	..	..	2,401	2,108	2,803

It will be seen from this that tin is the most important metal in Ningpo taking value as the first of importance, as the value of the tin imported in 1881 amounted to about 475,000 taels, that of the iron being about 120,000 taels, and lead 48,000 taels. Lead is, of course, mainly used for the lining of tea-chests. About half the quantity of metals imported is sent up country under transit passes, there being no interference with the trade of foreigners in metals.

Miscellaneous.—A few other articles of import call for a short notice. The imports of foreign sugar compared to native are in quantity as 12 to 10; but the total amounts have fallen off considerably during the last few years, the figures for 1879, 1880, and 1881, being respectively 40,263 piculs, 16,310 piculs, and 15,596 piculs.

Mangrove bark is imported in large quantities from the Straits Settlements. It is used for the tanning of sails and fish-nets by the natives of

the sea-board. The other articles of Straits produce in demand are pepper, of which 1,000 piculs were imported; sandal, ebony, and sapan wood; edibles, such as bêche de mer and birds'-nests; betel-nuts, and indigo. Of the last named nearly 7,000 piculs were imported during 1881, Japan sends ginseng, dried prawns, and edible seaweed, the last being the only important item. The amount imported in the year under review, was 7,872 piculs against 6,348 piculs in 1880.

The taste for European luxuries and commodities increases as these things become better known. I append a Table showing the comparative amounts of some of these imported in the last three years:—

				1879.	1880.	1881.
Matches .	..	..	Gross ..	105,097	119,402	121,370
Needles ..	..	..	Mille ..	..	..	1,450
Window glass	..	..	Boxes ..	2,401	2,830	2,753
Kerosine oil	..	..	Gallons ..	774,128	871,820	756,191

In matches Japan is coming forward to compete with England, Germany, and Sweden.

NATIVE IMPORTS.

The native imports of 1881 may be dismissed with a very few remarks, as they are of little interest to foreigners, except as articles to be carried in foreign bottoms. Medicines, estimated at 388,343 taels, form by far the most valuable item. I am informed that Hankow is the place whence the largest quantity comes. From the southern ports have been brought tobacco to the value of 154,000 taels; sugar worth 78,000 taels; lungngans and lungngan pulp, worth 116,000 taels: indigo and other sundries. The river ports send in addition to medicine, lily flowers for the scenting of tea, paper, wood oil, worth 88,000 taels; white wax, safflower, and vegetable tallow, to say nothing of the Szechuen opium, which reaches us via Hankow and the Yangtze. The imports from the northern ports are confined to 42,101 piculs of bean-cake, worth 39,000 taels, and some Shantung Pongee silks. Formosa sent some Kelung coal and camphor. With the exception of some of the coal, I believe that every pound of native imports was in the hands of Chinese merchants.

EXPORTS.

Green tea forms the principal article of export from Ningpo. The figures for the three last years are:—

							Piculs.
1879	..	..	..	..	..	..	127,821
1880	..	..	..	..	..	..	147,651
1881	..	..	..	..	..	..	160,971

The inference from the above is that prices during the years under review have been profitable to the producer, and the crop an unusually large one. Ningpo is the principal outlet for the teas of the Fychow (Huai-chow) district, which lies in An-Huei, and the only outlet for those of the Pingsuey (Ping Shui) district in the Chekiang Province. The total amount for the year is thus divided:—

							Piculs.
Fychow	..	..	.	..	..	..	90,449
Pingsuey	..	..	..	..	..	..	70,347
Wenchow	..	..	..	..	..	..	175
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	160,971

A great deal of the Fychow tea finds its way to a foreign market by way of the river ports, and the Treaty port of Wenchow is now, of course, the place of shipment for Winchow teas. None of the tea comes into foreign hands until it reaches Shanghai. It would, therefore, only lead to error if I were to give the prices during the year. I had better request a reference to the Reports of Her Majesty's Consul at Shanghai. Nearly all the green tea exported from Ningpo is intended for the American market, which is rather a comfort to English residents here, for the process of preparing the tea is so unsavoury, that any one who has witnessed it has no desire to drink the infusion ever after. The leaf comes down from the country only sun dried. It is taken to the various tea-firing establishments, and is there fired and coloured with Prussian blue and gypsum by coolies, who not being burdened with much clothing, become at the end of the days' work the colour of colliers. They may be seen any summer evening washing the dirt off in the stagnant canals and ditches which adjoin the tea warehouses. The tea is sorted and made up into the various grades by which green tea is distinguished. The crop of 1881 was divided as follows:—

						Piculs.
Young Hyson	..	..	..	..	..	32,198
Hyson	..	..	..	..	..	25,502
Hyson skin	..	..	..	..	..	15
Twankey	..	..	..	..	..	335
Imperial	..	..	..	..	..	14,355
Gunpowder	..	..	..	..	..	88,566
Total	..	..	..	..	..	160,970

The amount of black congou imported in 1881 was only 684 piculs against 4,017 piculs in 1880, and the amount of leaf tea was 1,062 piculs against 1,164 piculs.

The export of raw silk is not as large as we might expect, considering that part of the Chekiang province produces the finest silk in the world. But the fact is that the great silk-producing districts lie in the north of the provinces whence communication with Shanghai, the direct port of shipment for Europe and America, is easier than it is with Ningpo. The export for 1881 only amounted to 217 piculs, which would be thought at Shanghai a small amount for one mail steamer to carry. Silk piece goods to the amount of 87 piculs, valued at 55,536 taels, were also exported. Under this head I may mention that Ningpo is famous for its silk embroideries. Many articles are very tasteful, and would probably suit European markets.

The trade in hats made from the rushes grown in the marshes of this district, is a considerable and annually increasing one. During the three last years the following numbers were exported:—

						Pieces.
1879	..	..	..	..	..	4,053,862
1880	..	..	..	..	..	6,653,980
1881	..	..	..	..	..	7,661,324

These hats, which can be bought in Europe for little more than a penny a-piece, have been for some time in use among the peasants on the Continent, and latterly there has been a considerable demand for them in America.

The rush is also largely manufactured into mats, of which 1,137,110 pieces were exported during 1881, but I doubt whether any of these left China.

Our other articles of export are almost entirely intended for native consumption in other parts of China.

Cotton shows a falling off from 31,111 piculs exported in 1880 to 9,357 piculs exported in 1881. This is accounted for by the damage occasioned to the crops by the storms of wind and rain in July, just as the pods were ripe and the cotton ready for picking. The good cotton harvest in the Hupei Province, had also a depressing effect on the export of cotton from Ningpo. Cotton is one of the most important crops in this part of China. The area devoted to it is perhaps second only to the area occupied by the rice crops, but the cotton is mainly consumed in the districts where it grows, the cloth made from it competing with the coarser kinds of Manchester grey goods. As far as I can judge, the quality of the raw cotton is not first class, the fibre being very short.

The cuttle-fish fishery is one of the busiest industries of this district. The spring is the fishing season, when I am told the waters among the Chusan Archipelago are full of immense shoals of the fish. Most of the cuttle-fish are sent to the river ports. They are preserved in ice, of which great quantities are collected during the winter months, and stored in ice houses on the banks of the Yung River.

Samshu, or native wine, calls for a short remark. The wine made from rice at Shaohsing within this circuit, is, *par excellence*, the wine of China, just as the wine of Xeres is the wine of Spain, and the wine of Oporto that of Portugal. 13,161 piculs were exported in 1881 against 9,145 piculs in 1880. Canton is the great market for it. A good-sized American barque was chartered about four months ago to carry a complete cargo thither. Even the best Shaohsing wine is wonderfully cheap, certainly less than 2s. a gallon. It is weak, but by no means unpalatable. It is not unlike sherry and water, with a slight flavour of almonds.

The export of medicines, principally vegetable products, amounted during the year 1881 to 40,319 piculs, valued at 273,231 taels. I hope to have an opportunity of collecting many of these, and submitting them to the Director of Kew Gardens. The best descriptions of the various kinds exported from here are to be found in Mr. Commissioner Bowra's Report for 1869, and Mr. Commissioner Moorhead's Report for 1880.

SHIPPING.

Five-sixths of the trade of Ningpo is carried on in the daily steamers running between this and Shanghai. The "China Merchants' Company" (Chinese), and the "China Navigation Company" (British), send each a steamer on alternate days, omitting Sundays, the first named running a steamer of over 1,000 tons, and the latter one of 600 tons. The Chinese passenger traffic is, perhaps, of even more importance than the freight, as an average of 400 passengers is carried on each trip of the steamer, and, on some occasions, as many as 1,000 passengers or more. 67,140 passengers arrived, and 73,057 departed, in 1881. The fare to or from Shanghai is 1 dollar.

The "China Merchants' Company" have also a small steamer running between Shanghai and Wenchow, which calls at Ningpo on her way up and down. Besides this, an English or German steamer calls once a month on her voyage from Hong Kong to Shanghai. Small sailing coasting-vessels visit us from time to time with mangrove bark from the Straits Settlements, sugar from the southern ports, and coal from Formosa. Then a great deal of freight is carried by lorchas running between Ningpo, Shanghai, and the river ports. These vessels being under 150 tons register, are only charged tonnage dues at the rate of 1 mace (the tenth part of a tael), instead of 4 mace per ton. I have no moral doubt that most of these are Chinese owned, and fly a foreign flag to evade payment of native dues. These lorchas bring all the kerosine oil and matches im-

ported into Ningpo, the steamers declining such cargo as dangerous. They also carry quantities of the heavier and less valuable goods, such as coal, iron, gypsum, and the like, in which delay is not of much importance.

Freight by steamer to or from Shanghai is 2 dollars per ton of 40 cubic feet on measurement cargo. On dead weight the rate varies from 1 dol. 60 c. to 3 dol. 20 c. per ton of 20 cwt. Opium is charged 2 dollars a chest; and piece goods 75 cents per bale. Lorchas charge about 5 cents a picul, equal 80 cents a ton. Freight between Ningpo and Hong Kong is 6 dollars a ton. There is no through rate between Europe or America and Ningpo.

There has been a report prevailing during the year that a third line of steamers was about to run between Ningpo and Shanghai, but as yet this prediction has not been fulfilled.

In Table (C) attached to this Report I have given a Return of British and foreign Shipping. The tonnage of the latter is thus divided:—

							Tons.
Chinese	..	..	..	..	..	..	431,309
American	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,920
German	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,102
French	..	..	..	..	..	..	452
Danish	..	..	..	..	..	..	710
Spanish	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,856
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	449,349

Storms were unusually prevalent last year and consequently several casualties occurred. The British barque "Aberdonian" was lost with nearly all hands near Pootoo; the American schooner "Annie S. Hale" was wrecked near the Hei-shan Islands; the British barque "Crunca" was dismantled in the Kintang Channel; and the Danish schooner "Nadeshda" was brought in disabled from the Blackwall passage. In all these instances, as I have already reported, the Chinese authorities rendered kind and willing help.

The masters of the steamers plying to this port complain frequently of the junks blocking up the fair way at Chin-hai at the mouth of the river. Several collisions have occurred there, fortunately all without loss of life or much material damage on either side. This Consulate has not had a single maritime case to settle during the year, nor has a Naval Court been held during the same period.

The lights, buoys, and beacons of this district are in good order, and are quite effective. Lighthouses are to be built for the first time on Steep Island and Bonham Island. Though these places are within the control of the Ningpo Customs authorities, the establishment of lights there will affect the Shanghai shipping trade more than that of Ningpo, as the direct route from Hong Kong to Shanghai passes by these two islands. Consequently the new lighthouses will be an immense boon to the numerous vessels on that track.

CUSTOMS REVENUE.

The duties paid in 1881 were the following:—

						H. Taels	m.	c.	c.
Import	..	..	..	..	..	267,519	7	5	6
Export	..	..	..	..	..	450,886	7	3	2
Coast trade	..	..	..	..	..	27,735	1	9	6
Tonnage	..	..	..	..	..	3,424	3	4	6
Transit	..	..	..	..	..	15,074	7	1	8
Total	..	..	..	..	..	764,640	7	4	8

The total for 1880 was 677,399 t. 4 m. 4 c. 2 c., and for 1879, 657,215 t. 8 m. 1 c. 2 c. The Customs officials estimate they received revenue during 1881 from the various nationalities in the following proportion :—

							Per cent.
British	..	..	..	..	..	..	37.46
American	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.80
German	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.98
French	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.06
Danish	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.05
Spanish	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.45
Chinese	..	..	..	..	..	..	59.20

The item of transit dues is the only one that calls for an extended notice. Shao Hsing, Ch'u Chou, and Ch'ü Chou in this province, and Huei Chou in the An Huei Province are the principal towns supplied with foreign goods from Ningpo. They take cotton and woollen piece goods sent up country, as I mentioned before, solely by the Piece Goods Guild, and metals, kerosine oil, coal, sugar, seaweed, and sundries sent up by foreign and Chinese dealers alike, under a system which I would fain hope was peculiar to Ningpo alone. The goods which go up country are, in violation of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, subject to the *li-kin* dues at Ningpo, as well as to the transit dues levied by the custom-house. I have no hesitation in saying that a large proportion of the transit passes taken out by foreigners are to cover goods, which have never been in those foreigners possession. The inducement which Chinese have to buy transit passes from foreigners rather than to take them out themselves is this. The *li-kin* authorities make a return of 60 per cent. on all *li-kin* dues paid by foreigners, so that it is profitable for the Chinese merchants to hire a foreigner to take out transit and *li-kin* passes in his own name on their account. The result is that foreign goods of all description (except opium) have to bear imposts which it was never intended they should bear when the Treaty of Tien-tsin was signed. If the Consul should apply for redress, he would find himself silenced by this retort from the Chinese authorities: "You cannot show us an instance in which a British merchant has sent goods, *bonâ fide* his own property, into the interior, and has been charged the *li-kin* on them." I think that if the experiment were tried of a shipment of goods up country, covered by transit pass only, the *Li-kin* Office being utterly ignored, the goods would probably be detained at the first barrier until inquiries had been made, after which they would probably go to their destination without further interference.

The transit dues for 1881 have been paid by the various nationalities in this proportion :—

							Per cent.
British	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.41
American	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.50
German	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.08
Chinese	..	..	..	..	..	..	75.01

Silk is the only article which comes down to Ningpo under outward transit pass. I am informed that the *li-kin* duty on tea is absolutely less than the transit duty.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year 1881 has been uneventful. Trade has been unusually prosperous, and the harvest on the whole satisfactory. The health of the foreign community has been good, and no litigation either among

foreigners or with the Chinese has troubled us. The Chinese population in this Prefecture have been quiet, but in the Prefecture of Taichou within this circuit, there has been a small revolt, which is still unquelled. The leader of it, Huang Chin-man, used to be a guide for travellers in that part of the Chekiang Province. He has succeeded in collecting a band composed principally of fishermen, and with their assistance he has managed to keep up a running fight for the last six months. He caught the Commander of one of the Chinese gun-boats in an ambuscade and cut his head off. He is now supposed to be hiding among the hill fastnesses, where the peasants, who look upon him as a popular hero of the Robin Hood type, keep him informed of all the movements of his opponents.

There have been several changes among the *personnel* of the officials, both native and foreign. The most important change has been that of the Governor of the Province. His Excellency T'an Chung Nu has been appointed Governor-General of Shensi and Kansuh, and has been succeeded by Ch'en Shih Chieh, lately Provincial Treasurer of Fuhkein. Mr. Cooper gave over charge of this Consulate to me in June last; and in September Dr. E. C. Lord, who has been in charge of the United States' Consulate for some years past, was succeeded by Mr. Edwin Stevens, of Philadelphia.

My intercourse with the Chinese authorities, the Custom-house, and my colleagues, has been all that I could desire. The present Intendant or Taitai of Ningpo is a Manchu, and every one who knows him will bear me out in testifying to his courtesy and kindness in all matters affecting foreigners.

In the month of December part of the Detached Squadron, with their Royal Highnesses Prince Albert Victor and Prince George visited Ningpo, and were courteously treated by the Chinese officials.

I have little to add to my former remarks bearing on the future commercial prosperity of Ningpo. I think that Ningpo will always form an important market for foreign goods, but until a firm determination has been shown to put down the monopolies of the Guilds, no foreign importer can make any profit. After this, if a stop were put to the practices of the dealer, who does not scruple to declare himself to be the owner of goods which he never even saw, then the legitimate importer would have a chance of selling his goods free of *li-kin*, and of sending them up country under no further restriction than that of the transit pass.

I fear that the prospects for the exporter from Ningpo are not much brighter than those of the importer. If the foreign firms would get up a competition among themselves, they would doubtless persuade the teamen to sell them the tea, but at present the latter say, with perfect truth: "It is not worth our while to open our chests to show you the tea which you may possibly refuse to buy after all. We prefer to ship it to Shanghai, where we can easily find a dozen buyers."

The silk trade of Ningpo is but insignificant, nor do I know of any other natural product or manufacture which would be likely to find a market in Europe, except such unimportant articles as the Ningpo inlaid furniture and carvings, which are often very handsome, and the silk embroideries, to which I have called attention above. The country round Ningpo is well wooded, and it is not impossible that a market may be found for some descriptions of the timber. Box-wood, though not much used as an article of commerce, is reasonably plentiful, especially in gardens, where it is planted as an ornamental tree. It grows to a height of about 12 or 14 feet, but probably if the Chinese knew that there was a demand for it, they would cultivate larger growths. I hope to send some specimens of Ningpo box and other woods to Kew Gardens.

Foreign science, with the exception of gunnery, as exemplified in the

armament of the forts at the mouth of the river, has not made much impression on Ningpo. The submarine cable and the land lines have both alike left us on one side, though there is little doubt that in a year or so we shall have telegraphic communication with Loochow and Shanghai. A short telegraphic line has been set up on the foreign Settlement for police purposes, and a few months ago the Intendant gave orders that this line should be extended to his own office, and that a telephone should be constructed by which he might communicate with the other officials in the city. Unfortunately, the expense of these constructions deterred him at the last moment. Where foreign engineering skill is most required is in the improvement of the canals. A network of these surrounds the city on all sides, and even where there is river communication, artificial canals in many places run parallel to the rivers, giving boatmen the choice of two water-ways. The canals are on a higher level than the river, and boats, in order to pass from the river into the canal, have to be hauled up mud-covered slopes in places as much as 15 feet high. Windlasses of the roughest description, turned by manual power, and wasting an immense amount of force in useless friction, are the means employed in this neighbourhood to drag boats over these "haul overs." Near Hang-chow I am told that water buffaloes take the place of windlasses. Locks, after the European fashion, would save an endless amount of time, expense, and wear and tear of boats.

The only native engineering work of any value which I have noticed in this vicinity is a stone causeway built across the entrance of a valley 20 miles from this, which turns all the waters of a good-sized stream into a canal, instead of allowing them to go to waste in the river.

I am indebted to Mr. Klimwächter, the Commissioner of Customs, for access to his Statistical Tables, and to several resident merchants for much of the information contained in this Report.

(Signed)

CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN, *Consul*.

(A.)—RETURN of the Trade of the Port of Ningpo in Foreign Vessels for the Year 1881.

No. 1.—TOTAL Trade of the Port in Foreign Vessels (excluding Treasure).

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	2,510,391	12	9
Exports	..	..	..	..	1,315,839	15	6
Total	..	..	..	..	3,826,231	8	3

No. 2.—IMPORT and Export of Treasure.

	Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To and from foreign ports .	Nil			Nil			Nil		
To and from native ports ..	406,746	1	9	731,903	8	3	1,138,649	10	0
Total ..	406,746	1	9	731,903	8	3	1,138,649	10	0

No. 3.—DIRECT Trade with Foreign Countries (excluding Treasure).*

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	91,616	9	6
Exports	..	..	..	..	4,600	11	6
Total ..	..	..	..	..	96,217	1	0

* With Hong Kong, Straits Settlements, and Siam only.

No. 4.—Trade with other Treaty Ports (excluding Treasure).

					£	s.	d.
Imports	..	..	..	..	2,418,775	3	3
Exports	..	..	..	..	1,311,239	4	0
Total	..	..	..	..	3,730,014	7	3

No. 5.—RETURN distinguishing the respective Amounts of Foreign and Native Trade in Foreign Vessels with other Treaty Ports, without distinction of Flag, forming the Totals of No. 4.

	Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Foreign	1,923,284	14	6	..	..	..	1,923,284	14	6
Native .	495,490	8	9	1,311,239	4	0	1,806,729	12	9
Total	2,418,775	3	3	1,311,239	4	0	3,730,014	7	3

CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN, *Consul*.

(B.)—RETURN of British Trade for the Year 1881 at the Port of Ningpo.

No. 1.—VALUE of Direct Trade with Great Britain and British Dependencies (excluding Treasure)* under any Flag.

	£	s.	d.
Imports	91,616	9	6
Exports	2,963	5	3
Total	94,579	14	9

* This Return should include the trade with Hong Kong.

No. 2.—VALUE of Direct Trade with Great Britain and British Dependencies (excluding Treasure) under any Flag.

	Imports.			Exports.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
British Isles	Nil			Nil			Nil		
Hong Kong	87,362	12	6	165	0	6	87,527	13	0
India	Nil			Nil			Nil		
Other British Dependencies	4,253	17	0	2,798	4	9	7,052	1	9
Total	91,616	9	6	2,963	5	3	94,579	14	9

No. 3.—RETURN of Trade under British Flag with other Treaty Ports.

	£	s.	d.
Imports	1,032,835	19	9
Exports.. .. .	459,392	16	0
Total	1,492,228	15	9

[Customs' estimate.]

No. 4.—RETURN of Value of Imports of British, Indian, or Colonial origin (excluding Treasure) from other Treaty Ports, carried under any Flag.

	£	s.	d.
Value of imports	1,885,410	1	0

[Rough estimate.]

No. 5.—RETURN of Exports destined for Great Britain, India, or the Colonies, carried to other Treaty Ports under any Flag.

[No Return. Impossible to distinguish.]

No. 6.—RETURN of Import and Export of Treasure from and to Great Britain and British Dependencies.

[No Return.]

(Signed) CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN, *Consul*.

(C.)—SHIPPING RETURN.

BRITISH.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
153	103,287	..	£ 1,032,836	155	103,740	..	£ 459,393	308	207,027	..	£ 1,492,229

FOREIGN.

ENTERED.				CLEARED.				TOTAL ENTERED AND CLEARED.			
Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Number of Crew.	Value of Cargo.
373	225,031	..	£ 1,477,555	367	224,318	..	£ 856,447	740	449,349	..	£ 2,334,002

Total British and Foreign Entered—				Total British and Foreign Cleared—				Total British and Foreign Entered and Cleared—			
Number of vessels	..	..	526	Number of vessels	..	..	522	Number of vessels	..	..	1,048
Tonnage	..	..	328,318	Tonnage	..	..	328,058	Tonnage	..	..	656,376
Number of crew	..	..	..	Number of crew	..	..	..	Number of crew	..	..	..
Value of cargo.	..	..	£2,510,391	Value of cargo	..	..	£1,315,840	Value of cargo	..	..	£3,826,231

CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN, Consul.

(Signed)

PAKHOI.

Report on the Trade of Pakhoi in 1881.

IN 1881 the port of Pakhoi entered on the fifth year of its existence, and we might fairly expect to find in the statistics of its trade evidence on which to augur ill or well of its future. Opened to foreign commerce in April 1877, the immediate results as tabulated at the end of that year were meagre, the gross trade amounting only to a trifle over 4,000*l*. The following year was even more inauspicious, the business done being absolutely *nil*. In 1879 foreign steamers began visiting the port, and gave the first impetus to a trade which since then may be considered as being fairly under weigh, and which has, with certain reservations, continued to increase in a satisfactory ratio.

At the end of this Report will be found General Tables of imports and exports. Here I append a comparative statement of the gross values of the trade of Pakhoi since its opening,

Gross Values of the Trade of Pakhoi, 1877-81.

						£
1877	..	..	..	..	..	4,319
1878	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
1879	..	..	..	..	..	93,787
1880	..	..	..	..	..	496,640
1881	..	..	..	..	..	510,422

The figures for the last three years will, however, have more significance if the amount contributed by opium be considered apart, as set forth in the Table below:—

PROPORTION of Opium to other goods, 1879-81.

			1879.	1880.	1881.
			£	£	£
Opium	..	..	45,817	160,341	117,259
Other goods	..	..	47,970	336,299	393,163

From this it appears that though there was not in 1881 a repetition of the extraordinary upward leap of 1880, still there is recorded an increase of about 17 per cent. in the value of general goods exported and imported.

It must be understood that these figures refer solely to the goods which pay duty at the Imperial Maritime Customs, and it is from the Returns issued by that Office, obligingly placed at my disposition in advance of publication by the Commissioner, that the above and following statistics are taken. From more than one point of view, however, the port of Pakhoi has mercantile peculiarities which render the Customs Returns, though the only available data, no true criterion of the actual trade of the place, whether in foreign goods imported, or in native produce exported to foreign countries. The native shipping is celebrated for its seaworthiness and large carrying powers, and the native ship-owners form a coalition strong enough to compete with no mean success against the superior advantages of carriage by steamer. In 1877, the year in which Pakhoi was opened to foreign trade, Mr. McKean, the Commissioner of Customs, estimated the import and export in native junks to and from Macao at not less than

2,000,000 taels—say, 576,667*l.*—per annum. Though the increase in steamer traffic has doubtless considerably diminished, the annual total still, taking into account the natural growth of trade during the five years which have elapsed, and also the advantages which the provincial Customs officials see fit to grant for their own reasons to traders in native bottoms, I am inclined to the belief that the addition of 200,000*l.* to the gross value of the trade for 1881, mentioned in my first Table, would not result in over-stating the case.

In the matter of opium alone there has been a falling-off of 43,082*l.*, or more than 25 per cent., in the value of the article as imported through the Foreign Customs. This diminution does not imply that the total importation is any the less, but merely that a larger proportion than before has found its way to the port in junks. The provincial Customs authorities have done all in their power to promote the carriage of opium in junks, and to discourage its importation in steamers, and with this end in view they have, during the past year, made large reductions in their Tariff of charges. Thus, opium imported from Macao pays duty at Ma-lau Chow, an island in the immediate neighbourhood of the Portuguese settlement. The tax leviable there has just been reduced by 12 taels per chest. In Pakhoi itself there are three native offices which claim dues from opium—the Native Customs, the *Li-kin* ("War-tax") Office, and the *Hai-jang* ("Coast Defence") Office. These three have simultaneously reduced their charges by 15 per cent. There is, therefore, a considerable saving to be effected by importers of opium in native craft over those who avail themselves of foreign steamers, and accordingly a continually increasing proportion of the total import is diverted from the Foreign Customs, and finds no place in their Returns. I have here only referred to opium, being the article of most individual importance, but I have no doubt that the tactics of the native revenue collectors would be found to extend to other imports as well. The adoption of such expedients, seemingly so opposed to the Imperial interests, may be explained by a statement of the peculiar position occupied by the Province of Kuangtung as regards the collection of Customs revenue. This function is farmed by the Emperor to a specially-deputed Superintendent, residing at Canton, known to foreigners as the *Hoppo*. He contracts to supply Peking with a certain sum per annum, and, as has always been the case with *fermiers généraux*, is left to collect pretty much as he pleases that amount and as much more as he conveniently can. The interest of the Central Government in his proceedings lapses with the payment of the sum specified. The foreign Commissioner of Customs is (like the native Customs authorities) a subordinate of the *Hoppo*, but whereas the revenue collected by the foreign official is strictly accounted for, and must be remitted to Peking in its entirety, the sums contributed by the *Hoppo's* native employés pass through Canton, and the integrity of the amount is less assured. It is therefore to the interest of the *Hoppo* and of his native subordinates that as much trade as practicable should flow their way, and as little as possible the way of the Imperial Customs. In this field local and Imperial interests are antagonistic, and if the latter suffer, who is to complain? We are here on the outskirts of the Empire, and it is a "far cry" to Peking. After all, the Central Government, perhaps, considers the loss scarcely important enough to warrant interference, and the principal loser is the foreign ship-owner, who does not gain his freight, or the foreign merchant whose business with the native trader, and consequent brokerage, are proportionately curtailed.

Foreign trade by foreign merchants is certainly at a disadvantage in Pakhoi. Only one firm has attempted to gain a footing here, and has had to struggle single-handed against the organized opposition of native traders backed by the above-mentioned tactics of native officials. Pakhoi came

into existence as an open port just at the time when native traders all over China were beginning to rival, with a certain amount of success, the foreign merchant on the ground which had long been peculiarly his own, and which he had probably come to consider his by prescriptive right. The China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steam fleet was established by this time on a firm and thriving basis, and was taking a large share in the coast trade, which had formerly been a foreign monopoly. Further extension of their operations to Singapore, and even London, was talked of, and lately found realization in the dispatch of the "Mei-foo" to the Thames, but with what real financial and permanent success the future has yet to show. In short, the Chinaman was thinking of taking his import and export trade into his own hands as far as possible.

A steady adherence to this policy has marked the course of events here. Foreign steamers, indeed, take a preponderant share in the carrying trade; but since November they have been, without exception, in Chinese hands. Up to that date one steamer trading to the port was consigned to the British firm, but by a ruse the local merchants induced the Hong Kong charterers to transfer the agency from the foreign house to native hands. And other causes, besides the "Boycotting" practices of the native traders, have conspired to reduce to a minimum the business of the foreign firm. During the past year the local farmers of the opium revenue devised new forms of impost on the drug, and attempted to enforce payment within the port area, going so far as to seize the article in the very hands of the foreign merchant's employés, and, further, setting a watch at the door of his house, to his own annoyance and the intimidation of his customers. As regards Pakhoi, no settlement determining the illegality of these proceedings has been arrived at, though the question has been referred to Peking; but I understand that in a similar case affecting a German firm in the neighbouring port of Kiungchow the action of the *Li-kin* Office has been condemned by the Central Government. In the meanwhile, the business of the foreign firm in opium here is practically suspended.

In another direction there has also been cause of complaint and of reference to Peking, and this in a matter more nearly affecting the extension of British trade and the future of Pakhoi.

A glance at the map of China will show that this port is most favourably situated for turning to profit the trading possibilities of the Province of Kuang-si. Possessing four routes in the direction of Nan-ning, and one towards Yü-lin, it is the natural channel through which to drain a vast tract of country, the inland waters of Kuang-si being very extensively available for navigation. I am assured that the people of that province are most eager for extended trade, especially in the way of cottons and cotton yarn, while, on their part, they are prepared to supply cassia lignea and cassia-leaf oil in return. The one desideratum to insure a large and mutually lucrative trade is that goods conveyed into the interior and from the interior by or for foreign merchants shall not be liable to vexatious and arbitrary taxation on the road, and this immunity was provided by Treaty. When, therefore, in August last the *Li-kin* officials in the Department of Yü-lin, Kuang-si, suddenly demanded local duties on goods duly protected by transit passes, and refused, when remonstrated with, to retreat from the position they had taken up, the transit trade with Kuang-si, which had given prospects of considerable development, received a check from which it will only recover when these obstructive officials have been brought to task and forced to pay due observance to their country's Treaties. In this transit pass question there is this curious anomaly, that whereas obstacles are placed in the way of trade between this port and Kuei-lin Fu, the capital of Kuang-si,

which is distant about 250 miles as the crow flies, transit trade is firmly established between Kuei-lin and Hankow, a distance of more than 400 miles. In grey shirtings alone over 32 000 pieces were sent under transit pass from the Yangtze port to the capital of Kuang-si in 1880. If the route from Pakhoi were open, and free from illegal restrictions, it is plain there would be a saving in carriage of not only the 150 miles inland journey, but of all the navigation to Shanghai, and thence up the river to Hankow.

This non-recognition of transit passes on the part of officials inland, except by the *ultima ratio* of compulsion, is no new phase; it has probably been, at some period or other, an event in the history of many of the open ports. One is almost tempted to the belief that our translators of the Tien-tsin Treaty must have used very obscure terms in wording the Chinese version of Article XXVIII, so systematically do native officials affect to misunderstand its provisions when first confronted with them. Still, as the epoch during which transit passes are unfamiliar and ignored has, sooner or later, passed in the case of other ports, there is reason to hope that Pakhoi will one day be favoured with a similar consummation; and when the current of trade flows freely the port will doubtless offer greater attractions to foreign merchants, and with a larger influx of these the native coalition will find the work of eliminating the European element a task beyond their strength.

Pakhoi has not yet, in point of fact, acquired the status of an independent port; it is, as it were, merely a branch of Hong Kong; it has no commercial relations of consequence with any other place; but what trade there is has, I believe, the potentiality of such further development as would eventually warrant a more direct communication with Great Britain and India. The latter country especially is strongly interested in the extension of trade in this direction, as it is for Indian opium, Indian cottons, and Indian cotton yarn that the greatest demand exists in Kuang-si; consequently, every day that the present obstruction to the transit trade continues means so much loss to the mercantile interests of our Eastern possession.

In conclusion, I append comparative Tables for the past three years of the chief items of import and export, of the Customs revenue, and of shipping. The amount of trade in 1877 was so trifling that it is of no comparative value, and in 1878 the business done was *nil*.

COMPARATIVE Table of the principal Imports, 1879-81.

				1879.	1880.	1881.
Shirtings, grey ..	Pieces	..	..	..	600	223
" white ..	..	..	..	..	360	346
T-cloths ..	..	..	..	3,725	73,496	79,990
Drills, American ..	..	..	..	..	..	95
" English ..	..	..	..	..	..	105
Cambrics and muslins ..	..	..	..	200	800	480
Broad cloth ..	..	..	..	..	2	88
Long ells ..	..	..	..	740	7,242	6,614
Cotton yarn ..	Cwt.	..	..	746	19,030	11,773
" raw ..	..	..	..	342	10,393	19,079
Iron, nail-rod ..	..	..	..	..	1,295	2,990
Steel ..	..	..	..	7	198	732
Matches ..	Gross	..	..	118	16,005	23,089
Needles ..	Mille	..	..	571	32,521	60,796
Flour ..	Cwt.	..	..	..	971	1,833

Shirtings, both grey and white, have steadily fallen off; there were 800 pieces of the grey and 360 of the white imported in 1877; cambrics and muslins also show a decrease as compared with the previous year, and there is a shortcoming in long ells and cotton yarn also. On the other hand, T-cloths, of which only 1,475 pieces appear in the Returns for 1877, have increased to nearly 80,000, and raw cotton is better by almost 90 per cent. There is a noticeable improvement under the head of needles and matches (of the Swedish "safety" kind now almost universal in China); the imports of iron and steel are also advancing in importance.

COMPARATIVE Table of principal Exports, 1879-81.

				1879.	1880.	1881.
Star aniseed	..	Cwt.	..	3,200	10,589	3,499
Oil of aniseed	..	"	..	458	138	777
Cassia lignea	..	"	..	3,349	25	2,083
" leaf oil	..	"	..	44	877	695
Ground-nut cakes	..	"	..	..	45,988	80,720
Liquid indigo	..	"	..	781	32,446	52,635
Paper	..	"	..	247	5,132	3,997
Sugar, brown	..	"	..	..	2,073	2,432
" white	..	"	..	70	7,844	9,028
Hides	..	"	..	..	1,091	4,919
Bags, straw	..	Pieces	..	..	13,432	82,980

Though a decrease will be observed in star aniseed, cassia-leaf oil, and paper, the general increase is satisfactory, and is most noticeable in the case of ground-nut cakes, indigo, and straw bags. The export of cassia lignea, which sank to a mere fraction in 1880, is showing signs of recovery, and there is a steady forward movement in sugar. As regards this article, I am assured that the musters brought to Pakhoi are of very fair quality, though from the rudeness of the refining apparatus employed, the sugar, when brought in bulk, is not always uniform in character, nor does it invariably correspond with the sample throughout. A quantity of this sugar has been sent to Hong Kong and tested at the Sugar Refinery, the result being highly satisfactory as to the quality of the hearticle. It has been pronounced very suitable for brewery purposes, and as there is a large production in this neighbourhood and in the Leichow Peninsula, the trade in sugar might be extensively developed.

COMPARATIVE Table of Customs Revenue, 1879-81.

						£
1879	..	..	..	..	..	5,813
1880	..	..	..	..	..	23,954
1881	..	..	..	..	..	23,035

The decrease in revenue for the last year is entirely attributable to the diminution in the amount of opium imported in foreign vessels; the decrease in respect to opium alone amounted to about 3,000*l.*, but was counterbalanced by the increased import of other goods.

COMPARATIVE Table of Shipping, 1879-81.

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	No. of Trips.	Tonnage.	No. of Trips.	Tonnage.	No. of Trips.	Tonnage.
British	10	3,180	62	19,612	110	37,262
Foreign	14	3,934	120	49,152	80	36,814
Chinese (foreign built) ..	4	3,052	28	18,672	28	9,566

These vessels are all steamers; no sailing-ships have yet visited Pakhoi. There is a notable increase in the number and tonnage of British vessels as compared with 1880, partly ascribable to the circumstance that one of the foreign steamers was registered at Hong Kong as a British vessel in September, and added considerably to the total British tonnage by her subsequent trips.

G. M. H. PLAYFAIR, *Acting Consul.*

Pakhoi, February 14, 1882.

(Table 1.)—IMPORTS (Foreign).

