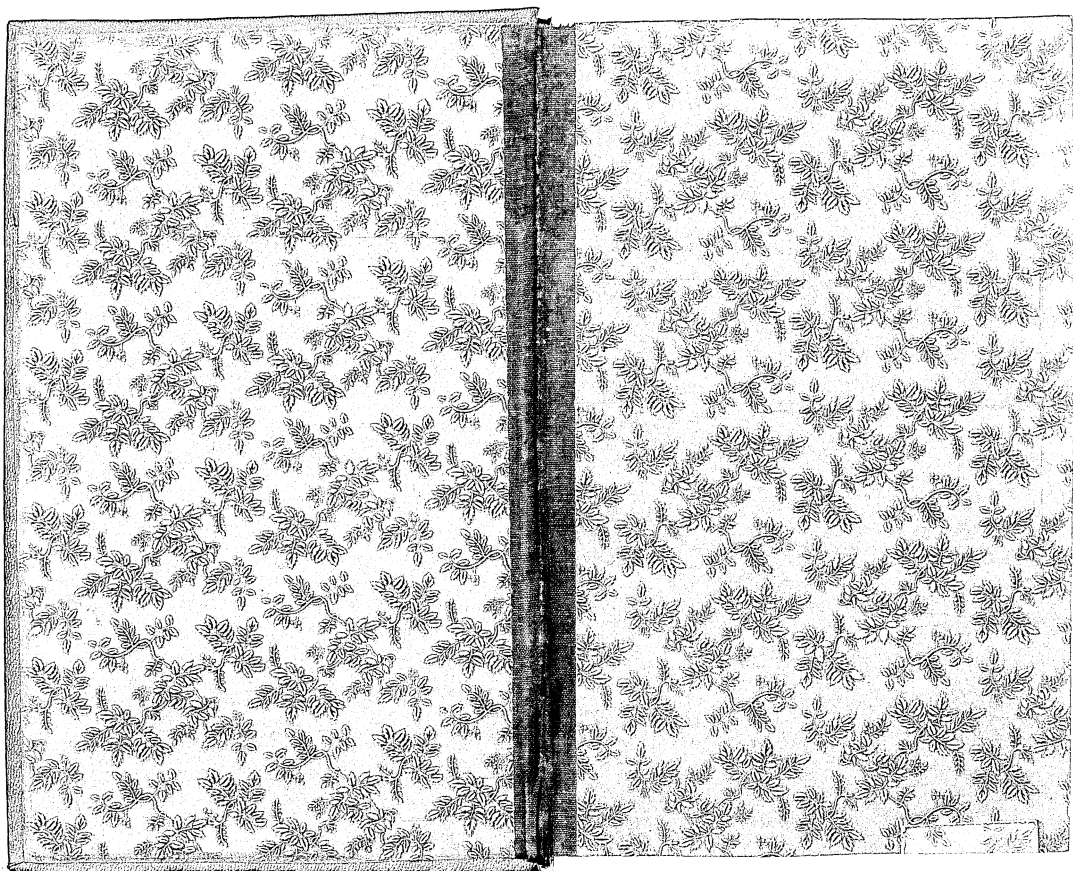
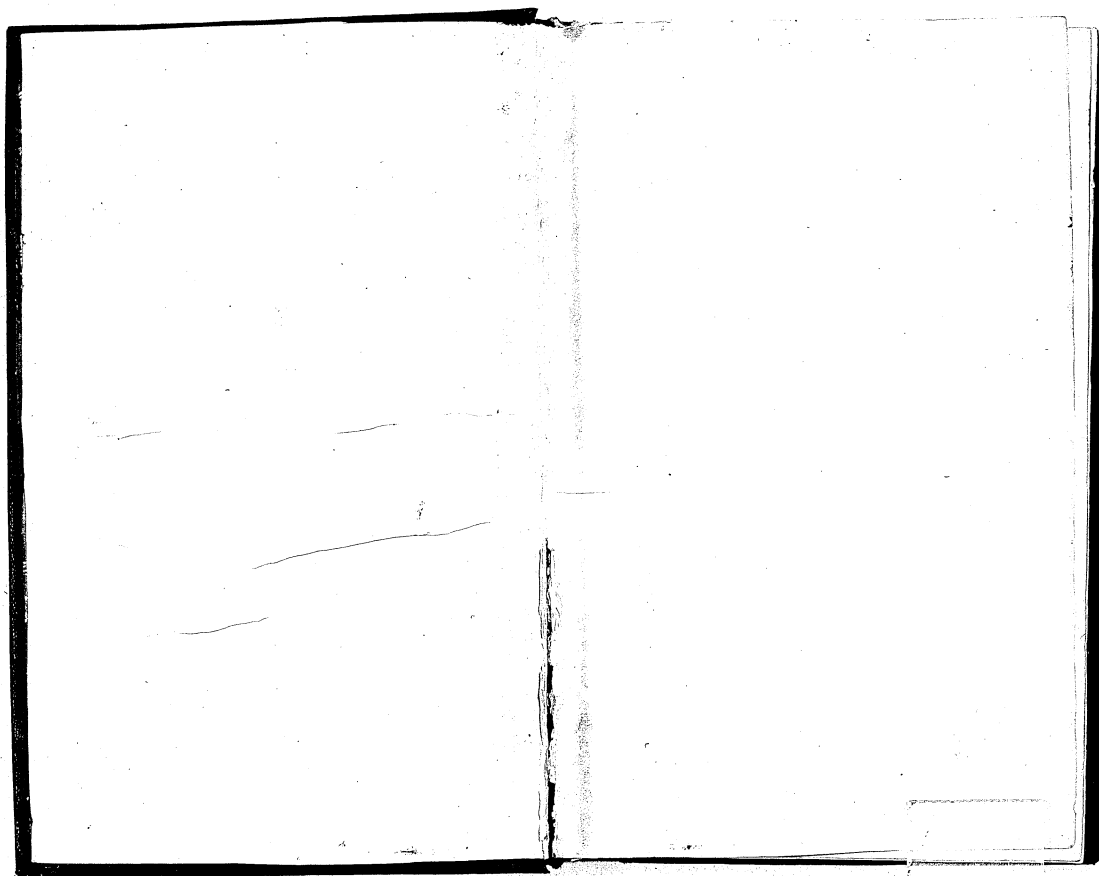


REPORT
OF THE
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PART-I, 1911





REPORT

OF THE
THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FOR THE YEAR 1911.

Vol. I.

Calcutta:
PRINTED AT THE CATHOLIC ORPHAN PRESS,
4, PORTUGUESE CHURCH STREET.

1912.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Vol. I.

ANNUAL MEETING.

	PAGE.
Proceedings of Annual General Meeting, 1912 ...	1 to 24
Members present ...	1 to 3
President's speech ...	3 to 9
Mr. R. D. Mehta's speech ...	9 to 17
" Shirley Treanearne's speech ...	17 to 19
" Peter Swan's speech ...	19 to 23
President's speech ...	23
1st Resolution.—Acceptance of Report and passing of Accounts ...	23
2nd Resolution.—Confirmation of the Provisional election of new Members of the Chamber ...	23 & 24
President's announcement of the result of election of Committee for 1912-1913 ...	24
3rd Resolution.—Vote of thanks to the out-going Committee for the year 1911-1912, and the Hon. Mr. Norman McLeod's speech ...	24
President's speech ...	24
Vote of thanks to the Chair ...	24
Working of the Committee during the year 1911 ...	27
Changes in the Committee ...	27
Representation on the India Legislative Council ...	27
" Bengal ...	27
" Calcutta Port Commission ...	27
" Corporation of Calcutta ...	27 & 28
" Board of Trustees of the Indian Museum ...	28
" Bengal Smoke Nuisances Commission ...	28
" Boiler Commission ...	28
" Indian Tea Cess Committee ...	28
" Commercial Course Advisory and Examination Board ...	28
" Bengal Branch of the Lady Minto Indian Nursing Association ...	28
" Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institution ...	28
" Visiting Committee for the Campbell Hospital, Saldah ...	28
" King Edward VII Memorial Fund, Bengal ...	28

	PAGE.
The Royal Exchange	28
Licensed Measurers' Department	28 & 29
Piece-Goods Arbitrations and Surveys	29
General and Jute Arbitrations	29
Revision of Arbitration Rules	30
Alteration of article 35 of the Articles of Association of the Chamber	30
The Coronation and the Imperial Visit to India	30 & 31
Congresses of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire	31 & 32
LAW AND LEGISLATION—	
The Legislative Councils	33 & 34
Life Assurance Legislation	34
The White Phosphorus Matches Prohibition Bill... ..	34 & 35
The Delegation Bill	35 & 36
The Law relating to Lunacy	36
Proposed revision of the Administrator-General's Act II of 1874	36 & 37
The Official Trustees Act XVII of 1884	37 & 38
The Co-operative Credit Societies Act X of 1904 Amending Bill	38
The Indian Arms Act XI of 1878	38 & 39
The Indian Arbitration Act IX of 1899	39
The Indian Factories Act XII of 1911	39 & 40
The Bengal Estates Partition (Amendment) Bill, 1910	40
Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates (Amendment) Bill, 1911	40
Bengal Smoke Nuisances Act, III of 1905	40 to 42
The Board of Revenue, L. P.	42
The Declaration of London	42 & 43
Jute Gambling	43
The Indian Patents and Designs Act II of 1911	43 & 44
The Indian Post Office Act (Amendment) Bill	44
The Official Assignee	44
CUSTOMS—	
Registration of Indian trade statistics	44 & 45
The Indian Merchandise Marks Act IV of 1889—Water-marked paper	45 & 46
The Indian Merchandise Marks Act IV of 1889—Counter-indication of the Country of Origin	46 & 47
The Indian Merchandise Marks Act IV of 1889—Grey and bleached yarns	47
The Sea Customs Act VIII of 1878—Section 30	48
The Indian Tariff Act VIII of 1894—Annual revision of Schedule IV	48

CUSTOMS—(contd.)	PAGE.
The Indian Tariff Act VIII of 1894, Schedule IV—Sugar valuations	49
The Indian Tariff Act VIII of 1894—Cotton hosiery undershirts	49
Revision of the List of Cotton Piece-goods	50
Calcutta Monthly Commercial Guide to Imports and Exports	50
Customs duty on Tobacco and Cigarettes	50 & 51
Customs duty on imported Wire Netting	51
Customs duty on imported Silkworm eggs	51
Calcutta Custom House—Prior to entry system	51 & 52
MARINE—	
The Chittagong Port Bill 1909	52
The Waterways Question—The Standing Joint Committee	53
The Waterways Question—Proposed improvements	54 & 55
The proposed canalisation of Tolly's Nullah	55
The proposed navigation of the river Hooghly by night	55 & 56
Bengal Pilot Service—The Pilot Cruisers	56
Thefts on the river	56
Fires in Indian coal cargoes	56 & 57
Fires in jute cargoes	57
Outward Freight from Bombay	57
Calcutta Tonnage Schedule—Freight on tea dust in bags	57 & 58
Accommodation at the Kidderpur Docks	58
Charter Parties—Brokerage	58
Shipment of transhipped goods	58 & 59
Steamer's liability for leakage or breakage	59
Stamping Delivery Orders on Bills of Lading	59
Lights in the Red Sea	60
The Indian Ports Act XV of 1908	60 & 61
The Indian Ports Act XV of 1908—Exemption of fishing vessels from port dues	61
The Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (57 & 58 Vict. Ch. 60)—Agreements with Indian seamen	61 & 62
The Indian Steam Vessels Act 1883—Motor Vessels	62
The Inland Steam Vessels Act 1884—Certificates of Competency for Engineers and Engine Drivers	62
POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS—	
Indian Post Office—Receipts for registered parcels	62 & 63
Indian Post Office—Compulsory Insurance of Currency Notes	63
Indian Post Office—Holidays	63 & 64

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS—(contd.)	PAGE.
Calcutta General Post Office	64
Indian Telegraph Department—Deposit system of accounts	64 & 65
Indian Telegraph Department—Charges for service repetitions	65
Indian Telegraph Department—Delays to Foreign cables	65
Indian Telegraph Department—Telegram envelopes	65 & 66
Telegraph Office at Saugor Island	66
RAILWAYS—	
Railway Finance	66 & 67
Indian Railway Risk Notes	67
Railway Freight—Adjustment of overcharges	67 & 68
Eastern Bengal State and Assam Bengal Railways— Bhairab Bazar and Tangi connection	68 & 69
Eastern Bengal State Railway—Wagon Supply	69
FINANCE—	
The Indian Currency Question	69 & 70
The Universal Currency Notes	70
Registration of Currency Notes	70 & 71
The Indian Coinage Act III of 1906—Counterfeit coin	71
The Indian Stamp Act II of 1899—Revenue adhesive stamps	71 & 72
The Indian Stamp Act II of 1899—Receipts	72
The Indian Stamp Act II of 1899—Stamp Duty on Bills of Exchange	72 & 73
The Indian Stamp Act II of 1899—Duplicate Receipts	73
MUNICIPAL—	
Calcutta Improvement Act 1911	73 & 74
Calcutta Municipal Act III of 1899—Licensed builders and building surveyors	74 & 75
Calcutta Municipal Act III of 1899—Building Regulations	75 & 76
Roads in Calcutta	76
The Eastern and Ballaghata Canals	76
Condensed skimmed milk	76 & 77
MISCELLANEOUS—	
The Indian Petroleum Act 1899—Carbide of Calcium	77 & 78
The Indian Petroleum Act 1889—Dangerous Petroleum	78

MISCELLANEOUS—(contd.)	PAGE.
Moisture in Jute	79
Trade with Australia—Jute manufactured goods	79 & 80
Trade with Australia	80
Australia—Passports for Indian visitors	80
State Technical Scholarships	80 & 81
Calcutta Daily Weather Report	81 & 82
The Coalfields Electric License 1909	82
The Bengal Boiler Commission	82 & 83
Statistics of the Import Trade of Indian Cotton piece-goods, twist and yarn	83
The Chamber Prices Current and Money Market Report	83
The Bazaar Maund	83
Late shipment of Piece-goods	83 & 84
Membership	84
ACCOUNTS & FINANCE—	
Chamber	84 & 85
Royal Exchange	85 & 86
Detailed Accounts of the Chamber	86 to 97
List of Presidents of the Chamber, 1853 to 1912	99 & 100
Committee of the Chamber, 1911-1912	101
Members of the Chamber	103 to 105
Honorary Members	105
Sundry References	106 & 107
Committee and Sub-Committees of the Chamber, &c., and recognised Associations	111 to 122
Recognised Association of the Chamber	123
REPORTS & SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS—	
Piece-Goods Sub-Committee Report	127 to 136
Yarns Sub-Committee Report	139 & 140
Shipping Sub-Committee Report	143 to 146
Railways Sub-Committee Report	149 & 150
Inland Transport Sub-Committee Report	153 & 154
Finance Sub-Committee Report	157 to 161
Electricity Sub-Committee Report	165 & 166
Licensed Measurers' Department Report	169 to 228
Royal Exchange Report	231 to 245
RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE CHAMBER—	
Memorandum of Association	249 to 252
Articles of Association	253 to 264
TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION OF THE CHAMBER—	
Rules	267 to 272

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION OF THE CHAMBER—(contd.)		PAGE.
Form of application and scale of fees relating to		
Piece-goods Arbitration	...	275 & 276
Scale of fees relating to Jute Arbitration	...	276
Scale of fees relating to General Arbitrations	...	277
Stamp fees and additional fees	...	277
List of Piece-Goods Arbitrators	...	278 & 279
List of Arbitrators for Jute, Jute Cuttings and		
Manufactured Goods	...	280 to 283
List of Arbitrators for Miscellaneous Goods	...	284 to 297
Rules and Regulations of the Provident Fund of the		
Chamber	...	298 to 304
Index to Chamber Rulings	...	305 & 306
Chamber Rulings, Nos. 1 to 60	...	307 to 319
Chamber Forms of Boat Note	...	320 & 321
Conversion of Sterling Freight into Indian Currency	...	322
Conference Bill of Lading	...	323 & 324
Schedule of Commission Charges	...	325 & 326
Tonnage Schedule and Measurement Rules for the Port		
of Calcutta	...	327 to 329
Tonnage Schedule for Indian Ports, &c.	...	330 to 337
Notes on above Schedule	...	338 to 340
Money, Weights and Measures of Ceylon, China,		
India, &c., &c.	...	341 to 348

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1912.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1912.

The Annual General Meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce was held at the rooms of the Chamber, Royal Exchange Building, No. 2 Clive Street, Calcutta, on Friday, the 27th February 1912, at 3 P.M. The Hon. Sir Cecil Graham, President of the Chamber, in the Chair.

The following members of the Chamber were present:—

Hon. Sir Cecil Graham, Kt.	...	
Mr. W. E. Crum	...	Messrs. Graham & Co.
" L. Edwards	...	
" H. G. Houghton	...	
" N. Birrell	...	
Hon. Mr. F. H. Stewart,	...	
C.I.E. ....	...
Mr. Andrew Glen	...	" Gladstone, Wylie & Co.
" R. Bazley	...	
" H. O. Begg	...	" Begg, Dunlop & Co.
Sir Geo. Sutherland, Kt.	...	
Mr. J. B. Strain	...	
" W. Kirkpatrick	...	" Bird & Co.
" R. M. Gurney	...	
" M. J. Calvooressi	...	" Ralli Brothers.
" A. A. Vasto	...	
" E. H. Bray	...	" Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
" W. O. Grazebrook	...	
" A. M. Monteath	...	" Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
Sir W. A. Dring, K.C.I.E.	...	
Mr. O. M. Pearce	...	" East Indian Railway.
Peter Swan	...	
" R. L. B. Gall	...	Messrs. Landale & Clark.
" D. P. How	...	
" J. C. Shorrook	...	
" A. D. Wilson	...	" Geo. Henderson & Co.
" H. R. D. Munn	...	
" Archy Birkmyre	...	" Birkmyre Bros.
" Geo. Robertson	...	
" C. J. Elton	...	" Ernsthansen, Ltd.
" S. Enstace	...	
" R. Mansell	...	" Kilburn & Co.
" W. Warrington	...	
" C. N. Douetil	...	" Jas. Finlay & Co., Ltd.
	...	
	...	" R. Steel & Co., Ltd.
	...	

Mr. H. D. Wood	...	Messrs. The Avraam Co., Ltd.
M. C. Guzdar	...	" P. E. Guzdar & Co.
Arthur Preston	...	" Balmier, Laurie & Co.
P. B. Lawrie	...	" Pigott, Chapman & Co.
E. H. Elles	...	Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China.
G. T. Martin	...	" Eastern Bank, Ltd.
H. Harris	...	Messrs. Macneill & Co.
W. Harvey Jones	...	" Moran & Co.
J. Mackenzie	...	Bengal-Nagpur Railway.
G. Watson	...	" Sun Insurance Office.
F. Morris	...	Messrs. Hashim Ariff Brothers & Co.
G. (I. Godfrey	...	" F. Harley & Co.
A. M. Clark	...	Allen Brothers & Co., Ltd.
W. R. Rae	...	" F. W. Heijgers & Co.
G. H. C. Ariff	...	" Jardine, Skinner & Co.
Fred. Harley	...	" The Empire, Ltd.
O. G. Haarbtelecher	...	" Shaw, Wallace & Co.
H. Cunningham	...	" J. Macmillan & Co.
D. K. Hall	...	" P. & O. S. N. Co.
R. H. A. Gresson	...	" Kerr, Terruck & Co.
J. A. Horne	...	" Steinert, Ltd.
A. J. Fraser Blair	...	" W. H. Targets & Co.
J. B. Lloyd	...	Becker, Gray & Co.
W. H. Miles	...	Blackwood, Blackwood & Co.
R. A. A. Jenkins	...	" Barry & Co.
B. N. Sircar	...	Ashworth Taylor & Co.
H. H. Hessling	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
Shirley Tremearne	...	" D. B. Mehta & Co.
P. Lovett	...	" King Brothers.
A. O. Patterson	...	" Meugens, King & Co.
F. Power	...	" J. C. Duffus & Co., Ltd.
A. S. Paterson	...	" W. S. Cresswell & Co.
J. W. Baker	...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
J. J. B. Young	...	" Sinclair, Murray & Co.
James Taylor	...	
S. M. Tyrer	...	
R. D. Mehta, C.I.E.	...	
R. R. McIntyre	...	
D. A. Bruce	...	
E. E. Meugens	...	
D. H. Brackenridge	...	
G. H. Carter	...	
L. G. Waller	...	
Miller M. King	...	
W. B. Macavish	...	
J. B. Crichton	...	
A. Mann	...	

Mr. R. M. W. Smyth	...	Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co.
W. S. J. Willson	...	" The Englishman, Ltd.
H. A. Glucksman	...	Messrs. Davenport & Co.
T. A. Magnus	...	" The Bombay Co., Ltd.
J. M. Davenport	...	National Bank of India, Ltd.
S. J. Gillum	...	" Messrs. McLeod & Co.
H. S. Johnston	...	" R. Knight & Sons.
Hon. Mr. Norman McLeod	...	" The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Ltd.
Mr. E. A. Watson	...	Messrs. S. C. Chunder & Co.
W. C. Beaumont	...	" Harrisons & Crosfield.
J. A. Aba	...	" Royal Insurance Co., Ltd.
J. N. Chunder	...	Messrs. Donaldson & Co.
Cecil Simpson	...	" Indian Engineering.
D. Lindsay	...	Messrs. Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ltd.
J. B. Ewan	...	" J. R. Bertram & Co.
C. J. A. Pritchard	...	Director-General of Commercial Intelligence.
W. Jensen	...	
J. R. Bertram	...	
F. Noël Paton	...	

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting

The PRESIDENT said.—Gentlemen,—I have now to place before you the reports and balance sheets of the Chamber and Royal Exchange for the year, and I think you will agree with me, that they show a most flourishing state of affairs, and one that we may all feel very well satisfied with: At the same time, we must always bear in mind that the work and responsibilities of this Chamber are steadily and surely increasing year by year, and that our staff must, therefore, be kept up to a standard fully equal to the demand imposed upon it, and that consequently our standing charges must also go on steadily increasing in proportion to the growth of the Chamber work, and the expansion of its staff and equipment. However, I will return to this question generally later, and meanwhile would ask you to bear with me while I attempt to draw your special attention to a few of the more outstanding events of the year, and the more important subjects with which your Committee have been called upon to deal. First and foremost, and of course eclipsing all other events not only of the present, but of, I think I may safely say, all other previous years of this Chamber's existence, has been the visit to India of their Imperial Majesties, the King-Emperor George the Fifth, and the Queen-Empress Mary, to announce to their Indian peoples the fact of their Coronation at Westminster Abbey last June. Their visit was one entire triumphal procession from start to finish, and the loyalty and enthusiasm shown by all is not likely ever to be forgotten either by those of us, who were privileged to witness and take part in it at Delhi, or by all of us

here who witnessed the splendid welcome, which Calcutta and her citizens vied with each other in their endeavour to extend to their King-Emperor and Queen-Empress—a welcome, which we all sincerely trust was as nearly worthy of the occasion as Calcutta's loyalty and devotion could make it. The Chamber, as was only fitting, spared no efforts to join with all the other communities which go to make up Bengal and Calcutta, in their endeavour to make the welcome a truly imperial one, and I would like to take this opportunity of offering our special thanks to our Vice-President, who undertook and so ably carried through the arduous task of Joint-Secretary to the Reception Committee, and the Hon. Mr. McLeod, and the Hon. Mr. J. G. Apear, who presided with such success over the deliberations and work of the important sub-committees, and not only to these gentlemen, but to all other members and officers of the Chamber for the work and organization of the Royal Reception. There are weighty matters, and most controversial ones very closely affecting Calcutta in connection with the Royal Announcement at Delhi, which, with your permission, gentlemen, I shall prefer to deal with later on in my speech.

THE FACTORY ACT.

Now to turn for a few minutes to some of the more important matters with which our report deals. The Factories Bill which was at the time of our last meeting passing through its stages in the Legislative Council, emerged, not perhaps quite in the form that many of us would have liked, but I think that on the whole it was moulded into a workable measure, and it now only remains to be seen how it will work out in practice, when it comes into force on 1st July next. I am sure that those interested in the mill industry in Calcutta will give it a fair and reasonable trial, and that with a little give and take on both sides there is no reason why its provisions should not be made to work smoothly and without unnecessary friction or disturbance to the trade. We all owe Mr. Birkenhead a debt of gratitude for the able way in which he represented the Chamber's views in Council. The Bill was amended to bring it more into conformity with the general views of the trade. His efforts though not entirely successful, were yet attended with a considerable amount of success.

ARBITRATIONS.

As you will have noted, we have recommended and now passed some alterations in our arbitration rules, to meet the position which had arisen owing to a decision of the High Court in an arbitration case which came before it some years ago. In a similar case decided quite recently, a totally opposite decision was come to, and though welcoming this latter decision as going to show that our former rules were not at fault, yet there can be no harm in being on the right side and so wording them that legal points cannot possibly

arise to upset the decisions of our arbitrators and the prestige of our Chamber Arbitration Court.

IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

Another important matter has been the Calcutta Improvement Scheme, which finally passed through the Provincial Legislative Council last summer, and the Trustees appointed under that Act are already at work. I think we may congratulate Government and Calcutta generally on the selection made of gentlemen to serve on the Trust, and that if ever Calcutta is to have her congested areas opened out, and her approaches and streets widened and improved and made worthy of the city, her chance has come now, and that the right men have been found to superintend the first beginnings of what cannot but be an immense and protracted undertaking.

LIFE INSURANCE.

Here again much needed legislation is at present in course of discussion in the Legislative Council. The Chamber pressed for three main points, viz., first, a Government Department to supervise the working of the Life Insurance Companies and Provident Societies Acts, secondly, a substantial deposit (two lacs instead of one lac as proposed in the Bill), and thirdly, the proper control of the investments of the companies' funds. Now, as you will see from the report of the Select Committee appointed to consider these Bills, our first point though not actually granted, is, we think, foreshadowed by the suggested appointment of a Government Actuary. Such an officer must in time, we think, from sheer inability to cope with the work successfully singled out, eventually blossom out into greater things, and we trust that as time goes on, he will emerge a full blown department under the Member for Commerce and Industry. Our second point is now met by the deposits having eventually to accumulate up to a sum of two lacs of rupees, and though we would have preferred a larger sum than Rs. 25,000, as an initial deposit, as that is a most meagre sum, yet under the circumstances which two lacs as the amount to be eventually reached by all I think we may rest content. As regards our third point there are many difficulties, and we can realize why Government are, for the present at least, unable to meet us in this direction, but we can only hope that the Act may be amended before long and that this control of investments, so very necessary in the interests of policy-holders in a country like India, may ere long become an integral principle of the Act.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

The next point I should like to touch upon is the excessive inconvenience and delay to business to which merchants all over India have been put during the year, and especially of late.

Your Committee have addressed many protests to the Telegraph Department on this account, but little seems possible to be done. With Poursa so disturbed, our telegraphic facilities are naturally much curtailed, and when the other line is also interfered with we are all in a bad way. The matter is so serious for all commercial interests, that I hope Government will before long take special steps to get this state of affairs rectified, and your new Committee will not, I am sure, let the question drop, until something has been accomplished to put this most essential means of communication for the modern commercial community again in a more normal condition.

PORT FACILITIES.

To turn for a moment to our more domestic affairs, I would bring to your special notice the congestion there has been at the docks almost throughout the entire year, but this is having the particular attention of a Committee specially appointed to go into the question, and some of their suggestions have already, I fancy, been adopted. We may look forward, therefore, hopefully to their final report and the eventual results of their labours, with full confidence that all their recommendations will receive most careful consideration, and be acted on fully wherever they are shown to be reasonably practicable. Another point in connection with our Port has been the suggested lighting of the lower reaches of the Hugli, with a view to night navigation of these lower approaches to our Port. I am sure you will all agree with me that if the Committee, who are going into this proposition, all see their way to approve of it from the point of view of the safety of steamers passing up and down these reaches during the night, there will be an immense advantage to the whole seaborne trade of Calcutta, and our commerce will gain enormously in consequence.

RAILWAYS AND WATERWAYS.

Points in connection with these, perhaps more especially with the latter, have taken up a lot of the time of your Committee during the year. We have always been steadily pressing that the great waterways of Bengal should be used to their very best advantage, and that this in form of cheap transport should be given every opportunity for legitimate expansion. Our railways are essential but so are our waterways, and they should both be allowed to work together instead of in competition with each other, in their own spheres of influence. We want cheap transport, of whichever class it is, and there is no reason why these two should clash. Let the Steamer Companies have every facility in those parts of the country which are suited to water carriage, and let the railways develop those districts which are not directly in touch with Calcutta by that means of conveyance, and let them have a free hand to run their lines on the cheapest basis compatible with reasonable returns. Given these, I think Calcutta need have no fear of losing her

commercial prosperity or standing, as she has a wonderful system of waterways, which only need careful development and conservancy, to bring most places in Northern and Eastern Bengal very much closer to her and her Port, and she is also fed by railways that can, I believe, be run cheaper than any others in India, and still show a reasonable profit to their shareholders and Government. In this connection I may briefly refer to the proposal that the E. I. Railway should take over and work the O. and R. Railway, and I cannot help thinking that if that proposal is adopted it would be a most excellent move from every point of view, and one which cannot help being of the greatest advantage to the commercial interests of Calcutta. This proposal is quite likely to come before your new Committee in the near future, and I am sure you will agree with me, that they will do well to give their strong support to it.

THE CHANGES.

It is along these lines we must press, if we are to make the most of the changed position in which Calcutta will soon find herself, so that we may not only hold our own, but go on steadily increasing her present commercial and industrial pre-eminence. But this brings me to the point, where I may revert to a subject mentioned in the earlier part of my speech, I mean the administrative changes announced by His Imperial Majesty at the Delhi Durbar. This Chamber has, as you know, while deciding that it would be neither seemly nor of any avail, to press for the revocation of an announcement made in such a manner on such an occasion, still could not ignore the method in which these changes were introduced, or the enormous expenditure of public money rendered inevitable by them. We have written to Government a moderate, reasoned, and earnest letter, protesting on principle to the methods employed, the precedent set up, and the possible results, as it was not only right and fitting, but absolutely obligatory that such a protest should be put on record. Our letter has been criticised as being too weak and ineffective, but I am certain that the vast majority of the business men of Calcutta who think things out, and do not rush to extremes are well satisfied with the moderate tone of our letter, and the reasoned attitude taken up therein. We all recognize the force and ability of Lord Curzon's speech in the House of Lords on this subject a few days ago, and I think you will find practically every point he hammered home so successfully, brought out in our letter, but these points have been dealt with by him in a speech of one hour and three quarters, with a wealth of eloquence and detail which plain business men could not hope to, and probably would not, if they could, attempt to emulate in the scope of a letter such as ours addressed to Government on a subject of this sort. It is not for a Chamber like ours to rush into the realms of politics unless absolutely driven to it, like in the present case, and it has always been one of our main traditions to avoid such mixing up of

commerce and politics, unless the question raised inextricably involved the two. We have to-day received the answer to our letter, and I do not think any one can complain about the terms in which it is couched. The time has been too short to really consider it in all its details and in all its aspects, but that will be for your new Committee to do. The door is now open for further correspondence, and having recorded our unanimous protest on the political aspect of the situation, we may I think reasonably confine ourselves for the future to the purely commercial side of the question and the possible effects of these changes on the progress of the commerce and trade of the city and port of Calcutta. These we must take careful stock of, and use our every endeavour to prevent or check any tendency should such become apparent, that Calcutta and her trade are not to receive a free hand as regards the expansion of her commercial facilities in any direction whatsoever, either of our railways, our waterways, our port, or of any other we can think of, and the interests of all these must be watched and guarded with the utmost jealousy as there are already signs that others are hoping to gain at Calcutta's expense. We do not ask for preferential treatment, but we will insist on fair and equal treatment for all our immense commercial interests. It is apparent that the feeling, outside Calcutta, throughout India, is in favour of these changes, and that feeling is it seems rather tending to increase, than decrease, and the future alone, therefore, can show whether Calcutta's strong objections and misgivings will turn out to have been well founded or not. No one can, however, object to our using our utmost endeavours and taking the most strenuous precautions to prevent any possible set-back to the steady growth of the commerce of our port and any check to the unobstructed expansion of all her trade facilities.

One of our safeguards will naturally be our representation on the Legislative Council of the new Presidency, and the reasonable demands in this connection, set out in our letter to Government, must be strongly urged, and unceasingly pressed, until a representation in due proportion to the enormous commercial interests of this Chamber and the various great industries of the Presidency is fully conceded to the European community, who built up these interests, and created and maintain these industries. These points, Gentlemen, you can, I think, safely leave in the hands of your new Committee, which certainly seems to me to be one which is truly representative of every commercial interest of this Chamber. And now to turn once more for a moment to the accounts of the year. I think, you will be fully satisfied with the prosperous position which we are able to submit.

QUESTION OF A NEW BUILDING.

If, Gentlemen, this prosperity of ours looks like being a permanent one, and I see no reason why it should not, I think that the time has nearly arrived for us to revive the question

of rehousing ourselves, and I would commend this matter to the careful consideration of the new Committee, as we are already getting cramped, and the external appearance of our building can scarcely be styled as worthy of our membership and the interests our Chamber represents, and this is becoming more and more apparent, as one by one other old buildings in Clive Street disappear, and new ones, more commodious and more stately rise in their places, and more and more overshadow this building of ours. I need not say more here, but I think, that a strong feeling is growing up in the Chamber that we require fresh accommodation and a more suitable building, and if this can be done adequately without straining the financial position of the Chamber, I am sure the new Committee will have the opinion of nearly all members behind them, should they elect to seriously tackle this question, with a view to finding out what can be done in this direction to the best advantage of our Chamber and its members, with all their varied interests.

Finally, Gentlemen, I need only convey my personal thanks to the members of the retiring Committee, who by their steady help with hard work and able advice have made my task as your President an easy one, and lastly also to our Secretary and his staff for the wholehearted support they have given us, and the untiring energy and ability with which they have carried on their share, and that by no means the smallest one, of the Chamber's work during the year.—(*Applause*.)

At the conclusion of his address the President inquired if any members desired to address the Meeting on any subject of interest to the mercantile community.

MR. R. D. MUKTA, C.I.E., said:—Mr. President and Gentlemen.—At the last annual meeting of this Chamber I spoke on the subject of Railway Rates. I am glad to be able to say that some of the anomalies I complained of at the time have since been removed. But when I first went to the railway concerned, I received an answer from them point blank that they could not consider my application.

GOODS CLASSIFICATION.

2. Amongst other things that were touched upon in my last year's speech, I spoke on the question of increase in the classification for cotton, and for other goods. My friend, the Hon. Sir T. R. Wynne, remarked at the time that I was not correct in my statements. I wrote to him enquiring where I was wrong, but I did not get a direct answer on this point. I had, therefore, to reply to his remark in my article No. 1 on Railway Rates, and I hope, Gentlemen, you will forgive me for taking up your time in reading out the following extract from what I wrote:—

"The Railway Conference, the Railway Board and the Classification Committee had the matter in hand from October 1908 to October 1909, and the adoption of the new classification did not actually have effect till April 1910, but

It does not appear that either the public or the trade were given an opportunity of considering the revised classification although there appears to have been more than sufficient time to allow of this having been done. It may be argued that in India hitherto it has not been the practice to consult the public in such matters but seeing that the trade is always affected by any enhancement in the railway rates, and as the railways in India are the property of the State and consequently of the public, it seems to me that it would have been a matter of ordinary fairness and courtesy to have consulted the trade, especially as power was given to railways to increase their rates by raising the maximum classification of cotton, piece-goods, hides (wet) in small lots, iron columns, iron ridgings, kerosene oil, etc., all of which form important items of merchandise. The unimportant items, where the maximum class rates were raised, are too numerous to mention. It may be remarked, however, that in the case of the important items, such as cotton, although there may not have been any actual enhancement all over, the raising of the maximum classification gave the railways powers to raise their rates, and it is believed one railway did increase its cotton rate, but for the unimportant items the rates were actually raised."

Now, Gentlemen, at the same annual meeting of this Chamber last year the Hon. Sir T. R. Wynne also said that the order was that the classification, where enhanced, would be reduced to its former level. This was in February 1911, but I am sorry to tell you, Gentlemen, that this order had not had effect till August 1911. In the meanwhile, the public had to pay the enhanced rates.

3. Some of you, Gentlemen, are perhaps aware of the fact that during the past twelve months I have written a series of articles in the *Empire* on the question of railway rates and other railway matters, but unfortunately in most cases the railway authorities have not made any attempt to remove the complaints, although I must not omit to mention that some of my informants and friends have intimated to me that our worthy friend, Sir William Dring, has been good enough to grant reasonable facilities and rates to certain local industries, which were in the first instance refused by his subordinates.

SPECIAL RAILWAY COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF TRADE, LONDON.

4. By a strange coincidence about the same time that I commenced writing on railway matters in India a specially appointed Departmental Committee of the Board of Trade in London went into questions of railway agreements, railway amalgamations and on many other matters affecting the interests of the public with the railways. When, however, I took up the subject early last year I was not aware that such a committee was sitting in England, and it was not till July last that I got a copy of the report of the committee, which was only issued in April last.

RISK NOTES.

5. Dealing first, with the most important question of risk notes, which affect every branch of trade and commerce, I would point out that the difference between the railway risk and the owner's risk rates is generally so high that no trader can possibly

avail himself of the alternative railway risk rates. I heard of a case the other day where a railway manager, while admitting that the railway risk rate was 120 per cent. greater than the owner's risk rate, maintained the reasonableness of the railway risk rate. I can do no better than to quote the following from what the Departmental Committee of the Board of Trade in England has said on this subject:—

"It seems to us that it is not in the public interest that Railway Companies should in fact be in a position to put undue pressure on traders to accept liability for loss or injury on traffic arising from their neglect."

6. These remarks appear to have been made by the British Committee apparently because they find that the railway risk rates on British railways are practically not "commercially reasonable alternative rates." The same committee go on to say that under the present interpretation of the law, however, it seems that any alternative company's risk rate, which is within the maximum, would be held to be a reasonable alternative "even though it involved the payment of amount for insurance by the traders which was greatly in excess of the actuarial value of the risk so that the alternative rate was not commercially a reasonable alternative."

The Committee of the Board of Trade then proceed to show that in the English railway classification the owner's risk rates are at 10 per cent., 15 per cent. and 20 per cent. below the company's risk rates, but that there are a number of special rates at owner's risk, as regards which "owners risk" is only "one" of the considerations "on which special rate was granted." It is further remarked upon by the Committee "that in such cases the owner's risk rate may be as much as 30 or 40 per cent. below the rate, at which the railway companies carry at their own risk" and these differences are apparently not considered reasonable as the members of the committee recognise that "the situation seems to constitute a 'legitimate grievance' on the part of those traders, who are affected by it" and they recommend that "the difference in charge between the owner's and railway risk rates should be such as is reasonably sufficient to cover the risk of the company." I wonder, Gentlemen, what the members of the British Committee, which considered differences of 20 and 40 per cent. high, would think when they know that on Indian railways differences of 100 per cent. and even more between the railway risk and owner's risk rates are often to be seen.

Will the E. B. S. and B. N. Railway authorities kindly say why their special rates for grain and seeds are at owner's risk when much lower special rates than theirs on other important lines such as the E. I. O. and R. N. W. G. I. P., and B. B. and C. I. Railways are at railway risk? All I can say is this that if they cannot take risk for traffic which every other railway carries at its risk their management cannot be all that could be desired for from a public point of view.

UNDOE PREFERENCE.

7. Gentlemen, there are many instances, where the railway rates appear to constitute undue preference and unjust discrimination, but the Railway Board say that these are matters, in which their decision is not binding on the railways and that if a claim is made on the ground of undue preference the question becomes a legal one, which, it is said, is beyond the province of the Railway Board to settle. To go to a Court of Law, means enormous expence as a law suit of this nature can only be tried by a specially constituted Railway Commission, and I will presently refer to the opinion of the greatest railway expert on this point. In 1903, the late Mr. T. Robertson, C.V.O., Special Railway Commissioner for India in his report on the administration and working of railways observed as follows:—"Under the provisions of the Indian Railways Act IX of 1890, the calling into existence of Railway Commissions to hear complaints against railways is considered so costly an undertaking that the commission has never once been called." On these grounds the same railway expert, on whose recommendation the Railway Board was created, asked that the Members of the Railway Board, in addition to their duties on the Board, should be employed in association with a Law Member (when a question of law arises) as Commissioners for purposes of chapter v of the Railway Act, which relates to undue preference, so as to prevent of the Railway Commission being always in session. But this part of the recommendation has not been carried out for reasons best known to those who had the final say in the matter of the creation of the Railway Board. This, however, is a big question; if at any rate, in the first instance, the Railway Board is given the powers of conciliation the same as the Board of Trade in England possesses, much relief would be afforded to the public.

8. In England, the Board of Trade is empowered to act as a conciliatory body between the railways and the public in matters relating to unreasonable rates, etc., but still the Departmental Committee of the Board of Trade in London considered that "there are many grievances against railway companies, which become acute through misunderstanding and want of closer relations between railways and tenders, and some of them are capable of being remedied or explained by friendly discussions." While the Committee propose to retain the conciliatory powers of the Board of Trade "to hold an enquiry in respect of complaints from the public as to any rate or charge and to call upon the railways for explanations and to settle differences," and while they also recognise that "the informal discussion of grievances, before the Board of Trade has accomplished much good," they (the Committee) want to go a step further and suggest that the railways should voluntarily create advisory councils so that railway companies may be encouraged to deal with complaints more locally and to arrive at an amicable settlement with the public. Mr. A. Siemens, one

of the members of the Committee, has added a note to the report on the proposed scheme of local conferences between the railways and the traders. His proposals, briefly summarised, are that in such conferences there should be three members from the side of the Railway Company, and three members from the side of the trader making the complaint, one of whom may be the trader himself or a member of his firm and each side to elect its own chairman, so that the representation from both sides will be fair. The suggestions in several of my articles have been that the Railway Board in India should be given powers similar to those held by the Board of Trade in England in the matter of complaints from the public in regard to unreasonable rates or charges, and there is no reason why advisory councils, similar to those now proposed in England, should not be introduced in India.

PUBLICATIONS.

9. As the railways in this country are getting older, they are commencing to observe greater secrecy in the matter of publishing the proceedings of their conferences, committees, etc. I believe at one time the proceedings of each Railway Conference used to be published in the form of a blue book and available for sale, but of late these proceedings have been made confidential and the President of the Railway Board had not even had the courtesy to acknowledge my communication to him on this subject. In England, where the railways are the property of private corporations, and exist without any direct financial assistance on the part of the Crown, it is felt even there that the agreements between railways should be made public, but in India, where the railways are the property of the State, the public who have the right to know are deliberately kept in the dark. Therefore, they cannot be blamed when they say that the Railway managers go to Simla simply for a holiday trip at public expence, for what is railway expenditure is public expenditure. Now, Gentlemen, I might tell you that the Departmental Committee of the Board of Trade in London on railway agreements and amalgamations have recognised that the working agreements, pooling arrangements of an important character should be required to be published, and that the constitutions and functions of conferences or other committee appointed by the railway companies should be made public. I fail to see why the trade and the public in India should not ask for the same publicity of the Indian railways. The Railway Conference, it is believed, discusses every year questions relating to interchange of waggons between railways, but the public know nothing of what comes out of these discussions. The opinion of the public is that as all the railways are State lines and the Government provides funds for the rolling stock of all the railways, one railway should not hesitate to give waggons to another railway at a nominal rate so long as the former railway can spare the waggons.

10. I am glad that as the result of last year's agitation questions affecting railways are gradually attracting wider public attention, more than one Hon. Member in the Imperial Legislative Council has taken up the subject in right earnest, and it is to be hoped that by and by the merchants and the public in India will understand that the railways are made for the country and not the country for the railways.

LORD INCCHAPE'S CONFERENCE.

11. It is a matter of deep regret that the conference between the directors of the companies' worked lines and the Railway Board should have ever been held *in camera*, and the press excluded from it. The railway companies in India have from the beginning received great consideration from the Government, and the public have for years borne the brunt of the guarantee. It will at once be said by the railway magnates that the country has greatly benefited by the company's worked railways, but my reply beforehand to them is that shareholders of Indian railways did not invest their money until they received a 5 per cent. definite guaranteed interest and free land. Even now they are receiving interest on their deferred annuity and are also being paid the purchase value of the railways in the way of annuity by the Government of India as well as a share of the surplus profits so that their investment has been an exceedingly good one. Some of the railways, which give but a small percentage of interest to the Government on the capital outlay, receive a share of the "so-called surplus profits," but the actual monetary net result to the Government in respect of such a railway may be a loss of nearly 20 lakhs a year. Is it, therefore, right, Gentlemen, that in respect of such railways, of which the G. I. P. and I. M. are glaring instances, the railway companies' directors in England should have the whole say in the matter of management, expenditure and extensions and the Indian public absolutely debarred from raising their voice for or against?

MUTTRA-ALIGARH RAILWAY.

12. The G. I. P. is a railway which has been a loss to the Government ever since its construction. But, Gentlemen, the G. I. P. Railway has, in the past, asked for the construction and working of the Muttra-Aligarh line apparently on the plea that for traffic to and from the districts served by the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, it should have direct broad gauge connection with the Oudh and Rohilkhand to Bombay, without the intervention of the East Indian Railway, but this is not really where the shoe pinches. The most important mart in Rohilkhand is Chaudausi—both for wheat and cotton, and the effect of the G. I. P. having its own line to Aligarh will be that the Bombay Port will continue to draw more and more of what is now coming and used at one time to come to Calcutta as

the G. I. P. Railway will then quote 1/10th pie rate from Aligarh to Bombay as they now do from all other junctions, and is it right that to satisfy the G. I. P. or the B. B. and C. I. Railway, the Aligarh-Muttra Line should be constructed? The question is one in which a very firm attitude is necessary on the part of the Government. I say the Muttra-Aligarh railway is not absolutely needed and those who ask for the railway should be able to show to what disadvantage the permanent population of the country has been put without it, and in what way the proposed heavy expenditure on the railway and on a bridge over the Jumna will remove that disadvantage. Cannot the money proposed to be spent on this Railway in a district, already containing a net work of railways, be more usefully spent in the opening up of districts, where the development is retarded for want of railway communication? The G. I. P. and the B. B. and C. I. Railways are now at Muttra and one or both of them seem anxious to come to Aligarh in order, as they say, to get a direct junction with the O. and R. Railway, without the intervention of the E. I. Railway. A little later they will perhaps want to come to Bareilly to have direct junction with the R. and K. Railway. I would also ask of the railway authorities if any of the statements made in my article No. II on *Indian Railway Economics* in connection with the proposed Bir-Bhupal Chord Line of the G. I. P. Railway are in any way incorrect, if so where and how? It is, therefore, that I urge that the Indian public should have some voice in the matter as to how the public money is spent on new railways.

O. AND R. RAILWAY.

13. Now I have already stated in my articles in the *Empire* that if the coal traffic for the Punjab takes the Moghalsarai-Saharanpur route great economy would be effected to trade of all descriptions in the matter of wagon supply.

Mr. Emerson, the late Master of the Calcutta Trades Association touched upon the question of the working of the O. and R. Railway being handed over to the East Indian Railway, but the Government cannot possibly consider this question from the point of view of benefiting the trade of Calcutta port alone. The Government should decide impartially, and if the amalgamation of the Oudh and Rohilkhand with the East Indian will benefit the country generally by a decrease in expenditure and in facilities being extended all round the Government is bound to consider the question from every stand-point. Seeing that the great bulk of the traffic of the Oudh and Rohilkhand is either from or to the East Indian Railway and the two railways run parallel in close proximity to each other, and as both are the property of the State there seems no reason why for all practical purposes of working, the Oudh and Rohilkhand should not be amalgamated with the East Indian Railway. The O. and R. Ry. for the most part serves the same districts or the

territories adjoining those served by the East Indian Railway and has several junctions with the latter line. The interests of the two railways appear to me to be identical in all respects. The total mileage of the two lines, if thus amalgamated, will not exceed 4,000 miles, whereas the North-Western Railway operates a system of nearly 5,000 miles. The Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway is now worked at a distinct loss to the Government—during the years 1907 to 1910 the net loss to the Government on account of the O. and R. Railway was 50 lakhs of rupees or half a crore—because it does not get the traffic it ought to get by right of its possessing the shortest route for coal traffic from Bengal to the Punjab. But if that railway is amalgamated with the East Indian Railway, there would no longer be the tendency on the part of the company's worked State line (*viz.*, the E. I. Ry.) to deprive the State worked State line (*viz.*, the O. and R. Ry.) of the traffic which the latter should ordinarily get. Therefore, besides considerably minimising heavy empty running of wagons by routing of the Punjab coal traffic *via* Mogaalsara, the amalgamation of the two railways will at once ease matters for the railways and the public in regard to rolling stock generally, and, then again, the further spending of large sums under this head will be thereby greatly reduced. Perhaps, the Bombay Chamber and the Bombay lines will raise an outcry against such a course but, Gentlemen, the outcry will obviously be raised on the ground that the amalgamation will mean diversion of trade to Calcutta. But this can easily be safeguarded by an arrangement being come to between the East Indian Railway, the Government and the Bombay lines by which the East Indian Railway will not, for traffic from those areas on the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, who now partly send their produce to Bombay, make any *enhancements in the present rates to Bombay* and that if any reduction is made in the existing rates to Calcutta from such areas only, a corresponding reduction should be allowed in the rates to Bombay. I am afraid some of you might consider it a presumption on my part if I attempted to suggest a practical solution of the difficulty that may be raised by those interested in the Bombay port. But, Gentlemen, I have given this matter my careful consideration with a view to suggest something that will be fair to both the ports—I hope you will, therefore, forgive me when I say that the arrangement should be that on grain and seeds the charge to be made by the East Indian Railway on traffic to Bombay from the districts lying north and west of Bareilly, including the Aligarh branch should not be more than $\frac{1}{2}$ pie per maund per mile, when the lead is less than 50 miles on the E. I. or the O. and R. Railway *plus* a terminal of 3 pies and $\frac{1}{2}$ pie only without terminal when the distance over these two railways is more than 50 miles—similarly, the rate on cotton ought not to be more than $\frac{1}{2}$ pie per maund per mile. This is on the assumption that the East Indian Railway gets the working of the Oudh and Rohilkhand. The rates I have suggested will prevent any attempt on the part of

the E. I. Railway to quote "blocking rates," and, if I mistake not, they are fair and more reasonable than what the G. I. P. get at present. I suppose in the event of such a consideration on the part of the Calcutta lines, the G. I. P. Railway will treat despatches from their Railway to Calcutta with equally liberal rates. I do not think that the Bombay railways could themselves suggest a fair and more reasonable and equitable arrangement.