		Quantity.	Value.
Opium—			£
Malwa	Cwt. ..	$\frac{1}{18}$	10
Patna	" ..	25	2,547
Benares	" ..	1,188	114,702
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	223	101
" white	" ..	346	141
T-cloths	" ..	79,990	33,865
Drills, American	" ..	95	48
" English	" ..	105	53
Chintzes	" ..	280	96
Cambrics and muslins	" ..	480	742
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ..	1,521	373
Cotton yarn	Cwt. ..	11,773	64,941
Woollen goods—			
Blankets	Pairs ..	412	464
Cloth, broad and medium	Pieces ..	88	335
Long ells	" ..	6,614	11,057
Lustres	" ..	176	200
Lastings	" ..	215	565
Woollen goods, unclassified .. .. .	" ..	..	167
Metals—			
Iron, nail-rods	Cwt. ..	2,990	1,413
" old	" ..	224	53
Lead, in pigs	" ..	274	244
Quicksilver	" ..	3	40
Steel	" ..	732	608
Sundries—			
Clocks	Pieces ..	258	188
Cotton, raw Indian	Cwt. ..	19,079	50,834
Dye stuff	" ..	438	1,278
Betel-nuts	" ..	2,774	2,279
Bicho-de-mar	" ..	387	1,248
Medicines	" ..	132	203
Raisins	" ..	204	210
Seaweed	" ..	121	148
Silk and cotton mixture	" ..	20	485
Starch	" ..	377	182
Umbrellas, silk	Pieces ..	66	31
" cotton	" ..	1,185	173
" alpaca	" ..	2,592	394
Varnish	Cwt. ..	77	159
Flour	" ..	1,833	994
Ginseng, American, clarified	" ..	10	520
" Corean and Japanese	" ..	$\frac{1}{2}$	149
Isinglass	" ..	107	331
Lamps	Pieces ..	1,551	294
Matches	Gross ..	23,089	2,008
Needles	Mille ..	60,796	2,548
Pepper	Cwt. ..	1,000	1,778
Rice, Annam	" ..	4,027	1,016
Sandal-wood	" ..	620	636
Miscellaneous, unclassified .. .. .	" ..	..	3,035
			303,386

(Signed) G. M. H. PLAYFAIR, Acting Consul.
Pakhoi, February 14, 1882.

('Table 2.)—IMPORTS (Native).

						Quantity.	Value.
							£
Almonds .. ..	..	..	..	Cwt.	..	46	185
Betel-nuts .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	2,220	3,547
Cotton, raw .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	4,204	12,611
Dates .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	1,529	1,180
Fungus .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	69	234
Ginseng .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	80	1,213
Hemp .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	193	277
Lily-flower, dried ..	..	..	..	"	..	1,493	2,012
Liquorice .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	232	245
Medicines .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	2,188	4,386
Nankeens .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	31	351
Persimmons .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	158	150
Sharks' fins .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	69	1,654
Silk piece-goods .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	2	302
Tobacco, prepared ..	..	..	..	"	..	176	710
Vermicelli .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	1,769	2,221
Vermilion .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	60	704
Wax, white .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	272	3,235
Sundries, unenumerated ..	..	..	..	"	..	..	1,967
							37,184

(Signed) G. M. H. PLAYFAIR, *Acting Consul.**Pakhoi, February 14, 1882.*

('Table 3.)—NATIVE EXPORTS.

						Quantity.	Value.
							£
Aniseed, star .. ..	..	..	..	Cwt.	..	3,499	9,933
" broken .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	226	137
Bags, straw .. ..	..	..	..	Pieces	..	82,980	363
Cassia lignea .. ..	..	..	..	Cwt.	..	2,083	1,981
" refuse .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	48	79
" buds .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	12	20
Cuttle-fish .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	4,201	14,184
Fire crackers .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	285	378
Fish, dried .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	796	2,129
Glue, cow .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	1,255	1,515
Ground-nut cakes .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	80,720	18,277
Hides, buffalo and cow ..	..	..	..	"	..	4,919	8,567
Horns, ditto .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	848	1,046
Indigo, liquid .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	52,635	49,937
Leather .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	445	1,134
Medicines .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	862	2,362
Nutgalls .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	154	332
Oil, aniseed .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	777	28,280
" cassia-leaf .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	695	8,612
Paper, second quality ..	..	..	..	"	..	3,997	5,723
Prawns, dried .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	576	2,434
Sugar, brown .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	2,423	1,447
" white .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	9,028	8,543
Tallow, animal .. ..	..	..	..	"	..	905	1,236
Sundries, unenumerated ..	..	..	..	"	..	..	1,025
							169,674

(Signed) G. M. H. PLAYFAIR, *Acting Consul.**Pakhoi, February 14, 1882.*

TAIWAN.

Report on the Trade of Taiwan for the Year 1881.

THE total value of the gross foreign trade in the Taiwan Consular district during the year 1881 was 1,181,343*l.*, as against 1,313,097*l.* in 1880

This shows a decrease of 131,754*l.* in the gross trade of the year I am about to pass under review.

This decrease is mainly to be accounted for by the partial failure of the sugar crop, as was predicted in my last year's Report; and although the trade is less in value than that of the preceding year, it is much higher than that of any of the previous years, and compares favourably with them. Thus, it appears that the prospects of the South Formosa ports are good, and that the business done in them is steadily increasing.

SHIPPING.

The tonnage of the foreign vessels employed in carrying on the trade of the port exceeded that of 1880 by 4,558 tons. This carrying trade was more largely shared by British vessels than in 1880.

German shipping also held its own, and shows a slight increase.

The tonnage of British vessels was 17,963 tons in excess of the preceding year; this excess was in the tonnage of steamers, which amounted to 21,126 tons more than in 1880, while there was a decrease in sailing vessels of 3,357 tons. German tonnage also shows an increase of 343 tons, eight German steamers having visited the port this year, while there was only one the preceding year.

American tonnage, on the other hand, shows a decrease of 10,730 tons.

The tonnage of the vessels of other nationalities remained stationary, but one French vessel, of 309 tons, visited the port; there were none of that nationality the preceding year.

One British steamer took a cargo of sugar direct to the United Kingdom, while two others went to Yokohama. Steamers for Shanghai called in regularly and frequently during the sugar season; and Messrs. Dircks and Co., a German firm, had a steamer running regularly between Taiwanfoo, Hong Kong, Swatow, and Amoy, during the second half of the year.

No steamers of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company visited this Consular district in 1881.

IMPORTS.

The net imports during the year 1881 amounted to 662,852*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*, showing an increase of 97,499*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* over the net imports of 1880.

This increase was made up as follows—

			Taels.	£	s.	d.
Opium, increase of ..	..	..	88,160	=	25,346	0 0
Metals „ ..	..	..	365		104	18 9
Sundries „ ..	..	..	3,223		926	12 3
Native imports, increase of ..	..	..	302,700		87,026	5 0
Total .. ..	..	..	394,448		113,403	16 0

There was a decrease in—

				Taels.	£	s.	d.
Cotton goods of	..	..	..	40,710	=	11,704	2 6
Woollen	„	..	..	14,609		4,200	1 9
Total	..	..	..	55,319		15,904	4 3

leaving a net increase of 339,129 taels, or 97,499*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*, in the imports of 1881.

The increase in the import of opium during the past year was chiefly made up in Persian and Turkey opium, there being 273 chests more of the former, and 232 more of the latter, imported than in the previous year. There were also 25 more chests of Patna imported.

No Malwa was imported during 1881, and the decrease in Benares was 416 chests.

I cannot learn that any native opium was imported in 1881.

Some 304 piculs of sesamum-seed cake, valued at 4,734 taels, or 1,361*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, were imported in 1881. This article was extensively used in the adulteration of opium, 13 lbs. of sesamum-seed cake being added to every picul (133½ lbs.) of opium, which was then palmed off as pure opium. Owing chiefly to the light colour of Persian opium, the sesamum-seed was more readily mixed with that, than with other kinds.

The cost of this sesamum-seed cake, with all charges paid, was about 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb., whereas the cost of the Persian opium was 18*s.* 3*d.* per lb.

The increase in the import of sundries was chiefly in such articles as bêche-de-mer, lamps, kerosine, and matches.

NATIVE IMPORTS.

These show the greatest increase in the import trade, and this increase does not appear to have been confined to any particular article, but to have been very general. Rice was most largely imported in the autumn, to make good the failure of South Formosa crops, which were destroyed by gales and typhoons.

The great decrease in cotton and woollen goods is mainly due to the short sugar crop; for in those years that the export of sugar was large there was a correspondingly large trade done in these articles.

EXPORTS.

The net exports during 1881 amounted to 504,193*l.* 7*s.*, showing a decrease of 232,116*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* as compared with 1880.

This decrease was made up as follows:—

				Taels.	£	s.	d.
Brown sugar	..	..	..	638,276	=	183,504	7 0
White „	..	..	..	165,452		47,567	9 0
Lungngans	..	..	..	14,803		4,255	17 3
Sundries..	..	..	..	15,155		4,357	1 3
Total	..	..	..	833,686		239,684	14 6

There was, however, an increase in—

				Taels.	£	s.	d.
Turmeric of	..	..	..	16,191	=	4,654	18 3
Hemp ..	..	..	..	10,133		2,913	4 9
Total	..	..	..	26,324		7,568	3 0

thus leaving a net decrease during the year of 807,362 taels, or 232,116*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*

Although the export of brown sugar was some 16,609 tons less than in 1880, yet it is the largest export as compared with other years, except that of 1876; and there is little doubt but that it will still go on increasing, much more land being yearly cleared, and cultivated with the cane. The short crop in 1881, and, I am afraid, the still smaller crop that there will be this year, is solely due to climatic influences.

The chief markets for the Takow sugar are Japan, London, and Australia; the Taiwanfoo sugar going chiefly to the northern ports of China. The export to London last year amounted to 4,162 tons, as against 9,038 tons of the preceding year.

This sugar is at present of a very low quality, being almost the very lowest class. It will doubtless become a better quality, and will fetch a higher price, when more care and more scientific methods are used to express the juice from the cane. In England it is used chiefly in breweries, in the manufacture of patent food for cattle, and for mixing with other sugars.

The export of white sugar was 1,809 tons less than the preceding year.

RE-EXPORTS.

There was an increase of 4,978 taels, or 1,431*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, in the value of re-exports as compared with last year.

This increase was in opium, chiefly Persian of a low quality, which was found to be unsaleable.

Woollen goods also participated to some extent in this increase.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The great decrease in the trade of the Southern Formosa ports, for 1881, was in its great staple, sugar. This was due to the severe typhoons in the autumn of 1880, which greatly damaged the crops. I do not think that this decrease is likely to be a permanent one, for large tracts of land are being continually cleared, and brought under sugar cultivation.

The increase in the import trade, although considerable, did not affect articles of British growth or manufacture. The large increase in opium was not in Indian opium, but in Turkey and Persian, which are driving Benares, Malwa, and Patna out of the market.

The great decrease in the import of cotton and woollen goods was mainly due to the failure of the sugar crops, farmers and labourers having no surplus money to expend on better clothing, which by them is looked upon as a luxury. The tolerably large stock held over from the preceding year had, also, somewhat to do with the falling-off in the import of these articles.

As the population of the island increases, and as more land is brought under cultivation, so will the consumption of our cottons and woollens most probably increase.

The opium trade was, to a small extent, interfered with by the adulteration of opium with sesamum-seed cake. The authorities endeavoured to put a stop to this by issuing a Proclamation threatening with punishment those found guilty of such practices. This was the means of stopping it for a time, but it is, I believe, still secretly carried on, though in a much less degree than formerly.

The sale of opium for the present year is likely to be lessened by the imposition of a higher rate of duty. On the 30th December the duty on Benares opium was raised to 96 taels (27*l.* 12*s.*) per chest, and on Persian opium to 80 taels (23*l.*); being an increase of 41 *t.* 6 *m.*

(11*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*) per chest on Benares, and 52 t. 8 in. (15*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*) per chest on Persian.

The carrying trade of the district, it is encouraging to report, was very largely shared in by British ships.

Two new firms have been established here during the past year. One, a British firm, Messrs. Brown and Co., had formerly a house here, but closed it some years ago. This firm are also agents for a large American house. The other firm is a German one, a branch house of Messrs. Dircks and Co., of Swatow. They have taken over the business of another German firm, J. Mannich and Co., long established here. Messrs. Dircks and Co.'s business is more extended than that of their predecessors: one or two steamers, belonging to the firm, running frequently between Taiwan and Swatow.

The Takow bar and harbour are not yet dredged, and there does not appear to be any likelihood of this work being carried out at an early date. This is to a great extent materially affecting the prospects of Takow as a place of residence. The regular trading steamers never visit it, and during the south-west monsoon the place is quite deserted, the mercantile agents spending the greater part of their time at Anping, the port of Taiwanfoo.

The place selected at Anping by foreigners to build their residences and warehouses upon was a few years ago nothing more than a mud flat, covered at high water, situated directly opposite the old Dutch fort of Zealandia.

Two centuries or more ago this mud flat was a navigable arm of the sea, with sufficient depth of water to float the richly-laden argosies of the Dutch East-India Company. Every firm has its residence, or godown, built there, and the Customs have an office and examination shed built upon it. Within the past year a bund, 800 feet long and 14 feet wide, was constructed, at a cost of 2,165 dollars, of which 960 dollars were subscribed by the Chinese authorities.

All the imports of the district are now landed at Anping; goods required for consumption in Takow being taken down by a small steamer.

The port of Anping is nothing more than an open roadstead, most dangerous and difficult of access during the south-west monsoon. During that season steamers are frequently unable to land their cargoes for weeks, and communication with the mainland is often interrupted for a long time, a bar rendered almost impassable by the slightest south-west wind making communication with the steamers in the roadstead highly hazardous and dangerous.

Yet with all this the merchants prefer to make Anping their headquarters to Takow, as, on the arrival of steamers, they get their correspondence at once, and are enabled to send their replies by the same steamer; whereas a merchant living at Takow, 28 miles distant, misses that steamer, and has to wait till the next, and in summer he may not get a chance of replying to his constituents for weeks. The prospects of Takow are thus for the time under a cloud, yet, if the authorities would only dredge the bar, deepen the harbour, and make a good road or a canal to Taiwanfoo, the steamers might possibly return to Takow, and it would become a great commercial emporium, and a harbour of refuge easily accessible at all seasons of the year.

I fear, however, that, at least for years to come, nothing will be done, and once the merchants expend large sums for houses and godowns at Anping, it will be difficult to get them to remove back quickly to Takow.

There must, however, always be a trade in sugar at Takow, which gives employment yearly to fifty or sixty foreign vessels. The sugar exported last year from Takow was 23,000 tons, valued at 227,254*l.*

Owing to the greater care used in preparing it for the market, Takow sugar will always command a higher price than Taiwanfoo sugar, which is hardly saleable in the Japanese market.

The past year was remarkable for the numerous gales and typhoons, which did much damage to the rice and sweet potato crops; the sugar crop has also much suffered. In many parts of the district the people were driven to great straits, and much rice had to be imported. These gales were felt most severely at the Pescadores, a group of islands some 35 miles distant from Taiwanfoo. Every crop serving for food for man or beast was destroyed, and, at one time, so great was the distress prevailing there that fathers came to Taiwan with their children, offering them for sale in order to supply themselves with the necessities of life. Subscriptions for the purchase of rice, potatoes, and provender were set on foot, and liberally responded to, and Government vessels were freighted and sent over at once to supply the wants of the starving inhabitants.

Earthquakes were very frequent during the past year. There were some seven shocks in all, but the most violent were those of the 17th June and 4th December. Their direction was from north-east to south-west.

This island is very subject to earthquakes, but they are not usually attended with much damage. The last severe earthquake here was on the 8th June, 1862, when some fifty houses were destroyed, and some 300 Chinese buried in the ruins. There were no foreign houses built here at that time.

Missionary work has been quietly carried on by the missionary bodies here. The Presbyterian Mission, in the spring of 1881, established another dispensary in the suburbs of Taiwanfoo, which is doing much good. In the city they have a large hospital, in which a very considerable number of Chinese are treated. There is another large hospital at Takow, where Chinese are treated by the resident local doctor, a non-missionary. This hospital has also done much good to the poor of the neighbouring districts. It is pleasing to be able to state that the Chinese authorities have willingly contributed large sums towards the expenses of both these establishments.

A new lighthouse is in the course of erection at the South Cape, but will not, I think, be finished before the autumn. A small light is, however, now exhibited there. A light has also been placed on Fort Zealandia, which is visible at sea for a long distance in every direction.

The plant, engines, and carriages of the Woosung Railway are still stored in Taiwanfoo, and are now very nearly useless. The wooden sleepers are being gradually eaten away by the white ants, the engines and rails are thickly covered with rust, and the carriages are rotting and spoiling.

The telegraph and telephone are, however, still in good working order.

There is an attempt on the part of the Governor of Fookien to improve the communications existing between the north and south of the island. At a place called Tyka, half-way between Taiwanfoo and Tamsui, there are some nine streams, which in summer are most dangerous to cross, and many lives are said to be yearly lost there.

The Governor is trying to drain the marshes in the neighbourhood and to construct a series of embankments, which are to be connected by means of suspension bridges, but the work appears to offer inconceivable difficulties, and it seems now to be questioned if it can be accomplished without foreign aid. The cost of the work will be, it is said by some, over 800,000 dollars, while others estimate it at a much higher sum.

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul*.

British Consulate, Taiwan, February 28, 1882.

The Tables appended to this Report are :—

1. Comparative Statement of Trade, 1876-81.
2. Foreign Imports.
3. Native Imports.
4. Exports.
5. Re-exports.
6. Table showing Number and Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared under each flag.
7. Comparative Table, showing Export of Sugar, 1876-81.
8. Comparative Table, showing Import of Opium, 1876-81.
9. Import and Export of Treasure.

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 1.)—COMPARATIVE Statement of Trade, &c., for the Years 18 to 1881.

Years.	Value of the Trade.				Treasure.		Shipping.	
	Net Imports (Native and Foreign, less Re-exports).	Exports (not including Re-exports).	Total Imports and Exports.	Re- Exports.	Imported.	Exported.	Tonnage Entered.	Tonnage Cleared.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Tons.	Tons.
1876 ...	1,282,576	1,415,714	2,698,320	19,007	473,979	437,015	62,351	63,258
1877 ...	1,512,244	1,325,470	2,837,714	80,914	368,427	455,318	42,440	42,021
1878 ...	1,372,660	1,120,723	2,493,383	77,818	197,410	547,372	38,012	36,897
1879 ...	1,711,609	2,039,416	3,750,925	56,011	663,177	627,050	52,183	52,189
1880 ...	1,966,466	2,561,078	4,527,544	19,876	914,125	471,746	59,046	60,374
1881 ...	2,305,595	1,753,716	4,059,311	24,854	350,061	762,208	61,861	62,016

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 2.)—NET Total Imports of Foreign Goods for the Year 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Opium—			
Benares	Piculs ..	1,560 09	596,843
Patna	" ..	74 40	29,630
Persian	" ..	1,814 84	734,910
Turkey	" ..	289 39	123,270
Cotton goods—			
Shirtings, grey, plain	Pieces ..	14,099	22,209
" white	" ..	9,567	22,075
" dyed	" ..	1,116	3,002
" " spotted and brocaded.	" ..	710	1,739
T-cloths	" ..	8,400	10,775
Drills	" ..	1,680	3,424
Chintzes	" ..	439	603
Turkey red cloths	" ..	3,458	5,871
Cambrics and muslins	" ..	2,188	1,910
Linen, coarse	" ..	88	369
Unclassed	" ..	728	502
Handkerchiefs	Dozens ..	535	334
Thread	Piculs ..	27 19	1,422

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Woollen goods—			
Blankets.	Pairs ..	690½	2,074
Camlets, English	Pieces ..	3,256	39,891
Lastings	" ..	939	9,028
Long ells.	" ..	1,030	6,595
Spanish stripes	" ..	132	1,605
Lustres and Orleans	" ..	511	2,010
Cloth, habit, broad, and medium ..	" ..	402	8,271
Cassimeres	" ..	47	517
Flannels	" ..	85	1,043
Woollen goods, unclassified	" ..	144	814
Woollen and cotton mixtures	" ..	3	28
Woollen braid	Boxes ..	1,112	1,012
Metals—			
Iron, nail rod	Piculs ..	1,356 83	4,097
" old	" ..	1,176 84	1,797
Lead, in pigs	" ..	422 40	2,250
Tin, in slabs	" ..	20 04	306
" in plates	" ..	93 54	440
Quicksilver	" ..	12 32	617
Steel	" ..	44 65	236
Sundries—			
Bêche-de-mer, black	" ..	63 54	2,305
" white	" ..	97 63	1,465
Birds' nests, 2nd and 3rd qualities ..	" ..	2 02	1,547
Buttons, brass	Gross ..	495	353
Camphor, Baroos, clean and refuse ..	Piculs ..	0 73	1,307
Cardamums, inferior and superior ..	" ..	21 91	707
Clocks	Pieces ..	193	505
Cloth, cotton, Japan	" ..	3,046	1,209
Cloves	Piculs ..	20 85	534
Cuttle fish	" ..	364 65	4,838
Dye	Bottles ..	5,151	955
Flints	Piculs ..	1,517 37	1,918
Flour	" ..	4,821 18	12,923
Ginseng, American, clarified	" ..	30 17	8,320
" " crude	" ..	4 39	613
" Corean, 2nd quality	" ..	1 57	2,115
Isinglass.	" ..	26 08	895
Lacquered ware	" ..	11 39	455
Lamps	Pieces ..	2,001	847
Mangrove bark	Piculs ..	1,231 54	1,128
Matches	Gross ..	6,675	2,688
Mushrooms	Piculs ..	49 79	1,614
Oil, kerosine	Gallons ..	81,120	14,287
Pepper, black and white	Piculs ..	159 45	1,325
Raisins	" ..	253 57	1,030
Rice	" ..	6,060 12	9,533
Rugs	Pieces ..	204	333
Sandal wood	Piculs ..	455 14	2,018
Shell fish	" ..	180 56	2,118
Towels .. ..	" ..	..	..
Umbrellas, alpaca and silk	Pieces ..	1,319	929
Window glass	Boxes ..	178	465
Wood, Garroo	Piculs ..	4 61	567
Sundries, unenumerated	Value ..	..	5,796
Total .. ..	..	..	1,779,051

1,779,051 H. taels, equal to 511,477l. 3s. 3d. at 5s. 9d.

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, Consul.

(No. 3.)—NET Total Imports of Native Produce for the Year 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Aniseed, star	Piculs ..	74 52	1,024
Bags, hemp	Pieces ..	223,051	7,583
„ mat and straw.. ..	„ ..	568,190	19,076
Beans and peas	Piculs ..	17,226 14	32,703
Bone and horn ware.. ..	„ ..	5 71	572
Brass buttons	„ ..	36 71	2,128
„ pipes	Pieces ..	1,429	802
„ ware.. .. .	Piculs ..	46 18	1,496
„ wire.. .. .	„ ..	14 97	558
Bricks and tiles	Pieces ..	665,363	3,309
Cassia lignea	Piculs ..	77 23	699
„ twigs	„ ..	107 99	535
China root.. .. .	„ ..	78 51	702
Coal	Tons ..	267,467	1,393
Cotton, raw	Piculs ..	46 03	597
Crackers, fireworks	„ ..	50 66	750
Dates, black and red	„ ..	261 26	1,072
Fans, paper	Pieces ..	19,793	982
„ silk and palm-leaf	„ ..	15,425	952
Fish, dried and salt	Piculs ..	677 21	2,816
Fungus	„ ..	124 38	3,246
Ginseng, native	„ ..	17 17	1,808
Glass or vitrified ware	„ ..	129 60	3,604
Grass cloth, coarse and fine	„ ..	145 66	7,266
Ironware	„ ..	1,452 59	7,226
Jadestone bangles	Pairs ..	3,989	5,263
Lamps	Pieces ..	9,072	1,826
Lead, red and white	Piculs ..	121 30	934
Lily flowers, dried	„ ..	556 32	5,005
„ seeds or lotus nuts	„ ..	77 09	1,396
Medicines	„ ..	1,743 37	13,795
Melon seeds	„ ..	629 54	3,159
Mirrors with frames	Pieces ..	12,905	847
Nankeen and native cotton cloths	Piculs ..	49 49	2,241
Oil, bean	„ ..	2,071 17	11,767
„ ground-nut	„ ..	2,194 22	12,033
Paper, 1st quality	„ ..	44 21	832
Prawns, dried	„ ..	459 84	4,597
Rice	„ ..	163,267 01	248,050
Safflower	„ ..	28 76	1,726
Samshu	„ ..	226 43	679
Sesamum-seed cake	„ ..	304 15	4,734
Shoes, satin and cotton	Pairs ..	1,394	926
Silk ribbons and thread	Piculs ..	13 27	3,962
„ piece-goods	„ ..	11 32	5,613
„ caps	Pieces ..	4,072	1,093
„ and cotton mixtures	Piculs ..	12 45	3,202
Tallow, animal	„ ..	300 06	3,159
Tobacco, prepared	„ ..	1,802 96	27,165
Vermicelli	„ ..	561 62	3,800
Wax, white	„ ..	90 56	6,655
Wheat	„ ..	9,620 35	14,999
Woollen and cotton mixtures	Pieces ..	16,550	15,705
Sundries, unenumerated	Value ..	..	18,482
Total .. .. .	.. ..	..	526,544

526,544 H. taels, equal to 151,381*l.* 8*s.* at 5*s.* 9*d.*

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 4.)—EXPORTS of Native Produce during 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.	Totals.
			H. taels.	H. taels.
To foreign countries—				
Sugar, brown	Piculs ..	399,410 68	835,621	
„ white	„ ..	1,077 80	4,730	
Turmeric	„ ..	980 60	2,905	
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	18	843,274
To Hong Kong (destination uncertain)—				
Bamboo-shoots	Piculs ..	284 60	1,320	
Hemp	„ ..	45 90	601	
„ skin	„ ..	1,235 80	2,046	
Lung-ngans, dried	„ ..	47 00	87	
„ without the stone ..	„ ..	155 88	676	
Sugar, brown	„ ..	61,440 25	131,305	
„ white	„ ..	15,657 37	68,839	
Turmeric	„ ..	662 75	1,922	
Wax, white	„ ..	2 86	175	
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	415	207,386
To Chinese ports—				
Fish roe	Piculs ..	24 65	313	
Hemp	„ ..	967 43	12,284	
„ skin	„ ..	134 04	267	
„ thread	„ ..	39 48	670	
Lung-ngans, dried	„ ..	373 65	727	
„ without the stone ..	„ ..	388 82	1,710	
Rattans	„ ..	61 36	123	
Sharks' fins, white	„ ..	6 39	237	
Sugar, brown	„ ..	257,733 60	548,829	
„ white	„ ..	19,398 05	86,295	
Turmeric	„ ..	17,654 42	50,272	
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Value ..	..	1,329	690,459
Total .. ..	..	..	..	1,753,716

1,753,716 H. taels, equal to 504,193*l.* 7*s.* at 5*s.* 9*d.*

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 5.)—RE-EXPORTS during 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.	Total.
			Taels.	Taels.
Of foreign goods—				
Opium—				
Benares	Piculs ..	2 40	850	
Persian	„ ..	41 53	18,084	
Turkey	„ ..	4 08	1,772	20,706
Cotton goods—				
Chintzes	Pieces ..	20	24	
Unclassed	„ ..	60	77	101
Woollen goods—				
Camlets	„ ..	70	854	
Long ells	„ ..	133	851	
Spanish stripes ..	„ ..	4	48	
Lustres, &c.	„ ..	110	433	
Braid	Boxes ..	20	20	2,206
Sundries—				
Mushrooms	Piculs ..	1 60	48	48
Total re-exports of foreign goods .	Value ..	..	..	23,061
Of Chinese produce—				
(a.) Native imports re-exported to Chinese ports—				
Fish, dried and salt	Piculs ..	7	28	
Wheat	„ ..	794 90	1,232	
(b.) Native imports re-exported to foreign countries and Hong Kong—				
Wax, white	„ ..	5 76	518	
Sundries	Value ..	..	15	1,793
Net total re-exports of foreign goods and native produce .. ..	„ ..	..	..	24,854

24,854 taels, equal to 7,145*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* at 5*s.* 9*d.*

(Signed)

GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 6.)—Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared under each Flag during 1881.

Flag.	Entered.						Cleared.						Total Entered and Cleared.							
	Sailing.			Steamers.			Total.			Sailing.					Steamers.			Total.		
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
British..	32	11,039	53	26,880	85	37,919	33	11,338	53	26,880	86	38,218	171	76,137						
American	3	1,015	..	..	3	1,015	3	1,015	..	..	3	1,015	6	2,030		
German	55	16,636	8	4,038	64	20,674	55	16,492	8	4,038	63	20,530	127	41,204						
French	1	309	..	..	1	309	1	309	..	..	1	309	2	618		
Danish..	5	1,235	..	..	5	1,235	5	1,235	..	..	5	1,235	10	2,470		
Dutch ..	1	263	..	..	1	263	1	263	..	..	1	263	2	526		
Swedish and Norwegian	2	446	..	..	2	446	2	446	..	..	2	446	4	892		
Total ..	100	30,943	61	30,918	161	61,861	100	31,098	61	30,918	161	62,016	322	123,877						

TAIWAN.

111

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, Consul.

(No. 7.)—COMPARATIVE Table showing the Export of Brown Sugar for the Years 1876 to 1881.

Years.	Tien-tsin.	Chefoo.	Newchwang.	Shanghai.	Ningpo.	Foochow.	Amoy.	Swatow.	Total to Coast Ports.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
1876	26,428	233,799	16,340	60,023	8,087	...	17,754	...	362,031
1877	35,918	91,442	...	8,566	2,594	...	5,561	...	144,101
1878	15,995	117,926	2,107	18,208	3,746	...	1,034	...	159,016
1879	35,487	159,984	4,850	62,225	1,947	...	5,922	...	270,415
1880	41,025	127,167	7,486	64,909	...	13	395	...	244,995
1881	62,322	136,345	3,820	52,496	...	186	1,980	586	257,734

Years.	Japan.	Australia.	Great Britain.	United States of America.	Valparaiso.	Hong Kong.	Total to Foreign Countries.	Grand Total to Coast Ports and Foreign Countries.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
1876	...	275,685	5,831	142,374	...	51,318	469,467	851,468
1877	...	242,421	79,264	18,500	75,077	...	10,219	567,582
1878	...	165,367	49,409	11,676	...	5,786	232,838	391,854
1879	...	241,613	139,799	...	...	6,807	431,269	701,684
1880	...	331,894	46,079	152,220	...	92,006	752,630	997,625
1881	...	283,998	45,484	69,929	...	61,440	460,851	718,585

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 8.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Import and Re-export of Opium for the Years 1876 to 1881.

Years.	Benares.	Malwa.	Patna.	Persian.	Turkey.	Total.	Total Re-Exports.	Net Total Imports.
	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.
1876	...	1,422 80	117 39	369 69	802 65	2,693 10	34 71	2,658 39
1877	...	1,720 80	9 00	176 67	1,324 87	3,233 32	65 28	3,168 04
1878	...	1,480 44	19 74	38 40	1,435 08	3,058 74	205 94	2,852 80
1879	...	1,883 62	70 70	86 40	1,331 66	3,509 94	123 13	3,386 81
1880	...	1,978 80	42 29	49 20	1,582 82	3,683 96	36 58	3,647 38
1881	...	1,562 49	...	74 40	1,856 37	3,786 73	48 01	3,738 72

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

(No. 9.)—TREASURE and Copper Cash Imported and Exported during the Year 1881.

IMPORTED.			EXPORTED.		
From—	Treasure.	Copper Cash.	To—	Treasure.	Copper Cash.
		H. taels.			H. taels.
Japan	31,417	Shanghai ...	...	1,963
Tamsui	36,719	Foochow ...	...	6,162
Amoy	126,728	Tamsui ...	...	818
Swatow	1,309	Amoy ...	...	482,553
Hong Kong	143,908	Swatow ...	...	20,550
	Hong Kong ...	...	249,387
Total	350,081	Total ...	...	762,203

Rate of exchange, Haikwan tael equal to 5s. 9d.

(Signed) GEO. PHILLIPS, *Consul.*

TAMSUI.

Report on the Foreign Trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the Year 1881.

THE following Tables are annexed to this Report, viz. :—

1. Comparative Table of the Values of the Net Total Trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
2. Table showing the Revenue collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs at Tamsui during the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
3. Comparative Table of the Foreign Shipping at the Ports of Tamsui and Kelung for the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
4. Comparative Table of principal Imports, excluding Opium, for the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
5. Comparative Table of the Import of Foreign Opium from 1879 to 1881.
6. Comparative Table of the Export Trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
7. Passenger Traffic in Foreign Vessels at Tamsui and Kelung during the years 1879, 1880, 1881.
8. Comparative Table of Import and Export of Treasure at Tamsui for the years 1879, 1880, 1881.

These Tables have been compiled from the Returns prepared by the Office of the Imperial Maritime Customs at this port, which Returns were courteously placed at my disposal. In making calculations the Haikwan tael has been counted at 5s. 6d., as in the Report and Tables for 1880.

IMPORTS.

It will be seen from Table 1 that there has been a steady and marked increase in the total of imports for the last three years. The value of the foreign imports in 1881 was 31,312*l.* above that of the previous year, and in like manner the value of native imports was last year 8,541*l.* above that of 1880.

Of the foreign imports, it is mainly in cotton goods and pig lead that there is an increase; some of the other commodities, and several of the native imports, show a decrease. The Customs Returns do not distinguish between English and American cotton goods, and so it is not possible to write with confidence as to whether the import of British cotton goods has increased. Nor is any distinction of name made by the retailers and consumers. But I have been informed, on very good authority, that American cotton goods are fast becoming popular here, and that the importation of them has grown quickly. They are said to be in several respects much superior to those of English manufacture, and they are much cheaper. The price of white shirtings during the year was about 3 dol. 20 c. per piece; that of grey shirtings, superior, about 2 dol. 65 c., inferior, about 2 dol. 55 c.; that of T-cloths 1 dol. 70 c. to 1 dol. 85 c.

Table 5 reveals the extraordinary fact that the importation of foreign opium is gradually diminishing in quantity. As there was less opium reported at the Foreign Customs in 1880 than in 1879, so there was less in 1881 than in 1880. There can scarcely be any doubt that the amount of opium consumed was much greater, and this is the unanimous opinion

of all whom I have consulted. Though the officials of the Custom-house and *Li-kin* Office have a good look-out, yet it is likely that a considerable amount of foreign opium was smuggled into Tamsui and Kelung by passengers and crews of foreign vessels, and also by native craft. A large quantity of Chinese opium also is reported to have been imported last year by junks, and one merchant calculates the value of the opium thus imported at about 100,000 dollars. It comes mainly from the Province of Chekiang, and, as it is cheap, it is much used by the poor of the port and neighbourhood, who call it "Ningpo Persian." In addition to the Chinese opium imported, there was a certain amount produced in North Formosa. One informant states that so much as about 250,000 lbs. of local origin was consumed last year. With reference to the foreign drug, it will be seen that while the import of Benares has fallen off, that of Persian and Turkey has risen. The merchants who trade in opium all report that Persian is gaining in popularity very decidedly.

The prices of Benares during the year are reported to have been, per chest :—

				Dollars.
January and February .	..	..	..	745 to 730
March and April .	..	..	..	680 645
May to June .	..	..	..	648 680
July to August .	..	..	..	680 730
September to October .	..	..	..	710 700
November to December .	..	..	..	705 735

The farming out of the *li-kin* tax on foreign opium does not appear to have affected the trade in opium to any appreciable extent. The sum which the farmers of the tax agreed to pay for the year was 50,000 dollars; but when the authorities saw the return of the foreign opium imported, they made the farmers pay an additional sum of 30,000 dollars, the whole amount of *li-kin* on foreign opium collected during the year being counted at about 110,000 dollars. The revenue which the Chinese Government collected from foreign opium at this port last year must have been considerably above 25,000*l*. This does not include the duties, or "squeezes," collected at the various inland barrier stations.

The Returns show an increase of 2,116 piculs in the amount of lead in pigs imported last year above that imported in 1880. This increase in the supply of lead is called for by the extension of the tea trade, but the importation last year is supposed to have been excessive.

None of the other imports call for special notice. It may be worthy of mention, however, that, on account of lowness of freight, the steamers last year imported indigo. This commodity was previously carried only in junks, and the indigo exported from this place is still so carried.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—The Returns again show a considerable increase in the export of tea. Last year the amount was 12,859,467 lbs., and that of 1880 was 12,063,450 lbs., giving an increase of 796,017 lbs., in 1881, as compared with 1880. The quality of the tea, however, was inferior, and considerably below the average of former years. As the quantity produced increases, the quality, on the whole, seems to deteriorate. Last season was not, I have been told, a very prosperous one for the merchants and packers, but very good for the growers, who must have made large profits. The share taken by the foreign firms in the business last year was about the same as in the one before. The number of the Chinese traders remains, also, much as it was, though some of the hongts change from year to year. The season began very early, the first purchases having been made about the middle of March.

About the beginning of the season the prices of "good" and "superior" were about 25 and 27 dollars a picul respectively. But the prices soon rose, and continued very high for some time. About the end of August they began to decline, but an unexpected demand for fine teas for London sent the prices for these up again. Afterwards, however, prices declined, until in December they were lower than those at the beginning of the season. While prices were very high the foreign firms did not buy much, but the native hongers bought largely. These latter took up all the fine teas they could get at any price, however high, and at the same time provided themselves with very inferior teas, for the purpose of mixing. Not only were the bad leaves of this locality bought up for this purpose, but from the mainland also a considerable quantity of inferior tea was imported by junk. The Chinese authorities at Amoy, on the request of Her Majesty's Consul there, took measures to stop the exportation of tea from the mainland to this port for use in mixing.

The cultivation of the tea shrub is extending far and quickly in this island. The farmers seem to think the shrub will flourish in any kind of soil, and at any elevation, and with any aspect. Experience has, however, already taught some that there are situations and circumstances in which it will not thrive. Hence several plantations have had to be given up, at least for the present, and it is likely that several others will have to be abandoned. But as these are given up others are formed, and, in several cases, bad and useless plants have been replaced by others, young and healthy. There are tea plantations now on many of the hills which only a few years ago were inaccessible to any Chinaman. The savages who then haunted these hills have been driven back to the higher mountains, but in some districts there are tea farms in dangerous proximity to savage settlements. It is not easy to give much attention to the crop in such circumstances, and, indeed, many growers seem to plant the young shrub, and afterwards take no further care of it. Others weed and prune, and generally expend much labour on their plantation.

Camphor.—The export of camphor in 1881 was less than that of 1880 by about 3,000 piculs, the former year showing 9,316 piculs against 12,335 in the latter. One cause for this falling-off was the lowness of prices in Hong Kong, the place to which all Tamsui camphor is consigned. Another was the enhanced difficulty of obtaining and transporting the camphor. In the district from which mainly it is obtained the savages, last year, were acting on the aggressive. There were several serious fights during the year between them and the Chinese, in which the latter suffered severely. As the hills are cleared the difficulty of obtaining and transporting the camphor increases, and, as matters are now, the trade in this article is not likely to flourish. The price of camphor at the beginning of the year was 12 dol. 40 c. a tub of about 460 lbs. In June it rose to 13 dollars, but soon after it fell to 10 dollars, at which it remained to the end of the year. Of the camphor exported, only 57 piculs were brought to port under transit pass by British merchants.

Coal.—The amount of coal exported from Kelung and Tamsui in foreign vessels during the year 1881, as reported to the Imperial Maritime Customs, was 46,178 tons. In 1880 the amount so reported was 24,654 tons, and there was consequently an increase of 21,524 tons in the export of 1881 as compared with that of the year before. These figures show only the amount shipped in foreign vessels and reported to the Customs. A very large quantity besides was taken away from Kelung by the Chinese Government steamers, transports, and men-of-war. The coal thus exported was derived entirely from the Government mine at Coal Harbour, but I have not been able to ascertain its amount.

There was a large demand for Kelung coal last year, and the prices

rose considerably. The quotations at the Government mine at the end of the year, as supplied to me, were 1 dollar per ton for coal dust, 3 dollars for "nuts," and 4 dol. 10 c. for large coal. The prices at the private mines were a little lower, and there was a ready market for all they could yield.

The Government colliery works were last year put under the management of a Cantonese official of considerable abilities. Since he came into office the mine seems to have prospered, and I believe, as a commercial undertaking, it is very successful. Much of the success is doubtless due to the enthusiastic and persevering devotion of the superintending engineer, Mr. Tyzack, to its interests. In the issue of the Hong Kong "China Mail" for the 8th September last there is an article on the Kelung mine, which is evidently officially inspired. From this article I transcribe the following:—

"Concerning the output of the mines, it is worthy of note that great progress has been made during the last two or three years. In the year 1878 the total amount raised was 14,029 tons; this was more than doubled during the year 1879, the total shown for that year being 30,046 tons. A very large increase upon this last amount was shown by the last year's working; and for the first half-year of 1881 we are informed that nearly 30,000 tons have been brought to the surface. Indeed, with one or two more shafts it is confidently expected that the output might be increased to 500 tons per day, or say, roughly, allowing for New Year and other slack seasons, 150,000 tons per annum. When it is borne in mind that this result is attainable at a cost little in excess of that incurred in 1878 by the production of 14,000 tons, it may be perceived why the Chinese are beginning to understand and appreciate the value of such a work as the Kelung Colliery. Indeed, fewer Europeans are connected with the work now than were employed in 1878, and as the only additional outlay on production is to be credited to the native coal-hewers, who are paid on an average, say, 40 cents per ton for their labour, the profit upon the larger output must be very considerable. As at present managed, therefore, it would appear that the Anglo-Chinese mining operations at Kelung bid fair to prove a paying speculation for the Chinese Government. The mines are now, we believe, nominally under the supervision of the Commissioner of Customs at Foochow, and seeing that the Foochow arsenal and the gun-boats connected with it are believed to be good customers of the colliery, such an arrangement is probably an improvement upon former plans. It would be interesting to find how far the Kelung product is likely to supersede the English and Australian article, so far as this coast is concerned; but we believe that the China Merchants' Company and the official gun-boats will, in time, draw a large portion of their supply from this source. The cost of Kelung coal is stated to be, taking large and small into account, about 2 dol. 50 c. per ton, and even after charges for transport are added, the rate would compare favourably with those ruling for other kinds. For the present, however, it may be said that the principal effect of this competition upon the coal-market in China will be more a lessening of the demand on the Chinese side for foreign coal than anything else. What influence it may exercise upon the market in the future will depend in a great measure upon the careful working of the coal, the maintenance of its quality, and its acceptance by large consumers on the China coast. An English agency for this description of coal was mooted some time ago, but nothing has lately been heard of the project."

In 1881 there were fifty-one British vessels which loaded with coal at Kelung, while in 1880 the number was only thirty-six. Coal is the only export from Kelung, place which has few or no imports. Not only at

the Government coal mine was there increased activity last year. The private mines also had very remunerative employment, and several new mines were opened near Kelung and Nuan-nuan. Nearly all the coal from this latter district is brought to Tamsui. Besides what is exported in foreign vessels and Chinese Government transports, a large quantity is taken away in junks to the mainland and to various ports in Formosa.

SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels which entered Tamsui and Keiung last year was, according to Customs Returns, 138 of 58,879 tons. These were distributed as to nationality thus:—

British	..	..	..	..	..	115
Chinese (steamers)	..	..	..	..	..	4
German	..	..	..	..	..	16
Swedish	..	..	..	..	..	3
						<hr/> 138

The Chinese steamer which had been running opposition to the Douglas Lapraik line in 1880 made only three trips at the beginning of last year. The experiment made by the China Merchants' Company could not have been remunerative, but it remains to be seen whether it is to be repeated.

There was not any casualty or other circumstance of note with reference to foreign shipping at this port or Kelung during the year.

Besides the three China Merchants' Companies' steamers there is a steamer reported as Chinese. This is a small launch introduced by a native storekeeper and comprador. The launch was made at Hong Kong, and was originally intended to carry passengers, tow junks, and carry cargo. It now plies as a passenger boat between this place and Banka, making the trip there and back twice or thrice a day. It is already a great favourite, and, judging from the number of passengers who travel by it, the experiment must be pronounced successful.

GENERAL.

An innovation was made last year by the high provincial authorities at Foochow, which may eventually prove of some importance. Certain steamers, called and treated as Chinese men-of-war, had for some years come and gone between Foochow and Kelung or Tamsui. A few of these were last year reduced to the rank of transport steamers, and set apart for the conveyance of troops and munitions of war. Then an announcement was suddenly made that these steamers would carry passengers and cargo between Foochow and the ports of Formosa. They now run between Kelung and Foochow, and carry passengers at 3 dollars each. They have not as yet, so far as my information goes, got any cargo, nor have they begun to ply between Tamsui and Foochow, or any other port on the mainland. The Assistant or Deputy Haikuan, however, has been appointed agent here, and the civil authority at Kelung has been appointed agent at that port. These vessels do not enter at the Imperial Maritime Customs except for cargo at Treaty ports; they can go apparently to any port, whether open to foreign commerce or not, and they are subject to very little control. If they are to enter into competition with foreign vessels, the latter will doubtless suffer severely. These Chinese Government steamers, however, draw too much water to allow them to cross the Tamsui bar at the ordinary high tides when they have even a small cargo.

Last year was a very disastrous one to the small farmers in several large districts of North Formosa. There were three typhoons, of which two were very terrible, and swept not only over this country but also over a vast extent of territory besides. The rice crops of this region were in some places utterly destroyed, and the tea and other crops also were in several districts either ruined or greatly damaged. These typhoons were attended by heavy and continued downfalls of rain, and all the rivers and streams overflowed their banks and inundated the country, in some cases sweeping off trees, shrubs, standing crops, and carrying away bridges and embankments. The ravages caused were dreadful to contemplate, and they must have occasioned great privations and misery. The rice produced here was insufficient for the requirements of the inhabitants, and a quantity was imported from the mainland. The price of rice at Banka varied from 2 dol. 50 c. to about 3 dollars per picul of 120 cattles. The immediate neighbourhood of Tamsui did not suffer very much from the typhoons and floods, and a considerable amount of rice was taken away in the Government steamers for the starving inhabitants of the Pescadore Islands. The summer and autumn crops were both harvested in this district, but the latter was considerably injured.

An important element in estimating the commercial prosperity of this place is its Chinese passenger traffic. Table 7 gives a comparative view of this traffic for the last three years. From this it appears that in 1881 so many as 12,696 Chinese travelled by foreign vessels to and from these ports, the number in 1880 having been 8,648, which was a considerable advance on the year previous. In addition to the passengers carried in foreign vessels there were several hundreds of Chinese who travelled by the Chinese Government steamers to and from Kelung and Foochow. The increase in the passenger traffic is doubtless due largely to a reduction in the rates of passage-money by steamer. A common Chinaman will prefer to pay 3 dollars for his passage in a steamer to 2 dollars for one in a junk, but he will not pay 4 dollars for the former.

In Table 8, I have given a comparative statement of the import and export of treasure at these ports for the years 1879, 1880, and 1881. From this Table it will be seen that the import of treasure last year was less than that of 1880 by 23,430*l.*, and that the export was greater by 1,538*l.*

On the whole, the past year may be considered from the commercial point of view, if not very good, at least more than up to the average. The revenue collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs during the year amounted to 88,128*l.*, being, as shown in Table 2, greater than that of 1880 by 4,216*l.* An increase in this branch of the revenue indicates an increase in other branches, and the Imperial Government may feel satisfied at the results of foreign commerce at this port. The revenue from taxes on land and other kinds of property also grows from year to year, as jungles are cleared and waste lands brought under permanent cultivation, and the colonization by Chinese settlers extends. The people are also growing rich and prosperous, or at least all have it in their power to become such. Wages are high, trade is good, and there is now tolerable security for life and property.

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.*

British Consulate, Tamsui, March 6, 1882.

(No. 1.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Values of the net total Trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

	Value in 1879.	Value in 1880.	Value in 1881.	Increase in 1881 compared with 1880.
	£	£	£	£
Foreign imports	352,429	352,459	383,771	31,312
Native imports	73,127	91,313	99,854	8,541
Gross total imports ..	425,556	443,772	483,625	..
Deduct re-exports ..	214	5,378	6,895	..
Net total imports ..	425,342	438,394	476,730	38,336
Exports (excluding re-exports) ..	573,570	636,151	661,992	25,841
Net total trade	998,912	1,074,545	1,138,722	64,177

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

(No. 2.)—TABLE showing the Revenue collected by the Imperial Maritime Customs at Tamsui during the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

	1879.	1880.	1881.
	£	£	£
Import duties (exclusive of opium) ..	5,917	6,664	6,072
" opium	9,385	10,579	10,600
Export duties	67,777	65,654	69,895
Coast trade	422	497	666
Transit	41	32	6
Tonnage dues	640	486	934
Total	78,182	83,912	88,128

Increase of revenue in 1881 as compared with that of 1880, 4,216*l.*

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

(No. 3.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Foreign Shipping at the Ports of Tamsui and Kelung for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

	1879.						1880.						1881.					
	Entered.			Cleared.			Entered.			Cleared.			Entered.			Cleared.		
	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.
	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.	No.		Tons.
British steamers ..	66		18,541	66		18,541	74		28,814	74		28,814	76		36,702	76		36,702
„ sailing-vessels ..	43		14,407	44		14,791	29		11,394	25		9,491	39		13,317	38		13,375
Total British ..	109		32,948	110		33,332	103		40,118	99		38,305	115		50,019	114		50,077
Foreign steamers ..	..		..	..		..	9		3,996	9		3,996	11		4,677	11		4,677
„ sailing-vessels ..	37		10,983	38		11,565	4		1,679	4		1,679	12		4,183	10		3,527
Total foreign ..	37		10,983	38		11,565	13		5,675	13		5,675	23		8,860	21		8,204
Total foreign and British ..	146		43,931	148		44,897	116		45,793	112		43,980	138		58,879	135		58,281
Total shipping entered and cleared—																		
1879 ..	..		..	..		..	..		..	294		88,828	..		..	..		..
1880 ..	..		..	..		..	..		..	228		89,773	..		..	..		..
1881 ..	..		..	..		..	..		..	273		117,160	..		..	..		..

British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

(Signed)

T. WATERS, Consul.

(No. 4.)—COMPARATIVE Table of principal Imports, excluding Opium, for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

Goods.		1879.	1880.	1881.	1881 compared with 1880.	
					Increase.	Decrease.
Grey shirtings..	Pieces	43,748	31,292	32,135	843	..
White „ ..	„	45,557	46,650	49,521	2,871	..
Sundry cottons ..	„	18,741	21,217	24,155	2,938	..
English camlets ..	„	3,310	2,987	2,879	..	108
Long ells ..	„	2,063	1,310	1,813	503	..
Sundry woollens ..	„	4,499	4,154	4,069	..	85
Nail-rod irons..	Piculs	438	1,319	746	..	573
Lead, in pigs ..	„	8,046	7,388	9,504	2,116	..
Tin, in slabs ..	„	157	177	141	..	36
Cotton yarn ..	„	324	372	435	63	..
Cuttle-fish ..	„	607	1,301	1,264	..	37
Grass-cloth, coarse ..	„	555	643	491	..	152
Medicines ..	„	1,367	1,961	1,542	..	419
Nankeens ..	„	474	660	253	..	407
Paper, second qualities ..	„	1,625	1,655	1,460	..	195
Silk thread ..	„	73	101	59	..	42

(Signed) T. WATERS, Consul.

British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

(No. 5.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Import of Foreign Opium from 1879 to 1881.

		1879.	1880.	1881.
		Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Benares ..	..	1,798·80	1,744·80	1,433·97
Patna ..	..	25·20	2·40	33·60
Persian ..	..	314·30	320·19½	447·40
Turkey ..	..	26·38	127·64½	274·80
		2,164·68	2,195·04½	2,189·77
Re-exported ..	..	..	45·96	47·65
Net imports ..	..	2,164·68	2,149·08½	2,142·12

(Signed) T. WATERS, Consul.

British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

(No. 6.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Export Trade of Tamsui and Kelung for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

Description of Goods.		1879.	1880.	1881.	1881 compared with 1880.	
					Increase.	Decrease.
Agar-agar	Piculs	803 87	653 22	4 83	...	648 39
Camphor	"	11,048 40	12,335 17	9,316 59	...	3,018 58
Coal	Tons	28,823	24,654	46,178	21,524	...
Hemp	Piculs	240 92	44 10	237 52	193 42	...
Rattans	"	665 30	304	111 04	...	193 96
Tea, black	"	85,032 83	90,475 88	96,446 01	5,970 13	...
Camphor-wood planks	Pieces	11,166	2,947	4,591	1,604	...
Hard wood ditto ...	"	4,419	1,929	1,835	94	...

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

(No. 7.)—PASSENGER Traffic in Foreign Vessels at Tamsui and Kelung during the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

			From Hong Kong and Coast Ports.		To Hong Kong and Coast Ports.	
			Europeans.	Chinese.	Europeans.	Chinese.
1879 .. ..	..	..	59	2,483	75	2,805
1880 .. ..	..	..	46	3,744	49	4,904
1881 .. ..	..	..	41	6,329	43	6,367

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Tamsui, February 15, 1882.

(No. 8.)—COMPARATIVE Table of Import and Export of Treasure at Tamsui for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

IMPORTED.

			Hong Kong.	Coast Ports.	Total.
			£	£	£
1879 .. ..	..	..	14,318	187,817	202,135
1880 .. ..	..	..	51,589	138,347	189,936
1881 .. ..	..	..	31,665	134,841	166,506

EXPORTED.

			Hong Kong.	Coast Ports.	Total.
			£	£	£
1879 .. ..	..	..	21,518	27,997	49,515
1880 .. ..	..	..	17,740	27,197	44,937
1881 .. ..	..	..	21,217	25,258	46,475

(Signed) T. WATTERS, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Tamsui, February 28, 1882.

TIENTSIN:

Report on the Trade of Tien-tsin for the Year 1881.

THE total trade of the port of Tien-tsin during the year 1881, that is to say, the total trade in vessels owned by foreigners or of foreign type, amounted to 25,095,990 taels. Taking the tael (which is the Customs tael, equal to the amount of pure silver contained in 1·565 Mexican dollars) as being worth 5s 9d., we find this sum to be the equivalent of 7,215,097*l*. The imports amounted to 22,441,937 taels (6,452,057*l*.), and the exports to 2,654,053 taels (763,040*l*). In the year 1880, imports came to 23,402,834 taels, and exports to 2,797,282 taels; total, 26,200,116 taels. There was, therefore, a decrease in the year under review of about 1,100,000 taels, or rather more than 4 per cent. of the value of the trade. Taking, however, the net value of the trade, that is to say, deducting all goods which are imported and re-exported by sea, and the tea which is imported here in order to be sent overland to Russia, the trade for 1881 is 21,606,231 taels, against 2,668,434 taels in 1880. The decrease in value thus appears as only about 60,000 taels, which a close examination of the Returns shows to be more than covered by the great reduction in price at which many articles have been valued by the Custom-house during the past year. This reduction, I may remark, is in the case of many articles so great that it must clearly be due to some other cause than a natural depreciation in the value of the goods. Moreover, the branch of trade which is of far the greatest importance to us, that of foreign imports, shows an increase of 420,000 taels. Under these circumstances we may consider that the trade for the year under review is on a satisfactory footing, in spite of the diminution shown in the total of the gross Returns.

IMPORTS:

Foreign goods imported direct from foreign countries, including, of course, Hong Kong, come to 1,104,955 taels (317,675*l*.); and foreign goods imported via other Chinese ports to 9,619,963 taels; together, 10,724,918 taels (3,083,414*l*.). Native produce from other parts of China amounts to 11,717,019 taels (3,083,414*l*.): total, 22,441,937 taels (6,452,057*l*.). Foreign goods were re-exported to the small value of 135,362 taels (38,916*l*.), and native goods to the still more trifling value of 17,914 taels (5,151*l*.).

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

Foreign goods show an increase over the preceding year of about 420,000 taels (120,750*l*.), the excess being divided among all the principal articles of import; while "sundries," on the other hand, were diminished by about 45,000 taels (13,837*l*.).

Cotton Goods.—These are the most important of foreign imports at Tien-tsin. Their net value for 1881 is 6,186,039 taels (1,778,486*l*.), against 5,880,640 taels in 1880. Gray shirtings head the list with 1,115,598 pieces, against 975,075 pieces in the preceding year. After these come white shirtings, 536,659 pieces, against 421,851 pieces, the import for the year being the largest on record by nearly 100,000 pieces.

Next come T-cloths, 513,715 pieces against 494,140 pieces. Though there is thus a slight improvement shown in the demand for this article, still there appears no prospect of its resuming the position it held ten or twelve years ago, when more than 1,000,000 pieces were imported for several years in succession. According to information given me by Chinese dealers, the place of T-cloths has been taken by drills and sheetings. Though this is in some degree borne out by the Customs Returns, still the increase in the last-mentioned articles is not sufficient to account entirely for the decrease in the former, and there must be some further reason as well. American sheetings are 368,977 pieces, against 355,332 in 1880; British, 39,375, against 33,951. The factories of the United States, therefore, continue almost to monopolize the production of this particular article. It is to be hoped that manufacturers at home will soon turn their attention to this class of goods, and show whether they are able to compete in it with their rivals in America, who, according to political economy, should be hopelessly over-weighted in neutral markets by the protection which gives them a sure and safe trade in their own country. As the import of sheetings into China had in 1880 reached the respectable figure of 877,806 pieces, worth more than 500,000*l.*, it can hardly be said any longer that the trade in them is too insignificant for our manufacturers to think it worth troubling themselves about. American drills are 190,352 pieces, against 114,780 in 1880; English drills, 166,788, against 91,165. American drills, therefore, still keep the lead, although they no longer threaten to drive English drills entirely out of the market, as they seemed likely to do a few years ago. It must be remembered also that, if values be taken instead of quantities, the import from the United States will show a much larger excess over that from England. Thus, according to the Customs Returns, the American drills imported were worth 472,004 taels, or an average of 2.47 taels per piece; while the English drills were worth 327,923 taels, or 1.96 taels per piece. Dutch drills have almost dropped out of the trade, being 2,840 pieces against 49,300 in the preceding year. The import of Turkey red cambrics has increased from 119,011 to 156,683 pieces; and that of jeans and twills from 121,979 to 152,482 pieces. The only article which has fallen off, besides Dutch drills, is shirtings, dyed and brocaded, which have decreased from 13,695 to 5,775 pieces.

Generally speaking, the piece-goods trade for the year is said not to have been profitable; while the previous year, in which the import was so much smaller, is said to have been an exceptionally good one for all engaged in the trade. That large profits in one year should cause next year an excessive import, and consequent loss, is not an unusual case in China any more than in any other part of the world. Even the buyers, who should have profited by the forced sales at low rates, seem to have found that the consumption up country was not brisk enough to take off their goods at remunerative prices. White shirtings, however, I am informed, did well for the most part; and so did some expensive English drills, which were specially made to compete with the Americans. Indeed, as a general rule in all sorts of cottons, the better the quality of the article the more freely it sold, and the larger the profit it showed. If this continues to be the case in Tien-tsin and the other large markets of China, manufacturers in England will no longer have any reason to turn their attention chiefly to the production of heavily-sized articles. A small quantity—perhaps 20,000 pieces—of T-cloths and grey shirtings, manufactured in Bombay, were imported during the year, and were said to have sold profitably and to have pleased their buyers. A small quantity of yarn from the same place also met with a satisfactory reception. Samples of German piece-goods have lately been shown to the dealers, but I am

unable to say whether it is likely that the goods themselves will follow the samples.

The Province of Shan-si has always been a large customer for foreign piece-goods at this port. Though the terrible famine which ravaged the province four and five years ago is now, happily, a thing of the past, still its effects have not yet disappeared, and the condition and number of the population are far below what they were formerly. In two years more, however, say the Chinese here, the Shan-si trade will have resumed its normal state. I should hardly think that this could happen in so short a time. But, whether after two years, or after five or more years, we may certainly hope before very long to see a large development in the consumption of piece-goods at this port.

Woollen Goods.—On account of the severe cold prevailing throughout the north of China in the winter months, one would expect woollen goods to form an important item in the trade of Tien-tsin. Nevertheless, their consumption here bears a much smaller proportion to that of cotton goods than is the case at the ports in the centre of China, the reason doubtless being that in North China well-to-do persons who can afford to buy cloth invariably dress in furs during the winter. The import for 1881 shows a large increase over that for 1880, namely, 451,457 taels (129,794*l.*), against 395,875 taels. The improvement is shared by all the principal kinds of woollens, except lastings, which fell from 12,833 to 12,438 pieces. Spanish stripes have risen from 6,632 to 8,172 pieces. Long ells from 1,561 to 2,110 pieces. English camlets from 6,570 to 8,143 pieces. Lustres and orleans from 14,258 to 18,390 pieces. These last were formerly in much higher demand, the consumption of them being in 1873 as high as 75,000 pieces. So called Russian cloth, an imitation of real Russian cloth, made in Germany and exported from Hamburg, has increased from 1,920 to 3,320 pieces.

Metals.—The trade in these has grown from 246,410 taels to 307,621 taels (88,442*l.*). The chief increase is in iron, the import of which, including nail-rod and bar iron, more than doubled itself, namely, 50,000 piculs, against 20,000 piculs. Lead (8,421 piculs) shows a slight increase; copper (7,768 piculs) and tin (157 piculs) a slight decrease; steel (7,066 piculs, against 12,521 piculs) a large decrease.

Opium.—The trade in this article has not flourished during the past year. The net import, indeed, was 200 chests larger in 1881 than in 1880. But the consumption has really been smaller; as at the beginning of 1880 there was a stock of nearly 1,000 chests in hand, and at the end of it hardly any, while at the beginning of 1881 there was hardly any in hand, and at the end of it about 800 chests. The net import of Malwa was 3,025 piculs in 1881, against 2,760 in 1880; Patna, 174, against 8; Persian, 222 against 450; total, 3,421, against 3,218. In the winter of 1880-81, when the port was closed, Malwa went as high as 580 Tien-tsin taels per chest. At the opening of the river it stood at 525 Tien-tsin taels, and about May fell to 475 Tien-tsin taels. In July there were rumours that the *li-kin* on opium was to be increased immediately, and buyers were all anxious to purchase before this might take place. The price of Malwa then rose to 530 Tien-tsin taels; but it afterwards fell again and now stands at 485 Tien-tsin taels. At the beginning of the season Patna was at 460 Tien-tsin taels. It then fell to 432 Tien-tsin taels, rose to 492 Tien-tsin taels, and now is at 463 Tien-tsin taels. Persian, of good quality, varied between 445 and 400 Tien-tsin taels, at which latter figure it now stands.

Foreigners connected with opium at Tien-tsin do not look with any hopefulness on the prospects of the trade. They think that the foreign drug is being steadily superseded by the native. The Returns of trade for

the last ten years certainly show a gradual though not very rapid decrease in the annual import. Native opium from the north-east and from various western provinces has long found its way to Tien-tsin. But what particularly alarms importers is, that the cultivation is said to be rapidly extending in this province, and even in this neighbourhood. Opium is said to have been grown last year at Kaiping (the country of the coal mines near here), which exactly resembled Malwa in flavour, though its strength was not quite so great. In consistency it, of course, was very different. A correspondent writes from Tien-tsin to a Shanghai newspaper in December last, "and in this province, Chihli, the growth will indeed be great. There is no longer any restriction on the crop, and as it pays large profits—it is said six or eight times greater than can be got from cereals, or vegetables, or cotton, or seeds—farmers have no scruple about the industry." I have no means of verifying these or the many other reports I have heard; and rumours in China are notoriously untrustworthy. Still, where there is so much smoke there is probably some fire beneath. Certainly the policy of encouraging the growth of native opium does not agree with the published utterances of the Governor-General of this province, Li Hung-chang. But since the Chinese Government is really unable under present circumstances to keep out Indian opium by any other means, the most rudimentary ideas on political economy might teach it that the nation would be a gainer by consuming opium of its own production, and so saving the 6 or 8 millions sterling which it contributes annually to the Indian Exchequer. The Imperial Government has not yet adopted this policy of under-selling. Nor have we enough evidence to be able to say that the Governor-General Li has adopted it either. But the action regarding opium of many high officials in different parts of the Empire has plainly been influenced by the knowledge that in destroying native opium they were only making the way for more from India; and unless the Indian Government comes to some fiscal arrangement which will be agreeable to the Chinese Government, not merely to one which is accepted in despair of obtaining a better, I have not the slightest doubt that, before many years are past, throughout the whole Chinese Empire poppy cultivation will be carried on unchecked, and Indian opium will be superseded by native for general use, remaining merely a luxury for a small minority of wealthy persons.

Sundries.—These form a very miscellaneous list, and the majority of them are not worth much attention. I mention a few of the most important. Bicho de mar, or sea slug, reaches the large value of 102,770 taels (29,546*l.*). Colours and dyes have increased from 1,236 to 1,536 piculs. Their value for this year is given as 320,707 taels (92,204*l.*). Though the import has increased, the trade in these goods, I learn, has not been prosperous during the past year, a very large proportion of them still remaining in the importers' warehouses. This is said to be due partly to the death last spring of the Empress Dowager, which lessened the ordinary demand for bright coloured clothing. These dyes are aniline dyes imported from Hamburg. English dyes have no chance against them at all. Needles were imported to the amount of 459,000,000. This seems a large number; but it is small compared with the import of the preceding year, which was 1,010,000,000. The import of this article varies very much. The average for ten years past is about 750,000,000; but four years ago it fell to 272,000,000. The import of matches doubled, rising from 92,050 to 181,541 gross of boxes. Kerosine fell from 315,221 to 292,030 gallons.

NATIVE IMPORTS.

These, including the portion re-exported either by sea or to Russia over-land, amounted to 11,717,019 taels (3,083,414*l.*), a decrease of 1,286,468 taels from the previous year. Net imports were 8,515,898 taels (2,448,322*l.*), a decrease of 424,307 taels. The largest article was tea of all kinds, to the value of 3,620,379 taels (1,040,859*l.*), most of which was as usual destined for Russia. Then sugar, brown, white, and candy, together valued at 1,360,460 taels (391,132*l.*); silk piece-goods, 1,286,715 taels (360,930*l.*); rice, belonging to the Chinese Government, 1,079,743 taels (310,426*l.*), belonging to private importers 966,050 taels (277,739*l.*). The import of tea for Russia shows a considerable decrease in value, though not in quantity, being 294,985 piculs, valued at 3,179,892 taels (914,219*l.*), against 296,869 piculs, valued at 4,055,310 taels, in 1880. It is said that in a few years tea from China will be sent to Siberia by the River Amoor, instead of across Mongolia from Tien-tsin to Kiachta, the latter route being unsatisfactory because of the great cost of the long land carriage, and the carelessness and dishonesty of the Chinese or Mongols in charge of the caravans. The Russian firms established at Tien-tsin will, I imagine, be the greatest losers by the change. The steamers' Companies trading here and the owners of land in the foreign settlements will also suffer to some extent.

EXPORTS.

The export trade of Tien-tsin is of small value compared with the import trade, the former in a few years amounting to one-tenth of the value of the latter, in spite of the spirited efforts of foreign and native merchants to find articles for which there may be a demand in other countries or other parts of China. The list of exports destined for foreign countries is a pretty long one; but many of the articles are procurable in but very small quantities. Thus, feathers, horse hair, yak's hair, yak's tails, goat skins, sheep skins, lamb skins, were all exported to the value of a few hundred pounds each, and bristles, curiosities, hides, musk, rhubarb, silk, embroidery, to values varying from 1,000*l.* to 5,000*l.* The three chief articles sent to foreign countries are wool, goat skin, rugs, and straw braid. Camel's wool shows a large falling off compared with the previous year, being only 9,767 piculs (value about 26,000*l.*), against 16,442 piculs in 1880. Goat's wool shows a still larger falling off, being 1,769 piculs (value 5,400*l.*), against 5,037 piculs. Sheep's wool has increased from 703 to 1,362 piculs (value 4,000*l.*). The small demand for camel's wool, the principal kind of the three, is said to be due partly to the dissatisfaction of purchasers in England at the condition in which the wool arrives there, 30 or 40 per cent of the contents of the bales consisting of dirt, but partly also to the more serious fact that articles manufactured of the wool are liable to decay. Goat skin rugs show a very large increase, 214,545 pieces against 125,328 pieces. These rugs, which are each made of two skins sewn together, are largely exported to the United States, and are there used for placing on the floors of railway carriages. Their export value is given as about 90 tael cents, or 5*s.* 2*d.* a-piece. Merchants look forward hopefully to a further and permanent increase in the export of this article, which is more than I can anticipate, as far as my own means of judging allow. Straw braid has decreased from 19,961 to 17,323 piculs. But owing to the fact that the more expensive kinds have been much less exported, and the cheaper kinds much more largely, the fall in the value is much greater than the fall in the quantity of the

export, namely, from 611,862 taels to 439,112 taels (126,244*l.*). The cheap kind most in demand was "mottled," coming principally from the Province of Honan. In spite of the falling off, the straw braid trade may still be considered flourishing, as it is both in quantity and in value far in excess of that of any previous year, except 1880.

SHIPPING.

During the year under review 435 vessels entered the port of Tien-tsin. Their registered tonnage amounted to 260,337 tons: 313 of them were steamers, of 222,422 tons, and 122 were sailing-vessels, of 37,915 tons. With one exception all entered with cargo; but 90 steamers and 82 sailing-vessels cleared outwards in ballast. British shipping consisted of 150 steamers, of 102,577 tons, and 66 sailing-ships, of 21,206 tons; total, 216 vessels, of 123,783 tons. It was thus in both numbers and tonnage as nearly as possible one-half of the whole. The remaining steamers, 163 in number, and of 119,845 tons, consisted of 158 Chinese and 5 other vessels. The non-British sailing-ships, 56 in number, and of 16,709 tons, were 33 German and 20 of other nationalities, American, French, Danish, Swedish, and Chinese. Turning to the Returns for 1880, I find that the entries were, British, 127 steamers and 56 sailing-vessels, in all 183; vessels of other nationalities, 163 and 61, in all 224. Therefore, while the entries of vessels of other countries have decreased by 1 for steamers and 5 for sailing-ships, British steamers and sailing-ships have increased by 23 and 10 respectively.

The shipping trade has been fairly profitable throughout the year. Steamer freights were low, but in consequence large quantities of cheap cargo, which could not have afforded to pay higher rates, have been imported or exported, thus in a great degree recouping the steamers for their low freights, and at the same time increasing the general total of the trade.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The coal mines opened at Kaiping near here have been mentioned in the Reports of my predecessors for the last year or two. It has been proved now beyond doubt that there is an ample supply of coal of good quality at Kaiping, but it still remains to be seen whether the mines can be worked so as to give a profit on the capital expended upon them. They will doubtless furnish all the coal required in Tien-tsin and its neighbourhood, and will supply the steamers visiting the port. But more than this must be done, if the undertaking is to become a commercial success; and it is still considered by outsiders an open question whether the coal can be placed on the Shanghai market at a cost which will enable it to compete with Japan and Formosa coal. The output up to the present has been insignificant, as it was not worth while to raise any large quantity till the means were provided for conveying it economically to Tien-tsin. In about a month from now a canal which is being dug in the neighbourhood of the mines will be completed, and the real business will commence immediately. Preparations are also being made for the establishment of iron works in connection with the coal mines. The success of these depends, as far as I can see, on one event, and that is the building of railroads in the north of China, as in any other case it is difficult to imagine what will become of the iron produced. Indeed, one feels inclined to hazard the opinion that the Company must have received some

private intimation on this head from the high authorities before it could have determined to enter upon this additional branch of work.*

I have another small mining enterprize in this part of the country to chronicle, which, unfortunately, has not proved a success. An attempt has been made during the past year to open a copper mine on the European system in the district of P'ing-ch'üan Chow, which lies in the mountains east of Jehol, and about 150 miles north-east from this port. The engineer was a young man, a British subject, though not of European parentage, who had received a certain amount of training in Europe and America. The capital forthcoming was only about 10,000*l.* for plant and working expenses. Unfortunately, the whole of the money was expended before any vein was reached which afforded a hope of profitable working. The capitalist refused to advance more funds, and demanded that a trial should be made with such ore as had already been raised. Smelting, therefore, was attempted, and copper was indeed obtained, but in too small a quantity to pay the cost of smelting. The capitalist then closed the mine at once in disgust. The failure of the undertaking is to be regretted, as being likely to cause prejudice against foreign methods and appliances for the future.

In concluding this Report—though the matter is not directly concerned with local trade—I may mention the arrival just before the end of last season of two new men-of-war supplied to the Chinese Government by Sir W. Armstrong, and built in the yard of Messrs. C. Mitchell and Co. at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. A description of the vessels was published in a Shanghai newspaper, from which I have taken the following particulars :

The two vessels are sister ships; they are built of Siemen's Landore steel; and they are 220 feet in length over all, 31 feet in breadth, 17 feet in depth of hold; tonnage (builder's measurement), 975; net, 544. They have two pairs of two-cylindred compound engines, and carry coal for twenty-eight days' consumption at 9 knots speed. Each vessel carries two 25-ton breech-loading guns of 10 inch calibre, mounted on a central pivot turn-table and hydraulic carriage; also four breech-loading 40-pounders. At 3,000 yards shell from the large guns will pierce iron armour 13·8 inches thick. The vessels are also armed with rams. They possess great speed, and turn or stop with extraordinary quickness. They are said to give much satisfaction to their purchasers, and undoubtedly they do great credit both to their builders and to the distinguished firm which designed them.

* Since the above was written, I have learnt with much regret that much of the work going on at these mines has been stopped temporarily. The eastern tombs of the reigning dynasty are situated about sixty miles from Kaiping. A high official at Peking has memorialized the throne to the effect that the deep shaft dug at the mines, acting through the veins of the earth, will have a deleterious effect on the tombs. The Governor-General Li has been ordered to make inquiry and report; and in the meantime work has partially ceased. The Governor-General is placed in a difficult position. Either he must throw over a Company which has been formed with his direct sanction and encouragement, and which has laid out a very large quantity of capital, or he must take upon himself to declare the mines harmless, with the knowledge that he will then be considered responsible for any bodily ailment or other ill which may befall the Emperor or his family. For injury done to ancestral tombs is held in China to react upon the living members of a family. That mines should by means of the earth veins (or "dragon's veins" as they are called) affect tombs at a considerable distance, is quite in accordance with Chinese geomantic superstition; but the action taken by the high official at Peking may nevertheless be ascribed to political motives rather than zeal for the Emperor's health.

I append comparative Tables of the principal imports and exports at Tien-tsin during the past three years.

(Signed)

T. L. BULLOCK,
Acting Consul.

Tien-tsin, February 28, 1882.