Unless, of course, there are any political reasons for retaining the working of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway under direct State management so that the Railway line from the Oudh to the North-West Frontier might be worked, if necessary, as one State Railway system for facilities of transport during times of emergency, I can see no other grounds, on which the amalgamation of the railways could be objected to by the Government from the point of view of economy alone. The East Indian Railway ought to be only too glad to work the O. and R. Railway even on the same terms as the G. I. P. work the Agra-Delhi Cord, *viz.*, for working expenses only. The direct and indirect benefits to both the railways, to the Government and to the public generally, and the saving in the railway expenditure by such an arrangement will be incalculable. Leaving aside the saving by the abolition of the administrative offices at Lucknow, which may be kept intact for various reasons—one of them being that it would not be a benign act on the part of the Government to throw so many people out of employment in these hard days of struggle—the saving under rolling stock and in empty running alone would be great.—(Applause.)

MR. SHIRLEY TREMAMNE said:—Mr. President and Gentlemen,—If there ever was a time when the Bengal Chamber of Commerce should take a keen and vigilant interest in passing events; if ever there was a time when the very best men should come forward, not only to serve on our Committee, but on other public institutions in which we are interested, that time is the present; and it is, therefore, with considerable regret that I notice that the practice is increasing, at times of election, for some of our best men to abstain from putting themselves forward, while others add a note that they cannot take up any positions of leadership or importance. Such a note appears this year against the names of Sir Cecil Graham, Messrs. J. C. Shorrocks, and Norman McLeod. Of course as regards Sir Cecil Graham, he can justly say "I have done the State some service and they know it"—he has won his spurs; he is entitled to exclaim like Mark Antony:—

"Unarm, Eros; the long day's task is done and we must sleep."

But by remaining on the Committee he is evidently going to sleep with one eye open. This is as it should be. But what about Messrs. Shorrocks and McLeod, and I may add Mr. W. K. Dowding

and others? The reason I have heard alleged is, that their senior partners :—

"Ye gentlemen of England,
Who live at home at ease,"

object to their juniors here taking up public positions, which they think may absorb too much of their time and thus be detrimental to the interests of their business. I have further heard that this objection has become more intensive since the practice of bestowing knight-hoods and orders on deserving merchants has become more common; it not being considered fitting and proper that the youngsters here should receive the titles which the seniors appear to think should pertain to them :—

"I cannot tell how the truth may be
I tell the tale as 't was told to me."

Now, gentlemen, this is an age of progress; there is no standing still, we either go forward or go back, and if we are to go forward our best men must lead us. We have given the people of this country of the tree of knowledge; we must see that it is used for good and not for evil, and it is full time that the Chamber was up and doing; otherwise it may be said of us as of the Church of Sardis, "I know thy works, that thou hast a name, that thou livest "and art dead." Now, we have no desire to be selfish; we are in this country, the most of us present to-day, to shake the Pagoda Tree; but we do not ask for all the fruit; nevertheless if we are not watchful we may not get our fair share; and at a time when momentous changes are on the tapis, it behoves us to put our very best men forward in the fray.

Mavriti to substat Ocean
The deathless death cry of Imperial Rome.
The last words of the men who died to please her
On sitting out for their eternal home.
Mark the arena's fiercely cruel crowd
The gladiators rushing to the slaughter.
Hark to the "bards" rising shrill and loud;
The down turned thumbs of every Roman daughter,
Grimly the picture stands before our eyes
Yet can bright feature gild all the strife;
No mediocrity could win the prize,
The best contended where the stake was life.

And so I would ask you, gentlemen of the Chamber, to give the Committee of your best. We need you, the need is urgent. The enemy is at the gate. If we delay we may be too late. It is only natural that our Indian fellow subjects, as education spreads, should desire to have a larger share in shaping the destinies of this country. Situated in their place would we not do the same; and I may add, that they are not behind hand in asking, and not easily rebuffed by refusals; for as the dripping water melts the stone, so the perpetual advancement of claims ends often in a

complete and absolute surrender to the demands so persistently put forward. The best contended in Ancient Rome and the best Indians here do not hang back, they are ready at all times to come forward, while the best men among us are lagging in the rear. If this continues we may wake up some day to find our cherished privileges gone, and it will be then too late to agitate for what we might so easily have retained and without any ill-feeling on the other side. And in advancing our claims we should not forget that at the commencement of all events the *quæstor in mole* is preferable to the *fortiter in re*. I was much struck some ten days ago with a sermon preached by the Bishop of Madras at our Cathedral. His Lordship, who many of us remember as the Principal of Bishop's College here, took his text from St. Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians. He drew a parallel between Corinth and Calcutta, and speaking of the present time he said :—

"A spirit of unrest is sweeping over the world, everywhere there is strife, conflict, unsettlement. At a time like this there is always a special temptation "to a loss of self-restraint and to a failure in the consideration for others, the justice to opponents and the perfect courtesy that should mark the Christian character. And am I not right in thinking that you have now a special need for this virtue in your public life in Calcutta? You stand now at a critical point "in the history of your city, indeed in the history of India. It is a time of "peculiar difficulty and trial. There are two points about which, I think, we "especially need to be watchful. First, scrupulously to abstain from the use of "language about our Indian fellow subjects which may in any way be provocative "or offensive. To use language that bites and stings is an act of political immorality. And second, to try and acquire a generous and sympathetic insight into the aims and aspirations of educated Indians. We can often make men loyal "by believing in them, and we help to make them disloyal by treating them with "unmerited suspicion and distrust."

GENTLEMEN, like Lord Roberts, I have now been over forty-one years in India, and speaking from that experience I can testify that the natives of this country welcome the co-operation of Europeans, if they are sympathetic and straight. The word of an Englishman is a great political asset still. We can be, if we choose, of incalculable benefit to the Government and the people of this land; we can often put the former right if we go the right way about it, the latter will always look up to us for help, guidance and leadership if we are loyal to ourselves and sympathetic to them.

But a creed on the lips is a little thing
If it urge not the deed to be done.
Hands may be black, white, yellow or brown
But the hue of the heart is one.—

(Applause.)

MR. PETER SWAN said.—Mr. President and Gentlemen,—When we last met at the Special General Meeting convened to listen to the view which the Special Committee of the Chamber had taken of the Proclamation of Delhi the man in the street was reminded that it was easier to criticise than to construct. It was evident that at that meeting a very large majority of the members present was

not in sympathy with the attitude adopted by the Committee in their letter of protest, and voted with them merely from a feeling of loyalty to the Committee. (voices—No!) This fact induced me to revive a proposal made eleven years ago by the Baled Jute Association through Mr. H. M. Ross, who, it will be recollected, took an active and useful interest in commercial public affairs. His suggestion was that each Association recognised by the Chamber should be given the right to nominate a candidate at the annual general election for the Committee of the Chamber. I have merely suggested that Mr. Ross' proposal be revived for consideration. Bearing in mind the caution of the Vice-President, Mr. Stewart, about the difficulties of construction I did not offer any novel scheme of reform, but one which originally received a considerable amount of support, and one which I hope will be found still more acceptable now.

The objection of the Committee that the Associations are not, as corporate bodies, members of the Chamber, seems to be merely technical and of little weight, and may be overcome by ruling that these Associations must nominate persons for election who are members of the Chamber, for it is evident that the nominee will be a member of some firm which is on the Chamber's list of membership. What is now proposed is merely that the Associations only, and no individual firms, be asked to submit candidates for election. In discussing this with a member of the Committee he said, "but look what a lot of *chokers* you have on some of these Association Committees." This I admitted to be the case, and said that that was the strongest argument he could use in favour of the proposed alteration, the object of which is to improve the status and *morale* of all the Associations, to put life into them by offering inducements to senior men to join. When it is recognised that the only way to a seat on the Committee of the Chamber is by good work done on one or other of its Associations, there will be more interest displayed in the work of those Associations, and the result will be greater vigour and activity in every limb and member of the body corporate. The Committee will then be looked upon as a kind of Upper Chamber, the only access to which is through the Associations, or House of Commons. This system of making a candidate prove his worth and usefulness in respect of candidates for seats on the Legislative Councils; and is a very wise regulation. It prevents the peripatetic gas bag or carpet bagger monopolizing the seats.

I venture to think that if this proposal of the Baled Jute Association had been adopted eleven years ago, the Committee of the Chamber would have asked our opinion on a somewhat differently worded protest to that which has recently been sent in to Government. We should not then have been witnesses to the painful spectacle

of a special Committee in labour for a fortnight with a stillborn hermaphrodite, notwithstanding the skilled assistance of the eminent legal luminary who is believed to have been the wise woman at its parturition. The Committee were quite unnecessarily timid in deprecating the circulation of their fragile little effort amongst the members. It was dead before it saw the light, although blinded by parental pride, and the assurances of their *Savoy* Gamp they did not realise it.

In resubmitting the proposal of the Baled Jute Association of which I am a member, I hopefully look for more support than Mr. Ross originally received.

This brings me to my statement "that it was originally the intention of the Committee to submit their letter on the Proclamation of Delhi to the Government of India, and to the members simultaneously, and without ascertaining the views of the members." My authority for that is three members of the Committee, who may be called A, B, & C. Of A I asked, "what about this letter of protest which you are supposed to be drafting." He replied—"A special Committee is drafting it." "Is it to be submitted to the members before being sent?" He said "I believe not. It will probably be sent in to Government and copies 'circulated in the usual way.'" I said "On a special subject of great importance such as this, it seems to me the members should be consulted. The letter would have much more weight if the Committee were assured of their support." A agreed with this general proposition, and I then told him that B was of the same opinion. A then said "If B supports me I will suggest that the members be consulted." I then saw B who approved of what I had done, also C, who likewise approved and took an early opportunity of consulting with A as to the course of action to be taken. C also stated that he had already suggested consulting the members, but that nothing had been done. Neither A, B nor C were on the Special Committee. Then, and not till then, was intimation of a public meeting given. These being the facts, I submit that my statement was neither inaccurate nor misleading. In the words of the Irishman "I deny the allegation and I despise the allegators."

Being aware of the difficulties of construction, the next proposal I venture to submit is made "with considerable diffidence." but it is one which I commend to your careful consideration. It has often struck me that Calcutta commercial men are an ill-mannered lot. At nearly every meeting I have attended, even the perfunctory vote of thanks to the Chair is omitted, or is proposed in a kind of grunt, the only recognisable word being "chair" at the end of the sentence. The expression of our appreciation of the services of our Committees is quite as slight and as defective. Yet the members do a great deal of hard work, and the President and Vice-President have to sacrifice much valuable time which might be more profitably

employed in their own business than the claims of their position. Surely some tangible recognition, some more substantial evidence of our gratitude should be forthcoming than "a vote of thanks—chair"—or President, as the case may be. The Government has long recognised the importance of the work done, and the influence of our President and Vice-President, and for many years past has gracefully undertaken a duty we should have done ourselves, *viz* honoured these gentlemen. Unfortunately the result of our failure to do our duty courteously, gracefully, and sufficiently is, that as a matter of course, Government rewards our heads for work done for us; and this has aroused the suspicion that our leaders are rewarded not for work done on behalf of the commercial community, but of Government. This is doubtless an unworthy suspicion, but under the circumstances, inevitable. Now I submit to you that an honour, to which the slightest suggestion of taint attaches, is no honour; and it is unfortunately the case that the honours in the bestowal of Government can be, and are, bought for cash paid into the party chest at home, or for services in kind, both at home and here. They are now in the same category as the Order of the Garter which, one of our Kings delighted to confer when a vacancy occurred because there was "no damned merit about it."—Notwithstanding their lack of merit there may be a dangerous Will o' the Wisp glamour about these Governmental honours, leading good men astray. The pre-ternatural solemnity with which the Vice-President varied us that there were "matters of High State and Imperial policy on which "even he was not qualified or desirous to intrude" reminded me of the ancient prophet who was granted a momentary glimpse of the rear side of celestial glory on the hill top and whose vision was defective ever afterwards. To end for all time the possibility of such unworthy suspicions on the part of the man in the street, as well as to preserve the mental optics of our own leaders from deflection or dimness, I propose that the Chamber create its own honours and decorations. This being an original proposal, it is made with some diffidence, but not without the hope that an order or decoration which depends wholly on merit, and which, like a virtuous woman, cannot be purchased even by rubies, may be considered a greater prize than the common Indian earthenware or anything of a similar nature which a Government can hang round a man's neck. My suggestion is that for meritorious service on the Committee of the Chamber, in the interests of the commercial community, the Vice-President should be authorised to put C. C. C. C. behind his name—meaning Commander in Chief of the Chamber of Commerce. When he rose to be President he should be decorated with another C. C. C. meaning Champion of the Commercial Community—Then you would have embodied in one man the whole Seven Seas, a living epic of empire, the incarnate concentration of commercial wisdom and knowledge—The Viceroys is not born yet who would dare to suborn this Galahad, this St. Anthony of Commerce.

I do not ask you to decide upon this proposal now. It is a great thought, one that requires time to germinate and bring forth fruit, but I believe the seed has not fallen on stony ground.

In conclusion I have one resolution to propose which I sincerely trust will be unanimously adopted. It is by far the most important suggestion I have to make—I believe it will commend itself to you unanimously—It is that we instruct our Committee to convey the thanks of this Chamber to Lord Curzon for his singularly able and effective defence of the constitutional rights of every man, European and Native, in India against the autocratic aggression of the present Viceroy and Secretary of State. The leading article in to-day's *Statesman*, in an able and exhaustive manner, contrasts the autocratic and tyrannical methods of Lord Hardinge, with the procedure adopted by Lord Curzon, who, recognizing that the people of India do have certain constitutional rights, consulted not merely the Civil Service but the representatives of the people before finally deciding on his course of action—Never since the days of the Ilbert Bill have we had greater need to place on record what our sentiments are or our appreciation of Lord Curzon's support. I do not ask any one man to second this proposal. I ask you all.

THE PRESIDENT:—I would like to say in reply to Mr. Swan, that the three members of the Committee whom he spoke to must have been labouring under a misapprehension, because it was never at any time the intention of the Special Sub-Committee not to consult the members of the Chamber regarding this letter to Government.

THE PRESIDENT then proposed the following resolution:—

"That the Report be accepted and the Accounts passed."

This was seconded by the Hon'ble Mr. F. H. STEWART, and on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

THE PRESIDENT then proposed:—

That the election by the Committee, under Article 10 of the Articles of Association, of the following firms and individuals be, and is hereby confirmed:—

MESSRS. BRUNNER MORD & Co., LD.
" LOUR DRIEYUS & Co.
M. A. SASSOON, ESQ.
MESSRS. SPINKINS, LD.
" MARCUS KOCH & Co.
" MORAN & Co.
THE EASTERN BANK, LD.
MESSRS. SPYER & Co.
" JOHN DICKINSON & Co., LD.
" PINE HUGHMAN & Co.
" ANDREW SMITH & Co.

Mr. M. J. CALVOGROSSI seconded the resolution, which was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The President then reported the result of the election for the Committee of the Chamber for 1912-1913, held under articles 34, 35 and 36 of the Articles of Association, as follows:—

President:

Mr. A. M. MONTEATH.

Vice-President:

Mr. E. H. BRAY.

Members:

COLONEL C. A. R. BROWN, R. E.

The Hon. Sir OCEIL GRAHAM.

Mr. H. S. JOHNSTON.

The Hon. Mr. NORMAN McLEOD.

Mr. J. C. SHORROCK.

" A. TOPPING.

" A. A. VLASTO.

HON. MR. NORMAN McLEOD then said.—Gentlemen—We have perused the report of the Committee with much interest. It is the clearest evidence that the work of the Chamber has been carried out by the outgoing Committee in a most splendid manner. Though occasionally they did not see eye to eye with some of the more militant members, still we must recognise and fully appreciate the good work they have done and thank them accordingly. I have, therefore, much pleasure in moving:—

"That a cordial vote of thanks be accorded to the gentlemen forming the outgoing Committee for their successful management of the affairs of the Chamber during the past year."

The resolution was seconded by Mr. J. C. SHORROCK, and carried by acclamation.

The President.—Gentlemen, on behalf of the Committee I beg to thank you for the resolution you have just passed.

Mr. A. M. MONTEATH.—Gentlemen, I beg to propose a vote of thanks to the President, Sir Cecil Graham, for kindly presiding at the Meeting.

This was seconded by Sir William Dring and carried by acclamation.

The President having returned thanks, the proceedings terminated.

OCEIL GRAHAM,

President.

H. M. HAYWOOD,

Secretary.

REPORT: BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1911.

The Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce have now the honour to submit to the members of the Chamber their report for the year 1911. The following gentlemen were elected to the Committee at the Annual General Meeting held on the 24th February 1911, namely:—The Hon'ble Sir Cecil Graham, *et.* (Messrs. Graham & Co.) President; the Hon'ble Mr. F. H. Stewart, *c. i. z.* (Messrs. Gladstone, Wyllie & Co.) Vice-President; Mr. H. C. Begg (Messrs. Begg, Dunlop & Co.); Mr. E. H. Bray (Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.); Mr. M. J. Calvocressi (Messrs. Ralli Brothers); Mr. H. Harris (Agent, Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China); Mr. J. Manson, (Agent, Bengal Nagpur Railway); Mr. J. B. Strain (Messrs. Bird & Co.); and Mr. A. Topping (Messrs. Macneill & Co.)

Mr. G. C. Godfrey, Agent of the Bengal Nagpur Railway, succeeded Mr. Manson in May; there have been no other changes in the Committee throughout the year.

The President (the Hon. Sir Cecil Graham) has represented the Chamber during the year on the Imperial Legislative Council. On the Bengal Legislative Council the representatives are the Hon. Mr. Norman McLeod (Messrs. McLeod & Co.), and the Hon. Mr. F. H. Stewart, *c. i. z.*, who succeeded Mr. J. O. Shorrocks (Messrs. Geo. Henderson & Co.) on the 21st March 1911.

The Chamber is represented on the Calcutta Port Commission by Mr. H. C. Begg (Messrs. Begg, Dunlop & Co.); Mr. E. H. Bray (Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.); Mr. W. E. Crum (Messrs. Graham & Co.); Mr. A. C. Patterson (Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co.); the Hon. Mr. F. H. Stewart, *c. i. z.* (Messrs. Gladstone, Wyllie & Co.); and Mr. A. Topping (Messrs. Macneill & Co.). Mr. Crum, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Stewart have served throughout the year. Mr. Begg succeeded Mr. M. W. Nair (Messrs. James Finlay & Co., *Ld.*) in March; and Mr. E. H. Bray took the place of Mr. W. K. Dowding (Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co.) at the same time. Mr. A. Topping succeeded Sir Ralph Ashton (Messrs. Kilburn & Co.) in November.

There has been no change during the year in the representation of the Chamber on the Corporation of Calcutta. The Chamber Commissioners are Mr. J. R. Bertram (Messrs. J. R. Bertram &

Co.), Mr. T. R. Pratt (Messrs. T. R. Pratt & Co.); Mr. W. R. Rao (Sun Insurance Office); and Mr. Shirley Treemane (Messrs. W. H. Targett & Co.)

On the departure of Sir Ralph Ashton for Europe in December, the Committee nominated Mr. R. G. D. Thomas (Messrs. J. Thomas & Co.) to be the representative of the Chamber on the Board of Trustees of the Indian Museum.

The Chamber is represented on the Bengal Smoke Nuisance Commission by Mr. A. B. Duncan (Olive Jute Mills Co., Ltd.) and Mr. John Taylor (Messrs. Burn & Co.).

On the Boiler Commission the representatives are Mr. G. F. Scott; Mr. John McPherson (The Barnagore Jute Factory Co., Ltd.); and Mr. T. Wilson (Messrs. Jossop & Co., Ltd.). During Mr. McPherson's absence in Europe, from April to October, Mr. T. Burns (Khaddah Co., Ltd.) officiated for him. Mr. Wilson took the place of Mr. I. E. Clark (Messrs. Jossop & Co., Ltd.) in March.

The representatives of the Chamber on the Indian Tea Cess Committee are: Sir Apar Apar, K. C. S. I. (Messrs. Apar & Co.); Mr. C. D. Inglis (Messrs. Octavins, Steel & Co.); and Mr. H. Harris (Agent, Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China) who was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. C. Nicoll (Manager, National Bank of India, Ltd.).

The Hon. Mr. F. H. Stewart, C. I. E., and Mr. J. W. A. Bell (Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.) represent the Chamber on the Commercial Course Advisory and Examination Board.

Mr. W. E. Crum (Messrs. Graham & Co.) is the representative of the Chamber on the Committee of the Bengal Branch of the Lady Minto Indian Nursing Association.

On the Committee of the Calcutta Hospital Nurses Institution Mr. J. B. Strain (Messrs. Bird & Co.) took the place of Mr. C. L. Fyfe (Commercial Union Assurance Co., Ltd.) in March.

Mr. M. J. Calvocressi (Messrs. Ralli Brothers) succeeded Mr. C. J. Kerr (Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.) as a member of the Visiting Committee for the Campbell Hospital, Sealdah.

Sir Cecil Graham represents the Chamber on the Council that has been appointed by the local Government to control the King Edward Memorial Fund (Bengal).

The report of the Royal Exchange is appended to this volume. The business of the Exchange has proceeded satisfactorily and smoothly during the year; and the acknowledgments of the Committee of the Chamber are due to the managing Committee for their services.

The report of the Committee of the Licensed Measurers' Department for the year which ended on the 30th June 1911 was submitted

in September. It showed that the total number of packages measured by the department was 38,11,994, against 63,43,273 in the preceding year. The total number of packages weighed was 78,53,828 as compared with 71,19,316 in 1909-1910. The net income of the department showed a small decrease in comparison with the previous year. It amounted to Rs. 2,96,292-5-6 as against Rs. 2,98,508-8-9. The expenditure increased from Rs. 2,97,442-8-6 to Rs. 3,20,017-1-8. The revenue account showed a loss of Rs. 23,724-5-11, as compared with a profit of Rs. 866-0-3 in the preceding year. A sum of Rs. 1,242-11-1 was carried to the credit of profit and loss account, being the amount of interest realised on investments, less depreciation of office furniture, and other debits. The net loss was Rs. 22,481-10-10 against a net profit of Rs. 4,453-12-10 in 1909-1910. The charges for measuring goods have been subject, since 1908, to a refund, or rebate, of 33½%. This rebate the Managing Committee proposed to reduce to 25% to provide the revenue necessary to enable them to meet the increasing cost of working the department. They originally made the proposal two years ago; but the Committee of the Chamber did not at that time see their way to accede to it. The measurement rebate was then 40%, and the Committee allowed it to be reduced to 33½ per cent. At the instance of the departmental Committee they reconsidered the question in September, and, after consulting their Shipping Sub-Committee and the Liners Conference, they consented to the reduction as an experimental measure for one year. The members of the departmental Committee for the year 1911-12 were nominated by the following firms, namely:—Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co., Messrs. Bird & Co., Messrs. Graham & Co., Messrs. Hoare, Miller & Co., Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co., Messrs. Ralli Brothers and Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co.

The past year has been normal in the matter of piece-goods arbitrations, the number of cases disposed of being 302 as compared with 300 in the preceding twelve months. Of these 261 were regular arbitrations under the rules of the Chamber Tribunal of Arbitration, and 41 were applications for survey reports. The income derived by the Chamber from institution fees, and from references undertaken for non-members, amounted to Rs. 6,906 as compared with Rs. 5,008 in 1910.