COMPARATIVE Table of the Principal Imports at Tien-tsin from 1879 to 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Opium—				
Malwa	Piculs	4,189 48	2,700 70	2,095 08
Patna	"	373 20	8 40	174 00
Benares	"	66 00	...	...
Persiau	"	653 00	450 00	323 00
Prepared	"	64 71	...	...
Cotton goods—				
Shirts, grey	Pieces	1,218,885	975,075	1,115,598
" white	"	442,067	421,881	536,659
" dyed and brocaded .	"	22,674	13,695	6,778
" white	"	2,589	...	...
Prints, chintzes, and furnitures	"	61,957	58,704	61,144
Turkey red cambrics	"	181,061	119,011	154,683
Drills, English	"	145,780	91,165	166,788
" Dutch	"	38,890	49,300	2,840
" American	"	259,380	114,780	190,352
Sheetings, English	"	36,445	33,951	39,375
" American	"	409,042	865,333	368,977
T-cloths	"	570,767	494,130	513,715
Damasks, cotton	"	2,528	859	1,512
Jeans and twills	"	118,118	121,979	153,492
Dimities	"	1,900	...	1,130
Muslins	"	14,868	10,958	16,587
Velvets and velveteens	"	845	2,730	3,246
Handkerchiefs, cotton .	Dozens	21 152	13,752	30,330
Woollen goods—				
Spanish stripes, inferior	Pieces	6,435	6,632	8,173
Long ells	"	2,260	1,561	2,110
Camlets, English	"	9,060	6,570	6,143
" Dutch	"	130	540	210
" imitation ... ..	"	...	...	...
" imitation ... ..	"	...	...	...
" crape ... ..	"	...	...	549
Lustres and orleans	"	87,316	14,358	18,390
Woollen and cotton mixtures .	"	...	...	...
Broadcloth	"	50	...	318
Metals—				
Lead, in pigs	Piculs	12,049 90	8,046 86	8,421 63
Quicksilver	"	289 85	87 18	189 47
Steel, native and foreign	"	6,060 73	12,521 27	7,066 51
Iron	"	...	7,549 55	18,339 60
" nail-rod and bar	"	15,559 96	12,476 29	31,550 79
Tin	"	975 69	189 66	157 05
Copper, native and foreign	"	6,380 56	8,357 74	7,768 04
Sundries—				
Cotton, raw	"	11,736 08	2,972 68	377 20
Matches	Gross	89,460	92,050	181,541
Needles	Mille	874,150	1,010,234	459,780
Paper, 1st quality	Piculs	28,910 08	27,195 20	25,016 98
" 2nd	"	68,892 62	63,497 39	53,641 41
Seaweed, Japan .	"	30,011 58	28,169 53	37,225 63
" Russian	"	12,471 58	...	...
Sugar, brown	"	176,444 49	205,643 65	173,517 87
" white	"	99,375 91	153,913 10	123,016 02
" candy	"	16,989 12	30,355 74	25,162 65
Silk piece-goods	"	1,610 15	1,333 68	1,286 71
" ribbons	"	924 58	635 28	787 17
" embroidery .	"	49 76	48 77	26 86
" thread	"	24 93	20 87	28 85
" and cotton mixtures	"	57 36	38 17	176 54
Tea, black	"	3,769 50	6,498 30	1,285 07
" green	"	5,326 38	6,967 84	6,994 76
" dust	"	1,193 49	1,965 48	1,623 30
" coarse (Japan)	"	4,831 02	5,015 96	4,056 97
Window-glass	Boxes	10,804	10,831	8,966

COMPARATIVE Table of the Principal Exports at Tien-tsin from 1879 to 1881.

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	1879.	1880.	1881.
Braid, straw	Piculs ...	10,973 89	19,961 96	17,323 81
Dates, black	" ...	25,741 83	14,371 64	22,901 89
" red	" ...	20,200 83	22,991 95	28,915 71
Horns, deer, young	Pairs ...	4,406	5,119	3,696
Beans	Piculs ...	49 72	...	13,802 26
Rhubarb	" ...	346 15	700 24	1,094 75
Tobacco	" ...	693 62	531 20	679 69
Wool, camel's	" ...	9,502 58	16,442 46	9,772 31
" sheep's	" ...	142 86	708 81	1,362 61
Tea, black, for Russia	" ...	132,008 09	77,212 34	74,171 49
" brick	" ...	269,937 09	219,271 87	220,771 65

WENCHOW.

Report on the Trade of Wénchow during the Year 1881.

THE trade of this port during the above period shows few features worthy of comment. The following Tables, deduced from those of the Imperial Maritime Customs, through the courtesy of the Commissioner, show an average increase of 22 per cent. on the previous year of those imports that were brought by craft whose cargoes pass through the foreign Customs, while the exports show a diminution of 26 per cent. on the same period. It is impossible to ascertain how much of the increase is merely transference from purely native bottoms.

IMPORTS.

Opium—						Piculs.
1878	..	..	..	..	..	13 80
1879	..	..	..	..	..	60 60
1880	..	..	..	..	..	54 00
1881	..	..	..	..	..	189 80

			1881,	Percentage on Average of the 3 previous Years.		Percentage on 1880.	
				In- crease.	De- crease.	In- crease.	De- crease.
				Per ct.	Per ct.	Per ct.	Per ct.
Cotton goods	..	Piculs	80,826	10	..	..	..
Handkerchiefs	..	Dozens	1,620	40	..	..	..
Woollen goods	..	Pieces	6,243	19	..	..	..
Metals—							
Copper (Japanese)	..	Piculs	412	46	..	..	..
Iron, nail rod	..	..	4,236	100	..	..	..
" wire	..	..	36	5	..	..	..
Lead, in pigs	..	..	280	60	..	..	..
Steel	..	..	76	300	..	..	..
Sundries—							
Beans	..	..	1,221	..	..	..	20
Bêche-de-mer, black	..	..	26	..	20	..	..
" white	..	..	128	30	..	..	..
Dates, black	..	..	429	39	..	..	..
" red	..	..	773	95	..	..	..
Fungus	..	..	410	60	..	..	..
Window glass	..	Sq. feet	26,300	30	..	..	..
Lily flowers	..	Piculs	1,442	30	..	..	..
Matches	..	Gross	14,150	..	..	..	20
Medicines	..	Piculs	969	160	..	..	..
Nankeens	..	..	624	108	..	..	..
Kerosene oil	..	Gallons	40,000	37	..	..	..
Pepper, black	..	Piculs	51	12	..	..	..
Rattans	..	..	492	33	..	..	..
Sappanwood	..	..	284	50	..	..	..
Seaweed	..	..	3,881	25	..	..	..
Sugar, white	..	..	156	..	..	..	100
Tobacco	..	..	387	110	..	..	..
Varnish	..	..	87	..	20	..	..
Vermicelli	..	..	207	..	..	..	35
Vermillion	..	..	14 44	..	..	140	..
Walnuts	..	..	191	165	..	..	..
Wax, white	..	..	98	160	..	..	..
Total value	..	..	..	55	..	22	..

EXPORTS.

					Percentage on 1880.	
					Increase.	Decrease
					Per cent.	Per cent.
Bamboo shoots	Piculs ..	1,545	..	..	..	110 ⁺
Charcoal	" ..	12,848	..	..	75	..
Coir	" ..	1,672	..	..	45	..
Oranges	" ..	9,877	..	..	33	..
Cow hides	" ..	75	..	..	150	..
Kitty sols	Pieces ..	21,095	..	..	..	2½
Medicines	Piculs ..	2,870	..	..	14	..
Gum resin	" ..	795	..	..	(30 on 1879)	..
Sea blubber	" ..	364	..	..	(First year)	..
Tea, fired	" ..	699	..	..	..	70
" unfired	" ..	619	..	..	..	66
Poles, fir	" ..	25,988	..	..	15	..
Tobacco leaf	" ..	959	..	..	..	45
Total value .. ..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	26
Treasure (206,500 <i>l.</i>) .. ..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	2½

IMPORTS.

Opium.—The local crop was a partial failure in this district during 1880-81, hence the reason, to some extent, of the increase in the import. A further influence was in the reduction of the *li-kin* impost to 28 taels per chest, which is, I believe, 5 or 5 taels below the rate at Ningpo. The farmer of this tax had been forced to pay for 1881 the sum of 2,500 taels, an advance of 500 taels on the previous year, and he at once lowered the rate as above stated. The 189-80 piculs entered through the foreign Customs would give him 3,948 taels, and 35 piculs more brought by junks would yield 980 taels—total, 4,928 taels—a gross profit of nearly cent. per cent. It may well be that the Government might not net a better proportion if the tax were collected by officials.

Other Imports.—The Table shows at a glance the comparison with previous years. Where the average of the three years 1878-80 would be misleading, on account of a nil importation in any one of them, the percentage on 1880 alone is shown.

EXPORTS.

These show a decrease in value, referable chiefly to tea. The amount of leaf available for experimental shipments over and above what is taken by the known native markets, does not seem large enough to attract the attention of foreign buyers at Shanghai. The article is, however, a sound one, and I procure in the market for 1 dollar from 20 lbs. to 25 lbs. of the usual quality for my own consumption—a cheaper rate than I have ever met with elsewhere.

TRANSIT PASSES.

Inwards.—Of these 720 were issued, covering 5,000*l.* worth of goods as against 389, value 3,500*l.*, in 1880. T-cloths formed 40 per cent.; grey shirtings 19 per cent.; nail rod-iron 8 per cent.; and seaweed 20 per cent. of that total.

The proportion of the several items leaving the place so covered to the amount entering, is one to eight on an average.

These passes are issued to Chinese, but subject to the condition that they do not exempt the goods from the local *li-kin* tax. This proviso could scarcely have been insisted upon had there been a foreign merchant established here at the opening of the port, and of course it will vanish should one ever come to open a business. In the meantime, the Chinese merchants acquiesce in the arrangement as on the whole a gain to them.

Outwards.—In the event of a foreign merchant settling here he would find that, at present rates of levy, there would be a happy accord between himself and the barrier officials on the route for teas from the local districts, as to the inexpediency of displaying these signals for combat; nothing would be saved by their use.

TREASURE.

Silver, 206,500*l.*, and copper cash 5,300*l.* were sent to Shanghai and Ningpo. This is, roughly, 113,000*l.* more than the balance of trade, as evidenced by Imperial Maritime Customs. The native trade is an unknown quantity, and it is perilous to follow natives in their dealings with figures. Taking, however, these uncertain guides, who give native junk imports at 424,000*l.*; and exports at 112,000*l.*, the balance of trade, as shown by the treasure movements known to the foreign Customs, is more than accounted for.

It is not obvious where this drain is fed from. It would seem as if the area which takes and pays for all these imports, found it cheaper to pay down that silver for them which it gets by sending its products out by other routes. It is somewhat of a paradox, but I can suggest no better. The fisheries outside are worked by Foochow men, who take their nettings down there while they pay for their necessities off the port. That is but a small instance in which the paradox is true; but what of the inland regions? If this is the natural inlet for their wants, it is the natural outlet for their produce. I leave the problem unsolved. It suggests that the native banking fraternity are but feebly alive to their opportunities in this region in allowing all this bullion to "eat its head off" in perpetual travelling expenses and waste of time on the route.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The port was visited by three typhoons during the summer season, otherwise there has been nothing noteworthy in the weather.

The Chinese officials, in the few cases I have called for their action, have been most cordially anxious to give satisfaction. This pleasant feature is due to an important service which my predecessor, Mr. Everard, was able to render them in a troublesome affair, and which is often referred to by them with gratitude.

The Hospital opened by the China Inland Mission continues its useful course. Upwards of 4,000 attendances by general patients are recorded, and, further, more than 200 were at least temporarily cured of their craving for opium.

(Signed)

W. GAVIN STRONACH, *Consul.*

CHINA. No. 2 (1882).
(TRADE REPORTS.)

COMMERCIAL REPORTS

BY

HER MAJESTY'S CONSULS

IN

CHINA:

1881.

PART II.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1882.*

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

1882.

SHANGHAE.

Report on the Trade of Shanghai during the Year 1881.

THE Returns annexed to this Report are the following :—

1. Tabular Statement of Foreign Imports and Re-exports.
2. Summary of Foreign Imports and Re-exports.
3. Tabular Statement of Native Imports and Re-exports.
4. Summary of Native Imports and Re-exports.
5. Opium Return.
6. Tabular Statement of Native Exports and Re-exports.
7. Summary of Native Exports and Re-exports.
8. Tea Return.
9. Silk Return.
10. Transit Trade Return.
11. Summary of Gross and Net Value of Trade, 1879–1881.
12. Share taken at Shanghai by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade and the Transit Trade.

A glance at the appended Table (No. 11) of the gross and net values of the trade gives the following results : In foreign goods imported there is a notable increase, and the amount retained for local consumption was larger than in any previous year. The re-exports to Chinese ports were also above the average, so that the import trade shows an increase both locally and in that part of it which passes through Shanghai to supply the ports of Northern and Central China. The trade in native imports also exceeded that of previous years. But in exports there was a falling off as compared with 1879 and 1880, not, however, to such an extent as to affect the general results of the comparison.

Taking the trade as a whole, and including that portion which merely passes through Shanghai, its value exceeded that of any previous year. There was a corresponding increase in the value of the trade of the port itself, so that the importance of Shanghai, both as a local mart and a centre of distribution, continues to increase.

The subjoined figures show the gross value for the past four years of that portion of the trade of Shanghai which is taken cognizance of by the Imperial Customs under foreign management. This is exclusive of the bulk of the trade in junks, of which no statistics are available. The amount of duties paid to the Chinese Government is also given :—

				Trade.	Duties paid at Shanghai.
				Haikuan taels.	Haikuan taels.
1878	..	..	..	110,956,274	3,500,610
1879	..	..	..	131,474,499	4,018,128
1880	..	..	..	134,916,213	4,220,721
1881	..	..	..	141,291,357	4,373,940

The average value of the Haikuan tael during 1881 was 5s. 6½d.
What proportion of this trade is in our hands will be seen by the
[1871]

L 2

following percentages extracted from a Table given in the Customs Returns:—

	Foreign Trade.	Coast Trade.	Total Foreign and Coast.
British	68.30	53.74	60.34
American	1.68	0.48	1.02
German	2.59	1.06	1.75
French	3.39	0.38	8.02
Japanese	8.56	..	3.88
Chinese	1.44	43.95	24.62
All others	14.04	0.39	0.37
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

IMPORTS.

*Cotton Goods.**—The trade during the year 1881 was satisfactory. The imports and deliveries of the principal staples were above the average, as shown by the following comparative Table:—

	Imports.			Deliveries.		
	1881.	1880.	1879.	1881.	1880.	1879.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Grey shirtings	5,768,640	4,961,934	5,802,092	5,315,630	5,174,809	5,921,737
T-cloths	2,333,633	3,167,373	1,913,869	2,131,746	3,364,859	2,381,753
White shirtings	1,760,056	1,200,040	966,472	1,313,681	1,016,078	926,970
Drills, all kinds	1,200,102	935,664	1,012,401	1,066,386	806,568	1,126,142
Jeans	166,292	388,204	184,681	231,629	224,529	215,334
Sheetings	792,099	873,189	704,483	749,699	731,567	729,338
Shirtings, dyed, brocaded, &c. ...	103,466	110,525	88,432	151,263	92,475	98,699
Damasks, dyed	15,038	12,716	6,390	12,916	11,935	13,866
Chintzes	152,190	209,329	185,810	135,547	147,656	172,021
Printed twills	174,347	127,655	104,763	149,063	99,712	81,781
Turkey red shirtings	430,234	285,253	243,620	377,921	270,766	287,972
Velvets and velveteens	83,060	86,603	47,503	74,912	69,065	73,460
	Dozen.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Dozen.
Handkerchiefs	504,863	341,610	303,841	291,214	257,081	246,587
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Muslins	178,838	251,290	137,544	173,167	149,900	116,401
Spanish stripes	60,459	63,427	52,990	61,230	49,265	49,023
Medium and broad cloths	39,463	48,216	26,922	38,875	37,966	41,033
Camlets	165,075	115,102	108,714	141,141	107,397	110,447
Long ells	97,079	98,755	120,334	100,275	88,341	119,948
Lastings	115,327	71,763	63,328	91,129	66,838	67,631
Crape lastings	1,859	14,134	9,622	7,712	6,022	8,668
Cotton lastings	104,991	91,351	65,033	96,416	69,857	63,442
Lustres, plain, figured, and crape... ..	164,617	250,024	203,485	183,529	162,053	212,356
Cotton yarn	23,025	22,676	14,608	20,997	17,941	12,909

The following Table shows the manner in which these goods were distributed during the past year:—

* For information on this subject and on woollens I am chiefly indebted to the "Annual Retrospect" published by Mr. P. Maclean, to which and to other trade circulars reference will be made, no doubt, by all interested in fuller details than can be supplied in this sketch.

	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tien-tsin.	Newchwang.	Poochow.	Japan.	Sundries.	Local.	Total.
Grey shirtings	333,179	25,890	683,044	53,940	201,647	1,779,745	213,936	1,137,496	74,433	12,670	350,340	6,950	459,340	5,315,630
T-cloths	137,610	37,915	111,215	34,245	96,980	460,113	235,826	619,423	18,450	83,093	28,400	78,161	167,065	9,191,746
White shirtings	34,458	2,480	73,808	6,510	18,348	482,539	34,840	544,029	18,000	9,970	23,493	13,711	60,306	1,313,081
Drills, English and Dutch	12,635	2,460	32,055	9,730	12,410	199,194	30,290	816,102	49,775	1,965	23,085	10,594	8,770	597,050
" American	6,336	1,780	19,100	1,770	795	61,610	41,103	182,141	136,640	705	9,723	4,975	12,600	469,336
Jeans, all kinds	31,100	90	3,645	2,390	680	38,615	18,435	117,660	1,340	480	580	9,974	3,790	221,629
Sheetings, all kinds	4,955	...	23,540	16,180	7,305	130,870	74,970	415,894	56,925	50	130	360	18,640	749,699
Shirtings, gent., white, dyed	45,711	430	27,073	1,449	4,890	19,884	15,503	23,323	9,323	1,199	9,398	1,440	6,650	151,278
Damasks	...	...	2,993	160	...	7,217	803	1,440	2,160	...	...	5	...	13,916
Chintzes	4,239	80	7,892	673	3,968	27,380	11,516	52,608	5,091	1,370	...	3,934	17,470	135,457
Printed twills	2,968	330	16,591	813	1,535	54,771	10,038	46,543	7,019	2,240	260	200	5,876	149,088
Turkey red shirtings	7,064	3,403	24,867	339	1,080	39,695	78,437	160,914	21,362	2,273	13,606	7,929	7,973	377,921
Velvets and velveteens	2,152	258	4,650	1,665	3,337	29,299	9,594	2,670	4,162	952	15,448	1,910	5,964	74,913
Handkerchiefs	5,264	1,240	37,538	17,440	23,840	83,960	3,637	24,015	17,316	2,940	8,370	7,011	53,560	291,214
Muslins, lavus, &c.	1,087	...	87,538	194	516	15,457	3,637	14,869	8,800	5,066	113,748	1,369	11,190	173,187
Spanish stripes	2,926	792	5,444	756	5,360	14,475	3,176	7,983	790	1,639	2,139	753	5,354	51,230
Medium and broad cloths	1,039	240	2,720	498	5,360	23,109	1,419	3,032	698	296	138	467	4,744	38,675
Camlets	2,480	1,848	3,970	3,470	11,512	90,421	1,595	8,730	3,060	7,290	1,510	3,745	8,560	148,141
Long ells	4,770	680	9,900	3,940	9,760	61,480	430	9,185	1,640	1,050	8,830	940	5,940	100,275
Lastings	1,573	430	1,231	606	3,959	45,637	9,730	13,604	13,718	1,460	1,230	976	1,660	91,139
" crape	30	...	1,770	...	868	530	1,300	1,249	9,288	80	20	60	280	7,712
" cotton	1,380	480	4,036	53	368	5,434	27,323	47,791	9,288	175	40	69	40	96,416
Lustres, plain, figured, and crape	5,394	960	23,954	969	3,663	65,657	16,230	19,924	5,660	1,430	23,581	1,614	12,890	183,539

It will be seen from the above that Hankow is the largest customer for grey shirtings; that Tien-tsin comes next, and takes more T-cloths, drills, and sheetings than Hankow; but that the largest consumer of woollen goods is not the northern port, where furs of all kinds are more in requisition than woollens, but the country about Hankow, where the winter is not so severe.

It is stated in Mr. Maclean's "Retrospect" that there has been much trouble in consequence of the prevalence of mildew in cotton goods, and it is implied that the defect is caused by undue sizing. As sized cotton goods have certain uses, some American officials have been lately recommending their countrymen to follow in the footsteps of Manchester. On the policy of this advice it is not my province to offer an opinion. I may, however, be pardoned for suggesting that undue sizing should be the exception, and not, as it would seem to be, the rule, and that heavily-sized goods should be designated by a specific name, so that no one concerned in any capacity, intermediary or otherwise, could plead ignorance as to the nature of the article for which he has contracted.

Speaking of drills, the authority above mentioned says:—"The American manufacturers are to be congratulated on the steady manner in which they have abstained from reducing the cost of their productions by the introduction of sizing into the cloths, and it is becoming more and more evident that the English maker will have to follow their example if he means to keep in the field."

On the other hand, a Manchester firm, writing under date of the 30th November last, states:—"That heavily-sized drills have certainly been sent to China, but it was to meet the demand made for this class of article by the Chinese themselves, who could not expect to purchase cloth at the same price as filling, and who knew perfectly well what it was they were buying. None of these heavily-sized goods have been sent for some time, their place having been taken by the pure drill. . . . English drills are once more gaining their proper position in the China market, a position they would never have lost had it not been for the Chinese merchants themselves."

It is to be hoped that the view taken by the Manchester merchant, whose letter I quote, is correct, and that the Chinese merchants may not again succeed in tempting us to damage our position and injure our prospects in the markets of the East.

The following remarks bearing on this subject, extracted from a local journal, may prove interesting:—

"We have little doubt that, except for those uses in which sized goods do as well as the more honestly made, the consumption of the latter classes of grey cottons will go on increasing year by year while China continues as prosperous as she has been for some time past. The people have more money to spend, and are spending it in their own fashion. They are buying better materials, and it is our belief they will continue to do so while their country enjoys peace and plenty. If English merchants who import cotton goods do not meet this changed state of affairs, they will certainly lose their market in China; but we have every faith that their own interests will lead them to supply a better class of goods now that these are coming into greater demand."

Woollens.—Although the trade did not altogether fulfil the expectations which were entertained at the beginning of the year, yet the deliveries of all kinds exceeded those of last year. The rates ruling at the auction sales were unsatisfactory to importers, but as the supply was so large, sellers had to be contented with moderate prices. The monthly quotations show that the price of camlets, Spanish stripes, long ells, and lastings gradually declined throughout the year, while the quotations for

medium and broad cloths were the same in December as they were in January.

Opium.—The comparative Table of the import of opium appended to this Report shows an increase in the import of all kinds of Indian opium during the past year as compared with 1880. There was a falling off in the import of Persian opium, but on the whole the total import was above the average. This circumstance was partly due to increased consumption, and partly to speculation consequent on a report that the taxation of opium was about to be increased. An Imperial Decree was, in fact, published in June directing the provincial authorities to report upon a proposal of his Excellency Tso-tsung-t'ang to raise the present fixed duty and variable *li-kin* on foreign opium to an uniform total charge of 150 taels a picul. Exaggerated reports of Tso's influence led the dealers to believe that his recommendation would be promptly carried into effect. Large purchases were at once made, but as the scheme proposed met with obstacles, speculators incurred serious loss. Tso's proposal had been referred to the Governors-General and other high officials, who were directed to state their views. In a semi-official newspaper published here on the 24th September, it was announced that some of these functionaries suggested that, in accordance with a proposal which had been previously made, the duty should be raised to 60 taels. Others recommended a total collection (duty and *li-kin*) of 80 taels; others an uniform inland tax or *li-kin* of 35 taels, and others double the existing rate.

The newspaper pointed out that, unlike the import duty, which is uniform, the *li-kin* varies in amount, the highest rate being at Amoy, where it is 83.16 taels per picul; the lowest at Ichang, where it is 9 taels, the average rate prevailing at the ports being 35.27 taels per picul.

Offers had been made to farm the whole of the opium revenue, but nothing had been decided. The publication of this information, showing that the Peking Government intended to proceed with deliberation, had the effect of quieting the opium market. A part of Tso's proposed scheme, which coming from him caused surprise, was the formal imposition under Imperial sanction of an *ad valorem* duty on native opium. This was understood to mean that the nominal restrictions on the cultivation of native opium were to be withdrawn, and that, as I believe, is the rule at present in the case of *li-kin* generally, and of the Customs export duty at Hankow—the tax on the native drug should be everywhere only one-half the amount of that levied on foreign opium. This scheme, if fully carried out, taken in connection with the insertion by the Peking Government in recently-made Treaties of clauses prohibiting the introduction of opium by sea, simply means the encouragement of native as opposed to foreign-grown opium. It must of course lead to a wide extension of the practice of opium smoking, as it will vastly increase the facilities, while lessening the expense of that indulgence. As yet, however, except at a few of the ports near to places where the poppy is very extensively cultivated, the native product has affected but slightly the import of the Indian drug. In fact, the import to Shanghai in 1881, and indeed to China generally, has been above the average, and this, too, despite the increasing popularity of native opium. It is interesting to notice that, while on the one hand, India is becoming so formidable a rival of China in the production of tea, that some predict Europe will in time draw the larger portion of its supply from India, on the other hand, China is sustaining a still more successful competition with India in the production of opium; and the prediction is often heard that Indian opium will be at no distant period driven out of the China market.

Indian opium is, however, chiefly destined for exportation; China opium for home consumption. Naturally, therefore, the latter would, under

ordinary circumstances, have the advantage over its foreign rival, and obtain in time the monopoly of the home market. This result has already been secured in Western China, where Indian opium is no longer seen. That the native drug is making its way in Eastern China is evident from the following Table, showing the amount of Szechuan opium carried in vessels of foreign build from Hankow, and reported to the Customs at this port:—

Imported in—						Pic. c.
1871	..	..	..	..	..	11 58
1872	..	..	..	..	..	310 39
1873	..	..	..	..	..	148 70
1874	..	..	..	..	..	75 17
1875	..	..	..	..	..	891 35
1876	..	..	..	..	..	1,600 45
1877	..	..	..	..	..	1,079 54
1878	..	..	..	..	..	798 09
1879	..	..	..	..	..	117 44
1880	..	..	..	..	..	718 36
1881	..	..	..	..	..	2,402 82

The following extracts are from a Report on the opium market for 1881, kindly furnished by one of the leading firms engaged in the trade:—

Malwa.—The prices fluctuated a good deal during the year under review. In the month of January new drug was quoted at 560·05 taels, old at 570·05 taels, and prices gradually receded until the end of May to 504·47 taels for new drug, according to quality, and 530 40 taels for old. At this time it was reported amongst the natives that the duty on Indian opium was to be increased to 150 taels per picul, and a strong speculative demand set in, which forced rates up to 556 taels for new and 590 taels for old. During the month of July the dealers in all the provinces read in the Chinese papers of the intended increase of duty, and believing in the report bought largely and over-stocked themselves. The chief impetus to this rise in price came from Tien-tsin, where the report of the intended increase of duty was first circulated. The Chinese, however, soon lost faith in the report, the market therefore became inanimate, and rates declined to 500·49 taels for new and 525 taels for old, with an accumulated stock and a dull market.

As anticipated in last year's Report, the native crop proved larger than usual, owing to the greater extent of ground which was planted with the poppy all over China, and to the increased attention which was paid to the cultivation of the native drug, the quality of which has much improved. Its comparative cheapness induces a greater consumption, and the taste for it is being largely acquired.

It is clear that Indian opium is seriously threatened by the competition of the native-grown drug, and there is but little doubt that the trade in the former will have nearly died out when a new generation of smokers shall have learnt to appreciate the cheapness of the native product.

There is no doubt that the consumption of opium of all descriptions increases from year to year. The import of Persian opium, for instance, which ten years ago arrived in very small quantities for the consumption of the northern ports of China, has this year increased to 1,364 piculs; but the native-grown opium improves so rapidly, both in quality and quantity, that it will not be surprising to find in a short time that it seriously interferes with the Indian drug, and altogether puts a stop to the importation of Persian opium. The heavy *li-kin* tax in China on the one hand, and the export tariff in India on the other, so cripple the trade in the Indian drug, that only those merchants who are more closely con-

nected with India, and whose charges are reduced to the lowest limit, are able to retain their position in the trade.

In the Provinces of Szechuan, Yünnan, Shanse, Shense, Kansuh, and Kueichow, the Indian drug is almost driven out, and little or none is now sent to these places, the consumption being exclusively supplied by the home-grown product.

Newchwang, which used at one time to import about 3,000 piculs of Indian opium, only imported 358 piculs during 1881. The time is not far off when it will export and largely supply other ports with native opium.

Chefoo and *Tien-tsin* are also slowly following the example of *Newchwang*, and the import of the Indian drug has decreased 15 per cent. during the past year.

Patna began at 475 taels in January, and gradually declined to 415 taels in May. The short weight of this drug is greatly complained of; a difference of from 8 to 10 catties per chest between the early and late arrivals in summer is far too much, and greatly conduces to the loss of confidence of the Chinese dealers in it, whilst the importers have to face the discrepancy, by selling the opium comparatively cheaply, and experience no small difficulty in inducing the Chinese to purchase it. An effectual and early remedy should be applied to this serious complaint. On the report of the anticipated increase of duty becoming known extensive speculative operations took place, and rates advanced to 495 taels in August, but afterwards receded to 448 taels in December with a declining market.

Benares fluctuated in the same ratio as *Patna*, but speculation therein was not indulged in to such an extent. The native opium, as far as can be seen, does not very much affect the consumption of the Bengal drug, since, owing to its strong smell, it is used to a great extent in mixing with the native staple to take the place of *Malwa*.

Persian in January was quoted at 440 taels per picul, and a steady trade was being done in this description; but now, owing to the decline in rates both of the Indian and native drug it has suffered immensely, and is neglected everywhere, even at 350 taels per picul, the Chinese preferring their home-grown opium to the Persian drug.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

The following is a comparative Table of the principal miscellaneous imports into Shanghai during 1880 and 1881 :—

				1880.	1881.
Coal, foreign and native	..	Tons	..	204,838	236,808
Ginseng .. ..	..	Piculs	..	3,577	3,487
Hats, straw .. ..	..	Pieces	..	6,676,364	7,262,520
Hemp .. ..	..	Piculs	..	97,742	86,091
Matches .. ..	..	Gross	..	1,079,027	1,223,717
Medicines .. ..	..	Piculs	..	174,203	197,971
Needles .. ..	..	Mille	..	1,060,638	1,383,450
Oil, kerosine .. ..	..	Gallons	..	3,225,980	3,871,945
„ wood, bean, &c. ..	..	Piculs	..	97,501	92,076
Paper .. ..	..	„	..	123,016	123,844
Sandal-wood .. ..	..	„	..	65,568	97,500
Sapan-wood .. ..	..	„	..	53,647	95,143
Seaweed and agar-agar	..	„	..	303,284	311,857
Silk, all sorts .. ..	..	„	..	15,685	19,534
„ piece-goods .. ..	..	„	..	3,843	3,631
Straw braid .. ..	..	„	..	50,803	50,067
Sugar .. ..	..	„	..	1,438,601	1,304,135
Tobacco .. ..	..	„	..	157,900	125,360
Metals—					
Copper .. ..	..	„	..	10,987	12,479
Iron .. ..	..	„	..	824,957	665,459
Lead .. ..	..	„	..	94,220	205,325
Tin .. ..	..	„	..	45,702	70,745
Steel .. ..	..	„	..	25,591	24,083
Machinery .. ..	..	Packages	..	738	1,772

EXPORTS.

Black Tea.—In a local review of the tea market, to which I am indebted for almost all the information on the subject of tea in this Report, it is observed that:—“The past tea season has been remarkable for two facts: the scarcity of, and consequent home demand for, fine tea, and the increased falling off, amounting in some cases to almost absolute abstention, in the consumption of common.” The demand for fine tea was no doubt due to the circumstance that the Indian crop happened to be moderate. The price of common tea in London fell so low as hardly to cover the cost of freight, insurance, and packing. To judge from the statements of experts, fine tea is likely always to be in some demand, as large quantities are absorbed by Russia, and although India supplies London to a certain extent with a substitute, the yield of such teas in China seems to be limited.

Medium teas may also be expected to find a market, but at a considerable reduction in the prices formerly paid, and common teas are likely to be rejected.

The first and second crop black teas, including all the finest qualities, were, as usual, purchased at Hankow, and to a large extent shipped direct from that port. Buyers from Shanghai flocked to Hankow early in May, and details of the trade are doubtless given in the Hankow Consular Report.

In Shanghai business commenced in July with the second crop. The following shows the prices paid in Shanghai for second crop teas during the month of July of the past three years:—

	1881.			1880.			1879.		
	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.
Ningchow	9½	to	1 6½	9½	to	1 5½	9½	to	1 6½
Keemen	11		1 3	11		1 4	11½		1 3½
Oopack	9		0 11	10½		1 0	9½		1 0
Hokow	9		1 2	9½		1 2	9		1 1½
Oanfa	9½		1 2½	10		1 2	9½		1 1½
Shuntam	7½		0 8	9		0 9½	9		0 9½

The following are the prices paid in September for third crop teas :—

	1881.			1880.			1879.		
	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.	d.	s.	d.
Ningchow	9	to	1 1½	9½	to	1 1	9	to	1 0½
Oopack	8½		0 10½	9½		0 11	8½		0 11½
Shuntam	7½		0 7½	8½		0 9	8½		0 9½

Green Tea.—The crop of 1881 and 1882 has been the largest known since 1874 and 1875, and the quality, though scarcely so poor as in black teas, has been decidedly below the average even of the last few seasons. Luckily, the Japan crop has been poor, and also 4,000,000 less than last year's total, and this has had some good effect on China greens. The losses to importers on early shipments of country teas, especially Teenkais, were very heavy, and though in September this caused Shanghai rates to fall to a moderate range, yet they soon hardened again, and with some slight lullis have since continued firm and with an advancing tendency.

The United States of America still continue to be the largest consumers of green tea, the quantity sent thither during the past season being 20,388,000 lbs., out of a total exported from all China of 27,851,000 lbs.

The following Table shows the average price of green tea for the past three years :—

	1881-82.		1880-81.		1879-80.	
	Taels.		Taels.		Taels.	
Moyune—						
Fine to choicest	24	to 31	23	to 33	28	to 40
Good medium	23	28	22	29	24	36
Teen kai—						
Fine to choicest	25	35½	23½	35	26	40
Good medium	22	28	23	30	23	36
Fychow—						
Good to fine	21	27	20	30	20	30
Pingsuey—						
Fine to choice	25	32	23	34	26	40
Good medium	21	27	20	29	20	30
Common country chops	16	21	16	22	16	29
Common Pingsuey chops	13	18	14	20	14	26

Silk.—The silk season, 1st June, 1881, to 31st May, 1882, will probably be long remembered in connection with a circumstance of an exceptional character by which it was distinguished. The market was to a large extent controlled by a Chinese speculator, who, calculating on the

consequences of a reported deficiency in the crops, both in China and in Italy, acquired and held throughout the season 10,000 bales. The reports proved to be exaggerated, and although speculation upon so large a scale forced up prices, the supply of silk exceeded the demand, and at the close of the season the daring operator was left with the bulk of his stock still on hand. This result was no doubt due in part to the comparative cheapness of European silk and to the financial troubles in France.

The following brief account of the course of the Shanghai market is given by a firm engaged in the trade:—

“The first purchase of new silk was made on the 11th June at a cost to sell of 16*s.* per lb. for No. 4 Tsatlee, the quotation in London at that time being 15*s.* 6*d.*, but during the next week prices were run up to the parity of 18*s.* for this grade, a report of a deficiency in the Italian crop being the cause of the excitement. This report proving to be exaggerated, prices quickly declined 1*s.* per lb., but at this point Chinese speculators stepped in, and by their purchases forced values up to 20*s.*, a figure which was reached in October. It is estimated that at one time speculators held 15,000 bales, representing a lock-up of some 5,000,000 taels. Foreign markets responded but slowly to the advance, the highest point reached in London being only 17*s.* 6*d.* for the silk sold here at 20*s.* Finding this to be the case speculators began selling, and for the remainder of the season business dragged on in a dull and inanimate way, with but few intervals of life, prices gradually falling, until in May of this year ‘No. 4 Tsatlees’ were worth only 17*s.*, and not currently saleable at that price.

“Altogether the season was a disappointing one, both to foreign merchants and to Chinese, and profitable trading was the exception. The export showed a marked falling off as compared with the previous season.”

The statistics of the export as given by different firms vary slightly, but the following figures may be considered tolerably correct:—

					1881-82.	1880-81.
Export to—					Bales.	Bales.
England	.	..	..	..	13,276	21,708
France	..	..	..	..	29,263	43,775
Italy and Switzerland	..	..	..	..	1,025	2,604
America	..	..	..	..	7,036	9,341
Bombay, Straits, and Coast Ports	..	..	..	..	2,319	5,985
Total	..	..	..	..	52,919	83,413

Cocoons.—The establishment of filatures in Shanghai by three foreign firms has led to an increased demand for cocoons. Purchases have still to be made in the interior, but it is hoped that when dealers become aware that a market can be found in Shanghai, cocoons will be brought here for sale. The Shanghai filatures will no doubt exert a favourable influence in stimulating native manufacturers to pay greater attention to the reeling and preparation of silk, in which, despite of numerous complaints, there has been little or no improvement.

Waste Silk.—This substance is used in the manufacture of various cheap stuffs, for which there is an increasing demand in Europe. Prices have naturally risen, and the export has increased to 18,679 piculs, against 14,522 piculs during the previous year.

Pierced Cocoons have also met with a ready sale, and 2,120 piculs were exported, as compared with 1,919 in 1880-81.

Subjoined is a comparative Table of the principal exports from Shanghai during the years 1880 and 1881 :—

Description of Goods.				1880.	1881.
Silk, all sorts	..	..	Piculs	82,904	70,042
„ piece-goods	..	..	..	8,574	8,531
Tea, all sorts	..	..	..	794,202	881,059
Cotton, raw	..	..	..	552,194	347,650
Nankeens	..	..	..	26,353	25,873
Hemp	..	..	..	75,562	62,576
Hats, straw	..	..	Pieces	6,860,388	1,709,687
Hides	..	..	Piculs	18,522	33,285
Medicines	..	..	..	155,659	175,530
Nutgalls	..	..	..	23,881	23,820
Paper	..	..	..	119,771	34,655
Oil, wood, bean, &c.	..	..	..	50,917	51,863
Rice	..	..	..	3,208,660	3,665,990
„ tribute	..	..	..	717,279	713,925
Straw-braid	..	..	..	48,636	50,463
Sugar	..	..	..	908,860	777,355
Tobacco	..	..	..	81,102	61,264
Vermicelli	..	..	..	75,868	50,946
Wheat	..	..	..	600,471	871,220

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS.

The Woosung Bar.

This never-failing source of obstruction to the commerce of the port has become more noteworthy by reason of the probability of its speedy removal. A contract for the construction of a powerful steam-dredger was signed by the Shanghai Taotai and Mr. William Watson, a British subject, on the 26th December. The dredger is to be delivered within twelve months from the date of the contract; hence it may be confidently expected to be at work on the bar by the end of 1882. It is satisfactory to find that the native authorities have at length opened their eyes to the fact that it is better to afford a clear entrance to the port for commercial purposes than to preserve the bar as a questionable protection to Shanghai in case of war. Merchants have hitherto been often put to great expense on account of the necessity of lightening many steamers at Woosung before they are able to enter the river. During one week in the spring of 1881 four steamers had to be lightened before they could approach Shanghai. The mercantile community have, especially of late years, when steamers have increased in size and draught, endeavoured to obtain the dredging of the bar, and, failing the assistance of the Chinese authorities, offered in 1880 to accomplish the work themselves, proposing to defray the expenses consequent thereupon out of a River Conservancy Fund, to be raised by the imposition of special dues of one-tenth of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* on all merchandize passing through the foreign custom-house. The native officials declined to accede to this proposal, and the question was again shelved. It is all the more surprising and gratifying, therefore, that the Chinese authorities have now come forward and taken the initiative in the removal of the bar.

In connection with this subject I may mention that in May of the year under review a new channel across the bar, which had been known for some time to experienced ship-masters, was marked out by the Engineering Department of the Foreign Customs.

Meteorological Service for the Coast of China.

Efforts were made during the past year by the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce to organize a system of Meteorological Reports, "with the view of improving the knowledge of the origin and direction of storms, and warning mariners of their approach." The Chamber applied to the Director of an Observatory which has been in existence for several years in this neighbourhood at the Jesuit College of Sicauei. The Observatory is at present conducted by an able meteorologist, whose researches have already been of material advantage to navigators on the China coast. This gentleman readily agreed to the proposals of the Chamber, that he should assume the direction of a meteorological service. A meeting of representatives of local steamer and insurance companies was held, and a Committee appointed to report on the best means of carrying out the object in view. Some difficulty was at first experienced in obtaining the co-operation of the Customs Department; but, if this be secured, as now seems probable, the intentions of the Chamber will be realized, and great benefits may be expected to result to science and navigation.

Chinese Loan of 1881.

In March 1881 negotiations were entered into between Hu Kuang-yung, an honorary Taotai, as Agent for the Chinese Government, and the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, for the raising of a foreign loan to defray the expenses of the army, which had been occupied with the subjugation of the provinces on the north-west frontier. Tso Tsung-t'ang, Governor-General of the Provinces of Shên-si and Kansuh, under whose direction the military operations had been carried on, found himself at the end of the campaign with an empty exchequer, while the troops were half mutinous on account of large arrears of pay. The supplies for the defrayal of expenses connected with the reorganization of the territories under his control had been furnished by Imperial Decree out of the Customs revenues of several provinces. From various causes the remittances from these sources had largely diminished, and in some cases had failed altogether: thus Tso Tsung-t'ang was forced to seek for resources in other directions. A foreign loan being suggested, he grasped readily at the idea, and having obtained permission from the Throne to raise it, the Governor-General instructed Hu Kuang-yung to act as his agent in negotiating with the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank a loan of 3,000,000 taels, which amount was afterwards increased by 1,000,000 taels. This loan is not guaranteed, as were those previously issued, by the hypothecation of the foreign Customs, but by certain securities given by the Province of Kansuh. The rate of interest is the same as before, namely, 8 per cent.

It may seem strange that a country, apparently of great resources, should be obliged to seek outside for so small a loan as 1,000,000*l.*; also, that it cannot obtain even this trifling amount, except upon terms which would be almost prohibitory to any other Power. But it must be remembered that there exists such a distrust of the governing classes in China, that though there is no lack of wealth among the native bankers, traders, and gentry, they allow their money to lie idle, or invest it in land or houses, returning little more than half the interest given on the foreign loans, rather than lend it to a Government which might at any moment repudiate its obligations with impunity where its own subjects only are concerned.

Shanghai Cotton Mill.

The cotton factory, which was started by an expectant Taotai, named Pêng, in 1878, under the auspices of the Superintendents of Foreign

Trade, has remained at a standstill for more than two years, partly from want of funds, partly on account of the incapacity of the Directorate of the Company. Recognizing the latter fact, the Superintendent of Foreign Trade for the northern ports removed Pêng from the head of the enterprise and appointed Tai, also an expectant Taotai, to be Director of the Company. An agreement had been drawn up in 1879 between the Company and a local British merchant, by which the latter was to purchase the requisite machinery for an 800 loom mill. After the withdrawal of Pêng from the Directorate, the Company appear to have reduced the dimensions of the projected factory to one of 200 looms, and in 1881 the original contract was annulled, Tai Taotai paying the forfeit money of 15,000 taels.

The enterprise, it would appear, has not, however, dropped, for an Imperial Decree has lately been received by the Superintendent of Trade for the northern ports, authorizing the raising of money to carry on the work by the issue of new shares. The Decree further grants a monopoly of the local manufacture of cotton goods to the present Company, and concedes the advantage of allowing local sales of the goods manufactured by the Company to be made without taxation. This patronage of the scheme by the Government has naturally given a strong impetus to the project, as evidenced by the daily advance in price of the shares issued.

The new Company is, it appears, obtaining the plant for the factory from the United States. Up to the date of this Report (August 1882) there is, however, no sign of the commencement of building operations. On the site belonging to the old Company the foundations of an extensive establishment were built, but they are now covered with weeds and present the picture of desolation.

Overland Telegraph.

The overland telegraph from Shanghai to Tien-tsin, constructed by the Great Northern Telegraph Company for the Chinese Government, was completed by the middle of December 1881, and was opened to the public on the 28th of that month. The line follows the course of the Grand Canal, the stations between Shanghai and Tien-tsin being Soochow, Chinkiang, and Tsing-kiang in the Province of Kiang-su, and Chi-ning and Lin-ching, in the Province of Shantung. At Tien-tsin the line connects with one between that port and Taku, at the mouth of the Peiho, which has been in operation for some years. The Government have not thought it advisable to connect the capital with Tien-tsin by telegraph, but as the distance between these two places is only 80 miles, which can be covered by express couriers in about eight hours, no very great loss of time is felt. Shanghai is now practically within twelve hours' reach of Peking, whereas, before the establishment of the telegraph, the average time in summer taken for the transmission of intelligence between the two places was five days, and in winter twelve days. The line having been opened so recently, it is impossible to know yet how useful it may prove in commercial matters. The high tariff, viz., 20 cents per word, between Shanghai and Tien-tsin, which has since been increased by 50 per cent., is almost prohibitive except for important messages; and as it is said that native messages are subject to supervision by the Telegraph authorities, Chinese merchants are chary about exposing their commercial operations to the official eye.

Estimate of the Value of Property in Shanghai.

The Chamber of Commerce favoured me, in February last, with a Memorandum on the value of foreign-owned property in Shanghai, a copy

of which is annexed to this Report. There was some difficulty in apportioning the ownership among the different nationalities, but the total value of the property in the foreign settlements, including land, houses, merchandize, &c., is estimated by the Chamber at 14,250,000*l*. This estimate, which certainly does not err on the side of exaggeration, enables us to judge of the importance of our interests at this port. Although the exact proportions in which different nationalities are interested cannot be easily ascertained, it is fair to assume that by far the larger portion of the total above mentioned consists of British capital, and that our stake in the foreign settlements here is proportionately no less than our share in the trade, that is to say, considerably more than that of the total interest of all other countries.

I beg to direct attention to the annexed Report on the shipping trade of the port, furnished by Mr. Hurst, the Acting Registrar of Shipping, and to the Report on the working of the Mixed Court, by Mr. Carles. Mr. Coulthard has taken much trouble in collecting miscellaneous information.

In conclusion, I have to apologize for the delay in forwarding this Report, which is owing to the fact that the Shanghai Customs statistics for 1881 were not obtainable until the 10th July.

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, *Consul*.

Shanghai, August 1882.

(Table No. 1.)—TRADE in Foreign Goods. Imports and Re-exports.

(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value.
Opium—											
Malwa	Pounds	39,246 97	18,114,303	1,010 81	566,069	...	...	29,599 11	16,569,907	2,768 68	3,110,456
Patna	"	10,969 95	4,442,850	174 01	70,470	...	...	2,450 50	992,436	8,633 48	3,320,564
Benares	"	8,881 20	3,696,686	43 20	17,406	...	...	2,943 60	1,192,168	6,980 80	2,423,234
Pernan	"	1,364 74	605,945	87 99	39,072	...	444	866 73	384,724	586 00	259,849
Cotton goods—											
Shirtings, grey	Pieces	5,272,529	6,959,738	552,989	729,880	345,892	456,564	4,515,304	5,960,301	964,982	1,972,883
" white, plain	"	1,364,429	1,977,466	440,774	643,630	24,366	35,574	1,210,143	1,766,807	56,696	818,618
" dyed, plain	"	9,278	18,935	16,123	32,727	1,698	3,446	79,885	163,167	...	...
" geutian	"	19,695	55,771	...	...	...	...	13,602	27,612	...	...
" white, spotted and broaded	"	7,813	13,359	50	85	494	844	4,809	8,324	3,559	4,376
" dyed	"	56,917	117,249	850	1,751	...	...	43,437	89,460	14,340	29,540
" American	"	700	938	...	...	...	...	130	161	580	777
" Oxford	"	307	1,104	...	...	...	...	...	...	307	1,104
T-cloth, 32 inches	"	1,309,816	1,074,049	324,913	366,439	80,136	65,711	1,589,088	1,803,012	424,410	554,383
" 36 inches	"	530,356	669,502	195,650	254,345	9,080	11,739	590,596	877,775	13,567	25,777
" printed	"	81,492	40,215	...	...	...	...	18,135	34,438	...	...
Drills, English	"	592,173	971,164	49,745	81,579	21,774	35,709	534,209	876,103	85,934	140,931
" American	"	475,545	1,331,526	12,555	35,154	10,362	38,734	426,783	1,192,192	52,055	145,754
" Dutch	"	6,370	107,792	30	64	...	...	39,310	83,909	11,190	23,947
Jeans, English	"	96,248	129,687	7,130	9,413	100	133	146,770	193,738	...	...
" American	"	36,100	70,395	45	89	...	...	38,770	75,602	...	...
" Dutch	"	19,350	31,185	...	...	...	...	9,610	16,617	9,610	15,568
Sleeatings, English	"	168,368	304,565	7,398	13,390	25	45	161,940	293,111	13,701	24,799
" American	"	593,615	1,519,484	5,480	14,029	120	307	564,534	1,445,207	34,441	88,169
Turkey red cloths or cambrics	"	149,834	164,817	3,827	3,990	384	423	139,874	139,874	35,919	39,510
Denmarks, dyed	"	498,383	523,100	31,194	40,553	14,110	18,343	355,174	461,737	64,398	83,583
Velvets	"	15,465	55,198	40	139	...	...	12,445	43,376	3,433	11,949
Velveteens	"	56,628	269,073	6,170	29,370	16,190	77,064	34,736	174,964	9,772	46,516
Cambrics and Jaconets	"	17,896	85,160	5,579	26,556	106	453	16,434	77,617	6,944	33,637
Dimities	"	894	392	1,770	1,068	...	...	1,098	735	1,266	585
Trilla	"	2,532	9,777	60	56	...	...	1,730	1,920	563	613
" printed	"	4,909	7,864	...	...	814	1,350	90,558	33,993	...	...
Malles	"	139,538	231,169	1,634	2,993	...	...	120,963	317,259	30,479	36,963
Lawas	"	76,013	26,736	1,567	278	35,768	17,526	33,123	16,331	6,785	3,277
Taffetas	"	69,005	37,983	583,603	18,491	71,560	39,248	15,090	8,340	16,157	8,866
	"	13,998	20,183	150	218	5,000	7,250	9,148	13,265	...	...

M

[1571]

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cotton goods (continued) —			H. Tael.		H. Tael.		H. Tael.		H. Tael.		H. Tael.
Blue denim ...	Pieces	4,735	14,980	180	940	...	...	1,804	5,593	8,111	9,493
Lawings, cotton ...	"	103,513	393,349	889	3,568	...	...	98,504	346,715	7,948	80,292
China, Japan ...	"	53	...	...	...	...	...	53	...	53	...
Cloth, Mionmedan ...	"	10,289	40,431	...	...	173	...	9,780	39,120	316	619
Long cloth ...	"	88	326	...	...	...	...	88	...	88	...
Linon, fine ...	"	29,886	179,816	13	78	140	...	8,563	50,178	21,896	128,376
" coarse ...	"	78	319	...	...	...	...	...	...	78	319
" and cotton mixtures ...	"	59	760	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	760
Brown Holland ...	"	930	1,096	...	...	...	...	...	...	930	1,096
Canvas ...	"	4,670	81,387	226	1,186	65	...	1,093	5,371	8,928	18,911
Cotton duck ...	Pieces	41,829	6,983	...	...	61	...	...	...	61	...
" Italian ...	"	11,594	73,886	93	164	...	...	93,450	41,990	18,611	39,760
Cottons or cottons unclassified	"	11,594	81,091	...	...	...	...	15,054	94,500	17,140	105,314
Cotton handkerchiefs ...	Dozens	473,260	179,889	45,197	17,175	9,054	...	239,303	88,260	97,140	10,938
" quilts ...	"	83,634	16,894	169	1,113	2,917	...	8,300	8,984	22,469	9,298
" thread ...	Pieces	214 65	19,150	19 19	1,113	...	...	171 63	10,187	55 79	...
" yarn ...	Pieces	14,946 30	360,155	8,864 85	231,631	743 00	...	20,314 33	507,868	9,453 72	61,343
Moquinonets ...	"	5,190	6,991	...	...	...	...	2,943	4,709	1,347	1,983
Woolen goods —											
Alpaca ...	"	59	531	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	531
Nanketa ...	"	12,378	34,658	1,286	3,551	1,581	...	2,595	7,268	9,470	20,516
Bunting ...	"	836	1,378	...	...	...	...	...	...	316	...
Camble, English ...	Pieces	160,433	4,835	...	...	1,748	...	195,618	1,985,659	28,198	280,317
Camble, Dutch ...	"	2,760	44,160	80	1,440	...	...	1,239	12,230	1,440	24,640
Lawings ...	"	112,427	946,410	3,860	31,189	1,354	...	7,723	700,738	26,206	227,920
" crape ...	"	1,799	5,060	20	80	...	...	7,823	33,177	...	...
Long ellis ...	"	90,179	467,398	9,500	48,164	8,800	...	20,286	466,402	6,589	23,704
Spanish stripes ...	"	48,985	238,129	2,570	22,492	2,777	...	20,043	378,196	6,806	50,736
Loures and Orleans, figured ...	"	146,799	437,185	4,468	27,523	18,771	...	139,981	407,346	...	...
" plain ...	"	8,604	26,619	50	146	4,251	...	4,060	11,815	513	1,492
" crape ...	"	3,351	9,561	...	...	249	...	...	6,806	1,153	3,491
Cloth, habit, broad, and medium	"	18,724	489,327	693	16,019	143	...	15,165	285,873	7,099	166,637
" Russian ...	"	20,393	607,560	240	7,300	30	...	33,091	663,780	...	...
" narrow ...	"	468	4,599	...	...	...	...	...	...	468	4,809
" pilot ...	"	...	...	5	180	...	...	...	10,848	...	...
" poncho ...	"	834	5,675	...	...	...	...	...	1,260	...	4,416
" Italian ...	"	10,190	46,276	146	764	2,648	...	883	3,977	6,993	83,938
" union ...	"	1,690	32,489	941	16,771	80	...	639	9,966	1,912	27,814
Castimere ...	"	13	160	3	30	...	...	...	...	15	180

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value.
Woolen goods (continued)—											
Flannels	Pieces	5,185	38,868	355	2,663	378	2,835	2,403	18,023	2,759	20,888
Merinos	"	83	1,421	...	...	...	...	...	...	82	1,421
Keps	"	50	1,101	4	55	...	...	...	...	54	1,155
Serges	"	328	8,010	4	23	...	...	...	...	232	8,033
Silcians	"	220	1,067	...	...	...	...	...	...	220	1,067
Greensline	"	34	451	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	451
Tweeds	"	879	3,611	8	190	...	...	...	...	887	3,731
Woolen goods, unclassified	"	3,406	23,870	...	...	...	...	477	3,196	2,928	19,674
Woolen goods, unclassified	"	190	783	7	42	...	140	80	346	86	337
Metals—											
Copper, bar and rod	Pieces	10,020	149,991	276	3,945	25	362	7,104	101,387	3,166	78
" sheets	"	801	9,035	...	...	20	377	131	2,371	849	80
" nails	"	81	1,778	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	13
" wire and manufactured	"	387	10,279	...	...	...	...	...	...	330	49
" wire	"	106	2,674	...	...	18	510	81	2,049	94	61
" old	"	38	933	5	65	...	...	...	...	757	...
Iron plates and sheets	"	35,555	88,990	285	713	...	...	...	...	95,719	42
" bar	"	80,077	140,835	140	23	...	...	...	...	19,469	18
" nail-rod	"	237,757	378,078	155	259	...	...	...	...	23,151	39
" hoop	"	11,087	92,076	384	769	...	...	...	...	...	...
" galvanized	"	5,471	19,346	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" corrugated	"	365	1,633	1,559	6,919	...	...	...	...	...	...
" nails	"	5,613	21,814	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" wire or manufactured	"	5,659	183	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" old	"	36,887	142,715	1,039	3,979	...	...	...	...	...	...
" pig and kentledge	"	143,941	188,750	4,105	4,540	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead, in pigs	"	89,308	99,208	733	736	...	...	...	...	...	...
" in sheets	"	196,806	747,974	7,624	29,123	...	...	...	...	...	...
" in sheets	"	1,710	10,364	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Tin, in sheets	"	184	703	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Tin, in plates	"	4,869	100,676	42,308	869,024	...	...	...	...	...	...
Quicksilver	"	22,418	79,361	1,183	4,161	...	...	...	...	...	...
Zinc, sheets	"	...	...	1,336	63,140	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Yellow metal and nails	"	...	...	913	15,524	...	...	...	...	...	...
Steel	"	16,569	44,567	...	123	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spelter	"	8,460	43,302	3,337	14,659	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
Metals (continued)—											
Metals, manufactured, unclassified, as											
hardware, brassware, brass buttons,											
steelware, linware, cutlery, &c.	Pieces	6,628 11	291,294	...	13,814	...	1,984	...	102,810	...	200,244
Anchor and chains	Pieces	...	14,951	...	200	...	837	...	4,199	...	10,625
Timber—											
Beams	Pieces	19,836	87,315	2,661	11,564	...	...	2,044 69	9,650	...	89,239
Planks, hard wood	Sq. ft.	83,757	134,011	150	240	...	...	2,135	8,107	19,765	136,144
" soft wood	Sq. ft.	15,110,788	538,578	...	...	58,483	2,047	5,097	8,107	78,840	136,144
" teak	Cub. ft.	60,238	21,090	6,447	3,121	264	92	461,747	16,161	14,590,559	510,670
Piles and poles	Pieces	14,299	6,292	...	...	...	...	1,077	390	65,354	22,739
Sundries—											
Amieced, star, whole	Pieces	2,106 34	98,436	1,591 06	21,344	...	...	300	139	13,999	6,160
" broken	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Awabi	Pieces	790 70	15,179	984 30	2,132	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bags, gunny	Pieces	892,448	70,609	95 47	479	8,300	498	...	...	157 01	2,993
Bark, Japan	Pieces	5,350 75	9,434	1,150,254	57,117	...	...	...	...	2,093,098	196,707
Beer	Pieces	9,467	23,135	774	...	...	...	1,139 17	591	4,211 58	6,654
Betelnuts	Pieces	764 45	2,305	19,375 54	87,127	...	...	4,377	14,970	5,964 55	20,874
Bird's nests, 1st quality	Pieces	1,208 27	1,909	1,721 59	9,593	10 50	32	19,690 94	38,073	442 55	1,327
" 2nd	"	0 32	800	15 37	88,495	...	...	2,195 65	3,198	809 21	1,308
" 3rd	"	19 94	24,632	177 61	177,393	...	...	...	...	4	10,000
Bicho de mar, black	"	903 64	71,924	979 27	17,398	...	...	63 91	81	98 64	121,732
" white	"	6,975 88	270,035	3,657 36	146,308	1 60	64	159 81	53,309	333 60	115,290
Borax	"	3,700 54	69,309	2,309 30	35,319	...	...	8,405 55	344,392	2,036 09	81,044
Boxes, fancy and assorted	Value	13 60	4,240	238 25	2,330	15 00	183	1,150 50	18,552	4,749 24	75,989
Brandy	Pieces	4,781	91,515	102	...	...	...	76 16	784	165 54	1,435
Bridals and ties	Pieces	8,449	9,777	...	459	...	...	...	...	4,369	19,166
Brushes and brooms	Pieces	1,959	3,411	...	...	...	...	5,530	193	77,929	2,984
Campior, Japan	Pieces	2,417 70	36,266	...	984	...	...	...	...	1,859	3,411
Campior, Malay	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	331 18	4,968
" Baroes, clean	"	0 05	183	12 40	2,652	...	...	...	...	19 40	2,453
" Baroes, refuse	"	...	...	15 55	1,673	...	...	...	...	0 16	2,453
Candies	Pieces	9,190	12,895	15	1,630	...	...	...	...	0 46	796
Cans	Pieces	44,730	4,473	17,297 69	1,730	...	...	4,897	6,393	4,848	6,603
Cardamom, superior	Pieces	...	...	407 69	61,164	...	...	60,397	9,940	1,680	9,940
Cardamom, inferior	Pieces	...	...	5,503 45	106,049	...	...	846 09	51,914	1,680	15,162
Carpets	Pieces	1,064	3,203	...	...	...	...	4,867 90	91,346	773 09	3,293
Cement	Pieces	4,889	11,296	...	...	106	...	...	...	1,074	6,723
	Pieces	...	...	973	705	...	900	2,325	5,073	2,881	6,723

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
Sundries (continued).—											
China ware, fine ..	Piculs	189 80	6,643	...	...	...	298	...	...	181 80	6,345
Charcoal ..	Pkgs.	40,221 32	20,111	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,221 32	20,111
Cigars ..	Pkgs.	348	34,300	508	50,300	...	...	...	...	778	77,800
Clams, dried ..	Piculs	1,408 07	14,580	87 70	876	...	...	...	...	...	...
Clocks ..	Pieces	53,073	91,423	3,641	5,925	479	928	29,762	60,309	36,473	36,310
Cloth, cotton, Japan ..	Pieces	6,281	3,419	...	...	5,963	3,219	...	...	330	200
Cloth, emery, &c. ..	Value	...	1,605	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,605
Claves ..	Piculs	...	...	1,308 32	34,947	...	...	936 41	27,785	276 38	8,291
" mother ..	Piculs	...	...	345 09	1,716	...	163	...	1,449	38 15	267
Coal ..	Tons	215,667	1,037,511	392	3,587	...	...	471	23,496	211,168	1,016,603
Cockles ..	Piculs	4,433 59	7,776	...	...	...	...	163 98	1,173	4,268 61	6,603
Coffee ..	"	87 50	941	649 33	6,980	...	...	15 88	173	720 95	7,746
Coke ..	"	...	...	373 65	2,065	...	...	98 80	158	344 85	1,897
Compasses, small ..	Tons	2,465	23,418	...	...	...	...	45	367	2,478	23,161
Compoys ..	Pieces	79,989	9,319	4,390	116	...	...	136 31	156	84,244	9,177
Copper cash ..	Piculs	152 84	7,681	76 74	2,469	...	...	765	5,844	17,075	5,396
Cotton waste ..	Stringa	17,810 81	10,704	...	...	...	...	101 32	459	10,246	4,265
Cotton waste ..	Piculs	7,40 81	5,080	...	143	29 40	201	...	2,765	639 29	4,265
Coral ..	Piculs	0 12	780	...	390	...	...	...	...	...	...
Covers, table ..	Pieces	3,793	4,492	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,793	4,493
Crocodiles' scales ..	Piculs	...	...	62 89	3,175	...	...	...	...	...	...
Curtain ..	Pkgs.	178 18	731	...	...	19	346	...	...	185	1,953
Cuttle-fish ..	Piculs	5,478 18	43,945	308 47	2,496	...	...	10,567 93	84,544	2,016	417,918
Dyes and colours ..	Pkgs.	30,529	74,173	4,98 32	292,830	45	1,919	13,163	524,720	...	...
Elephants' teeth, whole ..	Piculs	...	...	...	9,181	...	...	...	...	...	9,181
Engines ..	Pieces	35	1,748	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fans, paper ..	Pieces	556,760	4,398	2,000	16	...	...	91,060	171	587,100	1,748
Feathers, kingfishers' ..	Pkgs.	28,362	1,955	404,653	29,321	...	...	277,501	19,425	155,443	10,891
Felt sheathing ..	Piculs	33,550	2,637	...	...	...	...	...	...	33,550	2,637
Firebricks ..	Piculs	1,929 43	1,536	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,929 43	1,536
Firewood ..	Pieces	6,085 54	1,536	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,085 54	1,536
Fish, dried and salt ..	"	883 29	6,635	...	...	...	...	...	...	883 29	6,635
" skins ..	"	233 38	2,457	...	...	...	...	...	...	233 38	2,457
Flint ..	"	84,830 60	12,539	...	...	...	...	...	...	873 40	7,146
Flour ..	Pkgs.	8,983	35,932	9,886	39,540	...	...	4,644 96	1,636	32,310 04	11,632
Flowers, artificial ..	Value	...	4,408	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,332	65,286
Yoncus ..	Piculs	160 90	4,568	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,408
Galaugel ..	"	...	...	0 41	19	...	...	137 08	3,906	34 25	673
Gambier ..	"	...	...	411 70	1,317	...	...	504 21	2,269	363 70	1,214
	"	...	...	393 65	1,771	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
<i>Snuffies (continued)—</i>											
Gamboge	Pounds	...	13,161	43 13	1,165	...	...	38 71	1,045	4 42	120
Gamboge, ...	Value	...	8,839	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,161
Ginseng, Korean, 2nd	Pkgs.	1,916	8 80	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,916	3,832
Ginseng, Korean, 2nd	Pounds	...	3,410	0 26	660	...	1,000	...	...	1 40	3,500
" Japan, 1st	"	9 80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Japan, 2nd	"	91 18	19,063	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" root and bark	"	431 42	917,989	...	5,675	...	2,612	...	243,631	...	9,048
" American, clarified	"	411 82	4,357	...	1,014	...	...	...	265 84	...	112,276
" native .....	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,210	...	...
Glass, broken	"	93 97	3,907	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,007
Gold and silver thread	"	166 33	2,880	...	1,931	...	...	...	...	...	1,079
Gum, dragons blood	"	83 31	915	...	6,783	...	...	...	...	...	356
" myrrin .....	"	...	...	...	9,139	...	...	...	...	...	...
" oilbanum .....	"	...	...	3,097 76	26,331	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hair, horse	"	89 39	1,516	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hemp twine	"	863 23	8,628	...	1,633	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hides, cow and buffalo	"	2,330 59	29,648	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Honey	"	46 39	649	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Horns, deer, young	"	433 39	15,120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" rhinoceros	"	739 83	23,196	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hose .....	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
India-rubber	"	73 07	4,858	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indigo, liquid	"	441 28	7,040	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Isinglass	"	7,065 79	183,460	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lacquer-ware	"	180 47	9,524	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lamps and burners	"	70,964 83	16,178	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead, red	"	1,008 83	7,676	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" white	"	463 33	2,774	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Leather	"	18 48	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Looking-glasses and mirrors	"	197 26	7,101	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lacunan seed	"	54,374	3,993	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Machine bolting	"	...	1,119	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Machinery	"	1,609	159,646	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
<i>Snackeries (continued).—</i>											
Mangrove bark ..	Piculs	5,977 65	4,789	11,157 80	8,936	100	80	11,043 55	8,834	5,993 70	4,794
Matches, wax ..	Gross	7,166	11,557	434	639	...	...	29,685	30,480	...	...
Matches, wood ..	Piculs	1,123,311	87,108	92,807	42,131	1,639	558	696,190	936,239	518,939	169,447
Match, oil ..	Piculs	733	3,768	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Medicine ..	Piculs	2,181 06	18,859	89 10	...	16 10	64	576 16	1,613 90	1,613 90	2,768
Mother-of-pearl shells ..	Piculs	697 43	8,093	818 18	955	...	...	891 63	634 90	634 90	1,901
Mustaroms ..	Piculs	5,433 10	170,993	147 48	4,887	...	...	3,824 91	194,923	1,755 67	67,938
Musical boxes and instruments	Piculs	2,597	8,431	513	1,947	...	...	1,343	2,573	1,768	6,890
Musk ..	Piculs	6 84	9,770	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 34	9,770
Musks, dried ..	Piculs	9,018 67	94,331	7,339 77	86,877	...	...	569 01	8,490	8,396 43	102,611
Necitrs ..	Mille	1,953,450	240,055	195,000	19,102	765	130	971,210	148,817	411,475	90,340
Nutmegs ..	Piculs	190 19	1,903	...	...	...	...	128 55	8,031	131 69	1,553
Oil ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oil, linseed ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oil, kerosene and petroleum	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oil, paint ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oil, turpentine ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Optical instruments	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paints, assorted	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paper, for quality	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paper, printing ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paper, wall ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peacock composition	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peas, false ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peel, orange ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pepper, black ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pepper, white ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Perfumery ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pieric acid ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plate-glass ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Potatoes ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pouches, tobacco ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Prawns and shrimps, dried	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pumps ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pumps, wooden ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Putchuck ..	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.
Sundries (<i>continued</i>)—											
Bamboo	Piculs	50 49	404	1,410 78	13,009	...	...	1,098 70	9,849	874 57	3,564
Batana, whole ..	"	21,319 54	55,481	14,261 84	37,081	...	...	13,797 58	35,948	21,793 50	66,636
Bice .....	"	...	...	673 38	1,566	...	...	...	...	673 38	1,566
Rope, Europe	"	866 61	7,145	58 18	576	...	...	...	...	823 97	6,663
" Manila	"	538 96	5,390	1,165 62	11,656	...	...	...	...	1,661 43	16,615
" wire, old	"	22,212 26	29,380	183 96	1,191	...	...	...	...	18,749 33	26,063
Rugs	Pieces	16,558	28,887	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,773	19,501
Sundries-wood	Piculs	48,419 43	164,725	49,062 22	166,777	...	...	...	...	30,551 03	108,874
Sapan-wood	Piculs	11,033 89	23,733	84,109 77	180,636	...	...	...	...	17,454 04	87,536
Seals	Pieces	141	2,637	...	...	...	...	...	...	106	2,018
Sea-shell	Piculs	72 04	101	1,988 57	2,714	...	...	...	...	1,861 49	2,596
Seaweed and agar-agar ..	"	800,398 36	619,083	11,990 23	28,692	...	...	...	...	27,315 39	59,937
Sharks' fins, black	"	1,141 05	18,257	243 11	3,990	...	...	...	...	684 66	10,965
" white	"	613 48	20,639	1,226 98	49,079	...	...	...	...	437 94	17,517
Silk, raw	"	70 69	24,743	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" yellow	"	40 90	12,270	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" wild raw	"	4 83	581	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" piece-goods	"	12 21	7,836	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Skins, fox, large and small ..	Pieces	8,896	13,344	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" land otter	"	1,514	1,211	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" seal	"	768	1,537	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" squirrel	"	13,433	2,685	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" dog	"	30,623	3,003	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Soap	Boxes	136,263	87,237	8,135	5,307	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spirits of wine	Gallons	2,061	1,256	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sprinkle	Piculs	90 95	314	705 88	70	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sugar, brown	"	230 00	706	1,104 51	3,391	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sugar, white	"	1,027 66	5,570	81 70	443	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sulphuric acid	"	22,281 80	85,656	262 08	1,390	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tea, Japan, for re-exportation ..	"	1,166 97	15,745	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" black, for re-exportation ..	"	479 53	6,474	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Japan, for local consumption ..	"	878 13	3,652	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" dust, Japan	"	834 28	2,391	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Telescopes and spy-glasses	Pieces	1,148	1,699	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tin-foil	Piculs	249 89	2,274	1,195 63	10,879	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tobacco, leaf	"	54 01	1,728	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" stalk	"	87 20	1,889	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tooth-powder	Piculs	1,965 44	1,168	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		168		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Foreign Countries.		Imports from Hong Kong and Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
Sundries (<i>continued</i>)—											
Tortoiseshell, whole	Pieces	0 66	198	21 93	6,579	...	...	...	...	20 50	6,150
Towels, Japan	Pieces	62,882	9,918	...	...	462	...	180	...	62,040	9,198
Towels, cotton	Dozens	184,735	50,796	950	...	513	189	94,446	31,166	60,734	19,734
Toys	Pigs.	671	80,744	...	...	...	...	297	18,373	60,475	22,407
Ultramarine	Pieces	8,173	18,149	160	1,010	67	536	2,925	12,636	406 43	947
Umbrellas, silk	Dozens	1,099	17,441	218	3,460	72	1,142	209	6,316	1,636	16,443
" alpaca	"	3,951	11,181	183	657	3	...	3,033	10,888	1,098	3,942
" zanzella	"	2,613	11,206	90	90	48	215	1,836	8,178	3,403	9,812
Varnish	Pieces	77 62	1,503	...	...	...	...	...	...	740	2,415
Watches	Pieces	12,923	53,179	11 40	140	...	...	...	...	69 02	1,445
Wax, Japan	Pieces	460 64	9,646	740	8,102	78	672	6,843	27,982	6,747	27,857
Wax, white	Pieces	50 00	9,496	...	...	...	...	193 81	1,366	5 00	9,668
Window glass	Boxes	41,060	88,733	1,323	9,641	317	...	25,438	84,946	16,548	85,733
Wine	Value	26,072	112,824	2,835	13,713	...	...	6,398	23,789	21,499	96,718
Wood, camagon	Pieces	2,800 60	4,260	3,783 45	5,675	232 00	...	2,039 50	3,069	4,301 95	6,468
Wood, ebony	Pieces	8,794 79	30,747	13,691 47	47,676	592 74	2,075	4,843 08	16,981	16,970 46	59,896
" garoo	Pieces	13 93	1,831	26 50	2,915	2 38	...	80	684	31 28	3,441
" jathie and ahingies	Pieces	519,320	1,468	...	...	...	...	...	...	673	19,792
" laka	Pieces	1,980 14	6,311	469 51	1,932	...	...	1,719 88	3,091	1,262 77	1,463
" loka	Pieces	2,316 41	8,391	...	...	...	...	1,553 00	6,900	701 41	3,409
" parn	Pieces	3,160 12	4,867	1,327 00	1,625	...	...	2,237 76	2,735	2,349 36	3,817
" rose and red	Pieces	3,767 96	7,536	14,341 78	26,563	50 70	101	4,574 18	9,148	13,424 86	28,650
" scales	Pieces	50,735	6,075	4,233	493	...	...	29,103	3,511	25,867	1,877
" scented and fragrant	Pieces	53 41	534	331 38	9,514	2 38	...	49 05	450	257 46	2,375
Sundries unenumerated	Value	...	192,756	...	31,994	...	19,153	...	38,691	...	174,066
Total	...	...	60,868,093	...	7,554,060	...	1,259,363	...	47,332,457	...	20,871,007
Excess of Re-export above Import of some articles during the year...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	588,673
Net total.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,762,384

Total, 19,762,384 Haikwan taels = at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 6,481,356½. or 11½.

P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(Signed)

(No. 2.)—SUMMARY of Imports and Re-exports (Foreign).

(From Customs Returns.)