The year has been a record one in the matter of jute and general arbitrations and surveys, the number of cases disposed of being 163 as against 111 in 1910. Of these 162 were regular arbitrations under the rules of the Tribunal, and one was an application for a survey report. The income derived by the Chamber from institution fees, and from references from non-members, was Rs. 8,679 as compared with Rs. 3,214 in the preceding year. In addition to the cases mentioned, 65 others were amicably settled, and withdrawn, before awards were made. There were 39 such withdrawals in 1910.

At a special General Meeting of the members of the Chamber held on the 16th January 1912 it was decided—subject to confirmation at a second general meeting—to revise the rules relating to arbitrations conducted by the Chamber Tribunal, and revised rules which were submitted to the meeting were adopted. Experience has shown that in certain important respects there were doubts as to the correct interpretation of the rules that have been hitherto in force. In view of these doubts it appeared to the Committee to be desirable that the rules should be revised. They devoted much time and thought to the work of revision, in which they were greatly assisted by a Sub-Committee. They also consulted solicitors and counsel, and Mr. T. R. Stokoe settled the revised draft on the instructions of Messrs. Orr, Dignum & Co. The following are the principal points that the Committee kept in view when framing the new rules:—(a) the appointment of the umpire; (b) the non-disclosure of the names of the arbitrators and the umpire; and (c) the hearing of the reference. The regulations that were attached to the former rules have been abrogated. Their retention was considered by Counsel to be unnecessary, in view of the modifications that were made in the rules themselves. The scale of fees, and the forms of application for piece-goods arbitrations, have been likewise omitted. The new rules provide that these are to be prescribed from time to time by the Committee of the Chamber.

At special general meetings of the Chamber held on the 16th January and 3rd February 1912, the following resolution was adopted and confirmed, namely:—

"That article 35 of the Articles of Association of the Chamber be altered by substituting therein the words 'within seven days' for 'the words 'within three days'."

The object of this resolution is to enable members to have a longer time in which to fill up, and to return, the voting cards for the annual election of the Committee. Article 35 allowed three days for the purpose, and this period has now been extended to seven days.

The Coronation and the Imperial Visit to India.

On the occasion of the coronation of His Imperial Majesty King George V, the Committee telegraphed to the Government of India the following message of congratulation, namely:—

"On the auspicious occasion of the Coronation of His Majesty the King Emperor the members of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce desire to express through His Excellency the Viceroy their loyalty and devotion to His Majesty's throne and person, and earnest hope that His Majesty may have a long, peaceful, and prosperous reign, and their deep feeling of satisfaction at the prospect of His Majesty's forthcoming visit to his Indian Empire."

The message was suitably acknowledged by Government in due course.

This report is not the place where a detailed account of the Imperial Visit to India can be appropriately recorded, but the event is of such profound significance to the Indian Empire that no chronicle of the past year can be compiled without a reference to it. Their Imperial Majesties arrived at Bombay on the 2nd December 1911, and entered Delhi in State five days later. The great Coronation Durbars at Delhi, which were the central and most important ceremonial function of the visit, was held on Tuesday the 12th December. In Calcutta Their Majesties' stay extended from the 30th December to the 8th January, and the public reception by the inhabitants of the city was held on the midday on the 5th January. The principal feature of the reception, which was organised by a Committee with whom the Chamber was closely associated, was an Indian Pageant. The reception was in every respect a triumphant success, being marked by a most enthusiastic display of loyalty on the part of the many thousands of persons of all classes who were present on the occasion. The other public ceremonies which were held during Their Imperial Majesties' stay in Calcutta were similarly remarkable for the intense and spontaneous enthusiasm that prevailed, and for the enormous number of spectators by whom they were witnessed. The public illuminations on the evening of the 6th January were on an unprecedented scale, and were in every way worthy of the great occasion and of the city.

The far-reaching administrative changes that were announced at Delhi by His Imperial Majesty need only be mentioned, as they are still engaging public attention. The opinion of the Committee concerning them was expressed in a letter to the Government of India, which was approved by the members of the Chamber at a Special General Meeting held on the 2nd February 1912. As the letter has been so recently published further reference to it here would be superfluous.

Congresses of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire.

In the last report the Committee referred to correspondence that had passed between the London Chamber of Commerce and themselves on the subject of the voting rules at these Congresses. Hitherto the rules have not been strictly interpreted, with the result that the Indian Chambers have not been accorded the number of votes to which they are entitled. As a result of the correspondence in question it has been decided that the provisions of the rules shall be stringently adhered to in the future. The Indian Chambers will thus be given the number of votes that the population of the towns, or provinces, represented by them entitle them to claim.

Shortly after the announcement of this change the Bombay Chamber of Commerce expressed the opinion that population is not the most suitable basis upon which to calculate the votes. They recommended that the basis should be the total value of the foreign trade of each of the countries comprising the British Empire.

Under such a scheme India would be allotted a certain number of votes in proportion to her trade. These would be divided among the various Indian Chambers by agreement between themselves; and it was calculated that, on this basis, India, Ceylon and Aden taken together would have about three-fifths as many votes as South Africa, New Zealand and Canada combined. The Committee of the Bombay Chamber considered that in the past the Indian vote has not been of sufficient weight in the Congresses; and that Indian interests are likely, as time goes on, to be subordinated to those of the Colonies. They suggested, therefore, that before the Eighth Congress is held in London in 1912, the question should be taken up with the organising Committee.

The Committee of this Chamber believe that the foregoing proposal would provide a more equitable basis than the existing system, which is merely a computation of the population of each centre. At the same time it is necessary to bear in mind that the Congress to be held during 1912 will be, presumably, the first at which the present system has been put into complete operation. They are inclined, therefore, to think that objection ought not to be raised to it until it has been fairly tried at least once. Their idea is that the Indian delegates to the Congress should be instructed to observe carefully the working of the system; and to recommend the substitution for it of the Bombay Chamber's scheme, if they think that the latter would be an improvement. Thereafter the Indian Chambers might press for the adoption of the Bombay scheme with the object of bringing it into force in time for the Ninth Congress. This view of the question was communicated to the Committee of the Bombay Chamber who concurred with it.

The organising Committee, by which body the Congresses of Chambers of Commerce have been hitherto arranged and controlled, has now become the British Imperial Council of Commerce. The members of the Council are chosen by the Chambers of Commerce in the British Empire in proportion to the overseas trade of the various States; and its object is to establish a permanent and continuous link between the various parts of the Empire, and to promote common commercial interests. The Council was inaugurated at a special meeting of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire held in London on the 5th July, 1911. At this meeting the Bengal Chamber was represented by Sir Ernest Cable (Messrs. Bird & Co.), Mr. A. M. Monteath (Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.), and Mr. J. C. Shorrocks (Messrs. Geo. Henderson & Co.).

Soon afterwards the Chamber was invited to nominate a permanent representative to the Council, and, at the request of the Committee, Mr. Thomas McMoran (Messrs. Walter Duncan & Co.) a former Vice-President of the Chamber, was good enough to consent to serve in this capacity.

LAW AND LEGISLATION.

The Legislative Councils.—The rules governing the election, by the Chamber, of members of the Imperial and Bengal Legislative Councils were mentioned in the last report. In August the Government of Bengal pointed out to the Committee that the principle of allowing electors to give cumulative votes had been accepted in connection with the election of members of Council by bodies other than the Chamber. When one of these other constituencies has to elect two members, each elector has two votes, and he is permitted to give both of them, if he so desires, to one candidate. The Chamber elects two members of the Bengal Legislative Council; and it was proposed so to modify the rules as to admit the principle in question. The Committee did not regard this proposal with favour, and they protested against its introduction. Before submitting their views to Government, they consulted the members of the Chamber, and they found that objection to cumulative voting is general. Its introduction might quite conceivably result in the election of a candidate supported by only a minority of the members recording their votes on any particular occasion. The existing system, whereby each member is entitled to one vote only, has worked most satisfactorily in practice for many years; no difficulties have arisen in connection with it, and no complaints have been made. The Committee were therefore disinclined to accept the innovation which the Government sought to introduce. They are glad to be able to say that H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, after considering their protest, was pleased to decide that the proposal should be abandoned.

Earlier in the year the question of the representation, in the Imperial and Provincial Councils, of the non-official European community was brought forward by the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association. In a letter to the Government of India the Association urged that increased representation should be given to the European community apart from, and in addition to, that accorded to the various Chambers of Commerce. The object was to ensure representation in the Councils of those Europeans who are not engaged either in commerce or in trade. The support of the Chamber to these proposals was invited by the Association, but the Committee did not see their way to take action. For it did not appear to them at that time that any modifications in the constitution of the Councils could be expected. Greater experience of the working of these bodies would have to be gained, they thought, before additional representation for Europeans could be put forward with any chance of success. It also seemed to them that when the time should come for urging the claims of the Europeans, a well-considered scheme should be prepared, and submitted jointly by all the European Associations and Chambers of Commerce throughout the country.

The subsequent annulment of the partition of Bengal, and the reconstitution of the Bengal Legislative Council which has been

thereby necessitated, have brought the question of European representation again into prominence, and it is now engaging the earnest attention of the Committee.

Life Assurance Legislation.—In the last report the Committee stated that they had again urged the Government of India to undertake legislation to provide for the regulation of life assurance companies in this country. On the 22nd September 1911 the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Department of Commerce and Industry introduced in the Imperial Council two Bills—one to provide for the regulation of life assurance companies, and the other to provide for the regulation of provident insurance societies. The principal provisions of these two measures are so well known as not to need to be defined here; and, so far as regards comments on particular clauses, the Committee have not offered much criticism. But they have expressed to the Government of Bengal their strong conviction that the measure of State control that it is proposed to exercise over life assurance companies is insufficient. When they previously put forward their views on the subject, they urged that the Government should undertake to form a special department to control both life offices and provident societies. The recommendation has not been adopted in the Bills, and the Committee have consequently ventured again to press it. They have suggested that both the Acts should be administered by the department, which would of course have competent actuaries on its staff. The Provident Societies Bill provides for the administration of the law by the Registrars of Joint Stock Companies. This does not appear to the Committee to be likely to prove to be a satisfactory arrangement, as these officers must already be sufficiently burdened with work. Nor is there reason to believe that they are specially qualified for supervising the operations of provident societies. On the other hand such a department as the Committee have in mind would be particularly well qualified for this duty; and there would be nothing incongruous in combining the administration of both Acts in one department, in view of the fact that the business of life offices and provident societies is very closely allied in this country.

The Government of India have recently intimated that the Chamber would be permitted to have an additional representative on the Imperial Council during the discussion of the two Bills in question. The Committee had much pleasure in recommending that Mr. C. L. Pyffe, of the Commercial Union Assurance Co., Ltd., should be nominated for this appointment, and their recommendation was accepted by Government.

The White Phosphorus Matches Prohibition Bill.—A Bill to prohibit the importation into, and the manufacture and sale in, this country of matches containing white (yellow) phosphorus was introduced in the Imperial Legislative Council on the 11th September. It was decided not long since that India should become

a party to the Berne International Convention of 1906. This Convention was entered into with a view to the prohibition of the use of white phosphorus in matches, in order to eliminate the chance of the occurrence of necrosis among the operatives in match factories. Its terms require the contracting parties to take administrative steps to ensure the attainment of the object of the Convention within their respective territories.

The Bill has not been favourably received by commercial opinion in India. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce has taken exception to it; and the Committee of this Chamber also are doubtful as to the need for it. The Indian match-making industry is so small that its regulation ought not to present difficulty; and there is no suggestion that the consumer of phosphorus matches runs any risk of contracting disease by using them. But the Bill prohibits both their manufacture and their importation. It is true, as was pointed out by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, that they have been prohibited in Burma, the reason being that many years ago match-heads were used by dacoits as explosives. It is also true that they contain poison. But it is not argued that the legislation has been prompted by these facts, which have been well-known for years. Indeed, it appears that the sole object of the Bill is to protect the operatives in foreign match factories. There is, however, some doubt as to whether this form of protection is required. The information before the Committee is that the disease known as necrosis has been nearly eradicated in those countries where phosphorus matches are chiefly manufactured. This result is understood to have been attained by the introduction of modern machinery, and the consequent abolition of the old system of hand-manufacture. The Committee have accordingly suggested that further enquiries should be made before the legislation is proceeded with. For if the workers in the foreign factories are already adequately safeguarded, the Chamber would be opposed to the adoption in India of a restrictive measure such as that in question. Phosphorus matches are cheap and useful, and they are well suited to the Indian climate. On the other hand safety matches are relatively expensive, and are less well adapted to the needs of the poorer classes of the community. The trade in imported phosphorus matches is considerable; and interference with it, unless interference is unavoidable, is to be deprecated.

The Bill is still under the consideration of the Government of India.

The Delegation Bill.—A Bill to provide for the delegation of executive powers and duties in various cases was introduced, by the Government of India, on the 22nd September 1911. It was designed to give effect to certain proposals that were made by the Royal Commission on Decentralisation.

The Committee considered the Bill, at the request of the Government of Bengal, but they did not offer any criticism upon its provisions. They understood that the Royal Commission had examined an alternative plan, which contemplated a general decentralisation Act, or Acts, detailing in schedules the specific powers under particular Acts to be delegated. Had this scheme been adopted it would probably have afforded material for criticism in certain respects. But the general character of the provisions of the measure which was brought forward seemed to the Committee to preclude criticism, by affording no material for it, and by raising no specific question to which it could be directed. The Act will have no practical effect until its powers are exercised. It merely permits the Governor-General in Council, and the local Governments, to delegate—in various classes of cases specified—statutory powers and duties in general, with certain specified exceptions, and subject to certain specified conditions and restrictions. The exceptions include the important class of powers, or duties, conferred or imposed by the Codes of Civil and Criminal Procedure, and by enactments relating to the constitution of the civil courts. Any exercise of the powers of the Act in regard to these powers, or duties, is precluded. And, moreover, it is to be one of the conditions of the exercise of the powers of the Act that, before any notification making a delegation under it is issued, a draft must be published in the *Gazette*, together with a notice naming a date on or after which the draft will be taken into consideration. There is also a further provision that the authority making the delegation shall receive and consider any objections, or suggestions, respecting the draft, which may be made by any person before the date so named. Full opportunity will thus be given for criticism of any exercise of the powers conferred by the Act.

The law relating to Lunacy.—A Bill to consolidate, and to amend the law relating to lunacy is before the Government of India. At present the law is contained in a number of Acts which are to be repealed and replaced by the Bill referred to. The Committee of the Chamber were asked by the Government of Bengal to express their views on the Bill; and they examined its provisions in consultation with their legal advisers. There did not, however, appear to them to be any point with reference to which it was necessary for them to comment. They accordingly informed the Government that they did not propose to remark upon the Bill.

Proposed revision of the Administrator-General's Act II of 1874.—The question of revising this Act was brought forward last year by the Government of India, who addressed the local Governments in regard to it. Proposals were submitted by Mr. H. B. Hyde, the Administrator-General, Bengal, and upon certain of these views of the Chamber were invited by the local

Government. The Committee considered the question and submitted their opinion in April. They made no attempt to deal with many of the recommendations of the Administrator-General, Bengal, as these were largely of a technical and legal character. But they examined the proposed revision from the stand-point of the mercantile community, whose interests are the peculiar concern of the Chamber. They had in mind the following as the principal requirements which the legislature should aim at securing, namely:

- (a) That there should be absolute security of the trust property and funds that come under the charge of the Administrator-General's office;
- (b) That the integrity, efficiency and competence of the Administrator-General and the Deputy Administrator-General should be assured; and that the remuneration offered should be sufficient to attract specially trained lawyers, known to possess these qualifications;
- (c) That there should be promptitude in the resolution and distribution of assets, and in discharging the claims of creditors;
- (d) That the office should be conducted upon business-like methods, so as to attract, and to retain, the support of the legal profession who—by reason of their influence with clients—are in a position to encourage resort to the Administrator-General; and
- (e) That the Administrator-General's commission, or remuneration, should be on such a scale as would make the office self-supporting, but would not create a revenue-paying department of Government.

So far as regards the first of these points, the Committee were satisfied that the public are adequately safeguarded as well under the suggested amendments as under the existing law. With reference to (b), (c) and (d) they were glad to observe a proposal, which was made by Mr. Hyde, that solicitors as well as barristers should be eligible for the posts of Administrator-General and Deputy Administrator-General. They supported this proposal; and they also urged that the remuneration of both offices should be such as would be calculated to attract competent and well-qualified men. They also recommended that ordinarily both the Administrator-General and his deputy should be Europeans. They likewise made a recommendation in regard to the basis upon which the commission charged by the Administrator-General is levied; and they put forward other proposals in regard to minor points.

The question is understood to be still before the Government of India.

The Official Trustees Act XVII of 1864.—The question of the revision of this Act was raised towards the end of last year by the Government of India. The Administrator-General and Official Trustee, Bombay, was put on special duty to examine the existing Act, and to make proposals. And, pending the preparation of a Bill, the local Governments were invited to express their views upon the following:—

- (1) The question of transferring to Government the powers of control given to the Hon'ble the Chief Justice;

- (2) The question of providing in the Act for the appointment of the Official Trustee by Will, and prohibiting his appointment as executor or administrator; and
- (3) The question of revising the rates of commission for an Official Trustee paid by salary.

The Committee consulted the members of the Chamber before communicating their views. Ultimately they expressed approval of the transfer to Government of the powers of control at present exercised under the Act by the Chief Justice. From a business and financial point of view this is a sound proposal, and they had no hesitation, therefore, in supporting it. In regard to (2), they favoured the suggested provision for the appointment of the Official Trustee by Will; but they did not consider that the previous sanction of the Official Trustee to such appointment was necessary. They did not approve of the appointment of the Official Trustee as executor, or administrator, as the duties pertaining to these appointments appear to them to come within the province of the Administrator-General. In this connection they mentioned that there might be advantages in amalgamating the two offices of Official Trustee and Administrator-General.

The Committee also touched upon several other points which they thought were of importance. Of these one of the chief was with reference to the qualifications required of the Official Trustee. At present the post is reserved for barristers, but the Act does not prescribe a professional or other qualification, and the Committee thought that it should be open to solicitors as well as to barristers.

The Co-operative Credit Societies Act X of 1904.—Amending Bill.—A Bill to amend this Act was introduced in the Imperial Legislative Council by the Government of India on the 1st March 1911. Its main objects were four in number, namely:—(a) to make the law applicable to all classes of co-operative societies instead of to co-operative credit societies only; (b) to abolish the "urban" and "rural" classification of societies; (c) to permit an unlimited society to distribute profits; and (d) to legalise the formation of co-operative credit societies of which the members should be other co-operative societies.

The Committee, to whom the Bill was referred by the local Government, did not take exception to any of its chief provisions. Nor did they discuss the general principles upon which the legislation that was undertaken seven years ago was based. The existing Act has been largely successful; and they considered, therefore, that its scope might well be widened in the manner proposed by the Bill. Upon certain points of detail they made suggestions; but on the whole they approved of the measure, and thought that it should be passed into law.

The Indian Arms Act XI of 1878.—The Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam submitted to the Government

of India last year an important proposal in connection with the Arms Act. This was for the complete withdrawal of the exemption, from the provisions of the Act, of all persons of whatever class in respect of pistols and revolvers. The Government of India were not disposed at the time to regard the proposal favourably, but on a further representation from the local Government they expressed their willingness to take it into consideration. It was then referred to the other local Governments, and the Government of Bengal asked for the views of the Chamber upon it. The Committee examined the Act, and also the list of exempted persons. They were inclined to agree with the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam that nothing short of the abolition of the exemption would enable an efficient check to be exercised over the unlawful acquisition, or possession, of pistols and revolvers. They accordingly expressed themselves as being in favour of the change, which they thought would be a wise and prudent step. In England firearms cannot be purchased except under the protection of a license; that is to say the law is more stringent there than it is in India. There seems to be no good reason why this should be the case; nor is it likely that persons wanting pistols, or revolvers, for legitimate purposes, will object to the formality of obtaining licenses. The Committee accordingly urged the local Government to recommend the Government of India to adopt the proposal.

The Indian Arbitration Act IX of 1899.—The question of revising the Presidency Small Cause Courts Act 1882 is believed to be under the consideration of the Government. In this connection it was suggested that the Calcutta Court of Small Causes should be empowered to file awards under the Indian Arbitration Act IX of 1899. The Committee examined the proposal, which was previously put forward three years ago, and they consulted their legal advisers in regard to it. As a result they re-affirmed the conclusion that they came to in 1908, namely, that it is not desirable, in the interests of merchants, that the Small Cause Court should be empowered to file arbitration awards. For it appears to them that the change might give rise to difficulties, without affording any advantages over the existing system, whereby awards can be filed by the High Court only.

The Indian Factories Act XII of 1911.—The Indian Factories Bill, of which mention was made in the last report, was passed into law at a meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council held on the 21st March 1911. It received the assent of H. E. the Governor-General on the 24th March 1911; and it will come into force on the 1st July 1912. Its leading features are well known, and need not be recapitulated here. Certain important modifications in the Bill were made by the Select Committee; and subsequently a series of amendments in regard to those provisions which relate to the working time were brought forward by the Hon. Mr. Birkmyre.

These amendments were, however, ultimately withdrawn, and the Bill was passed in the shape determined by the Select Committee.

Subsequently, H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor formed a special Committee to consider the question of the rules to be framed by the local Government under the Act. The Chamber was represented on this Committee by Mr. James Robertson (Messrs. Thomas Duff & Co., Ltd.), the Chairman of the Indian Jute Mills' Association. The proposed rules have not yet been published.

The Bengal Estates Partition (Amendment) Bill 1910.—The object of this Bill, which was introduced in the Bengal Legislative Council on the 18th February 1911, is to make various amendments in the Estates Partition Act (Bengal Act V of 1897), in order to reduce the delays that take place in certain classes of proceedings. The Bill was referred to the Chamber for an expression of opinion, but the Committee had no remarks to offer upon it.

Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates (Amendment) Bill, 1911.—The Government of Bengal requested an expression of the views of the Chamber upon this Bill, which was introduced in the Bengal Legislative Council on the 1st April 1911. The object of the Bill was to empower the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division to prohibit the sale of immovable property, in execution of any decree or order of a civil, or revenue court, when an application has been made for an order vesting the property in a manager under the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act VI of 1876. Section 3 of this Act prevents sales when such a vesting order has been published; and it was considered by Government to be desirable that similar protection should be given during the period between the filing of an application, and its final disposal.

The Committee approved generally of the provisions of the Bill, subject to one proposed modification.

Bengal Smoke Nuisances Act, III of 1905.—Proposals for the amendment of this Act have been under discussion during the year. They were suggested by the Bengal Smoke Nuisances Commission, to whom the administration of the Act is entrusted, and they dealt chiefly with the question of the nuisance caused by the manufacture of coke without ovens. As the law stands the Commission have found it to be practically impossible to reduce this nuisance. They accordingly proposed that the Act should be so modified as to give them, and their inspectors, wider powers. They also recommended that clubs, and similar institutions in Calcutta, should be brought under the law. Steam engines used for generating electricity in dwelling-houses and in clubs are likewise at present exempted from the provisions of the Act; and ocean-going steamers are exempted for two hours was suggested by the Chamber in 1905, the Smoke Nuisances Commission wished to withdraw.

The Committee took exception to this last proposal, but they approved of the other proposals. They consulted the Liners Conference, and they found that the agents of steamers were of opinion that the exemption period of two hours is by no means too long. The Smoke Nuisances Commission represented that, in cases where excessive smoke is emitted on boardship, the emission is due to the carelessness of those responsible on board. This view the Committee were not prepared to accept, and they urged that the exemption should not be withdrawn. It appeared to them, from the statements made by the Commission, that any nuisance that may be caused by ocean-going steamers is altogether insignificant; and this being so, they failed to see that it was necessary to make a change which would have the effect of bringing within the law cases where dense smoke has been unavoidably emitted.

The orders of the Government on the Proposed amendments have not been so far communicated.

Certain other changes in the Act have also been put forward by the Commission during the year. These changes have reference to clause 23 of the rules under the Act, which clause provides that it is an offence:—

- (1) To emit smoke of scale 6—i.e. of the blackest density—for longer periods than are allowed in a table of limits prescribed by the clause; and
- (2) To emit smoke of scales 5, 6 and 4 beyond the periods respectively reduced as noted in the explanation attached to the rule.

Experience of the working of the Act has convinced the Commissioners that certain changes might be made with advantage in rule 23. They have accordingly suggested that the rule should be so revised that its practical effect would be:—

- (1) To allow no period for the emission of smoke of the greatest density, *viz.*, scale 6 of rule 21;
- (2) To reduce the period for which smoke of scales 5 and 4 respectively reduced may be emitted; and
- (3) To make it an offence to emit smoke of scale 5 for longer periods than are allowed in column 3 of the table of limits prescribed by the rule.

The Committee consulted the Indian Jute Mills Association, and the Engineering and Iron Trades Association on the subject. The last named Association approved of the suggested changes; but most of the millowners, whose mills would be affected, were strongly opposed to any curtailment of the time limits. With this view the Committee of the Chamber agreed, and they submitted it to Government. They are alive to the need for preserving, to the greatest extent possible, the purity of the atmosphere of the city. But it seems to them to be inadvisable to press the regulations to a point where it becomes difficult for millowners to comply with them.

The modifications are still under discussion, and the Smoke Nuisances Commission have asked that the Chamber should

reconsider its attitude in regard to them. The Committee have again consulted the Indian Jute Mills Association, and are awaiting an expression of their views.

The Board of Revenue, L. P.—After the establishment of an Executive Council for the province of Bengal, it was decided by Government to abolish the Board of Revenue. In this connection the question of the authority, or authorities, to whom the appeal and revisional powers vested in the Board should be transferred, was discussed. To facilitate a careful examination of this question a list was prepared of various Acts and Regulations containing sections providing for appeals, and applications for revision to the Board. And a Committee was appointed by the local Government to examine the list, and to advise. Government asked the Chamber to nominate a representative to serve on this Committee, which met in July, and considered:—

- (a) to what extent the statutory appeals hitherto decided by the Board should not go beyond the Commissioner;
- (b) whether such second appeals as might be allowed should be followed by the procedure of the Code of Civil Procedure relating to second appeals; and
- (c) by what authority such second appeals should be heard.

The Committee of the Chamber recommended that the President should represent the Chamber on the Committee in question.

The Declaration of London.—The question of the ratification of the Declaration of London was before the Committee in the early part of the year. As is well known this Declaration resulted from the Hague Convention for the institution of an International Prize Court of Appeal. It was drawn up by a Naval Conference which, at the instance of Great Britain, met in London from December 1908 to February 1909. The Conference considered certain specified questions which were referred to them, and came to an agreement in respect of nearly all of these. They then drew up a declaration—subsequently known as the Declaration of London—giving effect to this agreement. The Declaration evoked much hostile criticism from public bodies and private individuals in the United Kingdom; and several of the leading British Chambers of Commerce protested strongly against its ratification. There is no need to detail here the various difficult and intricate questions of international law to which exception was taken. But agitation against the Declaration was carried on, and, so far as regards India, the Navy League (Bombay Branch) drew the attention of the Indian Chambers to it.

The Committee consulted the members of the Chamber, and they also corresponded with the other Indian Chambers in regard to the Declaration. The correspondence disclosed some divergence of opinion. The Karachi and Upper India Chambers were not in

favour of the ratification of the Declaration; and the Madras, Burma, Coconada and Chittagong Chambers declined to express an opinion. But the Bombay and Bengal Chambers came to the conclusion, after very careful consideration, that they ought to support the ratification. This conclusion, which was in the following terms, they communicated to the Government of India by whom it was telegraphed to the Secretary of State for India:—

"They consider the Declaration of London advantageous to the British Empire as a neutral. The question of Great Britain's position as a belligerent is more difficult to determine, in the absence of the rules laid down against such provision; but if the English translation of articles 33, 34 and 35 correctly expresses the original, article 33 is confusing when read in conjunction with articles 33 and 34. A careful revision of article 33 seems to be necessary, and also a definite understanding as to the application of article 34. If then Great Britain as a belligerent is not unduly prejudiced by her land and geographical position, the Declaration as a whole may also be considered advantageous."

Jute gambling.—Towards the end of the year the attention of the Committee was directed to the gambling transactions that were being carried on in the Calcutta jute market by means of what were known as "pink" and "white" contracts. These transactions are generally understood to have a harmful effect upon the jute trade; and the Indian Jute Mills Association suggested to Government that they should be made criminal offences punishable by law. The Association asked if the Chamber would be prepared to support this recommendation. The Committee were alive to the evils attendant upon the transactions referred to, and they were in sympathy with the object of the movement; but they felt that it would be difficult for the Chamber to urge legislation. Before taking action in that direction it would have been necessary for them to consult the various sections of the jute trade. This would have caused delay, whereas prompt measures were understood to be necessary. Moreover it was, they believed, by no means certain that the different interests would all favour legislation; and action on their part might, therefore, tend to arouse opposition to the proposal. In the circumstances it seemed to them to be inadvisable for the Chamber to move; and they communicated this decision to the Jute Mills Association. They were subsequently glad to learn that the proposal for legislation was sympathetically considered by the Government of Bengal, and also by the Government of India. The Hon. Mr. W. H. Clark, C.S.I., Member in charge of the Department of Commerce and Industry, met the representatives of the various sections of the jute industry on the 25th November 1911, and discussed it with them. Mr. Clark was good enough to undertake to bring it before the notice of the Government of India, who are considering it in consultation with H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

The Indian Patents and Designs Act, II of 1911.—The Indian Patents and Designs Bill, which was mentioned in the

last annual report, was passed into law during the cold weather session of the Imperial Legislative Council, and received the assent of H. E. the Governor-General on the 2nd March 1911. Draft rules, which the Government of India proposed to make under the Act, were subsequently published for criticism. The Committee considered these rules, and generally approved of them, but they offered various criticisms upon numerous points of detail.

The Indian Post Office Act (Amendment) Bill.

A Bill to amend the Indian Post Office Act is now before the Government. From the Statement of Objects and Reasons the Committee gathered that the existing Act, which was passed in 1898, falls in certain respects to give adequate powers to the postal authorities to deal with articles posted in contravention of the Act. The Bill is designed to give such further powers as are required, and at the same time to remove certain obscurities, and to remedy such minor defects as have been found to exist.

The Committee have criticised the Bill in certain unimportant respects, but they have not offered opposition to its provisions.

The Official Assignee.—During the year the Committee have had correspondence with the Official Assignee with reference to the holidays observed by his office. Difficulties in connection with this matter were brought to notice by members of the Chamber who asked that action should be taken. The Committee believe that the proposals that the made will have the effect of preventing the recurrence of similar difficulties in future.

CUSTOMS.

Registration of Indian trade statistics.—In the Annual Report 1905, port for 1905 mention was made of the Indian Trade Statistics Committee which was appointed by the Government of India in that year. As a result of the recommendations made by this Committee it was determined, in 1906, to introduce a new system for the registration of the statistics relating to the sea-borne trade of India. By this system imports were to be recorded according to final destination, and exports according to the country of final destination. From 1906 to the end of the official year 1910-11 this method was in force, concurrently with the previous plan, by which imports were recorded according to the country of shipment and exports according to the country containing the port of discharge as declared by the exporter. The Government of India decided that, for five years from 1906, the figures compiled under both systems should be published; and that if at the end of that period the new method proved to be satisfactory, it should be definitely adopted, and the old method abandoned. On the 27th March 1911

the Government of India published a resolution to the effect that they were satisfied, from a comparison of the figures recorded under both systems, that the results accruing from the new system were superior to those obtained under the old. The Government were also satisfied that the existence of comparative figures for four years obviated any serious break in the continuity of the statistics. The new system was, therefore, definitely adopted as from the beginning of the official year 1911-12.

In May last the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, explained the matter to the Committee, and asked for their views upon certain points connected with it. The Committee consulted the Indian Tea Association, and the Jute Fabrics Shippers Association, as important adjustments have to be made under the system in connection with the exports of tea and jute manufactures. They found that neither of these branches of trade had any objection to the change, and they informed the Collector accordingly. The daily import and export lists and the weekly list of steamers' manifests, which the Customs authorities publish, are still compiled under the old system. The Committee expressed the opinion that these arrangements should be continued, as the fuller particulars that are given in these publications are of interest to the commercial public. They also referred to a proposal, which was put forward in 1909, whereby the weekly list of manifests was to be discontinued, and a separate manifest for each vessel to be published instead. This proposal was not proceeded with at the time, as exception was taken to it by some of the subscribers to the publications in question. But the Committee thought that it might be reconsidered, and at their suggestion the Collector has been good enough to bring it before the subscribers again.

The Indian Merchandise Marks Act IV of 1889: Water-marked paper.—The Government of India published, in September last, a Customs circular on the subject of the treatment, under this Act, of water-marked paper bearing a trade description technically false as regards the country of origin. The circular notified that the Government had decided to relax the regulations by which a counter-indication of origin is required on each sheet of water-marked paper. Consignments of paper in which the water-mark is a false description, merely because the necessary counter-indication as to origin is absent, were to be admitted into India provided that the indication of origin is correctly given on every wrapper in which any packet of the paper is made up.

It was feared by the importers and manufacturers of British paper that the circular would adversely affect their industry. The Indian consumer does not buy paper in wholesale quantities or large parcels. He takes it either by the quire or in quantities smaller than a ream. It follows that under the relaxed regulations the wholesale dealer would be the only person who would be informed

After further consideration the circular was withdrawn by Government, and the regulations consequently remain unmodified.

The Indian Merchandise Marks Act IV of 1889: Counter-indication of the country of origin.—Reference was made in the last report to a question regarding indication of origin that is required by a law when vernacular descriptions are based on piece-goods imported from the United Kingdom. A glazed label is affixed during the past year in connection with the usual tags, bearing descriptions of Indian deities, that are normally attached to imported piece-goods. The rules under the Indian Merchandise Marks Act require such representations to be counter-indications of the country of origin when applied to goods of foreign provenance, beyond the limits of British India. These instructions are given in the case of goods imported from countries other than the United Kingdom. In the case of British piece-goods such labels have in the past ordinarily been stamped with the names of British manufacturers, or shipping or retail firms, or name, of the place of origin, but have been raised to conform with the provisions of the Act, and no objection has been raised to them on the analogy of the deities. The question of counter-indication with vernacular trade descriptions. There have been, however, some counter-indications of goods bearing labels that have not been stamped with the names of the firm, or in fact with any words at all, except the name, or names of the deity. This is in an Indian vernacular, and contravene the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act. Such labels have been raised to conform with the provisions of the Act, and no objection has been raised to them on the analogy of the deities. The question of counter-indication with vernacular trade descriptions. There have been, however, some counter-indications of goods bearing labels that have not been stamped with the names of the firm, or in fact with any words at all, except the name, or names of the deity. This is in an Indian vernacular, and contravene the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act. Such labels have been raised to conform with the provisions of the Act, and no objection has been raised to them on the analogy of the deities.

The Committee consulted their Piece-goods Sub-Committee, and also the Calcutta Import Trade Association, and they then informed

The Indian Merchandise Marks Act IV of 1889.—Grey and bleached yarns.—In August last, the Burma Chamber of Commerce asked for the support of this Chamber to a representation, which they had addressed to the Government of India, with regard to the make-up of grey and bleached yarns and the permission in the latter. Reference was made to certain regulations which had been issued by the Customs Commissions, Burma, one of which was as follows:—"Reduced grey and bleached cotton yarn will be passed provided that they are distinctly marked as reduced and comply with all the conditions required for the yarn of the lower count number." It was stated that the enforcement of the regulations would completely disorganise the trade, as they prohibited the make-up and reductions which had been customary for many years. Reference was also made to the fact that the market was said to require all bleached two-fold yarns and 30s and 40s grey yarn to be made up in 5 lb. bundles, and that the make-up prescribed by the Act entailed a most awkward and unsightly bundle. Further, as these yarns were sold by the hank, the retailer was unable conveniently to sell less than 20 hanks, at a time when he formerly he could supply either two or three hanks, according to requirements. It was suggested that the Customs Commission's restriction was necessary regarding the reduction of bleached yarns, but suggested that it should be limited to 10 per cent.

After consulting their Yarns Sub-Committee, the Committee replied that, with regard to the question of make-up, they recognised the difficulty of meeting the convenience of the retail dealer in the Burma market, but it seemed to them that it might be possible to effect some compromise whereby importers would be allowed to supply yarns containing a larger proportion of grey yarn than the present regulations require. In connection with reference to the question of reduction of bleached yarn, the Committee were not aware that hardship was experienced by importers conforming to the requirements of the Merchandise Marks Act. If this were the case in the Burma market, it could not be reasonably suggested that importers there should be placed on a different footing with regard to the question of the Act. As to the question of the reduction of grey yarn where the regulations are rigidly enforced, they added that, if insisted, they would reply to the Government of India in the above sense, and would point out that the regulation, referred to above, was *ultra vires*. The Act was specially passed to stop reductions in the make-up of grey yarns, and to allow of permissible reductions in bleached yarns. The Committee are not aware of any representations of the Government of India permitting reductions of grey yarns.

The Sea Customs Act VIII of 1878—Section 30.—In their last report the Committee referred to action which they had taken in regard to this section of the Sea Customs Act. The section reads as follows:—

"30. For the purposes of this Act the real value shall be deemed to be—

"(a) the wholesale cash-price, less trade discount, for which goods "of the like kind and quality are sold, or are capable of "being sold, at the time and place of importation or exportation as the case may be, without any abatement or deduction whatever, except (in the case of goods imported) of the amount of the duties payable on the importation thereof.

"(b) where such price is not ascertainable, the cost at which "goods of the like kind and quality could be delivered at "such place, without any abatement or deduction except "as aforesaid."

The Committee recommended to the Government of India that a change should be made in the method by which the wholesale cash-price is arrived at. The importer claims to be entitled to pay duty, not upon the wholesale market price, but upon the price "for which goods of the like kind and quality are sold, or are capable of being sold at the time and place of importation,"—i. e. at the landing stage. The term "wholesale cash-price" has been defined by the Government of India as the "local wholesale market value." But the price of the goods at the time and place of importation is undoubtedly less than the wholesale market price by the sum of the charges—duty, interest, landing and removal charges, trade discount, etc.—which are levied upon them between the place of importation and the local bazar. The Committee recommended, therefore, that the duty should be charged upon the wholesale market price, less these charges. The Government of India declined to accept the recommendation. They expressed the opinion that the definition of wholesale cash-price, as quoted above, is fair and reasonable, and that it cannot be modified with advantage. The Committee did not press the matter further.

The Indian Tariff Act, VIII of 1894—Annual revision of Schedule IV.—A Special Committee of the Chamber was appointed to discuss, with the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, the annual revision of the valuations given in this schedule of the Import Tariff. The Committee met on the 4th December, and, after discussing the various items in attendance:—Mr. F. Nod-Paton, Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, Mr. H. F. Howard, I.C.S., Collector of Customs, Calcutta, Mr. R. Battye, Head Appraiser, Calcutta Custom House, Mr. R. M. W. Smyth, (Messrs. Turner Morrison & Co.), Mr. S. J. Gillum, (The Bombay Co., Ltd.), Mr. A. Pike, (Messrs. Barlow & Co.), Mr. G. D. Lys, (Messrs. Graham & Co.), Mr. J. R. Coulthard, (Chairman, Calcutta Import Trade Association).

The Indian Tariff Act, VIII of 1894: Schedule IV.—Sugar valuations.—In the last report it was stated that this Chamber had supported a recommendation, which was made by the Karachi Chamber, with reference to the method of ascertaining the sugar valuations that are included in this schedule of the Tariff Act. Hitherto the valuations have been based on a forecast of future prices, regard being had to the prices ruling in the current year, and to the rates at which forward business for the succeeding year was known to have been done. But the method that the Karachi Chamber recommended was that the valuations should be based on the average prices for the current year, or, preferably, for the three preceding years. The idea was that importers would then be able to calculate in advance, with approximate accuracy, the amount of duty that they would be called upon to pay. At the time the Government of India were not inclined to view the proposal favourably. But the Karachi Chamber, and this Chamber also, subsequently again brought it before the notice of the Department of Commerce and Industry; and in August last the Government notified that they had decided to make the change. A statement of the valuations, calculated in accordance with the new system, was published on the 6th December 1911. It showed the total quantity of sugar imported into India during the twelve months, October 1910 to September 1911, and the average value per cwt. arrived at in the manner stated. It is on these values that the several descriptions of sugar will be assessed to customs duty during the calendar year 1912.

The Indian Tariff Act, VIII of 1894—Cotton lace undershirts.—The Committee had before them in August last an enquiry from the Collector of Customs, Calcutta, as to whether these goods should be classed as "apparel" and be liable to an import duty of 5 per cent., or as "cotton hosiery" and be liable to a duty of 3½ per cent. The Piece-goods Sub-Committee, and the Calcutta Import Trade Association, who were consulted, on the point, expressed the opinion that cotton under-shirts of whatever description should be classed as "cotton hosiery," and not as "apparel." With this view the Committee were in agreement; and it also seemed to them that no question would have arisen if cotton under-shirts had been allowed to remain in the list of cotton piece-goods. When they were removed in December 1910, from the category of cotton piece-goods, and classified as cotton hosiery, the Committee objected, and when the Collector proposed to classify some under-shirts as cotton hosiery, and others as apparel, it seemed to them that to attempt any such further distinctions would only give rise to additional difficulties. They communicated this view to the Collector, who subsequently informed them that lace under-shirts would continue to be classified as cotton hosiery. As will be seen from the next paragraph the question was again before the Committee later in the year.

Revision of the List of Cotton Piece-goods.—In December the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence made the usual annual reference to the Chamber in regard to the revision of the list of cotton piece-goods that is prescribed by the Government of India for fiscal purposes. The only suggestion that the Committee had to make was that cotton undershirts should be restored to the list, or, if this could not be done, that these goods should be permanently classified as cotton hosiery.

Calcutta Monthly Commercial Guide to Imports and Exports.—This publication gives statistical details of the import and export trade of Calcutta. Rice is included among the articles of export, and the various classes of rice are shown separately. The Collector of Customs enquired recently if these distinctions are necessary, and if it would not be sufficient to publish the total export under a general heading. The Committee consulted the principal exporters of rice, and found that the distinctions in question are required. They accordingly recommended that no change should be made.

Customs duty on tobacco and cigarettes.—In their last report the Committee mentioned a question that had arisen in connection with the levy of import duty on tobacco and cigarettes. An importer cleared from bond a large quantity of cigarettes which had been in bond for some four or five months. When the package was opened it was found that the cigarettes were damaged, and on analysis it was proved that the damage had been caused by sea-water. The Sea Customs Act does not permit of the refund of duty in such circumstances; and the importer consequently lost not only the value of the cigarettes, but also the full amount of the heavy import duty paid upon them. Imported goods may be examined before clearance from bond. If they are found to be partially damaged they can be reassessed for duty; or if they are found to be totally damaged they may be destroyed in bond, or re-exported without payment of duty. But cigarettes and tobacco are perishable goods; if opened they quickly deteriorate, and in practice consignments have to be held unopened for months.

The Committee represented the case to the Government of India, and suggested that in such circumstances the Collector should be authorised to entertain an application for a refund of duty. The Government were not, however, prepared to make this concession; and they pointed out that section 36 of the Sea Customs Act does not permit of an amendment of a bill of entry after the removal of goods from the Custom House. In other words no claim for a refund can be entertained in cases in which damage is discovered after the goods have left the Custom House. The Government of India have consistently maintained the principle that, when goods pass out of Customs control, after payment of duty, the transaction is closed so far as the Customs Department is concerned. They also

expressed the opinion that a system of refunds, such as was proposed by the Chamber, could not be introduced without grave risk of loss to the revenue. Moreover, the law has been so framed as to prevent claims of this description being put forward.

In the circumstances the Committee did not move further in the matter.

Customs duty on imported wire netting.—The Assam Branch of the Indian Tea Association suggested that the Government of India should be asked to reduce the customs duty on imported wire netting from 5 per cent. to 1 per cent. *ad valorem*. This proposal was submitted to the Chamber by the Indian Tea Association (Calcutta). The Committee made enquiries, but they did not see their way to approach the Government. It was mentioned by the Association that fencing wire is charged to duty at the rate of one per cent.; and that wire netting is used extensively on tea estates for fencing purposes. It appears, however, that the greater part of the wire netting imported is not used for fencing purposes. Moreover, it is understood that the higher rate of duty has been charged on the article for many years; and that the Government have already declined to make a reduction.

Customs duty on imported Silkworm eggs.—At the instance of the Calcutta Import Trade Association the Committee suggested to the Government of India that silkworm eggs should be admitted into India free of customs duty. At present they are liable to duty at the rate of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* under article 78 of schedule IV of the Tariff Act. Silkworms are imported from Europe chiefly with the object of improving the local breeds, the tendency of which is to deteriorate. The Government of India replied to the effect that they were unable to entertain the proposal. They did not consider that the case of silkworm eggs could be differentiated from that of numerous other classes of articles liable to customs duty. In fact any concession of the kind suggested would logically have to be almost indefinitely extended. In view of this decision the Committee took no further action in the matter.

Calcutta Custom House: Prior to entry system.—An enquiry was made in June by the Karachi Chamber of Commerce as to the working of the "Prior to entry" system which is in force at the port of Calcutta. In reply the Committee stated that under this system steamer agents submit to the Custom House, on receipt, manifests of vessels due to arrive. The work connected with the making out of bills of entry and jetty *challans* is then performed before the arrival of the steamer. Consignees are thus enabled to have their goods examined without delay, and so to get immediate delivery, as soon as the vessel begins to discharge, whether overside or on the jetty. Formerly the work of making out bills

of entry and jetty *challans* was done after the steamer arrived in port. It naturally often happened that several vessels arrived together, and the papers connected with them were all put into the Custom House at the same time. A rush of work was thus created, which the Customs officials experienced difficulty in dealing with, and delay resulted. Under the present system there is a more even pressure of work, which is beneficial alike to the Custom House, to the consignee, and to the steamer.

MARINE.

The Chittagong Port Bill 1909.—This Bill has been for some time before the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam: its object is to consolidate and to amend the law relating to the port of Chittagong. The existing law on the subject is contained in Bengal Act IV of 1887, as amended by Bengal Act IV of 1903. When the first-mentioned enactment was passed there was no railway to Chittagong, and there were no jetties at the port for ocean-going ships. Various provisions of the Act are now found to be unsuitable for the needs of the port, and the Bill in question has been framed in consequence. Certain of its provisions are designed to enable the Port Commissioners to require ocean-going vessels to use such docks, jetties, wharves, etc., as may be constructed either by the Commissioners, or by the Assam Bengal Railway Company. One of the objects of these provisions is to empower the Commissioners to compel vessels to use the railway terminal jetties at present belonging to the Assam Bengal Railway Company.

Some of the shipping companies interested in the port of Chittagong protested strongly against these clauses of the Bill. The companies in question have already provided themselves with their own moorings, pontoons, landing-stages, shed accommodation, etc.; and the enactment of the clauses in question would mean that they would not be permitted to discharge, or to load, their vessels at these moorings and landing-stages. They would be forced by law to proceed to the jetties belonging to the Railway Company. The Committee drew the attention of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam to this point; and, in so doing, they ventured to remark that the application of such powers would mean that the port would be worked, not in the interests of the general trade of the province, but in the interests of a railway company. They consequently recommended that the clauses should be re-considered, and should not be enacted. For to prohibit, in the manner contemplated, the use of privately owned shipping and landing facilities would be, they thought, an altogether unjustifiable interference with vested interests. The local Government subsequently informed the Committee that the clauses were to be further considered.

The Waterways Question: The Standing Joint Committee.

By a resolution, dated 28th June 1906, the Government of Bengal, with the concurrence of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam, formed a standing Committee to inspect periodically the natural and artificial waterways between Calcutta and Eastern Bengal, and to suggest measures of improvement. The scope of the work of the Committee was understood to be limited to the channels as far east as Barisal and Madaripur; and it was to be one of the duties of the Committee to furnish both Governments with suggestions respecting measures of construction and maintenance, and also measures of control, or regulation of traffic. It was felt by the Chamber that the usefulness of this Committee would be enhanced if its membership were enlarged by the addition of mercantile representatives. The Committee of the Chamber accordingly suggested to Government that two commercial representatives—to be nominated respectively by the Narayanganj Chamber and by this Chamber—should be appointed. They also proposed that the Vice-Chairman of the Calcutta Port Commissioners, and the Chief Engineer of the province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, should be made members of the Committee. These recommendations were accepted by the two local Governments, except that the commercial representative for Eastern Bengal and Assam is to be appointed by the Government of that province, instead of by the Narayanganj Chamber. In the course of the correspondence the Government of Bengal advanced, for consideration, a suggestion that the standing Committee might be placed under the control of the Railway Board, who could then equally safeguard the interests of both systems of communication. This idea did not commend itself to the Committee of the Chamber, who expressed to Government their disapproval of it. If the Board were reconstituted as a Transportation Board, and its membership increased, some such arrangement might be feasible. But it would not appear to be in the interests of the waterways, that the latter should be subject to the control of the present Board, which has been constituted solely for the purpose of controlling the Indian railway system.