Imports—				H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
From Great Britain	..	..	..	23,386,094		
India	..	..	..	26,803,699		
Singapore and Straits	..	..	..	724,097		
Australia	..	..	..	410,749		
Continent of Europe	..	..	..	2,431,330		
United States	..	..	..	3,300,312		
British America	..	..	..	225,037		
Russian Manchuria	..	..	..	25,530		
Japan	..	..	..	3,479,934		
Egypt	..	..	..	4,901		
Philippine Islands	..	..	..	8,048		
Cochin China	..	..	..	771		
Siam	..	..	..	87,591		
Hong Kong	..	..	..	6,441,057		
Total from Foreign Countries				..	67,329,150	
Chinese Ports				..	915,003	
Total Foreign Imports				..	..	68,244,153
Re-exports—						
To Great Britain	..	..	..	7,125		
India	..	..	..	1,795		
Singapore and Straits	..	..	..	1,156		
Continent of Europe	..	..	..	22,231		
United States	..	..	..	14,181		
Russian Manchuria	..	..	..	83,513		
Japan	..	..	..	1,099,361		
Hong Kong	..	..	..	555,022		
Total to Foreign Countries				..	..	1,784,384
To Newchwang	..	..	..	1,518,901		
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	8,999,644		
Chefoo	..	..	..	3,005,941		
Hankow	..	..	..	12,154,449		
Kiukiang	..	..	..	2,661,337		
Wuhu	..	..	..	2,447,697		
Chinkiang	..	..	..	8,218,701		
Ningpo	..	..	..	6,726,029		
Wenchow	..	..	..	248,831		
Foochow	..	..	..	603,144		
Tamsuy	..	..	..	12,345		
Takow	..	..	..	3,134		
Anoy	..	..	..	53,032		
Swatow	..	..	..	19,520		
Canton	..	..	..	4,730		
Total to Chinese Ports				..	46,677,435	
Total Foreign Re-exports				..	..	48,461,819
Net Total Foreign Imports				..	..	19,782,334

Total, 19,782,334 Haikwan taels = at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 5,481,355l. 0s. 11d.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, *Consul.*

(No. 3.)—TRADE in Native Produce.—Imports and Re-exports.
(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Silk—											
Raw, Ningpo	Piculs	288 66	65,637	...	...	...	...	175 63	48,298	63 05	17,339
Raw, Chinkiang	"	10 08	2,508	...	...	...	...	1 60	400	8 43	9,108
" Wuhu	"	604 52	157,175	...	...	...	...	362 44	94,235	242 08	62,940
Yellow, Sechuan	"	6,770 55	1,609,639	...	...	432 09	108,023	4,514 56	1,139,616	1,819 88	454,970
" Yellow, Chefoo	"	924 39	27,317	...	...	20 74	6,323	878 38	263,481	25 37	7,611
" Tien-tsin	"	4 84	1,159	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 84	1,462
" Reeled Dupion	"	0 57	86	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 57	86
Refuse or waste	"	8,667 63	434,981	...	...	5 00	350	5,730 43	436,021	...	30,108
Wild raw	"	2,177 27	261,273	...	...	67 39	8,087	1,638 87	223,077	230 91	4,887
Cocoons	"	70 87	4,961	...	...	1 08	74	...	...	69 82	108,130
Ribbons	"	630 36	802,573	...	...	409 44	106,531	...	...	225 25	1,413
Thread and tissues	"	7 93	3,083	4 83	3,102	4 40	1,716	...	...	3 62	...
Piece-goods	"	1,699 25	1,015,350	0 09	10,146	1,553 88	933,328	900 18	130,108	...	...
Pongees	"	1,274 82	363,334	16 91	...	83 60	23,540	1,035 21	296,081	157 01	4,750
Thrown	"	...	...	...	...	10 80	3,564	...	...	...	...
Silk and cotton mixtures	"	...	...	27 14	3,971	131 27	26,679	...	...	1 35	397
Tea—											
Black, Hankow	"	330,067 76	5,611,152	...	...	74,394 75	1,264,710	258,433 19	4,393,364	3,345 51	67,945
" Wuhu	"	2,598 77	1,917	...	...	1,132 64	23,180	88,240 43	1,353,049	114 34	2,173
" Ningpo	"	360 75	7,085	...	...	...	...	258 21	4,583	...	...
" Wenchow	"	657 34	7,157	...	...	318 88	3,509	84 27	8,420	...	...
" Foochow	"	2,869 86	11,290	...	...	184 74	2,795	942 22	10,969	...	...
" Anoy	"	11 10	51,908	...	...	1 00	18	797 74	14,360	2,070 62	3,270
" Canton.	"	7 61	139	...	...	3 00	51	43 56	766	4 61	78
" Tien-tsin	"	68 59	4 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 14	54
Green, Hankow	"	58,643 13	1,348,792	...	...	38 05	875	...	...	...	...
" Wuhu	"	2,017 44	44,364	...	...	...	...	61,603 83	1,414,564	...	...
" Ningpo	"	161,166 31	3,364,583	...	...	98 33	3,065	106,437 43	3,587,186	69 32	1,805
" Wenchow	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	393 82	9,087	...	...
" Foochow	"	45 92	918	...	...	...	...	...	...	45 92	918
Brick	"	206,943 67	1,188,190	...	...	177,994 39	978,969	28,007 44	138,884	2,941 84	20,387
Leaf	"	1,462 62	17,695	...	...	155 06	1,473	...	...	1,707 56	16,225
Dust	"	11,566 81	95,666	...	...	1,576 70	12,614	13,097 29	96,778	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
Ten (continued)—											
Seed	Piculs	0 60	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 60	5
Stalk	"	136 51	478	...	...	...	...	...	...	136 51	478
Cotton—											
Raw, Hankow.	"	300 50	2,990	...	...	300 50	2,990	...	...	...	...
" Wuhu ...	"	392 51	3,905	...	...	190 43	1,598	...	...	...	...
" Ningpo ...	"	6,457 71	64,055	...	...	2,291 65	21,801	7,610 27	75,723	332 08	2,309
" Canton ...	"	37 34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 34	...
" Tien-tsin.	"	6,794 37	67,644	...	...	809 47	8,054	...	...	5,983 90	59,590
Nankens ...	"	4,610 63	161,371	9 00	70	4,334 84	148,319	614 41	91,505	...	...
Clothing ...	"	141 49	9,904	13 73	960	13 39	937	25 40	1,778	116 43	8,119
Thread ...	"	33 67	1,077	...	...	...	...	...	...	33 67	1,077
Sundries—											
Alum, green ...	"	4,167 59	3,136	...	...	3,955 75	2,987	95 00	71	116 84	88
" white ...	"	40,623 52	32,418	...	...	31,263 46	17,010	13,230 18	10,385	6,029 86	4,933
Anisced, star ...	"	34 47	465	2,535 93	34,224	1,873 78	35,942	6 56	83	1,035 11	9,314
" broken ...	"	536 40	4,024	868 92	6,517	380 00	9,850	...	...	1,035 11	7,391
Arabic ...	"	5,095 40	30,152	...	...	4,541 49	27,917	...	...	553 91	2,905
Bayes, hemp and gunny	Pieces	8,591 858	110,478	11,313	536	1,337,030	16,665	...	...	9,336 191	64,530
" straw ...	"	339,010	11,338	8,154 610	93,188	2,151,393	65,133	...	...	1,848 157	39,383
Bamboo canes, fresh	"	437,016	13,111	886,414	26,563	6,400	102	3,910	117	1,319 150	39,383
" shoots, dried	Piculs	9,061 51	4,743	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,061 51	4,743
" ware ...	"	41,151 40	165,358	91 17	76	29,227 07	134,190	...	...	11,292 50	41,144
Barley, pearl ...	"	41,151 08	1,813	883 73	10,605	975 91	11,710	90	11	57 06	406
Beans, black ...	"	1,941 08	3,764	...	...	892 97	8,223	6 33	19	381 78	925
Beans, red ...	"	291,215 79	327,459	...	...	183,819 72	292,581	13,182 00	15,815	74,211 02	89,957
Beans and peas	"	717 99	7,094	4 05	16	59,733 92	84,306	25,579 96	40,927	600 54	1,740
Beans, tinned	"	54,563 17	87,901	10 20	77	110 96	3,550	...	...	...	...
Beans, Chinese	"	96 17	3,077	2 40	30	449 07	23,451	8 59	445	...	...
Box, rings ...	"	89 74	1,803	...	...	...	...	...	...	33 22	889
Brass foil ...	"	399 76	6,294	70 61	1,118	912 45	6,374	...	...	197 66	4,730
" wire ...	"	399 53	11,716	46 81	1,417	380 36	6,372	83 59	3,508	24 83	745
Buttons, brass	"	9,375 61	142,536	23 23	1,400	1,609 23	96,583	...	...	789 78	47,585
Copper, machinery	"	1,733 19	10,383	215 61	1,073	1,764 33	8,851	...	...	190 47	943
Cups, felt ...	Pieces	41,831	23,473	...	...	31,000	7,760	4,460	1,115	5,871	1,468
Carpets, native	"	28,636	23,473	...	...	18,036 08	16,230	238	314	10,083	6,778
Cassia buds ...	Piculs	354 99	4,060	33 43	376	238 08	3,869	4 00	52	1,041 94	616
" lignea ...	"	1,893 58	27,624	2,446 03	31,365	3,191 86	41,401	...	...	1,041 94	13,343
" twigs ..	"	9,923 18	8,766	3,755 50	11,967	5,599 08	16,747	7 14	16	1,071 46	3,221

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (continued)—											
Charcoal	Piculs	13,676 79	5,615	...	...	8,297 19	346	...	...	13,676 79	5,615
China-root	"	16,760 64	117,264	...	...	6,438 00	591	...	...	16,760 64	117,264
China-root, fine	"	6,087 76	211,321	11 16	591	6,438 00	591	...	...	6,087 76	211,321
China-ware, coarse	"	6,646 00	66,460	6 40	64	6,269 11	64	...	...	6,646 00	66,460
Cannabides	"	45 77	1,315	...	...	...	...	...	...	45 77	1,315
Cannabur	"	171 93	7,049	25 76	1,066	180 56	...	...	...	171 93	7,049
Cinnamon	Pieces	17 13	1,776	15 10	861	16 35	...	...	...	17 13	1,776
Cinnamon	Piculs	290	1,971	...	...	3,312 90	892	...	...	290	1,971
Cocks	"	349,434 98	87,911	...	...	1,096 41	633	...	...	349,434 98	87,911
Coal	"	4,933 26	59,161	...	...	37 64	...	...	...	4,933 26	59,161
Copper, old	"	718 35	5,053	...	...	391 06	...	...	...	718 35	5,053
" ore	"	778 37	10,776	...	...	80 60	...	...	...	778 37	10,776
Cornelian ware	"	18 03	8,441	...	...	18 10	...	...	...	18 03	8,441
" beads	"	18 53	9,043	...	...	18 10	...	...	...	18 53	9,043
Cow bezoar	"	0 02	738	0 24	9,310	0 02	87 9	...	...	0 02	738
Curticuffs	"	313	59,458	...	...	31,731 37	...	...	...	313	59,458
Curticuffs	Pieces	\$2,332 40	266,659	...	...	6,132	...	...	...	\$2,332 40	266,659
Drying-cases	Pieces	7,508	4,337	58	67	9,991 84	...	...	...	7,508	4,337
Drying-cases	Piculs	14,319 97	49,628	0 50	4	9,991 84	...	...	...	14,319 97	49,628
Dyers' feather	"	95,293	1,110	...	...	33,356	...	...	...	95,293	1,110
Eggs, fresh and preserved	Pieces	8,048,672	9,104	...	...	139,235	933	...	...	8,048,672	9,104
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed	"	88,287	1,263	7,391,063	243,905	7,924,669	238,414	...	...	88,287	1,263
" untrimmed	"	154,404	1,544	20,254,088	202,541	13,911,940	139,119	...	...	154,404	1,544
Fish, dried and salt	"	3,130,983	247,346	181,062	14,303	3,067,975	216,158	...	...	3,130,983	247,346
" paper	"	62,120	3,730	26,295	1,980	71,003	4,921	...	...	62,120	3,730
" silk	"	3,853 72	10,936	...	...	84 77	...	...	...	3,853 72	10,936
Feathers	Piculs	137 64	1,927	...	...	65 89	...	...	...	137 64	1,927
Felt	"	2,395 63	28,743	166 46	1,097	85 27	...	...	...	2,395 63	28,743
Fire-crackers	"	4,969 26	35,779	411 03	2,659	3,816 89	...	...	...	4,969 26	35,779
Fish, dried and salt	"	606 46	19,407	611 41	19,565	1,010 64	...	...	...	606 46	19,407
" maws	"	403 82	4,412	...	...	603 73	...	...	...	403 82	4,412
" skins	"	2,179	2,179	...	...	4 56	...	...	...	2,179	2,179
" bones	"	34 42	2,085	...	...	287 22	...	...	...	34 42	2,085
" glue	"	224 88	2,404	...	...	204 99	...	...	...	224 88	2,404
" roses	"	6,402 77	9,101	44 63	135	267 96	...	...	...	6,402 77	9,101
Flour, artificial	"	48 25	1,544	...	...	1 64	...	...	...	48 25	1,544
Flowers, dried	"	369 36	1,754	...	...	395 03	...	...	...	369 36	1,754
" seed	"	1,809 53	15,757	63 75	535	1,657 59	...	...	...	1,809 53	15,757

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (continued)—											
Jade-stone ...	Pieces	999 81	H. Taels. 79,939	0 64	H. Taels. 192	52 98	H. Taels. 3,263	8 40	H. Taels. 160	239 32	H. Taels. 79,701
" ware ...	Pieces	45,639	60,097	...	...	9,900	9,735	...	...	35,733	50,373
Joss-stick powder ...	Pieces	6,667 67	7,195	...	...	...	124	...	...	6,654 89	7,964
Joss-sticks ...	"	896 86	7,175	87 18	697	56 80	808	95 24	202	858 01	6,864
Lacqueredware ...	"	90 77	851	64 75	9,345	35 77	1,463	0 58	24	39 17	1,609
Lampblack ...	"	9,634 57	10,071	...	...	1,088 90	9,208	...	...	1,565 67	7,865
Lamps ...	Pieces	231 189	99 406	22,981	3,197	204,731	24,677	...	...	49,439	6,993
Lead, red ...	Pieces	944 53	1,834	...	...	295 75	3,145	...	...	...	6,464
Lead, white ...	"	3,146 38	18,878	...	...	2,164 07	13,984	...	...	1,977 29	6,349
" yellow ...	"	5,237 17	34,043	95 00	570	4,048 85	26,317	...	...	1,943 32	6,349
Leather ...	"	9,138 10	33,297	83 62	836	592 53	10,632	211 48	6,163	1,427 86	16,428
" silk and parchment ...	Pieces	633,360	5,331	...	...	...	...	...	...	593,360	5,331
" ware ...	Pieces	352 32	14,133	9 36	374	83 50	3,340	4 16	167	375 02	11,000
Lily flowers, dried ...	"	42,795 50	954,773	30 80	145	11,672 68	70,038	26,831 16	181 07	4,302 46	92,818
seed or lotus nuts ...	"	4,578 04	111,514	8 62	112	6,057 86	79,749	782 68	10,175	1,746 34	23,709
Liquorics ...	"	4,572 45	94,798	...	...	6,045 63	3,551	9,395 79	13,175	1,631 03	10,773
Long-negau pulp ...	"	9,413 08	31,370	2,325 19	30,227	8,530 16	49,793	115 89	1,406	7,992 92	10,399
Long-negau, dried ...	"	91,660 06	129,960	4,420 17	26,521	18,783 16	112,692	19 63	...	1,371 43	43,671
Marble slabs ...	"	304 03	1,520	26 26	131	8 65	...	...	...	...	1,609
Mats, bamboo and rattan ...	Pieces	41 923	10,308	2,034	1,932	94,579	6,919	2,727	654	15,953	4,657
straw ...	"	1,115 613	35,700	1,145,830	36,781	1,703,353	54,504	374,237	11,976	187,153	5,992
" tea and silk ...	"	52,656	1,695	2,725,343	57,911	631,812	26,618	1,409	45	1,944,756	63,333
Mattings ...	Rolls	52,659	1,977	1,139	3,857	19	...	66,395 10	491,178	8,307	9,468
Medicines ...	Pieces	182,833 30	1,365,712	19,331 68	111,717	98,443 32	652,090	...	...	30,756 56	335,759
Mirrors with frames ...	Pieces	490,057	48,593	30,530	661	103,378	31,888	...	...	302,509	1,671
Mushtooms ...	Pieces	1,329 90	13,633	...	...	96 13	1,196	...	...	1,199 29	39,360
Musk ...	"	32 97	163,797	...	...	8 12	41,382	73 08	9,411	...	...
Muscat, dried ...	"	539 04	6,327	...	...	2,226 35	20,833	18 15	145,300	...	...
Nutsalls ...	"	24,863 35	94,634	...	...	4,437 63	44,978	179 68	9,156	1,633 21	10,432
Oil, tea ...	"	4,993 29	95,037	...	...	3,016 43	18,110	193,624	183,624	1,239 44	7,785
" wood ...	"	87,747 67	463,702	...	...	31,757 65	174,667	7 40	47,543	47,346 88	260,428
" peppermint ...	"	...	...	0 10	24	4 67	1,797	8,644 11	...	...	...
Opium, Szechuan ...	"	2,402 32	696,515	...	...	220 67	66,394	...	...	3,182 15	653,324
" prepared ...	"	1 12	9,635	...	...	0 34	336	...	...	0 93	353
Paddy ...	"	13,750 43	91,067	...	...	13,052 43	9,137	...	...	686 00	488
Paints, aniline ...	"	95,661 82	715,717	321 76	230	83 93	1,446	0 19	1	489 29	20,760
Paper, in quality ...	"	88,077 67	473,328	616 43	3,380	18,254 19	611,116	7,582 71	210,916	96 17	2,694
" and ...	"	8,661 43	83,633	...	...	73,665 04	43,553	108 03	883	11,034 33	60,383
" jess ...	"	...	...	...	...	7,730 80	60,646	33 44	635	1,086 19	2,464
Peas, false ...	"	56 21	2,354	6 13	275	41 90	1,588	...	...	19 43	574

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Peel, orange ...	Piculs	3,618 74	50,662	2,419 04	H. Taels. 33,867	2,436 82	H. Taels. 34,116	...	H. Taels. 34,116	3,600 96	50,414
" punelo ...	"	756 29	9,749	35 76	548	328 10	5,261	...	...	463 95	6,036
Pepper red, or chillies	"	544 43	6,099	...	...	383 14	316	11 82	...	499 97	4,973
Peppermint leaf	"	385 82	1,350	...	...	130 05	420	192 09	...	73 68	258
Potash ...	"	440 24	1,454	...	...	20 30	135	...	...	419 94	1,399
Pottery, earthenware	"	950 48	16,206	519 10	2,306	294 73	4,715	...	...	1,141 46	18,264
Prawns and shrimp, dried	"	548 69	6,036	19 22	211	1,508 08	16,566	33 40	...	...	...
Preserves and sweetmeats	"	3,532 94	31,796	242 39	2,181	2,667 64	24,009	59 80	68 64	9,278 69	9,618
Provisions, dried	"	8,134 18	29,575	217 15	435	833 37	13,435	239 97	3,249	829 36	4,312
Rattana, split	"	509 39	3,049	2,486 49	19,929	2,161 52	11,256	2 00	...	146 08	9,045
Rattanware	"	214 76	8,607	14 61	204	83 29	1,166	...	...	...	...
Rhubarb	"	7,190 68	280,456	...	...	598 78	23,352	6,637 54	219,474	964 36	87,610
Rice	"	574,089 47	698,853	...	...	535,306 02	642,246	...	...	38,863 45	46,637
" Tribute	"	650 00	760	...	...	450 00	540	...	...	200 00	240
" red	"	766 11	4,216	36 54	303	635 53	4,299	16 51	...	141 61	135
Resin, gum	"	1,853 84	3,229	16 70	33	1,547 67	3,046	...	...	322 97	217
Rouge	"	134 89	2,741	66 54	1,146	103 76	2,517	...	...	95 67	1,340
Safflower	"	8,991 43	925,651	...	...	1,500 16	79,969	...	...	783 71	48,479
Sanshu	"	9,363 51	38,391	82 10	336	1,294 61	21,708	1,707 56	95,003	...	...
Sea blubber	"	1,609 01	3,195	...	...	1,474 08	3,113	4,712 64	19,321	...	...
Sea-shells	"	1,626 29	2,033	132 14	165	163 16	191	...	...	34 95	85
Seaweed and agar-agar	"	198 57	437	...	...	629 52	1,814	...	...	1,605 20	9,007
Sisal, sesamum	"	10,098 22	42,917	...	...	5,979 82	26,459	6,246 94	28,767	...	...
" vegetable	"	1,305 49	1,472	...	...	10 28	16,719	90 20	270	...	...
Sheet, satin and cotton	Pairs	121,058	106,561	840	745	17,060	16,719	5,417	4,801	99,421 00	87,777
Silver and gold ware	Piculs	87,795	2,606	0 24	2,571	4,354	9,398	...	...	...	...
Skin clothing	Pieces	82,609	123,371	...	...	2,502	1,604	...	...	53,373	5,177
Skunk goat	"	23,063	4,613	...	...	565	1,651	43,026	12,467	32,081	112,864
" squirrel	"	13,691	2,384	...	...	27,390	87,001	...	...	23,498	2,961
" sheep and lamb	"	6,317	7,484	...	...	308	308	1,246	...	...	...
" rug	"	294,264	230,065	...	...	99	88	...	...	4,733	7,188
" assorted	"	10,979	3,162	...	...	6,015	1,887	245,808	254,983	...	...
Snuff, native	Piculs	292 39	8,773	...	...	19 64	559	6,389	9,663	...	...
Soap, native	"	23,154 13	61,193	...	...	1,857 43	3,708	1,640 50	706	19,656 19	8,193
Speller	"	100 00	1,600	...	...	...	...	...	...	100 00	56,600
" 8,450 74	"	63,381	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,983 83	29,379
Stone slabs	Pieces	28,092	2,393	...	...	...	...	1,356 60	10,175	26,002	9,983
Stones, sliver	Piculs	1,109 99	1,312	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,109 99	1,312
Straw braid	"	50,067 30	1,361,817	...	...	251 08	6,779	40,993 44	1,349,893	...	...

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Imports from Chinese Ports.		Imports from Hong Kong.		Re-exports to Chinese Ports.		Re-exports to Foreign Countries and Hong Kong.		Net Total Imports.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (<i>continued</i>)—											
Sugar, brown ..	Piculs	509,873 01	1,564,696	216,617 58	665,017	377,099 50	1,157,695	861 12	2,644	348,339 97	1,069,374
" " white ..	"	405,307 74	2,196,768	127,103 74	688,897	337,523 73	1,937,805	8,959 22	48,359	185,932 53	899,301
" " candy ..	"	36,612 61	237,982	6,377 08	41,451	28,914 96	187,947	3,991 89	25,947	10,082 84	65,539
Swansdown ..	Pieces	20,352	18,002	...	...	15,192	13,902	1,800	1,650	3,260	2,450
Tallow, animal ..	Piculs	1,367 12	6,336	...	...	521 45	2,607	360 61	1,803	385 06	1,926
" " vegetable ..	"	49,355 71	325,087	...	...	4,386 23	28,949	18 83	121	44,851 15	296,017
Tinfoil ..	"	319 17	10,213	193 04	6,177	493 06	15,778	...	...	19 15	612
" " prepared ..	"	25 17	831	23 92	759	9 76	322	...	...	39 33	1,298
Tobacco, leaf ..	"	45,285 98	571,716	...	...	17,804 85	83,839	2,487 23	14,923	25,493 90	152,964
" " stalk ..	"	79,598 24	1,671,563	378 49	7,948	40,131 87	104,769	1,303 91	25,282	88,640 95	811,460
Turneric ..	"	1,567 56	1,712	107 03	100	...	...	...	...	1,674 58	1,812
Umbrellas, paper ..	Pieces	10,568 67	31,706	62 00	186	5,245 50	15,736	763 52	2,291	4,621 35	13,865
Varnish ..	Piculs	108,246	15,154	...	...	42,963	6,015	55,720	7,801	9,681	1,388
Vegetables, dried ..	"	6,052 80	254,217	...	...	2,640 18	110,887	57 64	2,421	8,368 21	141,465
" " salted ..	"	307 25	3,861	13 23	556	...	...	...	...	308 85	3,866
Vermicelli ..	"	2,282 96	7,478	275 97	544	740 14	3,323	156 78	1,976	1,662 01	2,723
Vermilion ..	"	54,963 84	339,783	16 92	101	5,753 19	34,518	44,552 99	267,318	4,674 58	28,043
Wax, white ..	"	69 73	4,323	2,418 17	143,926	2,196 29	136,170	...	...	291 61	18,079
" " yellow ..	"	12,772 68	613,088	...	367	5,648 44	271,135	4,721 83	226,648	2,410 06	115,682
Wheat ..	"	635 67	16,267	7 65	...	500 72	13,019	56 94	1,480	68 01	1,768
Wood, coffin ..	"	36,027 56	42,613	...	...	32,910 09	38,883	...	...	3,117 47	3,650
" " fire ..	Pieces	1,171	1,748	...	...	6	2	...	...	1,165	1,746
" " planks ..	Piculs	6,441 55	1,832	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,441 55	1,932
" " poles ..	Sq. ft.	261,636	7,849	...	...	25,539	766	...	...	236,107	7,083
" " ware ..	Pieces	82,392	36,252	...	...	36,005	15,842	...	...	46,387	7,083
Wool ..	Piculs	1,207 19	13,379	40 15	441	917 96	10,098	15 78	173	313 58	20,410
Yaks' tails ..	"	2,966 97	19,284	...	...	6 47	42	2,912 97	18,934	47 53	308
Sundries, unenumerated ..	Pieces	4,109	1,643	...	...	...	...	3,480	1,392	629	251
Copper cash ..	Strings	55,276	73,176	...	5,076	...	48,502	...	5,329	...	24,431
Total ..		...	33,166	...	2,915,185	8,000	4,800	...	...	47,276	28,366
Excess of Re-export above Import of some articles during the year ..		...	40,883,332	...	...	...	15,677,734	...	19,543,802	...	9,242,432
Net Total ..		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	665,441
		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,576,981

Total, 8,576,981 Halkwan taels = at 5s. 6d. the tael, to 2,376,589l. 9s. 8d.

P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(Signed)

(No. 4.)—SUMMARY of Imports and Re-exports (Native).

(From Customs Returns.)				H. Taels.	H. Taels.	H. Taels.
Imports—						
From Newchwang	..	..	..	765,595		
Tien-tsin	..	..	..	1,989,242		
Chefoo ..	..	..	..	2,374,275		
Ichang ..	..	..	..	73,895		
Hankow	..	..	..	16,531,115		
Kiukiang	..	..	..	5,025,297		
Wuhu ..	..	..	..	1,232,643		
Chinkiang	..	..	..	1,081,563		
Ningpo ..	..	..	..	4,423,095		
Wenchow	..	..	..	71,327		
Foochow	..	..	..	513,495		
Tamsuy ..	..	..	..	52,054		
Takow ..	..	..	..	218,503		
Amoy ..	..	..	..	443,737		
Swatow ..	..	..	..	4,118,403		
Canton ..	..	..	..	1,969,093		
Total from Chinese Ports				..	40,883,332	
From Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	2,915,185	
Total Native Imports				..	..	43,798,517
Re-exports—						
To Newchwang	..	..	..	644,074		
Tien-tsin ..	..	..	..	2,863,614		
Chefoo ..	..	..	..	584,444		
Ichang ..	..	..	..	5,265		
Hankow ..	..	..	..	3,170,132		
Kiukiang ..	..	..	..	650,891		
Wuhu ..	..	..	..	468,252		
Chinkiang ..	..	..	..	1,866,342		
Ningpo ..	..	..	..	797,085		
Wenchow ..	..	..	..	63,761		
Foochow ..	..	..	..	816,268		
Tamsuy ..	..	..	..	1,258		
Takow ..	..	..	..	11,141		
Amoy ..	..	..	..	116,630		
Swatow ..	..	..	..	935,109		
Canton ..	..	..	..	1,683,468		
Hong Kong for Chinese ports ..	..	..	..	1,830,380		
Total to Chinese Ports				..	17,508,114	
To Hong Kong for foreign countries	..	..	..	411,594		
Great Britain	..	..	..	9,181,586		
India ..	..	..	..	429,485		
Singapore and Straits	..	..	..	122,558		
Australia ..	..	..	..	30,181		
Continent of Europe	..	..	..	1,800,259		
United States	..	..	..	4,653,345		
British America	..	..	..	17,087		
Russian Manchuria ..	..	..	..	230,888		
Japan ..	..	..	..	786,497		
Turkey in Asia, and Egypt	..	..	..	37,265		
Cochin China	..	..	..	2,834		
Siam ..	..	..	..	9,843		
Total to Foreign Countries				..	17,713,422	
Total Native Re-exports				..	..	35,221,536
Net Total Native Imports				..	..	8,576,981
Total, 8,576,981 Haikwan taels = at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 2,376,538l. 9s. 8½d.						
(Signed)				P. J. HUGHES, <i>Consul.</i>		

(No. 5.)—COMPARATIVE Table of the Imports of Opium for the Years 1879, 1880, and 1881.

	1879.				1880.				1881.			
	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.
Stock on board receiving-vessels, 1st January	Pic. c. 9,435 60	Pic. c. 1,509 60	Pic. c. 733 00	Pic. c. 159 00	Pic. c. 2,854 50	Pic. c. 1,490 40	Pic. c. 760 00	Pic. c. 237 75	Pic. c. 2,133 45	Pic. c. 300 00	Pic. c. 169 30	Pic. c. 233 00
Total imports	33,205 60	12,266 40	7,638 00	2,336 25	57,798 18	7,092 19	7,389 60	1,684 50	82,897 43	10,911 45	8,760 40	1,443 00
Total re-exports	39,011 60	2,814 00	2,045 20	2,317 50	27,547 23	2,146 80	2,539 60	1,699 75	99,188 75	9,371 90	2,911 30	868 00
Local consumption	1,365 00	9,909 60	5,677 20	150 00	1,274 00	6,270 59	5,612 40	139 50	1,441 80	6,802 65	5,274 00	133 00
Stock on board receiving-vessels, 31st December	9,854 60	1,490 40	760 00	237 75	2,133 45	300 00	169 30	233 00	4,480 32	2,087 60	784 40	685 00

The picul is equal to 133½ lbs. avoirdupois.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(No. 6).—TRADE in Native Produce.—Exports and Re-exports.

(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Silk—											
Raw, thrown, and yellow	Piculs	38,963 75	13,631,698	298 50	88,475	290 06	91,031	6,400 16	1,653,871	45,863 47	15,480,355
Refuse or waste	"	11,197 85	671,871	10 87	...	...	...	1,926 36	231,164	1,926 36	231,164
Cocoons	"	9,317 55	163,248	0 20	14	...	...	8,728 43	436,271	19,934 15	1,108,794
Clothing	"	11 49	6,319	...	...	...	...	1 05	74	2,318 80	1,162,316
Piece goods	"	923 50	134,390	463 71	975,926	59 57	32,513	1,754 06	...	71 06	38,833
Pongees	"	19 39	1,962	1 13	181	1 03	9,480,586	1,117 81	318,574	6,570 88	3,942,528
Silk and cotton mixtures	"	0 68	148	1 67	268	71 32	15,800	121 27	26,679	1,133 36	321,030
Wedding, old...	"	1,897 30	7,461	...	...	...	...	...	...	195 44	42,995
Thread and tassels	"	21 83	8,513	39 96	15,584	73 55	28,301	...	1,716	1,697 30	7,461
Ribbons	"	...	...	...	...	11 33	5,438	409 49	196,555	140 04	54,614
Tea—											
Black	"	107 15	1,392	933 01	13,117	9,189 24	28,460	435,195 53	7,587,417	438,423 92	7,639,386
Green	"	1,553 50	27,945	...	...	30 19	543	233,189 30	5,094,330	234,771 89	6,052,908
Brick	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	204,001 83	1,117,803	304,001 83	1,117,803
Dust	"	33 27	194	...	...	...	...	13,673 99	109,393	13,706 26	1,109,586
Leaf	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	155 06	1,473	155 06	1,473
Sundries—											
Alum, white	"	49	40	...	...	...	...	34,483 64	27,595	34,643 64	27,635
" green	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,050 75	8,038	4,070 75	8,053
Aniseed, star, whole	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,879 63	25,375	1,879 63	25,375
" broken	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	380	2,850	380	2,850
Arsenic	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,541 49	27,247	4,541 49	27,247
Bag, hemp and gunny	Pieces	117 350	3,347	...	...	...	1,072	1,357,050	46,665	1,377 380	47,767
" grass and straw	"	9,960	89	...	...	...	...	2,161,383	65,133	2,369 843	67,603
Bamboo canes	"	6 26	44	...	...	...	...	10,310	309	71 063	2,133
" shoots, dried	Piculs	...	...	...	...	...	...	29,877 07	124,190	29,930 71	124,474
" split...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bamboo ware	"	6 13	78	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Barley, pearl	"	...	...	441 90	1,467	9,353 41	8,744	976 81	11,721	9,353 41	8,744
Beancake	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	199 30	2,841	1,972 09	15,263
Beancurd	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	297 52	248,403	281,615 56	337,918
Beans and peas	"	9 74	38	...	...	...	...	131 50	363	297 52	337,918
		28,737 73	83,380	23,961 53	33,371	160,077 75	254,013	75,333 83	135,333	235,060 94	456,097

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>											
Bones, cow, buffalo, and pigs	Pieces	...	...	6 30	19	4,141 33	2,546	...	...	4,147 53	2,545
Bones, tiger	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	110 96	3,550
Birds, printed	"	31 60	1,680	35 10	1,755	605 25	30,263	110 96	32,899	1,139 91	56,486
Bones, fall	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	213 43	6,372	913 42	6,372
Bronze ware	"	164 19	4,935	167 73	5,083	797 57	23,637	413 94	13,418	1,533 43	46,008
Bronze, brass	"	...	...	...	...	3 10	126	1,609 33	96,553	1,611 32	96,679
Cane, cutlery	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,766 33	8,831	1,766 33	8,831
Caps, felt	Pieces	137	34	365	71	840	210	35,490	8,365	35,733	9,180
Caps, silk	"	5,309	2,187	13,859	5,393	89 418	37,555	...	...	107,466	45,134
Carpets	"	4,760	4,254	1,015	913	28,736	35,918	...	...	63,864	47,578
Cassia seeds	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,394	16,464	368 08	3,809
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	238 08	3,809	319 86	41,546
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,195 86	41,546	5,606 23	16,813
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,006 23	16,813	11,158 30	78,108
Chinaware, fine	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,091 65	248,205
Chinaware, coarse	"	374 30	13,097	103 02	3,605	18 48	646	6,595 95	230,657	13,611 32	136,113
"	"	3,343 97	33,439	208 65	3,067	1,433 50	14,895	7,576 10	75,761	980 67	9,339
Chowchow	"	8 73	53	789 45	8,335	3 46	853	...	...	171 25	7,032
Chinaberry	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 25	926
Chinamon	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,038 96	6,017
Collars	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,691	1,118
Copper ore	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	435 25	6,598
"	"	75 15	901	80 10	961	38 30	573	397 05	5,955	380 57	4,737
Copperware	"	6 45	180	34 80	960	44 63	1,249	105 49	2,563	190 86	5,343
Coral	"	...	...	...	...	0 05	335	...	...	0 05	335
Cornelian beads	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 10	1,991
Cotton, raw	"	29,258 38	231,470	34,799 48	846,155	...	...	...	...	347,650 08	8,469
"	"	483 61	33,853	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,147 80	36,745
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	581 40	36,745
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43 98	1,001
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	137 34	1,345
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,293	8,883
"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	861 98	88,415
Curries	Pieces	4,593	3,863	...	...	...	...	...	...	84,819 73	278,600
Cattle-tail	Pieces	670 73	13,959	...	...	...	...	...	...	267 315	2,780
Dressing cases	"	...	...	1,363 01	11,144	1,365 19	10,041	...	...	6,132	9,917
Dusters, Feather	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98,356	98,356

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (Including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.	Quantity.	H. Taels.
<i>Sundries (continued).—</i>											
Dye stuff	Piculs	34,396	...	167,348	...	5 21	86	3,345 96	15,097	3,351 17	15,183
Eggs, preserved	Pieces	3,084,690	11,357	...	...	3,146,990	16,015	183,336	833	2,471,264	17,994
" fresh	"	48	...	...	...	...	...	118,350	365	3,993,040	11,613
Peas, palm-leaf, trimmed	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,236,669	238,498	7,236,669	238,498
" untrimmed	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,911,940	139,119	13,911,998	139,133
" paper	"	690	47	1,517	...	3,437,353	193,541	13,911,940	317,870	14,329,293	410,578
" silk	"	10,377	764	...	...	43,307	5,605	71,133	6,016	6,551,830	11,386
Feathers	Piculs	2,843 87	14,981	...	...	...	19	3,693 97	9,091	124,817	24,091
Fat	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	179 33	2,510	6,539 89	34,091
Fire-crackers	"	16 44	...	...	...	...	45	556 83	6,680	676 03	6,910
Fish bones	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 47	977	16 47	977
" dried and salted	"	...	...	103 51	...	...	...	5,511 71	39,684	6,394 86	45,973
" maws	"	5 09	...	...	...	795 65	5,513	2,043	36,100	1,160 70	37,143
" glue	"	...	...	...	...	83 81	2,043	1,096 89	8,110	841 05	21,868
" skins	"	...	...	...	...	599 10	13,766	311 95	5,641	513 33	6,635
" line, silk	"	...	...	1 84	...	8 60	94	503 73	...	...	...
Flour	"	...	...	...	...	0 14	35	...	...	1 99	...
" line, silk	"	...	...	...	...	8 30	31	247 96	797	276 36	808
Flowers, dried	"	...	...	...	...	10 00	80	304 23	1,059	314 23	1,139
Flower seeds	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,657 59	12,279	1,557 59	12,779
" plants	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,192 59	841	17,249	1,100
Fruit, dried	Piculs	66 61	...	1,000	...	13,197	739	72,846 03	963,864	74,577 06	267,876
" fresh	"	61 06	108	1,264 07	...	400 35	714	18,061 60	29,186	20,709 69	34,269
Fungus	"	0 66	...	113 37	...	2,473 67	4,683	9,243 85	9,344 01	963,433	263,452
Galangal	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,393 51	...	4,393 51	13,735
Garlic	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ginger, fresh	"	...	...	660 14	...	3,265 31	4,898	...	...	...	...
Ginseng	"	...	...	...	...	24,306 24	46,269	...	...	24,806 34	46,269
" root	"	0 26	...	...	...	0 50	87	736 97	36,096	737 73	86,351
" Korean, 1st quality	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	63 55	1,657	63 55	1,657
" 2nd	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	46 23	116,550	46 23	116,700
Glassware	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glue, cow	"	1 99	...	...	...	193 06	3,673	...	...	...	...
Gold and silver thread	"	1 00	...	...	...	57 58	461	1,193 38	92,664	1,397 73	26,574
" thread, imitation	"	...	...	1 37	...	31 33	1,493	2,390 40	18,732	2,378 98	10,161
Grasscloth, fine	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" coarse	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ground-nuts	"	2 84	...	13 09	...	123 06	11,813	65 13	4,559	1,096 04	106,218
" coarse	"	1,941	...	20 53	...	1,260 79	50,431	957 06	91,576	8,397 13	131,895
Ground-nuts, coarse	"	264 33	...	...	...	931	2,405	1,967 81	78,693	1,296 23	3,065
Gyrum	"	615 00	...	...	...	961 90	...	45,811 28	23,906	46,326 23	23,163

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
<i>Sundries (continued)—</i>			H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.		H. Taels.
Hair, camels' ...	Piculs	28 26	367	...	...	...	...	9,893 45	95,279	9,860 71	95,648
" " goats' ...	"	89 90	584	...	...	1,140 06	7,410	5,101 28	20,159	4,332 94	28,164
" " horse ...	"	3 52	74	...	...	...	...	39 66	2,090	73 96	8,164
" " human ...	"	376 16	9,187	...	...	...	...	1,064	1,064	415 81	10,971
" " pigs' ...	"	101 65	2,520	...	...	...	...	1,024 77	18,676	1,138 44	10,971
Hams ...	Pieces	38 58	578	5,008 50	75,057	1,317 09	19,756	6,440	6,440	6,788 78	101,831
Hats, straw ...	Piculs	25,266	251	...	...	275	41	1,684,146	75,563	1,709,687	75,856
Hemp ...	"	7 46	59	7 80	79	26 90	215	62,533 90	500,270	62,576 06	500,633
Hides, cow and buffalo ...	"	...	...	40 34	1,408	28 38	993	4 38	100	73 00	2,501
" " twine ...	"	...	...	149 68	1,945	...	...	33,135 73	430,762	33,285 41	433,707
Honey ...	"	...	...	...	...	157 11	2,199	...	...	167 11	2,199
Horns, camels ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	153 00	13,731	153 00	13,731
" " cow ...	"	1 82	13	549 78	5,958	130 63	941	1,530 85	11,021	2,213 06	15,933
" " deer, young ...	Pairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	439	15,015	431	15,086
" " deer, old ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	212 87	6,856	213 87	6,386
Indigo, dried ...	Piculs	...	...	...	...	1 28	20	559 34	8,949	560 62	8,969
" " liquid ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,578 34	32,992	6,578 34	32,992
Ink, China ...	"	31 44	2,639	10 83	975	98 98	8,900	4,461 61	36,870	4,721 35	38,114
Ironware ...	"	0 50	3	2 75	27	236 49	1,214	6 52	2,892	2,439	2,439
Ivoryware ...	"	...	...	...	...	0 42	147	...	...	...	...
Jade, stone ...	"	...	...	...	...	66 40	665	60 93	3,423	110 33	4,108
Jade, stone ware ...	Value	...	503	...	...	...	6,378	...	9,725	...	16,511
Joan sticks ...	Piculs	2 94	24	...	...	0 50	4	136 08	1,008	129 47	1,036
Lacquered ware ...	"	...	...	0 68	28	27 87	1,143	36 35	1,467	64 90	2,667
Lampblack ...	"	...	...	...	...	273 91	668	1,068 90	2,206	1,342 81	2,864
Lamps ...	Pieces	...	...	...	...	310	189	...	26,677	305,041	26,866
Lamp-wicks ...	Piculs	...	...	74 00	1,333	438 98	7,721	204,731	...	502 98	9,063
Lard ...	"	...	...	1,474 34	7,359	42 91	914	...	...	1,517 25	7,478
Lead, red ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	285 76	2,143
" " white ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,164 07	12,984
" " yellow ...	"	...	...	...	...	7 30	43	4,048 85	26,317	9,171 27	13,057
Leather ...	"	...	...	1 55	16	66 10	661	804 06	16,795	4,048 85	26,317
" " ware ...	"	1,245 35	12,453	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,117 06	26,935
Lily flowers, dried ...	"	53 07	2,122	...	...	100 15	4,008	...	...	244 40	9,775
Lily-seed, or lotus-seed ...	"	4 00	24	2,305 18	13,631	100 00	600	38,533 83	231,143	40,833 00	245,698
Liquorice ...	"	...	...	301 00	3,913	26 30	343	6,840 33	88,924	7,167 63	83,179
Long-anan pulp ...	"	13 80	76	...	...	1 06	7	3,041 43	16,726	3,056 27	16,809
Long-anan, dried ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,946 05	51,198	3,946 05	51,198
" " ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,901 79	112,310	18,901 79	112,310

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sundries (continued)—											
Mats, straw, bamboo, and rattan ...	Pieces	779	24	3,300	103	96,973	840	2,104,796	73,353	2,135,088	74,319
" tea and silk ...	"	131	389	1	3	...	...	833,343	24,663	833,343	24,663
Medicines ...	Pieces	263 17	1,423	3,849 01	16,697	6,419 89	30,332	1,020	3,266	1,143	3,768
Mirrors with frames ...	Pieces	...	...	...	...	51	316	165,008 43	1,143,674	175,630 49	1,192,936
Mushrooms ...	Pieces	...	...	...	...	...	...	168,378	11,686	1,684 29	11,903
Musk ...	Pieces	0 39	3,040	...	...	0 04	330	169 61	5,597	169 61	5,597
Muscle, dried ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 39	186,335	23 71	186,695
Nankens ...	"	803 98	28,104	4,043 63	141,533	16,177 66	566,218	9,417 83	29,012	25,873 41	905,569
Nutgalls ...	"	...	...	207 36	505	...	...	23,630 17	169,724	23,630 17	938,202
Nuts, white ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oil, bean ...	"	2,133 96	8,602	...	...	88 00	191	...	...	4,446 10	18,006
" castor ...	"	299 87	479	38 24	45	2,352 14	9,404	...	...	639 80	846
" ground-nut ...	"	593 60	2,618	...	...	2,917 02	14,585	...	...	3,440 62	17,203
" tea ...	"	15 78	95	...	...	0 95	6	3,025 84	18,154	3,042 57	18,255
" wood ...	"	0 65	3	...	...	1 70	9	40,401 79	229,210	40,404 14	232,232
Opium huk ...	"	...	...	...	...	20 83	1,739	...	...	30 83	1,739
" prepared ...	"	...	...	...	...	0 06	23	320 67	63,994	230 73	64,017
Ornaments ...	Pieces	...	...	...	...	0 13	159	0 33	356	0 46	465
Paddy ...	"	...	...	...	...	8,357 60	465	13,052 43	9,137	31,410 03	14,967
Palms, assorted ...	"	...	...	...	...	1,083 23	5,850	84 11	547	94 11	547
Paper, 1st quality ...	"	28 01	784	3 80	106	...	...	25,786 90	723,032	26,911 94	753,533
" 2nd ...	"	17 31	95	...	...	65 80	359	7,660 07	416,435	7,742 68	416,899
" 3rd ...	"	5 11	61	...	...	109 96	1,887	7,773 34	81,171	7,886 31	82,819
" oil ...	"	...	...	6 40	82	108 48	1,410	...	...	114 88	1,493
Pearls, false ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	41 90	1,885	41 90	1,885
Peel, orange ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	46	2,436 98	34,115	3,440 07	34,161
" punelo ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	338 10	6,261	338 10	6,261
Pean, Chinese ...	"	115,150	1,315	...	...	...	...	...	...	311,766	2,933
Peppermint leaf ...	Pieces	...	...	37 60	131	495 63	1,323	313 14	1,092	845 97	2,933
Pistons ...	Pieces	113,150	1,136	125,138	539	103,150	1,006	...	...	341,430	3,143
Pottery, earthenware ...	Pieces	8,871 41	141,943	33 71	...	1,136 91	18,031	338 13	6,249	10,830 16	165,763
Prunes and shrimps, dried ...	"	...	...	...	...	17 90	197	1,564 88	17,314	1,582 78	17,411
Prosyne and sweetmeats ...	"	178 29	1,604	88 48	796	2,404 93	22,455	2,706 19	24,359	5,468 34	49,214
Provisions, dried ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,072 64	16,684	1,073 64	16,684
Reins, split ...	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,166 53	11,365	2,166 53	11,365

[illegible]

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity	Exports to Foreign Countries.		Exports to Hong Kong.		Exports to Chinese Ports.		Total Re-exports to Foreign Countries, Hong Kong, and Chinese Ports.		Total Exports (including Re-exports).	
		Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.	Quantity.	Value. H. Taels.
Sundries (continued)—											
Tallow, animal	Piculs	45	225	...	...	701 92	3,509	882 06	4,410	1,638 98	8,144
" vegetable	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,404 56	29,070	4,404 56	29,070
Tin-foil	"	...	...	...	...	...	163	493 06	15,778	493 15	15,941
Tinware	"	...	1 68	...	...	...	...	9 76	322	11 64	342
Tobacco, leaf	"	...	1 42	...	...	32 50	7	19,792 08	118,752	19,816	118,885
" prepared	"	...	679	...	...	80 08	1,682	41,335 78	868,051	41,448 28	870,412
Turmeric	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,009 32	18,027	6,009 32	18,027
Umbrellas, paper	pieces	275	...	3,300	...	2,955	...	98,083	13,816	105,213	14,771
Varnish	Piculs	...	...	...	...	294 67	413	2,097 82	113,908	2,721 85	114,317
Vegetables, dried	"	...	...	...	...	277 18	1,009	...	...	234 67	317
" salted	"	...	...	...	...	438 54	317	...	...	4,680 40	16,615
Vermicelli	"	...	98	985 87	3,957	...	8,881	896 92	5,999	50,306 18	306,677
Vermilion	"	...	58	202 09	1,312	...	2,571	50,306 18	301,836	2,196 29	136,170
Wax, white	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,370 37	497,778	10,373 23	497,914
" yellow	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	557 66	14,499	599 33	15,583
Wheat	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,910 09	38,833	871,219 70	1,028,038
" "	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	25,529	766	27,539	836
Wood, planks, soft	Sq. feet	...	...	...	...	838 809 61	989,205	36,005	15,842	40,465	17,794
" poles	Pieces	...	...	...	...	2,000	60	987 76	10,371	1,344 36	14,193
Woodware	"	...	1,939	...	...	4,460	1,952	2,919 44	18,976	7,277 51	47,803
Wool, sheep's	Piculs	...	18,410	...	683	1,388 32	9,024	...	74,020	...	118,984
Sundries, unenumerated	"	2,832 40	17,191	137 85	3,816	...	24,457	8,000	4,800	944,724	566,834
Copper cash	Value	...	...	...	...	936,794	562,084	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	15,349,911	...	1,134,025	...	13,394,751	...	85,321,556	...	65,100,223

Total, 65,100,223 Halkwan taels = at 5s. 4½d. the tael, to 19,039,186*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(No. 7.)—SUMMARY of Exports and Re-exports (Native).

(From Customs Returns.)

To—	Exports.		Re-exports.		Total Exports and Re-exports.	
	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
Great Britain	3,488,614		9,181,586		12,670,200	
India	54,686		429,485		484,171	
Singapore and Straits	440,001		122,558		562,559	
Australia	4		30,181		30,185	
Continent of Europe	7,982,187		1,800,369		9,782,446	
United States	2,854,229		4,653,345		7,507,574	
British America	184		17,067		17,251	
Russian Manchuria	84,139		230,888		315,027	
Japan	340,620		796,497		1,137,017	
Philippine Islands	60				60	
Cochin China	3,554		2,834		6,388	
Siam, Turkey in Asia and Egypt ...	101,783		47,108		148,891	
Hong Kong, for foreign countries ...	381,128		411,594		792,722	
Total to foreign countries ... ..	...	15,731,089	...	17,713,422	...	33,444,461
Hong Kong for Chinese ports	752,997		1,830,390		2,583,377	
Newchwang	389,104		644,074		1,033,178	
Tien-tsin	3,184,350		3,863,614		7,047,964	
Chefoo	254,860		584,444		839,304	
Ichang			5,265		5,265	
Hankow	2,506,591		3,170,132		5,676,723	
Kiukiang	234,473		660,891		935,364	
Wuhu	18,445		463,252		481,697	
Chinkiang	26,400		1,866,843		1,893,243	
Ningpo	21,965		797,085		819,050	
Wenchow	20,084		63,761		83,845	
Foochow	496,341		816,268		1,312,609	
Tamsuy	8,358		1,368		9,726	
Takow	192,498		11,141		203,639	
Amoy	1,367,619		116,630		1,484,249	
Swatow	2,116,350		935,109		3,051,459	
Canton	2,507,643		1,683,468		4,191,111	
Total to Chinese ports ... ..	...	14,147,648	...	17,508,114	...	31,655,762
Grand Total ... ..	...	29,878,687	...	35,221,536	...	65,100,223

Total, 65,100,223 Halkwan taels = at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 18,038,186l. 15s. 9½d.

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, *Consul*.

(No. 8).—EXPORT of Tea for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

(From Customs Returns.)

To—	BLACK.			Leaf.	Dust.	Brick.	Japan Uncoloured.	GREEN.						Japan Coloured.
	Congou.	Other sorts.	Total.					Young Hyson.	Hyson.	Twankay.	Imperial.	Gun- powder.	Total.	
	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.	Pic. c.
Great Britain	307,187 05	0 40	307,187 45	12,129 56	0 52	...	...	23,687 15	10,615 84	331 71	8,452 91	21,982 39	59,069 40	Pic. c. 57 37
Hong Kong	1,913 61	...	1,913 61	...	...	...	...	29 90	97 71	...	6 03	306 44	440 08	...
India	61 05	...	61 05	...	...	...	...	42 87	8,136 89	...	...	...	8,179 86	...
United States of America	24,848 80	140 08	24,988 88	...	4 50	...	...	66,234 78	9,481 88	1,833 01	19,181 54	69,914 00	166,145 01	996 27
Continent of Europe—														
France	98 71	45 14	143 85	...	...	...	...	56 18	...	...	...	0 23	56 41	...
Other countries	5,465 54	...	5,465 54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russia (Odessa)	4,631 32	...	4,631 32	...	23 38	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Russian Manchuria	5,333 88	...	5,333 88	...	24,107 68	...	...	30 24	...	...	...	3 46	30 94	...
Japan	174 01	25 37	199 38	...	1,872 36	...	...	2 05	20 74	...	...	...	25 19	...
Singapore and Straits	5 23	9 39	14 63	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Australia	181 25	...	181 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
British America	192 66	...	192 66	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cochin China	1 24	...	1 24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Egypt	34 83	...	34 83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to foreign countries	350,119 18	220 29	350,339 47	12,129 56	26,007 44	...	...	89,291 31	28,370 97	1,664 72	22,793 06	92,485 26	234,605 32	1,053 64
" Chinese ports	78,084 45	...	78,084 45	*2,191 02	+177,998 23	10 13	...	...	99 67	...	...	66 90	166 57	217 73
Grand total	428,203 63	220 29	428,423 92	14,320 58	304,005 67	10 13	...	89,291 31	28,470 64	1,664 72	22,793 06	92,552 16	234,771 89	1,271 37

The picul is equal to 133½ lbs. avoirdupois.

* Includes 614·33 piculs Japan dust.

† Includes 3·84 piculs Japan brick.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(No. 9).—EXPORT of Silk for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

(From Customs Returns.)

To—	Raw.		Thrown.		Yellow.		Total.		Raw, wild.		Waste.		Cocoons.		Japan.	Corean.	Bombay.
	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Pic. c.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Great Britain	10,733	8,558 18	...	...	343	349 73	11,066	8,906 91	841	837 23	...	...	50	86 01	...	...	...
Hong Kong.	299	238 80	...	...	13	15 89	312	254 39	...	...	4	10 87	1	0 20	...	...	...
India	170	139 01	...	...	840	977 60	1,017	1,116 61	...	...	60	195 61	...	...	5	...	...
United States of America.	8,044	8,006 10	10	7 88	...	...	8,054	8,013 98	...	...	...	...	101	172 44	...	...	...
Continent of Europe—																	
France	26,558	21,230 91	...	...	3,474	3,625 61	30,032	24,856 52	932	933 63	3,255	9,318 73	885	1,655 90	40	9	10
Other countries	766	611 94	...	...	123	130 83	888	732 77	...	...	11	24 54	216	403 20	...	...	...
Suez	107	87 92	...	...	71	78 87	178	166 79	89	87 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Straits and Singapore	1,069	847 77	...	...	125	167 18	1,194	1,014 95	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syria	16	13 71	...	...	59	62 15	75	75 86	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bussorah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1 00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to foreign countries	47,752	39,784 04	10	7 88	5,047	5,396 86	52,809	45,138 78	1,863	1,853 97	7,060	19,929 15	1,253	2,317 75	45	9	10
Chinese ports	296	260 06	12	10 80	344	452 83	652	723 69	67	67 39	3	5 00	1	1 05	...	...	...
Grand Total	48,048	39,994 10	22	18 68	5,391	5,849 69	53,461	45,862 47	1,930	1,926 36	7,063	19,934 15	1,254	2,318 80	45	9	10

The picul is equal to 133½ lbs. avoirdupois.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Consul.

(No. 10.)—TRANSIT Trade Returns.

(From Customs Returns.)

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Shirtings, grey	Pieces ..	11,100	14,652
" white	" ..	600	876
" dyed	" ..	1,014	2,058
" spots and brocades, dyed ..	" ..	230	515
" Turkey red	" ..	180	234
T-cloths, 39 and 36 inches ..	" ..	20,650	26,845
" 32 inches	" ..	9,160	7,512
Drills, English	" ..	1,560	2,558
" American	" ..	385	1,078
Jeans, English	" ..	580	765
" American	" ..	80	156
" Dutch	" ..	80	129
Sheetings, English	" ..	85	154
" American	" ..	420	1,075
Twills, printed	" ..	80	144
Chintzes and furnitures	" ..	240	264
Velvets	" ..	354	1,685
Velveteens	" ..	24	114
Handkerchiefs	Dozen ..	6,440	2,448
Camlets, English	Pieces ..	610	5,783
Lastings, cotton	" ..	40	152
" woollen	" ..	180	1,445
Long elis	" ..	620	3,143
Spanish stripes	" ..	438	3,828
Lustres and orleans, figured ..	" ..	578	1,682
Cloth, broad, medium and habit ..	" ..	108	2,537
Copper, Japan	Piculs ..	65	937
" sheathing	" ..	30	509
Iron bars	" ..	3,518	6,192
" old	" ..	25,366	32,975
" wire	" ..	1,054	4,097
" nail-rod	" ..	40,872	67,515
" pigs and kentledge	" ..	1,350	1,350
Lead	" ..	6,405	24,470
Tin compounds	" ..	600	12,314
" in slabs	" ..	9,321	191,923
" in plates	" ..	114	406
Steel	" ..	1,250	3,575
Zinc	" ..	154	774
Aniseed, star, whole	" ..	80	1,086
Bicho-de-mar, black	" ..	122	4,882
" white	" ..	118	1,895
Canes, bamboo	Pieces ..	142,195	4,265
Clams, dried	Piculs ..	74	445
Clocks	Pieces ..	390	646
Coal	Tons ..	24,587	118,362
Cockles, dried	Piculs ..	26	474
Coke	Tons ..	244	1,952
Fans, palm-leaf, trimmed	Pieces ..	442,660	14,607
" " untrimmed	" ..	3,799,000	18,995
Fish-skins	" ..	81	897
Flints	Piculs ..	9,302	3,349
Galangal	" ..	101	323
Ginseng root	" ..	232	1,719
Gum olibanum	" ..	70	597
Handles, bamboo, fan	Pieces ..	1,064,892	1,586
Horn, deer, old	Piculs ..	40	1,218
Indigo, liquid	" ..	7,480	37,404
Isinglass	" ..	525	13,649

Description of Goods.	Classifier of Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.
			H. taels.
Lead, white	Piculs ..	113	679
„ yellow	„ ..	239	1,555
Lichees, dried	„ ..	95	573
Lung-ngans, dried	„ ..	301	1,808
Mangrove bark	„ ..	734	588
Matches, wood	Gross ..	38,025	11,408
Medicines	Piculs ..	155	922
Mushrooms	„ ..	84	2,780
Mussels, dried	„ ..	211	2,541
Oil, kerosene	Gallons ..	190,220	24,728
Oyster shells	Piculs ..	606	849
Paper, 1st quality	„ ..	639	17,906
Peel, orange	„ ..	187	1,871
Pepper, black	„ ..	278	2,180
Plum-tree bark	„ ..	561	840
Prawns and shrimps, dried	„ ..	115	1,265
Rattans, whole	„ ..	8,752	22,757
Sand, Japan	„ ..	538	538
Sandal-wood	„ ..	10,701	36,385
Sapan-wood	„ ..	5,176	14,234
Seaweed	„ ..	3,864	7,922
Sharks' fins, black	„ ..	41	660
„ „ white	„ ..	13	536
Soap	Boxes ..	5,431	3,802
Sugar, brown	Piculs ..	27,318	83,868
„ candy	„ ..	590	3,886
„ white	„ ..	11,005	59,647
Sulphuric acid	Lbs. ..	13,441	734
Tobacco, leaf	Piculs ..	70	421
„ prepared	„ ..	46	978
„ stalk	„ ..	1,217	1,095
Vermillion	„ ..	8	523
Wax, Japan	„ ..	43	2,091
Window glass	Cases ..	1,262	2,723
Wood, camagon	Piculs ..	951	1,426
„ ebony	„ ..	158	553
„ laka	„ ..	676	1,825
„ puru	„ ..	299	3,992
„ planks, hard	„ ..	349	504
„ red, rose	„ ..	2,214	4,428
Sundries .. ..	„ ..	..	8,236
Total value .. ..	.. ..	..	993,337

Total, 993,337 Haikwan taels—at 5s. 6½d. the tael, to 275,237l. 2s. 6½d.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, *Consul.*

**(No 11.)—Gross and net Values of the Trade of Shanghai.
1879 to 1881.**

(From Customs Returns.)

	1879.		1880.		1881.	
	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.	Net Values.	Gross Values.
	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.	H. taels.
FOREIGN GOODS.						
Imported from foreign countries and Hong Kong ...	58,847,069		56,046,498		67,329,150	
Imported from Chinese ports ...	1,152,092		1,070,635		915,008	
Total Foreign Imports ...	...	59,999,161	...	57,117,133	...	68,244,158
Re-exported to foreign countries and Hong Kong ...	2,213,265		2,171,032		1,784,384	
Re-exported to Chinese Ports (chiefly to Ningpo, the North-eastern, and the Yang-tsze ports)...	46,290,994		40,370,177		46,677,435	
Total Foreign Re-exports ..	48,504,259		42,541,209		48,461,819	
Net total Foreign Imports ...	11,494,902		14,575,924		19,782,334	
NATIVE PRODUCE.						
Imported (chiefly from Hankow, Kiukiang, and Ningpo) ...	...	40,339,011	...	42,594,862	...	43,798,517
Re-exported to foreign countries ..	14,166,460		16,717,069		17,713,422	
Re-exported to Chinese ports ...	17,370,394		18,288,062		17,508,114	
Total Native Re-exports ...	31,536,854		35,005,131		35,221,536	
Net total native imports ...	8,802,157		7,589,731		8,576,981	
Native produce of local origin exported to foreign countries ...	17,878,808		19,461,742		15,731,039	
Native produce of local origin exported to Chinese ports ..	13,257,519		15,742,494		14,147,648	
Total Exports of local origin .	...	31,136,327	...	35,204,236	...	29,878,687
Gross value of the trade of the port ...	...	131,474,499	...	134,916,231	...	141,921,357
Net value of the trade of the port (i.e., foreign and native imports less re-exports, and native exports of local origin) .	51,433,386		57,369,891		58,238,002	

(Signed)

P. J. HUGHES, *Consul.*

(No. 12.)—SHARE taken at Shanghai by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade from and to Foreign Countries, and with the other Treaty Ports of China; and in the Transit Trade: with the Proportion borne by each Share to the whole Trade.

3.—Table showing the Estimated Proportion of the Share taken by each Foreign Flag in the Import and Export Trade, and the Trade Coastwise, and giving Statistics of the Transit Trade as carried on under Treaty, and of Population at the Treaty Ports.

(From Customs Returns.)

Flag.	TOTAL TONNAGE.			TOTAL VALUES.				
	Foreign and Coastwise, Inwards and Outwards.			Foreign Trade.		Coast Trade.		Total Values, Foreign and Coast Trade.
	Vessels employed.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage employed.	Imports.*	Exports.†	Outwards.‡	Inwards.§	
British .	550	2,631	2,047,093	Hk. taels. 53,310,056	Hk. taels. 16,723,754	Hk. taels. 41,209,512	Hk. taels. 24,896,079	Hk. taels. 136,139,401
American	87	212	71,301	917,153	799,285	303,653	270,721	2,290,852
German	98	168	92,185	2,071,500	583,187	907,175	399,972	3,961,834
French .	30	63	124,959	5,713,437	11,908,624	450,410	16,739	18,089,210
Dutch ..	3	4	2,464	22,631	..	16,083	..	38,714
Danish ..	20	36	23,970	76,235	61,582	115,935	101,866	355,618
Spanish	10	47	8,291	..	..	129,851	124,547	254,398
Swedish and Norwegian	2	2	832	3,014	1,179	19,283	..	23,476
Russian .	5	6	9,662	..	39,027	..	..	39,027
Austrian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	20	217	180,216	4,108,103	4,664,134	..	..	8,772,237
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	8	8	3,603	41,300	43,360	10,101	436	95,197
Chinese	76	1,450	1,125,665	1,065,721	404,713	35,171,154	18,903,160	55,544,748
Total ..	909	4,844	3,690,241	67,329,150	35,228,845	78,333,197	44,713,520	225,604,712

* All goods arriving in vessels direct from foreign ports.

† All goods (original shipments of Chinese goods and reshipments of Chinese and foreign goods) departing in vessels cleared for foreign ports.

‡ All goods shipped at one Treaty Port for another, i.e., foreign goods reshipped and Chinese original cargoes and reshipments.

§ All goods arriving from the other Treaty Ports, i.e., Chinese original cargoes and reshipments and foreign reshipments.

[1571]

TOTAL DUTIES.

Flag.	Foreign Trade.		Coast Trade.		Total Duties, Foreign and Coast Trade.	Total Tonnage Dues.
	Export Duties.		Import and Half Duties.			
	Import Duties.	Export Duties.	Export Duties.	Import and Half Duties.		
British ..	Hk. taels m. c. c. 2,488,179 0 6 8	Hk. taels m. c. c. 104,065 6 7 5	Hk. taels m. c. c. 376,415 1 6 2	Hk. taels m. c. c. 126,634 1 4 7	Hk. taels m. c. c. 3,095,294 0 5 2	Hk. taels m. c. c. 93,260 2 0 0
American ..	29,554 3 2 7	1,149 5 2 8	4,878 2 4 2	2,012 7 4 0	37,594 8 3 7	9,717 4 0 0
German ..	70,084 4 4 0	2,565 8 9 6	22,112 5 5 2	3,109 1 5 2	97,872 0 4 0	8,956 4 0 0
French ..	266,810 0 1 1	245,025 1 4 6	645 0 0 0	..	512,480 1 5 7	5,937 2 0 0
Dutch ..	650 6 2 0	..	1,248 1 8 3	..	1,898 8 0 3	492 8 0 0
Danish ..	4,166 5 7 9	290 2 8 2	5,563 7 4 8	1,335 0 5 9	11,355 6 6 8	1,702 4 0 0
Spanish ..	..	..	1,539 0 5 3	1,365 2 0 0	2,904 2 5 3	205 4 0 0
Swedish and Norwegian ..	31 2 7 5	..	..	..	31 2 7 5	166 4 0 0
Russian ..	..	..	0 1 1 5	129 1 6 0	129 2 7 5	1,729 2 0 0
Austrian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese ..	145,471 9 5 7	89,679 7 4 2	..	..	235,151 6 9 9	6,002 0 0 0
Peruvian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers ..	1,756 2 8 4	386 7 4 1	20 0 8 4	..	2,163 1 0 9	518 8 0 0
Chinese ..	70,584 9 1 4	5,242 2 4 1	69,336 2 1 7	59,216 5 3 8	204,379 9 1 0	11,262 1 0 0
Total ..	3,077,299 4 7 5	448,405 2 5 1	481,758 3 5 6	193,801 9 9 6	4,201,255 0 7 8	139,950 3 0 0

TRANSIT TRADE.

Flag.	Inwards.			Outwards.			Total.	
	Number of Passes.	Value of Trade.	Transit Dues.	Number of Passes.	Value of Trade.	Transit Dues.	Value of Trade.	Transit Dues.
British	11,060	Hk. taels. 489,753	H. taels m. c. c. 12,398 1 8 2	204	Hk. taels. 273,607	H. taels m. c. c. 5,028 8 8 0	Hk. taels. 763,360	H. taels m. c. c. 17,427 0 6 2
American	5,232	180,347	3,322 1 4 3	23	199,564	1,733 4 6 9	379,911	5,055 6 1 2
German	137	28,109	911 1 3 7	24	34,810	473 4 5 0	62,919	1,384 5 8 7
French	..	..	..	32	77,176	978 4 4 0	77,176	978 4 4 0
Dutch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Spanish	2,079	136,988	3,131 1 7 0	39	36,000	756 0 0 0	172,998	3,887 1 7 0
Swedish and Norwegian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Austrian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chinese	3,404	158,140	4,001 7 6 8	..	..	..	158,140	4,001 7 6 8
Total	21,912	993,337	23,764 4 0 0	322	621,157	8,970 2 3 9	1,614,494	32,734 6 3 9

[1571]

0 2

PERCENTAGES.

Flag.	Tonnage.		Trade.				Revenue.			
	Total Trips.	Tonnage Employed.	Foreign Trade.	Coast Trade.	Total Foreign and Coast.	Transit Trade.	Duties on Cargoes.	Tonnage Dues.	Transit Dues.	Total Dues and Duties.
British .	54.32	55.48	68.30	53.74	60.34	47.28	73.68	66.64	53.24	73.30
American .	4.38	1.93	1.68	0.48	1.02	23.58	0.89	6.94	15.44	1.20
German .	3.47	2.50	2.59	1.06	1.75	3.90	2.33	6.40	4.23	2.48
French .	1.30	3.39	17.21	0.38	8.02	4.78	12.20	4.24	2.99	11.87
Dutch .	0.08	0.07	0.03	..	0.02	..	0.04	0.35	..	0.05
Danish .	0.74	0.23	0.14	0.18	0.16	..	0.27	1.22	..	0.30
Spanish .	0.97	0.65	..	0.20	0.12	10.71	0.07	0.15	11.88	0.16
Swedish and Norwegian	0.04	..	..	0.01	0.01	..	..	0.12	..	0.01
Russian .	0.12	0.26	0.04	..	0.02	..	..	1.24	..	0.04
Austrian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese .	4.48	4.88	8.56	..	3.88	..	5.60	4.29	..	5.51
Peruvian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	0.17	0.10	0.01	..	0.04	..	0.05	0.37	..	0.06
Chinese	29.93	30.51	1.44	43.95	24.62	9.80	4.87	8.04	12.22	5.02
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

POPULATION. (FOREIGN.)

	Number of Firms.	Number of Residents.
British	150	1,200
American	8	100
German	26	206
French	6	155
Dutch	1	9
Danish .. ..	..	12
Spanish	5	342
Swedish and Norwegian ..	1	45
Russian	1	3
Austrian	1	47
Belgian .. ..	..	4
Italian	1	41
Japanese	17	300
Peruvian .. ..	..	..
Brazilian .. ..	..	4
Non-Treaty Powers	2	299
Chinese .. ..	..	..
Total	219	2,767

Chinese population estimated at 300,000

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, *Consul.*

ANNEX No. 1.

*Estimate of the Value of Property in Shanghai.**Consul Hughes to Mr. Forbes.*

Sir, *Shanghai, February 10, 1881.*

I shall be much obliged if the Chamber of Commerce can favour me with information on the following points:—

1. Gross value of foreign-owned (a) land and (b) house property in Shanghai;
2. Gross value of personal property in Shanghai belonging to foreigners;

Showing, as far as possible, the proportions held by different nationalities.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES.

Mr. Forbes to Consul Hughes.

*Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai,
December 30, 1881.*

Sir,

The Committee of the Chamber regret that so long a delay has occurred in replying to your letter of the 10th February last, wherein you asked for information as to the gross value of foreign-owned land, buildings, and personal property in Shanghai. Immediate steps were taken to collect the required statistics, and up to a certain point there was no difficulty in obtaining information, but the Committee soon found that it would not be practicable to apportion ownership among foreigners of different nationalities, as requested by you. On the other hand, it appeared that, if the inquiry were somewhat extended, it might be possible to present, along with part of the figures called for in your letter, a detailed statement of the amount of invested capital and material wealth which is concentrated in Shanghai.

The Committee have accordingly attempted to arrive at an estimate of the value, not only of the land and buildings in the two foreign municipalities, but of foreign-owned properties on the outlying country roads, and of the docks, machine-shops, factories, and godowns on Pootung. They have also estimated the value, on the 1st January, 1881, of merchandize and movable property of all kinds within the above-mentioned area, and they have furthermore obtained a careful appraisal of the contents of Chinese shops and houses in the two municipalities. Many of these figures are of necessity only approximate, but the Committee believe that none will be found to err on the side of exaggeration. They have excluded from consideration the native city and suburbs of Shanghai, nor has any account been taken of the value of the public roads in the municipalities and neighbourhood. It may, however, be remarked that these roads extend over 56 miles, according to figures given by the engineers of the two municipalities, as follows:—

					Miles.
In the English settlement	..	..	..	..	20
In Hongkew	..	..	..	..	10
In the French Concession	..	..	..	..	10
Total in two Municipalities					40
Country roads	..	..	..	..	16
Total length of roads..					56

The mere cost of their construction, together with their systems of public drains, would be to-day, by careful estimate, not far from a million taels.

With these explanations I beg to submit the following statement:—

(A.)—Land, Buildings, and Municipal Property.

Foreign Settlement North of the Yang-king-pang.—As materials were not easily accessible for a separate valuation of buildings within the settlement, it was thought that the land and buildings together could be appraised with sufficient accuracy by taking the assessed rentals according to the Municipal Budget of 1881, and capitalizing them on a basis of eleven years' purchase. The value of land, however, has so greatly advanced within the present year, and so many new and improved buildings have been erected, that the Committee have taken the figures of assessed rentals

for the third quarter of the year, as published by the Municipal Council.
The result is as follows:—

	Taels.	Taels.
Foreign rentals assessed at 493,000 taels, capitalized at eleven years' purchase ..	5,423,000	say 5,425,000
Chinese rentals assessed at 1,169,255 dollars, = 877,000 taels, capitalized at eleven years' purchase	9,647,000	say 9,650,000
Value of vacant land (not including the tract within the municipal boundaries of Hongkew which still remains in Chinese hands as agricultural land)		2,525,000
Churches and cemeteries not taxed.. ..		185,000
Public roads and jetties	90,000	
Other municipal property as per published inventory, 195,691.59 taels, say ..	200,000	
		290,000
Private wharves in Hongkew		130,000
Here may most properly be placed the value of the plant of the Shanghai Gas Company, say amount of the Company's capital ..		150,000
		<hr/>
Total value of land, buildings, and municipal property		18,355,000

French Concession.—The values of land and buildings capitalized as above from the assessed rentals would be about 3,500,000 taels, but, as the official schedule has been lately revised, the Committee have preferred to adopt the following figures, kindly furnished them by a gentleman who was engaged on the reassessment:—

	Taels.	Taels
Land	3,000,000	
Foreign houses	250,000	
Chinese houses	500,000	
	<hr/>	3,750,000
Ecclesiastical land and buildings not taxed ..		100,000
Municipal land and buildings	110,000	
Public bridges and jetties	56,000	
Other municipal property as per inventory ..	24,000	
	<hr/>	190,000
Private wharves		140,000
Plant of French Gas Company		50,000
		<hr/>
Total value of land, buildings, and municipal property		4,230,000
Pootung: Value of four dry docks, and of machine-shops and factories, with permanent plant		570,000
Country roads: Value of foreign-owned land and of houses occupied by foreigners as ecclesiastical establishments, residences, or inns		1,200,000
		<hr/>
Total value of foreign-owned land and buildings outside of the foreign settlements		1,770,000

(B.)—*Property Afloat.*

	Taels.
Foreign opium hulks	50,000
Cargo-boats employed in foreign trade	125,000
	<hr/>
Total value of hulks and cargo-boats	175,000

(C.)—*Merchandize, Personal Effects, &c.*

In Foreign Hands.—The Committee are indebted to the agents of all local fire insurance companies for a statement of the amount of their respective insurances outstanding on the 1st January, 1881, on the contents of godowns and houses in the two municipalities and on the country roads. It is believed that the value of merchandize and movable property may be more correctly represented by these Returns than by any other mode of estimate which might have been attempted. The figures are as follows:—

	Taels.	Taels.
Contents of houses and godowns in the foreign settlement north of the Yang-king-pang and in the French Concession ..	12,300,000	
Contents of foreign houses on country roads .	170,000	
	<hr/>	12,470,000
Value of opium stored in foreign hulks on January 1, 1881		1,900,000
Stocks of material and merchandize (principally kerosine oil) stored on Pootung on January 1, 1881		640,000
		<hr/>
Total value of merchandize and personal effects in foreign hands		15,010,000

In Chinese Hands.—With regard to the contents of Chinese private houses, the wealthier residents have in their possession jewels, clothing, and other valuables amounting often to tens of thousands of taels. An average of 125 taels for every Chinese house will be rather under than over the mark, and this estimate has been adopted by the Committee.

For the French Concession it would appear that the contents of Chinese shops and houses may be valued with sufficient approach to accuracy by taking one-third of the corresponding figures for the other municipality:—

	Taels.	Taels.
Contents of Chinese shops (including pawn shops)	5,600,000	
Contents of Chinese private houses ..	3,000,000	
	<hr/>	
Total value of contents of Chinese shops and houses in foreign settlement north of the Yang-king-pang and in the French Concession ..		8,600,000
Estimated stock on January 1, 1881, of merchandize in Chinese hands presumably not included in the Returns of the fire insurance offices—		
Tea	763,000	
Silk	1,930,000	
Foreign piece-goods	500,000	
Metals	585,000	
	<hr/>	
	3,778,000	say 3,800,000
		<hr/>
Total value of merchandize and personal effects in Chinese hands ..		12,400,000

(D.)—*Treasure.*

The Committee were favoured by several managers of foreign banks and by others with estimates of the amount of treasure available in Shanghai on the 1st January, 1881, the same date on which the Returns

of the fire insurance companies were taken. The figures varied considerably, but the Committee believe the following to be as nearly accurate as possible :—

	Taels.
Estimated amount of Sycee silver, dollars, and bullion in the hands of foreign and native banks and of the Chinese authorities on January 1, 1881	4,500,000

Recapitulation.