The President and members of the Standing Joint Committee are as follows:—*President*: the Chief Engineer and Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Irrigation Department. *Members*:—the Chief Engineer and Secretary to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam in the Public Works Department; the Superintending Engineer, South-Western Circle, Bengal; the Superintending Engineer, Eastern Bengal Circle, Eastern Bengal and Assam; a representative of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce (Mr. E. H. Dray); a representative of the commerce of the province of Eastern Bengal and Assam (the Hon. Mr. G. Morgan); and the Vice-Chairman of the Calcutta Port Commissioners (The Hon. Sir Frederick Dumayne).

The Waterways Question—Proposed improvements.—In July the Committee of the Chamber were favoured by the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam with a copy of a note, dated 15th June 1910, by the Inspector-General of Irrigation, on the waterways question. The note was in the form of a review of the preliminary report by Mr. C. A. White, Superintending Engineer, on the improvement for navigation of the most important waterways of Eastern Bengal and Assam. The Committee considered the note, and they also submitted it to the Inland Steamer Companies for examination. The Companies criticised it in some detail, and forwarded a statement of their views to the Committee for information. The statement dealt largely with the numerous technical questions raised by the Inspector-General of Irrigation. The Committee did not of course express an opinion upon these technical points. Nor did they unreservedly accept and support all the arguments and contentions which the steamer companies advanced. But they took the opportunity of re-affirming their opinion that the claims of the waterways should be adequately recognised by Government. It is no new demand that the larger rivers need to be gradually but systematically improved; and it is not unreasonable for those interested to expect financial assistance from either the local or the Imperial Government for this purpose. Long before the State could provide railways in the more distant and remote parts of what is now the province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, the Inland Steamer Companies were actively engaged in opening up communications. And it is beyond question that their efforts have contributed largely to the development of commerce and industry. By the provision of railways, at the public cost, another system of communication has now been established. Lines of railway which do not feed the river services, but on the contrary divert traffic from them have been built. These State-constructed and State-aided lines now compete directly with the steamer companies, which are owned and managed by private enterprise. In these circumstances the companies naturally consider as will enable them to claim upon the State for such improvements as will enable them to cheapen and to facilitate their services. The Chamber has always been a consistent advocate of the extension of the Indian railway system. But the Committee doubt if it is advantageous, in the present state of communications in India, for the Government to enable railways to compete successfully for traffic with steamers, in a province where the natural means of communication is by river. In any case, however, the Government clearly cannot neglect the waterways; for the provision of railways does not make it less incumbent upon them to maintain such a valuable system of cheap transport as the rivers afford. This principle is now generally admitted in all the leading countries of the world; and its recognition in India is really the chief point for which the steamer companies press. It seemed, therefore, to the Committee that they

were justified in urging that the Government should regard the maintenance and improvement of the waterways as part of the business of the State. They accordingly recommended that an endeavour should be made to set aside yearly a large sum with this object in view. The particular schemes to be undertaken, and the methods to be followed in presenting them, might be determined by special expert opinion, in consultation and discussion with those mainly interested. And the Standing Joint Committee, which is mentioned in the preceding paragraph, would appear to be a body eminently qualified to advise in this connection.

The proposed canalisation of Tolly's Nullah.—The project for the canalisation of Tolly's Nullah has been under consideration for many years. It has in the past formed the subject of several references by the Chamber to the

See Annual Report for 1907, Vol. I, p. 65.

local Government, and during the past year the Committee again drew attention to it. They have been since informed that a rough estimate—amounting to nearly a crore of rupees—was prepared in 1908. The Government of India have, however, intimated that the scheme cannot be financed unless it can be clearly shown to be a productive public work, i.e., that the revenue to be derived from it would suffice to cover all charges for interest and maintenance. This point is now under further consideration in connection with a more accurate estimate, which is understood to be in course of preparation. The completion of this second estimate is being delayed pending a decision as to the position of the out-fall of the canal into the Hooghly below Kidderpur.

Proposed navigation of the river Hooghly by night.—The question of the navigation of the river Hooghly by night was raised in the early part of the year by the Calcutta Traders Conference. By the restriction of navigation to the hours between sunrise and sunset Calcutta undoubtedly suffers in comparison with other great ports; for the saving of time that would accrue if vessels were able to proceed up and down the river by night would be of considerable consequence to shipowners. The Conference expressed the opinion that vessels would not run any additional risk by moving at night in well-lighted channels. On the other hand the advantages that would be derived from the change would be numerous and important.

The Committee brought the question to the notice of the Calcutta Port Commissioners. For they thought that if the channels in the lower reaches of the river could be so lighted as to make navigation by night practicable and safe, a considerable step in the direction of furthering the interests of the commerce of Calcutta would have been taken. They understood that the project was not regarded with favour by the Calcutta Marine Insurance Agents Association. But they thought nevertheless that its importance was

such as to justify a thorough enquiry by the Commissioners. With this view the Commissioners agreed, and they appointed a special Committee to undertake the investigation. The report of this Committee has not yet been published.

Bengal Pilot Service: The Pilot Cruisers.—It was pointed out to the Committee that during the southwest monsoon period steamers arriving at the Sandheads often experienced difficulty, through rain and adverse currents, in seeing the lightships, or pilot steamers. Time was consequently lost in sounding, etc., and the tide was sometimes missed. The pilot cruisers are furnished with searchlights; and it was suggested that these should be shown at intervals of an hour. It was believed that this would be beneficial, as the light can be sighted at a long range. The Committee subsequently learnt that the Port Officer had decided to give effect to the suggestion. The searchlights on the cruisers have been exhibited in the manner proposed since the 15th June 1911.

Thefts on the river.—At the instance of several of the landing and shipping companies doing business in Calcutta, the Committee lately brought to the notice of the local Government the extensive and numerous thefts of jute and gunnies that occur on the river. This pilfering generally takes place from boats in transit, or alongside vessels, within the limits of the port. It is facilitated by a practice which the *manjees* follow of obtaining employment under fictitious names. A suggestion was made that an improvement might be anticipated if the names of the *manjees*, which are submitted by the various boat companies, could be verified in the district *thannas*. The Committee believed that this was a practicable proposal, and they accordingly put it before Government, who have not yet replied.

Fires in Indian coal cargoes.—At the request of the Indian Mining Association the Committee approached the London Chamber of Commerce in April with reference to the following new clause, which had been inserted by the Institute of London Underwriters, in the warranties of steamers insured for time, namely, "Warranted not to sail with Indian coal as cargo between 1st January and 30th June". The Indian Mining Association took exception to this clause on the ground that, as only a comparatively small quantity of the coal exported from Calcutta is subject to spontaneous combustion, it is inequitable to place all cargoes, and the vessels carrying them, on the same footing. The Committee agreed with this view, and, at the instance of the Association, recommended the adoption in hull insurances of the system obtaining in Calcutta in connection with the insurance of coal cargoes. According to this system underwriters grant a special rebate on insurance premia in cases where no claims for loss, sustained through the coal taking fire, have been made during the year.

The London Chamber of Commerce submitted the views expressed by the Association to the leading members of its Marine Insurance section. But the warranty in question does not appear to be ordinarily inserted in the insurance policies of steamers; and the London Chamber was of opinion that no good purpose would be served by an agitation against it. These views were submitted by the Committee to the Indian Mining Association, and no further action was taken.

Fires in jute cargoes.—In April the Calcutta Marine Insurance Agents Association invited attention to an opinion, which had been expressed, that fires in jute cargoes are traceable to spontaneous combustion due to the admixture of greasy waste with jute cuttings. The Association asked for the views of the Committee upon the matter, and for any information that might be available in regard to it. The Committee had not previously heard that the fires might be attributable to the cause indicated; and they were unacquainted with any case where greasy waste had been mixed with jute cuttings. They replied to the Association in this sense.

Outward Freight from Bombay.—According to a ruling adopted by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, on the 25th January 1888, freight outward from Bombay, when stated in sterling, is converted into Indian currency at the rate for Bank bills on London payable on demand. The rate that rules at the close of a mail day is the rate applicable for bills of lading presented during the subsequent week. On a difference of freight a discount of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. for sailing ships, and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for steamers, is allowed to cover cost of insurance and interest until the due date of freight. During the year the Bombay Chamber stated that it was proposed to reduce the discount for steamers in view of the fact that the period intervening between a shipment at Bombay, and delivery at port of discharge, has been materially reduced of recent years.

The Committee noted this proposal, but did not offer any comments upon it. The shipping systems of Bombay and Calcutta are so entirely different that they did not think it necessary to recommend any change in the method by which the freight for outward steamers from this port is calculated.

Calcutta Tonnage Schedule.—Freight on tea dust in bags.—The steamship lines trading between India and China lately made a reference to the Chamber in this connection. They asked for an opinion as to what would be a fair scale by weight to fix for tea dust when packed in bags. Their object was to bring to the steamer the equivalent in freight to what would be paid if the charge were calculated on a measurement basis of 50 cubic feet to the ton. By direction of the Committee certain experiments were made by the Licensed Measurers' Department of the Chamber, in the presence of representatives of the steamship lines, and of the

exporters of tea dust. The results of these experiments were considered by the Committee, in consultation with their Shipping Sub-Committee, and the Calcutta Tea Traders Association. After some discussion it was agreed to express the opinion that an all round rate of 12½ cwt. per ton of 50 cub. ft. would be equitable for both fannings and tea dust. This opinion the Committee communicated in due course to the steamship companies.

Accommodation at the Kidderpur Docks.—The question of the accommodation at the Kidderpur Docks for the export grain traffic has been for some time past engaging attention. The East Indian Railway have pointed out that almost yearly when the busy season is at its height, the Port Commissioners give notice that they may be forced to stop, or to restrict, the loading of grain, pulses, and seeds by reason of the insufficiency of the covered accommodation. So recently as October last loading was thus suspended for a fortnight; and the opinion has been expressed that the accommodation at the docks is not keeping pace with the general growth of trade. Some months ago a special Committee was appointed by the Port Commissioners for certain purposes, and it has been agreed that this Committee shall also enquire into the general question of traffic organisation and management at the docks and at the jetties. Judging from the information at their disposal the Committee of the Chamber are not altogether sure that the existing accommodation and facilities for handling the traffic are being utilised to the best possible advantage. They have accordingly suggested to the Port Commissioners that the special Committee referred to should satisfy themselves upon this point. Should they find that a more advantageous use might be made of the existing accommodation and facilities, they might investigate the causes of the existing method of working, and put forward remedial measures.

Charter Parties: Brokerage.—The Committee were recently asked if brokerage is payable by the owners of a steamer on a cancelled charter containing the following clause, namely:—

"½ per cent. commission to include brokerage on gross amount of freight, dead freight, and demurrage earned under the charter to be paid to (the Calcutta Agents of the steamer)"

On the facts as stated, and on the assumption that the charter was cancelled without consideration, the Committee expressed the opinion that no brokerage was payable.

Shipment of transhipped goods.—A question in connection with the shipment of transhipped goods arose during the year. When shipping, to coastwise or foreign ports, goods which have been previously imported the steamship company carrying the

cargo issues a qualified bill of lading, i. e. a bill of lading bearing a statement to the effect that the company is not responsible for the contents of the packages. The Committee were asked if it is the rule, in Calcutta, for bills of lading of this description to be issued, and if the steamship companies are legally entitled to issue them.

The reference was understood to be to what are known as re-exported goods; that is to say, foreign cargo, which has been imported into Calcutta and delivered to the consignees, by whom it is re-exported. The Committee thought that the steamship companies are entitled to issue a qualified bill of lading for cargo of this description. It does not seem to be unreasonable for owners of steamers to protect themselves with reference to the contents of original invoices, after the cargo has been through the hands of stevedores, shed custodians, and others. For the re-exported packages, though delivered in their original condition, may have been lying in godowns, or private sheds, for an indefinite period; and their contents may have been exposed and re-packed short, without any outward change in appearance. Indeed they may not even contain the original invoice goods, when shipped the second time. In the case of cargo transhipped on through bills of lading, there is believed to be no difficulty in obtaining clear receipts from the on-carrying steamship companies, unless the goods are damaged.

Steamer's liability for leakage or breakage.—In reply to an enquiry the Committee stated recently that, in their opinion, a steamer cannot be held liable under an ordinary bill of lading, for leakage, or breakage, of fragile goods. They were also asked for their opinion as to drayage; but as they were without information as to the class of cargo in question, they were unable to express an opinion on this point.

Stamping Delivery Orders on bills of lading.—The Calcutta Port Commissioners submitted to the Chamber, for information, copies of correspondence with reference to the question of the stamping of delivery orders on bills of lading. It appears that the Accountant-General, Bengal, took exception to the practice of accepting, at the jetties, unstamped delivery orders. He expressed the opinion that such delivery orders require to be stamped under article 23 of schedule I of the Indian Stamp Act II of 1859. The Commissioners consulted their solicitor on the question, and he advised them that the article quoted has no application to transfers by endorsement on bills of lading. This opinion is based on the fact that bills of lading are negotiable instruments, the endorsement of which transfers the right to possession of, if not the property in, the goods in question. It is considered, however, that the endorsements are for this purpose merely, and that they are not separate instruments, or documents liable to separate stamp duty. This view is confirmed by the exemption from transfer duty, under article 62 of the schedule, of a transfer by endorsement of, among other documents, a bill of lading.

Lights in the Red Sea.—The action of the Ottoman Government in extinguishing certain of the Red Sea lights, on the outbreak of the war with Italy, attracted the attention of the Committee in October. The Calcutta Liners Conference suggested that the Government of India should be asked if steps were being taken to induce the Turkish authorities to have the lighthouses relit. This suggestion the Committee adopted; and they pointed out to Government that, for a number of years, the Chamber took an active and a prominent part in the discussion which ultimately led to the effective lighting of the Red Sea. They went on to say that the great advantages that the lights confer upon the shipping and commerce of India, and other eastern countries, are generally recognised, as are the serious dangers to which vessels navigating the Red Sea may be exposed in their absence. The decision of the Turkish Government was consequently regarded with grave apprehension by the Chamber; and the Committee hoped that the Government of India would represent to the Secretary of State the urgent need, in the interests of Indian trade, for the relighting of the lighthouses. The Chamber was subsequently informed that the Turkish Government had declined to alter their decision.

The Indian Ports Act XV of 1908.—On the 28th April 1911 the Government of Bengal published certain draft regulations, which they proposed to make in exercise of the powers conferred by this Act as amended by the Indian Ports (Amendment) Act of 1911. The object of these regulations was to prevent danger to the public health by the spread of infectious, or contagious, disease occurring on vessels arriving at, or leaving, ports in Bengal. To the regulations generally the Committee took no exception, but they protested against one clause. This clause provided that, if cargo is taken into a vessel after the bill of health has been granted, there must be a second medical examination, and a second disinfection. This appeared to the Committee to be a needless stringent provision, the only result of which would be serious delays to steamers leaving the port of Calcutta. By the Paris Convention (article 52) the period of observation, prescribed by the Venice Convention, for ordinary vessels arriving at Red Sea ports, was reduced from ten to five days, calculated from the date of leaving from Bombay can pass through the Red Sea ports without detention, and of course Calcutta vessels may do the same. It cannot, therefore, be argued that such a regulation as the clause in question is required for Calcutta, which is much further than Bombay from the Red Sea ports, and is at a distance of five days, at least, from any clearly no need for regulations more stringent than those that were in force under the Venice Convention; and, if that be so, there can be no reason for going further in order to ensure compliance with the less stringent provisions of the Paris Convention.

The question is understood to be still engaging the attention of the local Government.

The Indian Ports Act XV of 1908: Exemption of fishing vessels from port dues.—At the beginning of the year the Government of Madras suggested to the Government of India that all classes of fishing vessels, belonging to the Madras Presidency, should be exempted from the payment of port dues in all the ports of that Presidency. In Part III of the first schedule annexed to the Indian Ports Act all fishing boats in the Bombay Presidency are exempted from the payment of port dues. The Government of Madras recommended that Part II of the first schedule—which relates to the Madras Presidency—should be so amended as to bring it into conformity with Part III. Before considering this proposal the Government of India consulted the other maritime local Governments on the question whether there is a case for the general exemption of fishing vessels from port dues elsewhere in India.

As regards the ports of Calcutta, Cuttack and Balasore the opinion of the Chamber, and of the Calcutta Port Commissioners, was invited by the Government of Bengal. The Commissioners offered no objection to the proposed exemption of fishing vessels, and with this view the Committee of the Chamber agreed. At the present time no vessels belonging to the port of Calcutta are engaged in deep sea fishing; but if the fishing industry should be developed in the future the vessels engaged in it might very well be exempted from the payment of port dues. The orders of Government have not been yet communicated.

The Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (57 and 58 Vict. ch. 60)—Agreements with Indian seamen.—The regulations, for maintaining discipline, that are prescribed in the form of agreement for Indian seamen have not hitherto specifically provided for the imposition of a penalty in cases of absence without leave, and for disobedience of lawful commands. The Government of Bengal lately proposed to remedy this omission by inserting a new clause in the form of agreement. According to this clause, the master of a vessel would be empowered to fine a seaman two days' wages for each day during which he might be absent without leave. The clause was in conformity with an additional regulation, which was sanctioned in March last by the Board of Trade, in pursuance of section 114 (2) (g) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1894. The Shipping Master, Calcutta, suggested its insertion in the agreement; and the Committee of the Chamber supported the suggestion. The change was made by the Government of India towards the end of August.

Later in the year the Government of Bengal put before the Chamber certain proposals for further revising the form of agreement for foreign-going ships employing Indian seamen. The object

of these modifications was to bring the form into line, as far as possible, with that sanctioned by the Board of Trade for foreign-going ships. Copies of the existing form, and of the proposed form, as well as of that sanctioned by the Board of Trade, were forwarded; and the views of the Chamber were invited. The Committee examined the proposals, and came to the conclusion that the alterations might be adopted with advantage. They accordingly suggested that the Government of India should be recommended to sanction them.

The Inland Steam Vessels Act 1884: Motor vessels.—On the 8th April 1911 the Government of India declared, by notification, that the provisions of this Act were to be made applicable to vessels that ordinarily ply on inland waters in the province of Burma, and that are propelled by electricity, or other mechanical power. Certain modifications in the Act were, however, to be introduced, among them being a provision whereby every motor vessel plying on inland waters would be required to carry a certificated master and a certificated engineer. The Burma Chamber of Commerce objected to this requirement, and asked the Committee if a similar regulation had been introduced in Bengal. The Committee made enquiries, and ascertained that no similar regulation has been prescribed for this province. They were not, however, disposed to object to the requirement that two certificated men should be carried on all motor vessels. They consulted professional opinion, and they found that, in the interests of owners, it is advisable for a certificated man to be in charge of the navigation, and another certificated man in charge of the motor engine.

The Inland Steam Vessels Act 1884: Certificates of competency for engineers and enginedrivers.—The Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam lately proposed to make certain amendments in the provincial rules relating to the examination, for certificates of competency, of engineers and enginedrivers of inland steam vessels. These proposals were considered by the Committee who, after consultation with their Inland Transport Sub-Committee, and the Inland Steamer Companies, did not raise objection to them, except as regards one point of detail. This point they explained to the local Government, and asked that it should be borne in mind when the amendments were brought up for final consideration.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

Indian Post Office—Receipts for registered parcels.—The Karachi Chamber drew attention to the form of receipt that is issued by the Post Office to the public in exchange for a registered parcel. Formerly parcel receipts showed the weight of the package and the postage paid for it. These particulars have been, however,

omitted from the receipts since 1908. Their omission is considered by the Karachi Chamber to be disadvantageous to the public, as without a record of weight a sender has only a guarantee that something will be delivered to the addressee. But he does not know that that something will be the parcel sent to the Post Office, or even the parcel received by the Post Office. The Karachi Chamber urged the Director-General of the Post Office to revert to the former practice of showing the weight; but the Director-General declined to accede to this recommendation. He said that when the practice of entering particulars upon parcel receipts was first introduced, the postage on parcels had to be paid in cash. It was consequently necessary to give the sender a receipt for money tendered by him in payment of the postage. Now, however, the sender is required to pay the postage on parcels by means of postage stamps affixed to the articles, in the same manner as for all other registered articles. For postages paid in this way, the Post Office cannot undertake to grant receipts.

The Karachi Chamber proposed that further action should be taken, and solicited the support of this Chamber. The Committee consulted the Calcutta Trades Association, and ultimately agreed to support a joint representation to the Director-General of the Post Office on the subject. The Calcutta Trades Association also consented to support the representation.

Indian Post Office: Compulsory Insurance of Currency Notes.—On the 14th September 1911, the Director-General of the Post Office issued a notice, the effect of which was to prohibit the sending, by inland post, of any Government currency note, or part of such note, except as an insured article. According to the postal regulations the rate of insurance is one anna for every Rs. 50, or one-eighth per cent. Considerable objection was raised to the circular, and the Committee approached the Government of India with respect to it. The Government subsequently explained that compliance with the new regulation would be secured by the payment of a fee of one anna, which will insure a registered postal article for Rs. 50. If the registered package contains a large sum, and the sender wishes to insure the contents for the full value he may do so, but he is not compelled to do so.

In these circumstances, the Committee did not take further action in the matter.

Indian Post Office: Holidays.—The question of additional Post Office holidays was mentioned in the last annual report. The Government of India proposed that six additional holidays should be granted for post office servants: and they named the particular days to be selected. The Committee consulted the members of the Chamber, and subsequently expressed themselves as being generally in agreement with the idea that the number of postal holidays should be increased. They considered, however, that the days selected

should be in all cases public holidays gazetted under the Negotiable Instruments Act. All the six days named by Government were not public holidays in this province; and to that extent the Committee were not in accord with the proposal. On the 26th June 1911 the Government of India published a resolution prescribing six days; and in the resolution they discussed the recommendation that the days should be selected, without exception, from festivals notified as public holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act. This recommendation the Government would not accept, as to do so would mean that certain important religious festivals, which they considered it to be particularly desirable for postal servants to be permitted to celebrate, would have to be omitted from the list. The Committee regretted this decision and they pointed out that two of the selected days—*Ramzan* and *Eids-ul*—are not public holidays in Bengal. Either of these two festivals may fall on any day of the week; and they are both ordinary working days in Calcutta. This being so it seemed to the Committee that inconvenience to the public could hardly be avoided, particularly when one of the festivals happens to fall on a mail day. They accordingly asked that the days selected should be reconsidered so far as regards Bengal. The Government of India did not accede to this request, but they stated that every endeavour would be made to avoid inconvenience to the public on the two days in question. It was their opinion that there should be as much uniformity as possible in all postal circles in the matter of post office holidays; and it was not, therefore, thought to be desirable to make any change in the days chosen for Bengal.

Calcutta General Post Office.—The Postmaster-General, Bengal Circle, asked for the opinion of the Chamber upon a proposal to modify the hours for posting parcels and registered letters at the Calcutta General Post Office. Hitherto the latest time for posting parcels was 5 p.m.; and it was proposed, with effect from the 1st June 1911, to extend the time to 5-30 p.m., when the parcel counter would be closed. No parcel was to be thereafter accepted irrespective of the time at which it may have been brought to the Post Office. In the Registration Department, ordinary registered articles were not to be received after 5 p.m.; and registered articles, with late fee, were not to be received after 7 p.m.

The Committee did not take exception to these modifications at the time, and they were brought into operation as from the 10th October. It has been found, however, that the new arrangements have not worked satisfactorily, and the Calcutta Trades Association has objected to their continuance.

Indian Telegraph Department: Deposit system of accounts.—The introduction, by the Telegraph Administration, of a deposit system of accounts was mentioned in the last report. During the past year a modification has been made in the system.

Originally deposits were held in the form of securities on which the depositors were paid interest; and a charge of one per cent. was levied upon each depositor for keeping his account. In 1910 the one per cent. was superseded by a charge of Re. 1 for every twenty-five telegrams despatched. From the 1st July 1911 the charge was reduced to 12 annas for every twenty-five messages, subject to a minimum of Rs. 10 annually. At the same time it was notified that deposits would be held in future in cash, and not in securities. The amount of the deposit is fixed approximately at the equivalent of the cost of ten days' telegrams sent by the depositor, and his accounts are rendered weekly.

Indian Telegraph Department: Charges for service repetitions.—The question of the charges for service repetitions in foreign telegrams has been before the Chamber during the year. For the repetition of one word a deposit of Rs. 7/8 was required, and for each additional word Rs. 3. The Committee pointed out to the Telegraph Department that this was considerably in excess of the fees levied in England, and they urged that there should be a reduction. A change was made by the Director-General of Telegraphs with effect from the 15th March 1911. The charge for repetition calls for foreign messages is now the amount charged for each word to be repeated, according to the usual rate per word for State, or private, telegrams. This includes the cost of a call for repetition, and the reply. For inland messages the rate is the charge for a telegram to cover the cost of the number of words to be repeated. If the part to be repeated contains twelve words, or fewer, one rupee will be charged if the message is classed as *express*, or six annas if it is classed as *ordinary*. If the number of words is more than twelve, there will be an additional charge of twelve annas, or half an anna per word, respectively. These charges include the cost of the repetition call and the reply.

Indian Telegraph Department: Delays to foreign cables.—The attention of the Chamber was drawn not long since to the delays which occurred in connection with the despatch and transmission of foreign cables, both homeward and outward. Particular reference was made to the delays to homeward messages, on account of interruptions of communication. The Committee approached the Director-General of Telegraphs on the subject, and they understand that it is engaging his attention, but in the meantime serious delays are still frequent.

Indian Telegraph Department: Telegram envelopes.—The Committee expressed their approval of a proposal, which was made by the Telegraph Department, that telegram envelopes should be pale yellow in colour, instead of brown, as at present. It seems that inconvenience is experienced in deciphering, especially at night, the numbers of telegrams, and the other particulars that are written on the envelopes. Subsequently the Director-General

stated that the proposal was to be adopted, and the Committee then took the opportunity of again bringing to notice the question of the method of fastening telegram envelopes. This question was raised by the Chamber on several occasions after the abandonment of the cyclist system three years ago. The cyclist system was popular with merchants in Calcutta, and the substitution for it of the gummed envelope was generally regretted. The Committee urged that, if possible, the former method of fastening should be reverted to; and they are glad to be able to say that the Director-General has since informed them that experiments with stapling machines are being made by the Department. From the point of view of the merchant, the gummed envelope is eminently unsatisfactory. Envelopes are received insecurely fastened, and numbers of them have the appearance of having been opened and refastened.

Telegraph Office at Sauror Island.—In the last report mention was made of a proposal, which had been put forward by the Telegraph Department, that the telegraph office at Sauror Island should be closed. By reason of the repeated encroachments of the sea at Sauror, the telegraph office building there is understood to be in danger. To provide a new office, and the necessary protective works would, it was estimated, involve an expenditure of Rs. 60,000. To avoid this expenditure it was suggested by the Telegraph Department that telephones should be installed between the island and the Mud Point telegraph office. The Committee took exception to this proposal, as it did not seem to them to meet the needs of the case. Although the traffic at Sauror is light, there ought to be, they consider, a telegraph office there.

The question has been under consideration during the past year; and telephones have been installed between Sauror and Mud Point. The Committee adhere to their previously expressed opinion that this is a retrograde step, and that a telegraph office should be maintained at Sauror. But they understand that the Government have determined to retain the telephone installation.

RAILWAYS.

Railway Finance.—In the last annual report the Committee mentioned a representation, which they had submitted to the Government of India, on the subject of capital expenditure on Indian railway construction and equipment. In the course of this communication they pointed out to the Railway Board that the Indian Railway Finance Committee had recommended an annual programme on a basis of £12½ millions sterling, but that as a matter of fact this amount had not been provided in any one year. The Committee quoted figures to show that during each of the last four years the annual sum available had been about £10 millions. But they had observed statements in the public press to the effect

that, for the year 1911-12, there was a prospect of even this allotment being very greatly curtailed. Against such a reduction they strongly protested, as they considered that the allotment in any one year ought not to be below £10 millions.

The Board subsequently informed the Chamber that the amount which would be available for expenditure under the railway programme for 1911-12 would be £29½ millions; and this sum was allotted in the Budget. In the opinion of the Board it was sufficient to enable several new lines to be undertaken, and to provide at the same time for the reasonable requirements of the open line system. It is understood that the whole question of railway finance is now engaging the close attention of the Government of India.

Indian Railway Risk Notes.—In accordance with the terms and conditions of the Indian Railway risk notes the railway administrations are exempted from liability, except for the disappearance of whole consignments, or whole packages. They are also exempted in all cases where the loss is caused by fire, robbery from a running train, or by accident, or other unforeseen event. The consideration for the exemption is the grant by the railway of a specially low rate of freight. For a number of years it has been urged that the Indian risk notes should be assimilated to those used in England: in other words that the liability of the railways should be enlarged. This proposal was mentioned in the last annual report, where the Committee stated that it had been brought to their notice by the Railway Board. It formed the subject of correspondence between the Bombay Chamber and this Chamber, with the result that both decided against it. The risk notes were revised by Government as recently as 1907. It is true that the changes which were then made did not go so far as the Chambers of Commerce had suggested; but on several subsequent occasions, when the question of pressing for further revision was before them, the Committee of this Chamber declined to take action. For they have always recognised that, if the terms of the notes be so modified as greatly to enlarge the liability of the railways, the latter may raise the rates. Moreover, the assimilation of the notes to the forms used in England might, they think, be of doubtful benefit to the mercantile community.

Railway Freight: Adjustment of overcharges.—The procedure adopted by the railways in the matter of overcharges of freight was brought to the attention of the Committee in the early part of the year. The Indian Railway Conference Association have decided that large and well-known firms, who are prepared to sign an undertaking to pay under-charges after delivery, may be allowed to include, in the same agreement, an undertaking by the railway to refund all overcharges as soon as discovered. Some of the members of the Chamber thought that this ruling of the Conference Association was disregarded, or that it had been repealed, or superseded by a subsequent decision. The

Committee made an enquiry into the matter, and ascertained that, when firms pay freight by credit note, overcharges are adjusted, on most railways, in the audit office; and that only the net amount due is taken to account. It is the practice to check all credit notes in the audit office before the bills for freight are issued. Overcharges of Rs. 5 and upwards, paid by firms and individuals who do not use the credit system, but who have intimated their willingness to pay undercharges if discovered, are entered in a monthly statement. These statements are displayed at the various railway stations, and the amounts of the overcharges are refunded, to the parties interested, on application.

Eastern Bengal State and Assam Bengal Railways: Bhairab Bazar and Tangi connection.—This new connection is designed to link up the Dacca-Mymensingh Railway with the Assam Bengal system. Its construction was strongly opposed by the Narayanjanj Chamber of Commerce on the ground that it was not needed by the local commercial interests. The Committee of this Chamber expressed no opinion on the merits of the project; but they pointed out to the Railway Board that commercial bodies in Calcutta were not consulted in regard to it. They also suggested that the practice followed by other departments of Government might obtain in the Railway Department. They thought that the various Chambers of Commerce should be consulted in the early stages of a contemplated new line, or an extension, or a feeder line, or whatever the particular project may be. Sir Trevorayn R. Wynne, K.C.S.I., the President of the Board, considered this suggestion, and he was good enough to discuss it with the Committee at a meeting held in Calcutta during the last week of July. It was then closely examined, and the Committee believe that useful results will follow from the interchange of views which took place.

Another question that engaged the attention of the Committee, in connection with the Bhairab-Bazar and Tangi Railway, had reference to the height of the bridges on the line. The river Lakhiya is one of the most important waterways over which the line will pass; and it was originally proposed by the railway authorities that the headway of the Lakhiya bridge should be 25 ft. The Committee pointed out to the Railway Board that this would be altogether inadequate, as the bridge would restrict the navigation of the river. The steamers that are now running on the Lakhiya are understood to require a headway of 30 ft.; and at any time larger vessels may be needed. The Narayanjanj Chamber took the view that a height of 40 ft. above ordinary flood level was required to provide for the country boat traffic. The Inland Steamer Companies were, however, of opinion that 35 ft. would be sufficient; and the Railway Board ultimately agreed that this should be the height of the headway.

The question of the height of the bridge over the Megna river at Bhairab Bazar has also been before the Chamber. The immediate construction of this bridge is not contemplated, and the Committee did not, therefore, do more than express their agreement with a recommendation of the Inland Steamer Companies that the headway should be 40 ft.

Eastern Bengal State Railway—Wagon supply.

Complaints have lately reached the Chamber of the wagon supply at jute despatching stations on the E. B. S. Railway. The Committee have approached the Railway authorities on the subject, and have expressed a hope that everything possible is being done to relieve this chronic congestion. They understand that the difficulties in question are receiving the constant attention of the Railway management.

FINANCE.

The Indian Currency Question.—The Hon. Mr. M. de P. Webb, C.I.E., Chairman of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce, has lately published a memorandum on the administration of the Indian currency during the past twelve years. Mr. Webb argues that the recommendations of the Indian Currency Commission of 1898-1899 should now be carried into effect in their entirety. One of these recommendations was that not only a gold standard, but also a gold currency, should be introduced into India. The Committee of the Karachi Chamber expressed their agreement with Mr. Webb; and they suggested that the object in view would be best attained :—

- (a) by opening the Indian Mints to the free coinage of gold;
- (b) by restricting the annual drawings of the Secretary of State on the Indian treasuries to the figure entered in his annual budget—approximately £16,000,000;
- (c) by restricting the free coinage of new rupees until the proportion of gold in the currency is found to exceed the requirements of the public; and
- (d) by encouraging the use of gold coins in every possible way, as was recommended by the Fowler Commission.

The Committee of the Karachi Chamber further expressed the opinion that the larger portion of the gold standard reserve should be retained, for the present, in India in gold. They also asked if the Bengal Chamber would be prepared to co-operate, in a joint representation to the Government of India, with the object of securing the complete acceptance of the Commission's proposals. After fully considering the question, the Committee came to the conclusion that they could not co-operate in the suggested joint representation. The general feeling in Calcutta is not altogether favourable to the establishment of a gold currency, and with this feeling they are in sympathy. The present currency system appears to them to be

working smoothly and satisfactorily, and they would hesitate to recommend that it should be disturbed.

The Universal Currency Notes.—In May 1909 the Committee suggested to the Comptroller-General that the universal notes should have the values printed in large bold figures, instead of the small figures and words which were then used. They pointed out that, in a bad light, a figure such as 5, on a Rs. 5 note, is more easily seen than the small figures and the words "ten," "twenty" and "fifty" that were printed in green type on the then existing Rs. 10, Rs. 20 and Rs. 50 notes. The suggestion was not adopted at the time, and in March last the Committee drew the attention of the Comptroller-General to the absence of a bold figure indicative of the denomination of the note. By reason of the want of such figures the different denominations cannot be so easily distinguished as is desirable. The Committee hoped that they might be consulted with reference to the design before any new stock of notes might be printed. They were subsequently informed by the Comptroller-General that the point had been considered, and that the defect would be remedied.

Registration of Currency Notes.—In their report for 1909 the Committee mentioned certain proposals which were put forward by the Government of India, in connection with this subject. By reason of the great expansion in the volume of the circulation during recent years many merchants, traders, bankers and others, have discontinued the practice of registering notes of Rs. 50, and lower denominations, and in some cases registration is limited to notes of Rs. 500, and upwards. In writing to the Committee in August 1909, the Comptroller-General expressed the opinion that, as registration is not compulsory, it is doubtful whether the trouble occasioned to bankers and merchants, and to Government, by the maintenance of registers is worth the result achieved. He asked for the views of the Chamber upon a suggestion that, in Government offices, registration should be discontinued in the case of notes of Rs. 100 and lower denominations. The Comptroller-General supported his suggestion with figures showing the stopped notes presented at the Currency Office for encashment, and the convictions secured in respect of them, during a term of years. After considering these, the Committee thought that registration might be discontinued, on the ground that the results achieved in the detection of crime do not warrant the expenditure of time and labour required to maintain the register. They suggested, however, that the Comptroller-General might consider, in consultation with the police authorities, whether the abolition of registration might not act as an incentive to criminally disposed persons.

During the past year the question was again before the Committee, who made enquiries from the Comptroller-General as to whether action had been taken by the Government on the proposals

indicated above. They were informed in reply that no decision had been arrived at.

The Indian Coinage Act III of 1906 : Counterfeit coin.—Section 20 of the Indian Coinage Act is as follows :—

"Where any silver coin purporting to be coined or issued under the authority of the Governor-General in Council is tendered to any person authorised by the Governor-General in Council or by the local Government to act under this section, and such person has reason to believe that the coin is counterfeit, he shall by himself or another cut or break the coin, and may at his discretion either return the pieces to the tenderer, who shall bear the loss caused by such cutting or breaking, or receive and pay for the coin according to the value of the silver bullion contained in it."

The list of persons who are authorised by Government to cut or to break counterfeit silver coin is published in article 576 of the Civil Account Code, Vol. I. During the past year the Government of Bengal expressed the opinion that the list might be enlarged, and they asked for the assistance of the Chamber in the matter. It appeared to the Committee to be of importance that Government should receive all possible assistance from the commercial community in maintaining the standard of the coinage. They accordingly approached the members of the Chamber, and ultimately submitted to Government the names of a number of firms who expressed their willingness to undertake the duty in question.

The Indian Stamp Act II of 1899—Revenue adhesive stamps.—In the early part of the year a proposal was made by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce for the introduction of certain new denominations of revenue adhesive stamps. This proposal was considered by the Committee at the request of the Government of India. It raised points of some importance, particularly with reference to share transfers and brokers' notes. Prior to the changes made by Government in 1910, the stamp duty payable on brokers' notes whether for exchange, Government paper, shares, or any marketable security was one anna, and was payable by means of adhesive stamps. But under the law as modified by the Act quoted the stamp duty payable on brokers' notes intimating the sale or purchase of bills of exchange is two annas; and on brokers' notes intimating the sale or purchase of Government paper, shares, stocks, etc., it is one anna—subject to a maximum of Rs. 10—for every Rs. 10,000, or part thereof, of the value of the security, or shares. The duty on share transfers was raised by the Act in question from $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. The duty on brokers' notes is now payable by adhesive stamps so long as it does not exceed two annas. In other words, adhesive stamps cannot be used on brokers' notes for Government paper, shares, etc., when the particular transaction involves a sum of more than Rs. 20,000. The duty on share transfers, when the transfer is effected by separate deed, has never been legally payable by means of adhesive stamps.

In their examination of the proposal made by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, the Committee had the foregoing points in mind. They were clearly of opinion that the use of adhesive stamps on share transfers, and on bought and sold notes, is absolutely necessary. In regard to share transfers they stated at length, when the question was under discussion six years ago, their reasons for holding this view. So far as brokers' notes are concerned business would be most seriously impeded and delayed, if the notes had first

Annual Report 1906,
Vol. I, p. 22.

to be taken to the Stamp Office for stamps to be impressed upon them. And it is hardly reasonable to expect brokers to keep a stock of stamped forms sufficient to meet the requirements of the varied transactions that are put through from day to day.

The Bombay Chamber also suggested that certain of the proposed new adhesive stamps might be used for agreements, guarantees, etc. With this suggestion the Committee were not in sympathy, as they feared that such a departure from the established practice might encourage forgeries and frauds. On the whole question they expressed their views to Government as follows, namely:—

- (a), that a new set of adhesive stamps would be useful, and might be issued; but
- (b) that the practice of stamping share transfers and brokers' notes with adhesive stamps should be first legalised; and
- (c) that there should be no extension of the use of adhesive stamps to instruments such as agreements, guarantees, etc.

The Committee subsequently had considerable correspondence with the Board of Revenue, L. P. on the subject, but so far the orders of Government have not been issued.

Towards the end of the year the Chamber was asked by the Collector of Stamp Revenue for an opinion upon a proposal for the introduction of one anna *hundi* stamp paper. It does not appear to the Committee that there is need for this paper, as they consider that the adhesive stamp which is now used meets all requirements. They replied in this sense to the Collector.

The Indian Stamp Act II of 1899—Receipts.—The Chamber was asked during the year to support a proposal that the maximum amount for which receipts are exempt from stamp duty should be raised from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30. In the United Kingdom the limit is £2, and the suggestion was that the same figure should be adopted in India. The Committee were not inclined to press the proposal, and they understood also that the Government of India had refused to consider it.

The Indian Stamp Act II of 1899—Stamp Duty on Bills of Exchange.—The rates of stamp duty on bills of exchange in excess of Rs. 1,000 were raised by the Indian Stamp Amendment Act VI of 1910. For bills ranging from Rs. 600 to

Rs. 1,000, the enhancement was much smaller; and for bills not exceeding Rs. 600 the old rates were allowed to stand. The object of this concession was to exempt petty transactions from the higher duty. Early in the present year, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the fact that, in the case of large transactions, advantage was being taken of the concession. Less duty is payable on, say, thirty bills of Rs. 1,000 each than upon one bill for Rs. 30,000. Bills for large sums are consequently subdivided, and an appreciable economy in stamp duty is thereby effected. The practice causes inconvenience to banks and private firms, and it also means loss of revenue to Government. To prevent it a suggestion was put forward that the concession should be withdrawn, and this suggestion the Committee supported. A Bill making the change has been since introduced, and the views of the Chamber upon its provisions have been invited by the Board of Revenue. Its object is to raise the duty on bills of exchange, for sums not exceeding Rs. 1,000; in the same ratio as the increase, that was made by the amending Act of 1910, in the case of bills for sums above Rs. 1,000. The Committee have expressed their approval of the measure.

The Indian Stamp Act II of 1899—Duplicate Receipts.—The question as to whether duplicate receipts require to be stamped was raised lately by the Karachi Chamber of Commerce. It appears that in Karachi it is not customary to stamp duplicate receipts, which are regarded as copies. The practice in Calcutta is not uniform; in some offices duplicate receipts are always stamped, and in others they are left unstamped. There is, however, no doubt that they come within the provisions of article 25 (a) of schedule I of the Stamp Act. This is the view taken by the legal advisers of the Chamber, and it is understood to be generally accepted. A copy of a receipt does not come within article 25 (c), and does not therefore require a stamp. But a duplicate differs from a copy, inasmuch as being in fact an original, it is receivable in primary evidence. A copy is on the other hand only secondary evidence, and is not admissible except on proof that the original has been lost, or is otherwise not forthcoming. The Committee communicated these views to the Karachi Chamber.

MUNICIPAL.

Calcutta Improvement Act 1911.—The Bill to provide for the improvement and expansion of the city of Calcutta, which was mentioned in the last annual report, was passed into law by the Bengal Legislative Council on the 22nd August 1911. Its principal features are too well known to need recapitulation here; but there are certain of its provisions—particularly the export duty on jute and jute manufactures—that are of special interest to the commercial community. The jute tax is levied at the rate of two

annas per bale (400 lbs.) of raw jute, and at the rate of 12 annas per ton (2240 lbs.) upon jute goods. The proposal that was originally made was that the tax should take the shape of a customs duty on jute exported, and of an excise duty on jute consumed locally. But this proposal was strongly objected to by the Chamber, with the result that it was abandoned.

The Act confers upon the Chamber the privilege of electing a representative on the Board of Trustees. It also empowers the local Government to make rules regulating the system of election. In August the local Government asked for an expression of the opinion of the Committee as to the form that these rules should take. The Committee suggested that they should follow the rules prescribed by Government, under the Calcutta Municipal Act, for the election of representatives of the Chamber to the Corporation of Calcutta. This suggestion has been adopted, and a code of simple rules, defining the procedure in question, has been drawn up and enacted. The first election under the rules was held in January, with the result that Mr. R. G. D. Thomas (Messrs. J. Thomas & Co.) was elected by the members of the Chamber to be their first representative on the Board of Trustees.

Calcutta Municipal Act III of 1899: Licensed builders and building surveyors.—Towards the end of last year the Corporation of Calcutta proposed the introduction of a system whereby builders and building surveyors would require to be licensed. The idea was that no plan of a building should be sanctioned unless presented to the Corporation through a licensed building surveyor; and that no building should be erected except under the direct supervision of a licensed builder. The object of the proposal was to enable some measure of control to be exercised over unqualified and probably incompetent men, who undertake building operations. At present it is apparently open to any one, with or without technical training and qualifications, to engage in the business of a builder. On the other hand, the information before the Committee led them to the conclusion that there are many small houses of, say, one floor, which can be quite efficiently built by practical and non-professional men. Houses of this class are now constructed by working masons, or small contractors, who may, or may not have had much experience, but who carry out the work in the manner handed down to them by custom. If these men are excluded, and only properly qualified licensed builders are permitted to erect houses, hardship may be caused to the middle and poorer classes of the people. In the circumstances, the Committee found it difficult to come to any definite conclusion on the proposal. They thought, however, that the licensing of builders would be a drastic measure, whatever may be the case as regards building surveyors. They knew of cases that plumbers are required to be licensed, but they are not sure that the cases are parallel. They accordingly

suggested to the Corporation that, so far as builders are concerned, the proposal might be allowed to stand over. It has always seemed to them that the abolition, by the Corporation, of the post of City Architect was an unfortunate step; and they have observed with satisfaction that suggestions for the re-establishment of this office have been lately put forward. The reconstitution of the building department of the Corporation is under consideration, and it will be sufficiently early to raise the question of licensing builders when the department has been reconstituted, with a competent architect as its chief.

Calcutta Municipal Act III of 1899—Building Regulations.—The Calcutta building regulations are contained in schedule XVII of the Municipal Act. Clause 29 provides that clauses 22, 24, and 25—which prescribe the open spaces necessary for domestic buildings—shall have effect in the case of buildings of the warehouse class that are not situated in a locality set apart, by declaration under section 367 of the Act, for the erection of buildings of the warehouse class. In the case of buildings that are situated in a locality declared under the section quoted, the provisions of clauses 22, 24 and 25 need not be complied with. In September the Corporation put forward a proposal for the amendment of clause 29, so as to provide that clauses 22, 24, and 25 should also have effect, in the case of buildings of the warehouse class that are situated in a locality in which the erection of these buildings is allowed by declaration under section 367, if “in the opinion of the General Committee the proposed buildings of the warehouse class are so situated that by reason of their proximity to, or contact with, any building used as a dwelling house they impede ventilation, or otherwise make or conduce to make such dwelling house to be in a condition unfit for human habitation, or dangerous or injurious to health.”

It seemed to the Committee—whose opinion upon the proposal was invited by the Corporation—that the building regulations ought to be as precise and as definite as possible. It should not be left to the General Committee of the Corporation to decide as to whether a particular rule is, or is not, applicable to a particular case. What is required is that the regulations should be such that the owners of property, and builders, and architects, may have no difficulty in determining the exact capacity of any property upon which they may contemplate building. With the modification in question, difficulties in this connection would undoubtedly arise, as it would be left for the General Committee to decide upon the capacity of the site. The city has been divided into: (a) localities where buildings of the warehouse class are permitted, and (b) localities where such buildings are not permitted. It is difficult to see what justification there can be for further distinctions. Every street in the city is either what may be called a warehouse street or a non-warehouse street. And the object of dividing the city into these two classes

was presumably to encourage the erection of warehouses in the business parts, and conversely to keep the residential parts free from such structures. But the proposal to amend clause 29 would tend to defeat this object; for it would prejudice the erection of buildings of the warehouse class in the warehouse localities by concessions to the residential properties in those districts. To the Committee it appears to be a mistaken policy, on the part of the Corporation, to do anything that is calculated to prejudice the erection, in the prescribed localities, of large buildings suitable for the increasing trade of the town, in favour of what may be in many cases old and dilapidated residential houses of but little value.

Roads in Calcutta.—In their last annual report the Committee referred to the action that they had taken with respect to the defective condition of the roads in the city. The views of the Corporation of Calcutta upon the proposals that they put forward have not been yet communicated to them, and during the past year they have not moved further in the matter.

The Eastern and Balliaghatta Canals.—At a meeting of the Corporation of Calcutta held on the 25th October 1911 the following resolution was adopted, namely:—

"That in view of the fact that many of the poor inhabitants of the Fringe Area, who have not got filtered water supply use for domestic purposes the water of the Eastern and Circular (Bibi) Canal which at present is filled with the salt water from the Bidyadhari into which the sewage of all Calcutta is discharged, the Government of Bengal be asked to consider whether it is not desirable in the interests of sanitation that the present practice be discontinued and the Canal be filled and kept filled with the sweet water of the Hooghly, and that a copy of this resolution be communicated to the Chamber of Commerce and the mill authorities concerned."

With the terms of this resolution the Committee of the Chamber were in sympathy; and they ventured to communicate their opinion to the Government of Bengal. Owners of mills in the vicinity of the Eastern and Balliaghatta Canals consider that the canal water is so full of impurities, and is so insanitary, that it cannot be used in the mill boilers; and it must be entirely unfit for domestic purposes. The proposal made by the Corporation would be therefore altogether beneficial, and of considerable advantage to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood.

Condensed skimmed milk.—In the report for 1909 the Committee mentioned a proposal, which had been made to them by the Government of Bengal, with reference to imported tinned large quantities of condensed milk, prepared from separated, or skimmed milk, were imported into Calcutta. This milk was said to be injurious to the public health if sold as condensed pure milk,

and to be particularly injurious when sold as food for infants. The Health Officer also stated that tinned meats were imported in every variety of condition. To prevent the importation of milk and provisions of these descriptions, he made the following suggestions, upon which the Government of Bengal invited the views of the Chamber, namely:—

- (a) That condensed milk prepared from skimmed milk should be distinctly marked as such on each tin; and that a caution should be affixed, namely, "Not to be used as food for infants;" and
- (b) That all tins hermetically sealed and containing meat, fish, vegetables, or milk intended for human consumption should bear the date on which each tin left the manufactory.