	Taels.	Taels.
A. Land and building—		
Foreign settlement north of the Yang-		
king-pang	18,355,000	
French Concession	4,230,000	
Country roads and Pootung	1,770,000	
		24,355,000
B. Property afloat—		
Opium hulks and cargo-boats		175,000
C. Merchandize, personal effects, &c.—		
In foreign hands	15,010,000	
In Chinese hands	12,400,000	
		27,410,000
D. Treasure—		
In foreign and Chinese hands		4,500,000
Total		56,440,000
Add for sundries, not included in above estimate, say about 1 per cent.		560,000
Grand total		57,000,000
At exchange of 5s. per tael		£14,250,000

An examination of the foregoing statement will, I think, at once show how closely interwoven are the various interests which are represented in one community. It has not, in fact, been possible even to distinguish in many cases what is foreign-owned property from what is Chinese, much less to ascertain what part belongs to each foreign nationality; but while the Committee regret their inability to furnish statistics in the exact form desired by you, they venture to hope that the information, now brought together it is believed for the first time, if it does not equally serve your purpose, may not be found without an interest and a value of its own.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. B. FORBES, *Chairman.*

ANNEX No. 2.

Report on the Shipping Trade of the Port of Shanghai for the Year 1881.

The following Tables are attached to this Report:—

No. 1. The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared under each flag for the year ended 31st December, 1881.

No. 2. Comparative Table showing number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared (distinguishing the leading flags) from 1878 to 1881, inclusive.

No. 3. The number of British vessels which have frequented the port and their movements during the year.

No. 4. The share taken by each nationality in the carrying trade from and to foreign countries. -

No. 5. The share taken by each nationality in the carrying trade between Shanghai and the other Treaty ports of China.

The aggregate tonnage of all vessels that entered and cleared shows an increase of 372,943 tons, viz., from 3,317,298 tons in 1880 to 3,690,241 tons in 1881.

Increase of British Shipping.—Almost the whole of this increase is to be ascribed to the expansion of British shipping. The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared under the British flag rose from 1,689,001 tons in 1880 to 2,047,093 tons in 1881, showing an increase of 358,092 tons.

The tonnage under the flags of all other nationalities shows in the aggregate the trifling increase of 14,851 tons.

An examination of these Tables impresses one with the magnitude and rapid growth of British commerce at this port, and warrants the anticipation that the predominance of shipping under the British flag will be still more marked in the future than in the past.

On referring to Table No. 2, it will be seen that the increase in the tonnage frequenting the port of late years has been entirely owing to the growth of British tonnage, the aggregate tonnage under other flags varying little year by year. The following figures, extracted from that Table, illustrate this :—

	1880.	1881.	Increase.	Percentage of Increase.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
Total tonnage entered and cleared	3,317,298	3,690,241	372,943	11½
British	1,689,001	2,047,093	358,092	21½
Other flags	1,628,297	1,643,148	14,851	less than 1

Thus, while British tonnage shows an advance in 1881 of 21 per cent. over 1880, all other nationalities show an increase of less than 1 per cent.

If the comparison be made with the year 1878, the contrast is still more striking, as the following Table shows :—

	1878.	1881.	Increase.	Percentage of Increase.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	
Total tonnage entered and cleared	2,961,582	3,690,241	728,659	24½
British	1,328,965	2,047,093	719,128	54
Other flags	1,632,617	1,643,148	9,531	0·5

British shipping has thus increased 54 per cent. since 1878; that under other flags only ½ per cent.

The increase of British tonnage in 1881 as compared with 1880 was entirely attributable to steamers, sailing-vessels, on the other hand, showing a slight diminution. The latter find employment chiefly in the coast trade.

The number of the tea clippers from China to England is rapidly declining. Only eight left Shanghai for London in 1881, the costly nature of the cargo (tea and silk) making the trifling difference in freight between sailing-vessels and steamers not a matter of much importance.

German shipping exhibits a slight advance, viz., from 75,450 tons in 1880 to 92,185 tons in 1881, whilst French and American figure for about the same amount as last year.

Japanese tonnage has been slowly growing of late years, and in 1881 shows an increase of about 16,000 tons over the preceding year. She now ranks third in the importance of her shipping trade at this port.

The amount of Chinese tonnage shows little deviation during the past five years. A few years ago China nearly rivalled Great Britain in the magnitude of her shipping interest in Shanghae, but now she figures for but a trifle more than half Great Britain's share. This is due not so much to a falling-off in Chinese tonnage as to the vast expansion of British tonnage mentioned above.

Foreign Freights. Steamers.—Foreign trade during the year—to judge from the rates of freight prevailing compared with previous years—must have been remunerative to ship-owners. Freights for London and New York have ruled high throughout the year, especially for the latter port.

In the spring rates to London were fixed by the "Conference" managers at 62*s.* 6*d.* for mail and 60*s.* for other steamers.

The "Glencoe" was the first steamer to leave Hankow for London at the opening of the tea season. She left on the 22nd May, and took a full cargo of 4,100 tons at 6*l.* a-ton. She was followed by the "Loudoun Castle," which loaded at 5*l.* per ton, and by the "Glenfruin" at 4*l.* Three other steamers obtained 3*l.* 10*s.*, and the remainder from the river port 3*l.* When the last of the steamers had left Hankow, as no further competition was to be apprehended from outside steamers, the "Conference" raised their rates from Shanghae to London to 65*s.* for mail-steamers and 62*s.* 6*d.* for Holt's line. In the middle of June freights had still an upward tendency, reaching 70*s.* for mail-steamers and 67*s.* 6*d.* by Holt's. These high rates were further increased by combination on the part of the Steam-ship Companies to 80*s.* for mail-steamers and 75*s.* for the "Holt" and "Glen" lines, which rates did not seriously decline till the month of September, when the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamer "Meifoo" was placed on the berth for London. The "Meifoo" bidding for support at 45*s.* only, the "Conference" rates suddenly dropped to 50*s.*, which continued till the close of the year.

Freights for New York were exceptionally high.

At the opening of the tea season the steam-ship "Radnorshire" loaded at 70*s.*, but subsequently higher rates were obtained, 80*s.* being the rate throughout July for steamers and 50*s.* for sailing-vessels. Rates declined to 70*s.* for steamers in September, but did not fall below 65*s.* for the rest of the year.

Foreign Trade. Sailing-Vessels.—Eight sailing-vessels cleared for London in 1881 with full cargoes at rates of freight varying from 57*s.* 6*d.* to 45*s.* per ton, which probably proved remunerative.

Two or three British sailing-vessels cleared for New York with tea and silk at 45*s.* per ton.

Coast Trade.—On the opening of the northern ports in the spring there was a very active demand for coasting vessels, which continued till early in May, when it declined owing to the scarcity of produce for shipment at Chefoo and Newchwang, and to the high prices consequent thereon.

Two other causes militated against the success of the coast trade: (1) the action taken by the Swatow Guild, which threw the markets out of gear; and (2) the prevalence of typhoons in the summer and autumn, which proved unusually disastrous to ships and cargoes, and entailed heavy losses on ship-owners and shippers.

Difficulty at Swatow.—Early in June a deadlock was produced at Swatow owing to the introduction of a new practice by the Customs authorities there. It seems that the rule had hitherto been for the Chinese, when importing produce, to send only one cargo-boat as a muster of the whole shipment to the custom-house for inspection; but the new rule required that henceforth the whole of the cargo should be transferred to cargo-boats, and forwarded to the custom-house jetty for examination under a penalty of 100 taels.

This was of course strongly objected to by the Chinese, owing to the extra trouble and expense they would be put to. So strong did the feeling grow that the Swatow merchants refused to do business, and sent word to their agents at Shanghai, Newchwang, and Chefoo not to ship any more goods for Swatow till the obnoxious regulations were rescinded. The dispute was of long duration, and it was not till the middle of August that a compromise was effected, and even then there seems to have been left a latent dissatisfaction and want of confidence in the minds of the Chinese that prevented business from running smoothly in its old channels.

The stoppage of the trade with Swatow caused the market to be glutted with shipping in other quarters, and this excessive competition naturally led to low rates of freight being accepted.

The second cause of the general unremunerativeness of the coast trade was the prevalence of typhoons and heavy gales, which resulted in many casualties among the shipping, some of which are recorded below.

This unprofitableness was still further aggravated by the exceptionally large amount of tonnage on the coast seeking employment. 290 vessels, with a tonnage of 1,420,913 tons, were employed in the trade with other Treaty ports (see Table No. 5), as against 225 vessels with a tonnage of 1,182,212 tons in 1880, and there was no corresponding increase in the value of their cargoes.

Native exports and re-exports, in fact, fell from 34,030,556 taels in 1880 to 31,655,762 taels in 1881. Foreign re-exports, however, showed a slight improvement in value, viz., from 40,370,177 taels in 1880 to 46,677,435 taels in 1881.

Shipping Casualties.—The following are some of the most serious casualties that occurred during the year:—

On the 21st January the British barque "Chinaman," lying near the Amherst Rocks at the mouth of the River Yangtze, was run into and sunk by the steamer "Craiglands," and six persons lost their lives. A boat manned by seamen from the steam-ship "Craiglands" was driven by force of wind and tide to Elliott Island, where they were very hospitably treated by the Chinese inhabitants, who took them in a junk to Gutzlaff Island, and delivered them to the care of the European residents there.

The wreck of the "Chinaman" having taken place in shallow water was an obstruction to navigation and a peril to shipping. Its removal, therefore, became of paramount importance, especially as the Chinese authorities declared it impracticable to moor a lightship on the position. The consignee of the ship had instructions from home not to part with the wreck, but to save cargo, and the insurance companies were loth to abandon their claims, so there was rather a protracted delay in freeing navigation from the danger. The result was, that it was not till early in April that the wreck was blown up by the Harbour-master and the obstruction removed.

Other Casualties.—In a typhoon which raged on the 15th July, the British schooner "Aberdonian" foundered on the Pihsha Island, in the Chusan Archipelago. Six Chinese, the only survivors, made their way to Ningpo, and subsequently to Shanghai. At the request of Her Britannic

Majesty's Consul, the commander of Her Majesty's ship "Foxhound," then in port, proceeded to the islands, and made search for the wreck, but his efforts were unavailing, and no trace has been found of the ill-fated vessel or her crew.

The British steamer "Ash," which left Nagasaki bound for Shanghai on the 23rd September, never arrived here, and there is little doubt that she foundered in a typhoon on the 25th of that month. The Russian gun-boat "Sobol," which was then stationed at Nagasaki, searched the Goto Islands for the missing ship, but without success.

The British barque "Nouveau Mondelli," which left Keelung on the 15th September, and has not since been heard of, is supposed to have gone down in the same storm.

Shanghai Shipwrecked and Distressed Mariners' Society.—In connection with the loss of the "Chinaman," a fund was raised in Shanghai, chiefly through the exertions of the late Registrar of Shipping, Mr. Tapp, to reward those who had shown conspicuous bravery on the occasion of the collision, and to make provision for the families of those who had lost their lives. After all payments had been made and the accounts closed, further contributions were received from various quarters. It was decided by the Committee of Management that these surplus funds should be employed for the purpose of establishing a Society called the Shanghai Shipwrecked and Distressed Mariners' Society, which should have as its special object the relief of seamen who have suffered shipwreck. The Society has on several occasions since proved its usefulness, and bids fair to be numbered among the permanent benevolent institutions of Shanghai.

The "Conference."—Contrary to anticipation, the "Conference" has been maintained. This is a combination on the part of the six leading Steam-ship Companies to command high rates of freight, the lines interested being the "Peninsular and Oriental," the "Messageries Maritimes," the "Holtz," "Glen," "Castle," and "Shire" lines. Its operations during the year under review have been attended with a large measure of success. "Outside" steamers have been few and far between, and their appearance on the scene has been the signal for the "Guild" to lower its rates. It has thus been enabled to render the enterprise of its rivals unprofitable, and to drive them out of the market.

China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company.—The Report of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, published early in September, showed the condition of the Company to be more satisfactory than heretofore. The estimated value of the twenty-eight steamers composing the Company's fleet stood at 1,852,000 taels, the original cost being 2,720,000 taels. During the year 1880-81, no less a sum than 452,000 taels was written off for depreciation, and during the preceding year 400,000 taels was deducted on this score. For the first five years of the Company's existence no allowance was made for depreciation; the estimated value, therefore, must formerly have been a greatly inflated one; still, the large sums written off during the last two years render it probable that the value now assigned to the steamers is approximately correct. The Company also paid off Government advances to the extent of 385,000 taels. This is the more remarkable, as the Company suffered heavily from the loss of two fine steamers, the "Hochung" and the "Hankwang." The former of these foundered in a collision with Her Majesty's ship "Lapwing," and the latter stranded on the Shantung Promontory.

It may therefore be concluded that the Company is in a fairly prosperous position. The officers and engineers employed are all Europeans or Americans, the liberal treatment the Company accord them attracting men of ability into their service.

Voyage of the "Meifoo" to England.—The Company also has shown itself not deficient in enterprise. It had already in previous years dispatched vessels abroad to Honolulu and San Francisco, but last year it was daring enough to enter the lists and contend with Europeans on their own preserves.

On the 4th October, the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamer "Meifoo" was dispatched to London with a cargo of tea. She also took on board a staff of employés for the purpose of establishing a branch of the firm in London. The experiment is said to have resulted in considerable loss to the Company, as was to be expected at first. She only obtained 45s. per ton for freight, and the managers were quite unacquainted with the requirements of the London market.

Local Ship-building.—Another large steamer has been built and engined by Messrs. Boyd and Co., of this port, for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co., for employment in the Yangtze River trade. The name of the new vessel is the "Tairvo." She is the third steamer that has been locally built for this well-known firm, and is similar in all respects to the two previously constructed, except that she is of slightly larger tonnage.

Besides this, a tug-boat called the "Ewo" has been built locally for the same firm.

Formation of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company.—A noteworthy event in the shipping trade for the year has been the incorporation of a new Company, called the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company. It has purchased the fleet of steamers formerly belonging to the China Coast Steam Navigation Company, and also the three river steamers, alluded to above, belonging to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co. The new line is worked in co-operation with the "Glen" line, running between Shanghai and London, Messrs. Jardine being the agents for both Companies in Shanghai. The head office of the new Company is in London.

Foreigners on Board British Ships.—The number of foreigners acting as masters and mates of British vessels on the China coast is very large, and is likely to increase, they being, as a rule, willing to accept less pay than Englishmen. The difficulty there often exists in Shanghai in dealing with foreigners on board British ships who have committed offences other than those against the discipline of the ship deserves attention, as it happens not unfrequently that a British vessel clears without a single British subject on board.

There is a class of vessel trading on the Yang-tze River called lorchas. These vessels, though flying the British flag, are entirely managed by Chinese, the foreigner who is entered on the Registry as master merely acting as supercargo, and attending to the entering and clearing of the ship and other matters not connected with the navigation. No articles of agreement are signed by the crew, consisting of Chinese, over whom, therefore, the British authorities have no control. The master too generally happens to be a foreigner, and as such, for any misdeemeanour, not amenable to British law. Hence no effective control can be exercised over vessels of this class. It is, in my opinion, desirable that in this description of craft the master at all events should be a British subject.

Work of the Shipping Office.—During the year 1881, 135 seamen have been relieved, at an expense to the Government of 3,835 dol. 87 c.; this does not include the cost of passages home of distressed British seamen; 1,640 European seamen were engaged or discharged (and many thousands of Chinese, Malays, and other Asiatics), as against 1,100 Europeans in 1880, being an increase of almost 50 per cent.

The shipping fees received during the year amounted to 7,581 dollars, as against 5,874 dol. 50 c. in 1880, thus showing a large increase.

Forty-two money orders were issued for, in all, 3,415 dol. 16 c.

Forty-three Casualty Returns were sent to the Board of Trade.

Registry Office of Shipping.—Registry fees were received during the year amounting to 519 dol 50 c.

Four steamers and 10 sailing-vessels were added to the register, aggregating 5,606·24 tons, and 5 vessels were struck off the list in consequence of wreck, sale to foreigners, or transfer to other ports, their united tonnage being 1,329·25 tons.

At the close of the year 51 vessels remained on the Register, of a total tonnage of 19,971·88 tons, as against 43 vessels and 16,317·59 tons in the preceding year.

Forty-three changes of master were noted, and 16 bills of sale and 4 deeds of mortgage recorded.

(Signed) R. W. HURST,
Acting Registrar of Shipping.

(A.)—GENERAL TABLES.

(No 1.)—SHIPPING. Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared under each Flag, for the Year ended December 31, 1881.

STEAMERS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.						Cleared Outwards.						Total Entered and Cleared.	
	With Cargo.			In Ballast.			Total.			In Ballast.			Total.	
	No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.		No.	Tons.
British ..	1,094	929,995		24	18,865		1,118	948,860		1,016	874,055		1,103	931,541
American ..	1	1,237		20	905		21	2,142		..	..		20	810
German ..	29	23,484		6	5,000		35	28,484		35	28,195		35	28,195
French ..	27	61,073		..	..		27	61,073		25	57,398		25	57,398
Dutch ..	1	616		..	..		1	616		..	..		..	..
Danish ..	8	6,510		6	3,976		14	10,486		9	7,681		15	11,387
Russian ..	1	451		2	4,323		3	4,774		1	565		3	4,888
Japanese ..	106	89,011		2	1,156		108	90,167		62	64,340		108	89,608
Chinese ..	549	526,755		36	27,149		585	558,904		575	536,758		588	547,091
Total Steamers ..	1,816	1,639,132		96	61,374		1,912	1,700,506		1,723	1,568,992		1,897	1,670,918
														3,371,424

Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared, &c.—*continued.*

SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.				Cleared Outwards.				Total Entered and Cleared.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ..	198	80,113	9	2,695	207	82,808	156	55,300	47	28,584
American ..	82	33,596	4	416	86	34,012	63	16,596	22	17,841
German ..	48	17,946	2	469	50	18,415	39	12,786	9	4,205
French ..	5	2,144	..	..	5	2,144	3	2,036	3	2,308
Dutch ..	1	616	..	..	1	616	..	..	2	1,232
Danish ..	4	1,346	..	..	4	1,346	2	496	1	255
Spanish ..	23	3,860	1	172	24	4,032	..	..	23	4,259
Swedish and Norwegian ..	1	416	..	..	1	416	1	416	1	416
Japanese ..	1	441	..	..	1	441	..	..	..	..
Siamese ..	4	1,911	..	..	4	1,911	4	1,692	..	..
Chinese ..	138	11,911	..	..	138	11,911	122	9,888	17	2,871
Total Sailing Vessels.	505	154,300	16	3,752	521	158,052	390	99,210	124	61,555
									514	160,765
									1,035	318,817

Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared, &c.—*continued.*

TOTAL STEAMERS AND SAILING-VESSELS.

Flag.	Entered Inwards.				Cleared Outwards.				Total.		Total Entered and Cleared.	
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.		With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ..	1,292	1,010,108	23	21,560	1,325	1,031,668	1,172	929,355	134	86,070	1,306	1,015,425
American ..	83	34,733	24	1,321	107	36,054	63	16,596	42	18,651	212	71,301
German ..	77	41,530	8	5,469	85	46,999	74	40,981	9	4,205	168	92,185
French ..	32	63,217	..	..	32	63,217	28	59,434	3	2,508	63	124,959
Dutch ..	2	1,232	..	..	2	1,232	..	..	2	1,232	4	2,464
Danish ..	12	7,856	6	3,976	18	11,832	11	8,177	7	3,961	36	23,970
Spanish ..	23	3,860	1	172	24	4,032	..	..	23	4,259	47	8,291
Swedish and Norwegian ..	1	416	..	..	1	416	1	416	..	..	2	832
Russian ..	1	451	2	4,323	3	4,774	1	565	2	4,323	6	9,662
Japanese ..	107	89,452	2	1,156	109	90,608	62	64,340	46	25,268	217	180,216
Siamese ..	4	1,911	..	..	4	1,911	4	1,692	..	..	8	3,603
Chinese ..	687	538,666	36	27,149	723	565,815	697	546,646	30	13,204	1,450	1,125,665
Grand Total ..	2,321	1,793,432	112	65,126	2,433	1,858,558	2,113	1,668,202	298	163,481	2,411	1,831,683
											4,844	3,690,241

British Registry Office of Shipping for China and Japan.

(Signed)

R. W. HURST, Acting Registrar.

(No. 2.)—COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the Number and Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared under each Flag, from 1878 to 1881.

STEAMERS.

Flag.	1878.		1879.		1880.		1881.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,187	1,097,018	1,555	1,309,505	1,815	1,516,960	2,221	1,880,401
American	127	41,518	82	21,608	52	17,688	41	2,852
German	63	51,316	51	37,678	73	56,916	70	56,679
French	52	115,907	53	118,786	54	119,669	52	118,471
Japanese	107	115,787	139	130,234	186	161,127	216	179,775
Chinese	1,428	1,088,836	1,107	1,045,522	1,219	1,122,532	1,173	1,100,995
Other nationalities	57	49,073	10	19,742	43	31,574	86	32,151
Total	3,021	2,559,455	3,063	2,674,271	3,472	3,036,366	3,809	3,371,424

SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	1878.		1879.		1880.		1881.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	462	231,947	419	202,194	409	172,141	410	166,692
American	213	92,652	169	72,278	187	55,853	171	68,449
German	91	26,777	141	52,173	76	18,534	98	35,466
French	1	392	9	2,945	3	987	11	6,488
Japanese	17	7,128	18	7,974	7	3,093	1	441
Chinese	333	24,703	414	35,066	380	26,344	277	24,670
Others	110	18,528	123	17,781	65	13,940	67	16,671
Total	1,327	402,127	1,313	388,411	1,079	290,932	1,035	318,817

TOTAL STEAMERS AND SAILING VESSELS.

Flag.	1878.		1879.		1880.		1881.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	1,649	1,328,965	1,974	1,511,699	2,254	1,689,001	2,631	2,047,093
American	340	134,170	271	93,884	239	73,541	213	71,301
German	154	78,093	192	90,049	149	75,450	168	92,185
French	53	116,299	62	121,731	67	120,656	63	124,959
Japanese	124	122,915	157	138,206	193	164,220	217	180,316
Chinese	1,761	1,113,539	1,581	1,078,588	1,549	1,148,916	1,450	1,125,665
Others	167	67,601	139	28,523	110	45,514	103	38,632
Total	4,248	2,961,582	4,376	3,062,682	4,551	3,317,293	4,844	3,690,241

(Signed) R. W. HURST, Acting Registrar.

British Registry Office of Shipping
for China and Japan.

(Table 3.)—RETURN showing the Movements of British Vessels at the Port of Shanghai during the Year 1881.

				Inwards.	Outwards.
Chinese Coast ports ..	..	..		491	519
Yangtze River ports ..	..	..		298	358
Japan ..	..	..		197	174
Antwerp ..	..	..		6	..
Great Britain ..	..	..	..	110	90
Hong Kong ..	..	..	..	146	96
India, Straits Settlements, and Siam ..	..	..	..	28	15
Philippines ..	..	..	..	2	12
Java ..	..	..	..	..	1
British America ..	..	..	..	6	8
United States ..	..	..	..	1	28
Australian Colonies ..	..	..	..	39	2
Asiatic Russia ..	..	..	..	1	1
Total ..	..	..	..	1,325	1,306
Number of Crew ..	..	..	..	44,966	44,659

(Signed) R. W HURST, *Acting Registrar.**British Registry Office of Shipping
for China and Japan.*

(No. 4.)—SHARE taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade from and to Foreign Countries.

1. The Import and Export Trade, carried on under Foreign Flags, from and to Foreign Countries, was divided between them as follows :—

FOREIGN IMPORT TRADE.

Flag.	Tonnage Inwards.			Values.	Duties.			
	Vessels Employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.		Tonnage Employed.	Foreign Imports.	Import Duties.	Tonnage Dues.
British	168	176,185	411	370,279	Hk. taels. 53,310,056	Hk. taels m. c. c. 2,488,179 0 6 8	Hk. taels m. c. c. 76,627 5 0 0	
American	21	21,569	29	26,892	917,153	29,554 3 2 7	9,465 6 0 0	
German	35	22,488	49	31,829	2,071,500	70,084 4 4 0	8,347 6 0 0	
French	14	26,337	31	62,976	5,713,437	266,810 0 1 1	5,937 2 0 0	
Dutch	1	616	2	1,232	22,631	650 6 2 0	492 8 0 0	
Danish	6	4,359	9	6,795	76,235	4,166 5 7 9	1,119 6 0 0	
Spanish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swedish and Norwegian	1	416	1	416	3,014	31 2 7 5	166 4 0 0	
Russian	2	2,953	3	4,774	..	..	1,729 2 0 0
Austrian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese	10	7,389	109	90,608	4,108,103	145,471 9 5 7	6,002 0 0 0	
Peruvian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	4	1,911	4	1,911	41,300	1,756 2 8 4	518 8 0 0	
Chinese	1	1,284	1	1,284	1,065,721	70,584 9 1 4	..	
Total	263	265,507	649	598,996	67,329,150	3,077,289 4 7 5	110,406 7 0 0	

Share taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade from and to Foreign Countries—continued.

FOREIGN EXPORT TRADE.

[Flag.	Tonnage Outwards.				Values.			Duties.
	Vessels Employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage Employed.	Native Exports.*	Re-exports.†		
						Foreign.	Native.	
British ..	143	148,632	273	219,813	Hk. taels. 3,149,278	Hk. taels. 563,589	Hk. taels. 13,010,887	Hk. taels m. c. c. 104,065 6 7 5
American ..	23	23,452	27	25,429	72,569	34,551	692,165	1,149 5 2 8
German ..	10	6,987	11	7,212	66,665	50,193	466,329	2,565 8 9 6
French ..	12	24,204	28	60,806	9,390,178	51,570	2,466,876	245,025 1 4 6
Dutch ..	2	1,232	2	1,232	..	..	..	..
Danish ..	3	1,891	3	1,891	..	4,175	57,353	290 2 8 2
Spanish ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swedish and Norwegian ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,179	39,027	..
Russian ..	2	2,386	2	2,386	..	..	..	..
Austrian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese ..	10	7,389	108	89,608	2,932,091	957,688	774,355	89,679 7 4 2
Peruvian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers ..	1	346	1	346	41,938	..	1,422	386 7 4 1
Chinese ..	2	2,047	2	2,047	78,266	121,439	205,008	5,242 2 4 1
Total ..	208	218,566	457	410,770	18,731,039	1,784,384	17,713,422	448,405 2 5 1

* Original shipments direct.

† Re-shipments direct.

(No. 5.)—SHARE taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade between Shanghai and the other Treaty Ports of China.

2. The Trade Coastwise of all the Treaty Ports, carried on under Foreign Flags, Outwards and Inwards, was divided between them as follows :—

COAST TRADE OUTWARDS.

Flag.	Tonnage Outwards.			Values.			Duties.	
	Vessels Employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage Employed.	Native Exports.	Re-exports.		Tonnage Dues.
						Native.	Foreign.	
British .	161	139,084	1,033	795,612	Hk. taels. 9,233,825	Hk. taels. 9,598,903	Hk. taels. 22,076,784	Hk. taels m. c. c. 376,415 1 6 2
American .	22	3,423	78	9,818	131,590	27,744	144,359	16,532 7 0 0
German .	40	21,350	72	37,974	402,944	393,730	110,501	251 8 0 0
French .	3	936	3	936	164,884	285,526	..	608 8 0 0
Dutch .	..	..	..	..	16,083	..	..	..
Danish .	7	5,083	15	10,247	84,363	27,418	4,154	1,248 1 8 3
Spanish .	5	866	23	4,259	37,870	16,461	75,520	5,563 7 4 8
Swedish and Norwegian	1	416	1	416	..	..	19,283	1,539 0 5 3
Russian .	1	2,502	1	2,502	..	..	..	..
Austrian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 1 1 5
Belgian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Peruvian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers	3	1,346	3	1,346	..	3,244	6,702	20 0 8 4
Chinese .	47	24,739	725	557,803	4,075,934	6,856,098	24,240,132	69,336 2 1 7
Total ..	290	199,747	1,954	1,420,913	14,147,648	17,508,114	46,677,435	11,262 1 0 0
								29,543 6 0 0

(No. 5.)—SHARE taken by each Nationality in the Carrying Trade between Shanghai and the other Treaty Ports of China—continued.

COAST TRADE INWARDS.							Duties.	
Flag.	Tonnage Inwards.			Values.		Coast Trade Duties : Import Duties on Foreign Goods Re-entered Included.	Hk. taels m. c. c.	
	Vessels Employed.	Tonnage.	Number of Trips.	Tonnage Employed.	Native Imports. Hk. taels.	Foreign Imports. Hk. taels.		
British ..	78	51,050	914	661,389	24,432,181	463,898	126,634	1 4 7
American ..	21	2,340	78	9,162	269,818	903	2,012	7 4 0
German ..	13	4,283	36	15,170	390,423	9,549	3,109	1 5 2
French ..	1	241	1	241	16,739	..	..	..
Dutch ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Danish ..	4	1,501	9	5,087	101,866	..	1,335	0 5 9
Spanish ..	5	867	24	4,032	124,385	162	1,365	2 0 0
Swedish and Norwegian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	129	1 6 0
Russian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Austrian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japanese ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Peruvian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazilian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Non-Treaty Powers ..	..	..	..	..	239	197	..	..
Chinese ..	26	20,678	722	564,531	18,462,866	440,294	59,216	5 3 8
Total ..	148	80,960	1,784	1,259,562	43,798,517	915,003	193,801	9 9 6

(Signed) R. W. HURST, Acting Registrar.

British Registry Office of Shipping for China and Japan.

ANNEX No. 3.

Report on the Mixed Court, Shanghai.

There is little of importance to note in the criminal cases that came before the British Assessor at the Mixed Court in the year 1881, except the scarcity of crime of a grave character and the immunity that is enjoyed by foreigners from assaults with violence. Of the two cases of homicide mentioned in the Police Report, published by the Municipal Council, as occurring within the settlement, one was undoubtedly accidental. Assaults with violence and intent to commit serious injury have been rare, and on foreigners unknown. It is true that foreigners have occasionally been hustled and knocked about, but the damage that they have received has been slight. The number of burglaries that have been committed is large, but to effect a burglary in an ordinary Chinese house there is little required further than to remove the staple to which the lock of the door is secured, or to force in a door or window by a slight pressure of the shoulders. In foreign houses no burglaries have been perpetrated with any success. Foreign shipping has not been so fortunate, and some large robberies of silver and other valuables have been committed upon them. Servants' quarters in foreign houses have been broken into more than once, but their masters' houses have remained secure. This security is undoubtedly due to the strength of the police force and to the watch that is kept by it on old offenders. As a large section of the criminals brought before the Court is composed of men not natives of Shanghai, it is easy to rid the settlement of their presence by deportation, and though some of these old offenders return to their haunts, they naturally endeavour not to bring themselves again before the notice of the police.

The number of children convicted of petty larcenies has been considerable, and their punishment is a question of some difficulty. If sent to prison and forced to consort with men of the worst type, there is little hope of their eventual reform. They are generally orphans, or have been deserted by their parents, and there is consequently no relation who can be made responsible for their good behaviour. As a rule, they receive a certain number of blows on the hand with a ruler, and are dismissed with a caution, but their reappearance is a proof that the punishment is not effectual. The Refuge that has been established by the Magistrate of the Court, and which is excellently conducted, is not intended for the reception of children, and its accommodation is insufficient, though it has been recently extended, and provides lodging for 200 inmates.

The magistrate has been willing to listen to my representations against the use of the cangue and bamboo, and has been willing to substitute imprisonment for flogging and exposure in the cangue, except where violence has been used towards helpless persons or children, or where it has seemed impossible to dispense with the publication of the offence and its punishment in the manner most natural to a Chinese mind. In all, the bamboo has only been used four times, and a hundred blows is the heaviest punishment that has been inflicted; ten prisoners have been placed in the cangue. The whole number of cases that have been heard is 1,411, including remanded cases; of these, 437 have been dealt with by the imposition of a fine, having consisted in the breach of local regulations for the good order of the settlement, or in drunkenness, gambling, and similar misdemeanours. The largest class of convictions has been for petty larceny or so-called burglary. Of these, 533 cases have been met with imprisonment for terms varying from twelve months to a few days; 313 being for less than one month, and 4 for one year. The reason of the small number

of long sentences is, however, in part the fear entertained by the magistrate of the effect of long imprisonment on the health of the prisoners.

Civil Cases.—The Table appended to this Report gives a record of the civil suits instituted in the Court, and is satisfactory as evidencing the readiness of Chinese defendants to settle just claims upon them as soon as they are threatened with an action. There can be little doubt that this is in great measure due to the knowledge that, given a just claim, judgment will be given in favour of the plaintiff.

I found it necessary in one case to protest very strongly against the judgment given, in order to allow the plaintiff liberty of appeal. He did not, however, avail himself of the right. The case was one of non-fulfilment of contract, in failing to take delivery of a consignment of lead. Considerable grace had been allowed to the defendant, in order to allow him to fulfil his engagements. The result was that a large portion of the claim was for expenses incurred in storage and insurance and for interest. The magistrate positively refused to recognize the justice of the whole of these charges being borne by the defendant, though extension of the term of delivery had been granted at his instance. As it happened, the defendant was a British subject by birth, though he did not claim the benefit of his nationality, and the fact was not known until after the hearing of the suit.

Another case is noticeable for the fact that though a large sum had been paid on account at the time of forming the contract, and an additional amount had been paid in order to obtain an extension of the term fixed for taking delivery of the goods (ebony), the total amount paid only half covered the claim for damages, when swollen by godown rent, insurance, and interest. After some months' imprisonment the defendant was discharged, as apparently unable to pay anything towards the satisfaction of the judgment debt.

Some extra work has been thrown on to the magistrate this year through the provisions of the Order in Council of 1881, which require that the consent in writing of the Chinese authority should be given to the submission of his National to the jurisdiction of the Summary and Supreme Courts, if he desires to institute a suit there. The work of the magistrate is always very heavy, and any addition to it would be very burdensome; but it would, I think, be of great advantage to commercial interests if bonds, contracts, and similar instruments affecting Chinese could be easily attested and registered in his Court.

It is impossible to close this Report without acknowledging the extreme courtesy and consideration that I have always received from the Magistrate of the Mixed Court, as well when my opinion has agreed with his as when our judgments have been opposed.

(Signed)

W. R. CARLES,

Late Assessor at the Mixed Court

Peking, April 12, 1882.

RETURN of Civil Cases heard at the Mixed Court at Shanghai, for the Year ended 31st December, 1881.

Case Number.	Plaintiff.	Defendant.	Plaint or Claim.	Judgment.	Paid.		Remarks.
					Dollars.	Tsels.	
474	Libert and Co. ...	Hatch Hsing ...	98-81 taels, debt for goods as per contract	To take delivery ...	...	93-44	Settled out of Court.
475	W. Hewett and Co. ...	Dong Sing Sang ...	241-64 taels, debt ...	...	...	...	...
476	Primrose and Co. ...	Jung Hienan Ting ...	50 taels, judgment debt ...	For plaintiff ...	...	50	...
477	Francis and Co. ...	Chang Yu Chang ...	685 taels, rent ...	Ditto ...	...	685	...
478	Liverdlyn and Co. ...	Leetee ...	35 dol. 35 c., goods supplied	...	...	...	...
479	Ditto ...	I. Cheng Chong ...	143 dol. 50 c., di to ...	...	...	...	...
480	Ditto ...	Ching Chong ...	135 dollars, ditto ...	...	...	...	...
481	Gibb, Livingstone, and Co. ...	Chang Woo ...	5,478 taels, non-fulfilment of contract	For plaintiff; 1,915-51 taels	...	...	Bargain money, 1,100 taels, forfeited. No assets to pay remainder due (681-51 taels).
482	D. Sassoon, Sons, and Co. ...	Ching Koo and Waihung-fah ...	Non-acceptance of goods as per contract	For plaintiff; damages to be recovered from Ching Koo	...	200	Damages paid out of Court. 180 taels paid out of Court.
483	"Tyne" ...	"Chin Yuen Hang" ...	Collision case ...	...	...	...	Settled out of Court.
484	J. Simpson ...	Fan Yuen Chang ...	200 taels, personal damages	...	...	...	Ditto.
485	Wilkinson and Co. ...	Cheung Ts ...	Non-fulfilment of contract	...	...	...	Ditto.
486	Fung Hing Hong ...	Wan Shun ...	181-76 taels, goods delivered	...	...	...	Ditto.
487	Ditto ...	Huang Chi ...	533-238 taels, ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
488	Ditto ...	Tung Hach Tai ...	79-404 taels, ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
489	Ditto ...	T. Chin ...	412-605 taels, ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
490	Ditto ...	Chieh Chun ...	728-801 taels, ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
491	Primrose and Co. ...	Tung Ho ...	Non-acceptance of goods, value 1697. 118 52.	For defendant	...	...	Ditto.
492	Chapman, King, and Co. ...	Li Chih Chi ...	Non-fulfilment of contract	For plaintiff. Half of loss and expenses. Interest allowed	...	976	Assessor protested against the principle on which judgment was based. Settled out of Court.
493	H. Lester ...	Yeh Lo Shau ...	Rent, 96 dol. 40 c.	For plaintiff...	...	...	10 to be paid in monthly instalments of 7 dol. 50 c.
494	S. J. Solomon ...	Su Shih ...	Ditto, 118 dollars	For plaintiff...	...	...	Settled out of Court.
495	Primrose and Co. ...	Sheng Chang ...	49-50 taels, cheque dishonoured...	For plaintiff...	...	150	...
496	R. Anderson and Co. ...	Hatch Ching ...	Non-fulfilment of contract for 853-93 taels	For plaintiff...	...	...	Settled privately.
497	Ditto ...	Shen Hui Chi ...	Ditto for 5,539-66 taels	For plaintiff; 68 dollars	...	90	48 dollars to be paid in monthly instalments of 10 dollars.
498	S. J. Solomon ...	A-Su ...	Rent, 138 dollars	For plaintiff; 156 dollars	...	100	Compromise accepted by plaintiff.
499	Feng Hing ...	Su Ching Sheng, Wu Wei Chuan	Security for losses of 180 dollars...	Ditto; 156 dollars	...	...	Settled out of Court.
	Ditto ...	Chai Tra Fu ...	Promissory note, 150 taels	...	...	...	...