The Committee expressed to Government, on the 23rd March 1909, their approval of these proposals, although they thought that difficulty might be experienced in providing that the correct dates should be stamped on the tins. They did not afterwards take further action until recently when they were approached by members of the Chamber. After examining the question again, they recommended to the Government of Bengal that legislation should be undertaken on the lines of an Ordinance enacted not long since by the Hong-Kong legislature. Under the provisions of this Ordinance the following caution must be affixed to each tin of skimmed milk imported into the Colony, namely:— "This is skimmed milk. Children under one year of age should not be fed on it." Contravention of this regulation is punishable by fine, or, in default, imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding three months. The Government of Bengal have further considered the question in the light of the Committee's suggestion, but H. H. the Lieutenant-Governor in Council does not see his way to undertake legislation. The Collectors of Customs at the various ports require, however, that the words "prepared from skimmed milk" be conspicuously marked on the labels affixed to tins of condensed milk so prepared when imported into India. If the tins are not so labelled when they are imported, the labels are put on at the Custom House.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Indian Petroleum Act 1899.—Carbide of Calcium.—A question with reference to the rules regulating the importation, possession, and transport of carbide of calcium was raised at the beginning of the year by the Government of Bengal. These rules were made in 1906 under the Indian Petroleum Act of 1899. Carbide of calcium is a dangerous inflammable substance, and it consequently comes under the provisions of section 261 of the Bengal Municipal Act 1884. It is likewise considered to be "a combustible thing," as referred to in section 466 (1) (d) of the Calcutta Municipal Act of 1899. The Municipal authorities can, therefore, call upon dealers in the article to take out licenses, and to

pay fees, under the Municipal law. And, under clause 8 of part of the rules, licenses for the possession of carbide of calcium are granted by the Commissioner of Police in the town of Calcutta, and elsewhere by the District Magistrate. It follows, therefore, that a dealer might have to take out two licenses, and to pay fees twice over, in respect of the same quantity of carbide of calcium. To obviate this difficulty the Government of Bengal proposed to suspend the operation of the Municipal law, in so far as it relates to the possession of any quantity of the commodity. A license, on payment of the prescribed fee, would then only be taken out under the Petroleum Act, but the fee would be credited to the Municipality concerned.

The Committee took no exception to this proposal, and did not offer any remarks upon it. On the 18th March 1911 the Government of India notified that they had decided to limit the operation of the two Municipal Acts so far as regards carbide of calcium.

The Indian Petroleum Act 1889—Dangerous Petroleum.—By notification No. 13 Mno., dated 13th February 1911, the Marine Department of the Government of Bengal published certain amendments to the rules for the possession, transport, and importation of petroleum. These amendments provided for the issue of licenses for the storage of dangerous petroleum in bulk. One of the conditions of the proposed license was to be that there should be a clearance of 300 feet between a storage tank containing filling, shed. Another condition was that 300 feet should be kept clear between any storage tank containing dangerous petroleum, and any protected work. The term "protected work" includes dwelling-houses, docks, wharves, timber-yard, and any other place not forming part of an installation, which may be declared to be such by Government.

The Government of Bengal referred the amendments to the Chamber, and the Committee consulted the leading petroleum companies in regard to them. The companies did not raise objections except to the two proposals mentioned in the last paragraph. They protested strongly against the requirement that so great a distance as 300 feet should be prescribed, as in their opinion 150 ft. in each case would be sufficient. The point thus raised seemed to the Committee to be too technical in character for them to deal with satisfactorily. They accordingly recommended the petroleum companies to bring it directly to the notice of Government. At the Chamber; and they asked that the views of the companies should be favourably received.

After further consideration, and in view of the representations made by the companies, the distance was subsequently reduced by Government to 200 ft. in each case.

Moisture in Jute.—The Indian Jute Mills Association's form of contract for the purchase of jute prescribes that the jute is to be in "sound, dry, storing condition." To facilitate the working of this clause the Association lately suggested:—

- (a) That in the months of July and August a fair allowance for moisture would be 12 per cent.;
- (b) That in the months of September and October a fair allowance for moisture would be 10 per cent.;
- (c) That in the remaining months of the year moisture should not exceed 8 per cent.;
- (d) That the following should be the method to be adopted for ascertaining moisture, namely:—the jute selected for testing should be accurately weighed and then exposed to the sun for two hours, and should be accurately reweighed immediately thereafter. If the moisture evaporated should turn out to be more than is allowable for the time of the year according to the foregoing scale, it would mean that the jute is not in accordance with the contract requirements, i.e. it is not in "sound, dry, storing condition."

It was the opinion of the Association that these proposals should be submitted by the Tribunal of Arbitration to arbitrators for information. But the Committee hesitated to comply with this request, and before coming to definite conclusions upon it they consulted the Narainganj Chamber of Commerce, and the Calcutta Baled Jute Association. The Baled Jute Association, not being directly concerned with the question, did not express a definite opinion beyond that they feared difficulty might be experienced in respect to the method of testing. The Narainganj Chamber, on the other hand, objected to the proposals, on the ground that the method of testing suggested by the Mills' Association was impracticable.

In view of this evident difference of opinion, the Committee did not think that it was desirable for the Chamber to take action, and they informed the Indian Jute Mills Association accordingly.

Trade with Australia—Jute manufactured goods.—On the 15th February 1908 the Government of the Australian Commonwealth issued a proclamation prohibiting the importation of cornsacks other than of the following specific weight, size, and quality, namely, weight when baled $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., size $41'' \times 23''$, substance 8 porter 9 shot. It was announced by the Commonwealth Government in July 1910 that this proclamation would be stringently enforced. The Government considered it to be desirable that publicity should be given to the terms of the proclamation; and to the fact that unless its conditions were carefully observed the prescribed penalties—including forfeiture of the sacks—would be inflicted. The Committee mentioned in their last report that, after consultation with manufacturers and shippers, they had pointed out to the Government of Bengal the difficulties that would be caused by the stringent enforcement of the proclamation. They showed that with a fibre so coarse in its nature as jute, with the climatic conditions prevailing in India, and with native labour, it is

impossible to guarantee such uniformity in weight, texture, etc., as was demanded by the Australian Government. They also suggested that that Government should be approached on the subject.

In May last the Government of Bengal replied to this representation. They had communicated with the Government of India, who were of opinion that no good purpose would be served by action on their part. The reason for this decision was that the several interests in the jute trade in Calcutta were not apparently agreed as to the terms which it would be reasonable and desirable to ask of the Federal Government.

The Committee consulted the Indian Jute Mills Association, and the Jute Fabrics Shippers Association, with reference to the attitude adopted by the Government of India, and it was agreed that no further steps could be taken. In the meantime it was understood that the authorities in Australia were not enforcing the proclamation in an unreasonable way.

Trade with Australia.—Towards the end of June the Committee published for the information of members a proclamation, by the Government of Australia, with reference to the weight of goods imported in bags, or sacks. By this proclamation the importation into Australia of goods packed in bags, or sacks, the contents of which exceed two hundred pounds in weight was prohibited as from the 1st August 1911.

Australia—Passports for Indian visitors.—In February, at the request of the Government of Bengal, the Committee communicated to members of the Chamber an amended form of application for passports to Australia. The passport—which is obtainable from the local Governments—is intended for Indians desirous of visiting Australia in the capacity of merchants, students or barristers. The object of the amendments that had been made in it was to secure that passports are issued only to British subjects, or to the subjects of Protected Native States. The form of application was originally issued in October 1904.

State Technical Scholarships.—During the year the customary reference was made to the Chamber by the Government of Bengal on the subject of the State technical scholarships that are awarded annually by the Government of India. These scholarships are given to natives of India in order to enable them to obtain abroad a high technical education, which may qualify them to assist in the promotion and development of native industries. The scholarships are ordinarily tenable for a period of two years in Great Britain, or in other Western countries. The industry to be encouraged in any particular year is selected in consultation with representatives of the mercantile and industrial public. And applications from candidates are invited only after the industry has been chosen. The views of the Chamber were asked as to the industry to be selected for encouragement during the year 1912.

On several former occasions the recommendation of the Chamber has been in favour of coal mining as being the industry most likely to afford lucrative openings for qualified Indians. They are still of opinion that coal mining offers a good opportunity to the young Indian who has been trained as a mining engineer. But at the same time it appears to them that possibly building construction and architecture would be a subject that Indian students might be able to turn to useful account. In the city of Calcutta, at any rate, a considerable amount of native capital must be invested in the building industry; and there consequently ought to be scope for well-instructed Indian builders and architects. The Committee accordingly suggested to Government that building construction and architecture might be selected for the scholarships for the year 1912.

Calcutta daily weather report.—Certain proposals were made during the year by the Government of India in connection with the Calcutta daily weather report. These proposals, which attracted some attention at the time, may be briefly defined as follows:—

- (a) That seventeen of the stations which now report daily to the Calcutta Meteorological office should be reduced in class;
- (b) That the Bengal Chamber of Commerce should contribute Rs. 9,500 annually or, alternatively, Rs. 5,000 to the cost of the daily weather report; and
- (c) That the Calcutta Port Trust should contribute Rs. 6,000 annually for the storm warnings.

The Government of Bengal asked that the Chamber should consider the points thus raised, and the Committee made a careful examination of them. There was under the consideration of Government a project for the development of the Meteorological Department, and for the establishment of a station for the investigation of the upper air. To provide for the additional cost of these measures it was deemed to be necessary to obtain payment by outside bodies, for services already rendered, or to make retrenchments elsewhere. The Government of India said that the daily reports were of no use to the Meteorological Department, or to the majority of Government officers, and might be abolished except that commercial opinion was understood to attach importance to them. In fact the communication from the Government of India appeared to be really an intimation that, unless the commercial community consented to contribute to the cost of the weather report, that publication would be discontinued in order that the investigation of the upper air might be proceeded with.

The Committee took exception to the proposals, and protested strongly against them. Their views, which they explained in detail to the Government of Bengal, may be summarized as follows:—

- (a) From the information before them, it did not seem that the investigation of the upper air is of such urgent importance as to justify the discontinuance of the provincial daily weather reports, in order that it may be undertaken.

- (b) They further considered that the cost of maintaining meteorological stations, and of collecting and publishing information concerning the weather should be defrayed from the public revenues, and that particular sections of the community should not be taxed, either voluntarily or compulsorily, for such a purpose.
- (c) Holding these views, they regretted that they were unable to recommend the members of the Chamber, to make a contribution to the cost of the Calcutta daily weather report; and
- (d) With regard to the seventeen reporting stations mentioned by Government, they recommended the adoption of an alternative proposal that they put forward.

The Coalfields Electric License 1909.—The Bengal Coalfields Power Co., Ltd. were granted by the Government of Bengal a license for two years dating from the 8th October 1907. The period of the license was subsequently extended for a further period of two years ending on the 15th November 1911. By the terms of the license the Company were enabled to contract for the supply of electrical energy to the public, and for electrical traction in portions of the Burdwan and Manbhum districts. So far no effective action has been taken by the Company in the way of promoting the undertaking, although it was understood at the time that there would be no undue delay. And recently the Government of Bengal asked for the opinion of the Chamber upon an application, which the Company had made, for the grant of a second extension of the license for five years from the 15th November 1911. The Committee consulted their Electricity Sub-Committee, and the Indian Mining Association; and they found that this proposal was not regarded favourably. If the proposed extension were conceded, it would not necessarily follow that competition for the supply of electrical energy to the coalfields would be precluded. But there seems to be no doubt that any competing company would be so hampered by the existing license that it might be forced to buy the rights of the existing company. It was consequently the opinion of the Indian Mining Association that, if the extension were granted, the grant should be conditional only. With this view the Committee agreed, and they accordingly suggested to Government that the license should be extended for six months from the 15th November, subject to the proviso that, before the expiration of that period, the Company ought to give a definite undertaking that it will exercise its rights under the license within a reasonable time, say, one year. Should no such declaration be made within the period of six months, the license would come to an end on the 15th May 1912.

The license has been extended by Government until 31st December 1912.

The Bengal Boiler Commission.—The Government of Bengal intimated that they had sanctioned a proposal, which was made by the Boiler Commission, that a fee of Rs. 25 should be

charged, instead of Rs. 50, for the inspection of a boiler on a Sunday. This fee is additional to that leviable under rule xxi to the rules published by Marine Department notification No. 52 Marine, dated 31st May 1910. The change took effect as from the 1st April 1911.

Statistics of the import trade of Indian cotton piece-goods, twist and yarn.—In the *Calcutta Gazette* is published a monthly statement that shows the quantities of the principal staples of traffic imported into and exported from Calcutta. The Director-General of Commercial Intelligence proposed that statistics of the imports by rail, road, river and canal, of Indian cotton piece-goods, twist and yarn, should be included in the statement. After consultation with the Piece-goods and Yarn Sub-Committee, and with the Calcutta Import Trade Association, the Committee expressed their approval of this suggested addition. It is their opinion that the statistics in question are of interest and value to the trade.

The Chamber Price Current and Money Market Report.—During the past few years the cost of the production and distribution of the Chamber Price Current has exceeded the amount of the subscriptions annually paid for it. The Committee considered the question a few months ago, and they came to the conclusion that they were not justified in conducting a publication of this description at a loss. They accordingly decided to make it self-supporting by enhancing the rates of subscription; and with effect from 1st January 1911 they increased the rates of subscription to the following, namely:—

For members of the Chamber Rs. 12-8 yearly for the Price Current, and Rs. 2-8 yearly for the monthly supplement;

For non-members Rs. 25 yearly for the Price Current, and Rs. 2-8 yearly for the monthly supplement.

These rates do not enable the Chamber to derive profit from the publication; but they produce sufficient revenue to meet the expenditure incurred. The Committee have also been able to improve the printing and general appearance of the publication.

The Bazar Maund.—In March a request was made to the Chamber by a member for the equivalent in pounds avoirdupois of the bazar maund. After a reference to the Master of H. M. Mint, the Committee stated that one bazar maund is equivalent to 9981 of an Indian maund, or 82-1333 lbs.

Late shipment of piece-goods.—This subject has been engaging the attention of the Committee, since the strikes in Manchester in July and August last. The Calcutta Import Trade Association raised certain questions with reference to the protection

afforded by the *force majeure* clause in piece-goods contracts, and the proper authority to sign certificates as to the cause of late shipment. The Committee consulted members of the Chamber upon them. Since then, however, certain other points have arisen with reference to the clause in question, and it is understood that the Piece-goods Sub-Committee are taking Counsel's opinion upon these, after which they will advise the Committee further.

MEMBERSHIP.

The following have been provisionally elected members of the Chamber, subject to confirmation at the next Annual General Meeting:—

C. J. A. Pritchard, Esq.,
Proprietor and Editor, "*Indian Engineering*,"

Messrs. Brunner Mond & Co., Ltd.,

" Louis Dreyfus & Co.

M. A. Sassoon, Esq.

Messrs. Steiners, Ltd.

" Marcus Koch & Co.

" Moran & Co.

The Eastern Bank, Ltd.

Messrs. Speyer & Co.

" John Dickinson & Co., Ltd.

The following have resigned membership of the Chamber:—

Messrs. The Calcutta Landing & Shipping Co., Ltd.

" Ullmann Hirschhorn & Co.

The following have ceased to be members of the Chamber:—

Messrs. Robinson, Morrison & Co.

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCES.

Chamber.—The addition of capital of the Chamber in 1911 amounts to Rs. 21,991-4-2, derived as follows:—

Bongal Chamber of Commerce surplus revenue... Rs. 16,959 15 4

Royal Exchange surplus revenue ... " 4,731 4 10

Profit on revaluation and sale of investments ... " 300 0 0

21,991 4 2

The comparative income and expenditure between 1910 and 1911 is as follows:—

Income.	1910.	1911.
Members' Subscriptions ... Rs.	41,892	41,472
Monthly Contributions ... "	64,365	66,240
Sale of Price Current ... "	556	979
Arbitration Fees ... "	8,219	15,409
Certificates of Origin ... "	3,155	2,950
Railway Traffic Returns ... "	292	317
Interest ... "	718	655

Rent of 2 Clive Street less interest on Debentures and Insurance on Building ... "	10,097	11,620
Rs.	1,29,294	1,39,642

Expenditure.	1910.	1911.
Establishment ... Rs.	88,734	89,643
Rent, Taxes and Current Repairs ... "	6,924	8,592
Printing and Stationery ... "	6,454	7,233
Depreciation ... "	1,533	1,748
Sundries ... "	7,619	7,997
Electric Pankhas ... "	2,350	2,569
Contribution to Provident Fund ... "	3,822	3,900
Passage ... "	2,094	
Imperial Visit Account ... "		1,000
Surplus ... "	3,764	16,960
Rs.	1,29,294	1,39,642

Royal Exchange.—The surplus for 1911 is Rs. 4,731-4-10, against Rs. 4,839-4-6 for 1910.

The comparative figures are as follows:—

Income.	1910.	1911.
Entrance Fees ... Rs.	300	425
Subscriptions ... "	23,848	23,886
Rs.	24,148	24,311

<i>Expenditure.</i>		1910.	1911.
Rent and Taxes ... Rs.	Rs.	9,835	10,917
Contribution to Quadren- nial repairs ... "	"	1,250	1,250
Contribution to Chamber ... "	"	2,400	2,400
Establishment ... "	"	1,944	1,869
Restaurant License ... "	"	200	200
Books and Newspapers ... "	"	2,190	1,371
Sundries ... "	"	1,490	1,573
Surplus ... "	"	4,839	4,731
	Rs.	24,148	24,311

C. W. N. GRAHAM,
President.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

Calcutta, 7th February 1912.

ACCOUNTS.

Bengal Chamber of

Incorporated as a Company under Section
BALANCE SHEET as

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.					
	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.
5% DEBENTURE MORTGAGE LOAN	75,600	0 0
OUTSTANDING INTEREST ON ABOVE LOAN—	2,165	0 0
PRINCIPAL CURRENT, 1912	20	10 0
QUADRANTAL REPAIRS FUND	7,367	8 0
ARBITRATION FEES	16,145	0 0
SURFESS ACCOUNT, IMPERIAL VISIT	1,000	0 0
DEBENTURE REDEMPTION SURFESS ACCOUNT	500	0 0
O. K. SEN, CASHIER— For Security Deposit	2,900	0 0
SUNDRY LIABILITIES—					
Printing Sundries	338	6 0
Establishment	304	6 0
Stationery	407	1 0
Provident Fund	3,869	14 6
Sundries	273	11 9
CAPITAL ACCOUNT—	5,322	8 0
As per last account	2,94,275	10 2
Bengal Chamber of Commerce Surplus 1911	16,939	15 4
Royal Exchange Surplus 1911	4,731	4 10
Profit on revaluation and sale of investments	396	0 0
	3,16,264	14 4
Carried over	4,20,381	8 4

Commerce, Calcutta.

26 of the Indian Companies Act, 1885.
at 31st December 1911.

PROPERTY AND ASSETS.					
	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.
FREEHOLD LAND AND PREMISES—	3,39,845	7 1
No. 2 Clive Street
FURNITURE AT 31st DECEMBER 1910	4,789	1 3
Since added	553	10 0
	6,332	11 3
Less—Depreciation @ 10%	633	1 5
	5,702	9 10
LIBRARY AND PICTURES as per last account	16,488	15 5
Since added	3,510	11 1
	19,998	10 6
Less—Depreciation @ 5%	998	1 9
	18,999	8 9
STANDARD WEIGHTS, MEASURES AND TEST
APPLIANCES	1,850	12 0
As per last account	31	15 9
Since added	1,882	12 0
Less—Depreciation @ 5%	94	2 3
	1,788	10 6
INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC FANS.	5,121	3 6
As per last account	172	3 0
Since added	2,293	6 0
Less—Depreciation @ 10%	229	6 5
	4,764	1 1
FIRE INSURANCE PAID IN ADVANCE...	175	0 0
DEBTS DUE TO THE CHAMBER—					
Royal Exchange General	1,091	11 9
Sundry outstandings	2,281	10 2
Sundry Associations affiliated to the Chamber,	6,529	12 2
Licensed Measurers Department and others...	125	0 0
	10,326	2 1
ROYAL EXCHANGE CONTRIBUTION	3,481	4 10
CASHIER'S SECURITY DEPOSIT—					
3½% Government Promissory Notes for Rs. 2,000	2,000	0 0
at par	1,180	0 0
Imperial Visit Expenditure in 1911	1,020	9 0
Imperial Expenditure in 1911	20	1 6
Imperial Reception Committee
Carried over	3,88,741	6 8

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Brought forward	4,26,351	8	4
Total Rs.	4,26,381	8	4

CALCUTTA; }
 26th January 1912. }

LOVELOCK & LEWES, } Auditors.
 Chartered Accountants, }

CALCUTTA; }
 26th January 1912. }

LOVELOCK & LEWES, } Auditors.
 Chartered Accountants, }

	Rs.	As	P	Rs.	As.	P.
Brought forward	3,58,741	6	8			
CASH AND INVESTMENTS—						
42 Calcutta Port Trust Debentures for						
Rs 10,000	9,950	0	0			
Profit on revaluation	700	0	0			
	10,250	0	0			
Bank of Bengal Debenture Loan Interest						
Account	2,064	9	3			
Bank of Bengal Redemption Account	510	0	0			
Bank of Bengal General Account	22,334	11	2			
Interest on Investment accrued but not due	120	13	10			
In hand	2,236	1	5			
				4,20,381	8	4
TOTAL RS.						

F. H. STEWART, *Vice-President.*
H. C. BEGG.
E. H. BRAY.
M. G. CALVOCORESSI.
G. C. GODFREY,
H. HARRIS,
J. B. STRAIN,
A. TOPPING,

Committee.

Bengal Chamber of

REVENUE ACCOUNT for the

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
To Establishment and Pension ...	...	...	...	89,643	5	11
" Rent ...	...	...	...	3,600	0	0
" Municipal Taxes ...	...	...	...	3,168	5	3
" Quadrantial Repairs ...	...	...	...	1,250	0	0
" Current Repairs ...	...	...	...	574	15	9
" Executive Passes—	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cost of current and up-keep ...	2,832	6	0	...	...	...
Depreciation ...	529	5	5	...	...	...
Less—Received for use of fans ...	3,361	11	5	...	...	...
Depreciation on Furniture ...	792	12	0	2,568	15	5
" Do. Library and Pictures ...	534	1	5	...	...	...
" Do. Standard Weights, Measures and Test Appliances ...	996	1	9	...	...	...
" Fire Insurance on Library, Pictures and Furniture ...	94	2	3	...	...	...
...	25	0	0	...	...	...
" Contribution to Provident Fund ...	...	...	...	1,748	5	5
" Printing Reports ...	...	...	...	3,899	14	6
" Printing Account General ...	4,277	15	0	...	...	...
...	2,955	8	5	7,523	7	5
" Donation for Sir Apur Apur's Portrait ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Charges General ...	740	1	5	...	...	...
...	510	8	0	1,250	9	5
" Petty Charges ...	...	...	...	1,750	13	6
" Law Charges ...	...	...	...	1,470	2	0
" Stamps ...	...	...	...	619	15	6
" Telegrams ...	...	...	...	64	3	0
" Book-binding ...	...	...	...	243	8	0
" Government Gazettes ...	...	...	...	230	3	7
" Stationery ...	...	...	...	779	10	11
" Telephone Subscription ...	...	...	...	250	0	0
" Audit Fee ...	...	...	...	1,200	0	0
" Ping Staff ...	...	...	...	14	10	6
" Mails ...	...	...	...	15	12	3
" Advertising ...	...	...	...	107	6	0
" Imperial Vint Account, being half of the estimated loss on sale of tickets for stands ...	...	...	...	6,746	5	3
...	...	...	...	1,000	0	0
" Surplus carried to Profit and Loss Account ...	...	...	...	4,684	15	0
TOTAL Rs. ...	...	...	...	1,27,367	3	4

Examined and found correct.

CALCUTTA;
20th January 1912.LOVELOCK & LEWES,
Chartered Accountants, Auditors.

Commerce, Calcutta.

year ended 31st December 1911.

INCOME.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
By Members' Subscriptions ...	...	...	...	41,472	0	0
" Monthly Contributions from Associations affiliated to the Chamber ...	45,840	0	0	...	...	...
" Do. do. from Licensed Measurers' Department ...	12,000	0	0	...	...	...
" Do. do. Royal Exchange ...	2,400	0	0	...	...	...
" Do. do. Indian Tea Cess Committee ...	6,000	0	0	66,240	0	0
" Sale of Price Current ...	...	...	...	978	11	4
" Arbitration Fees ...	...	...	...	15,409	0	0
" Fees for Certificates of Origin ...	...	...	...	2,950	0	0
" Railway Traffic Returns ...	...	...	...	317	8	0
TOTAL Rs. ...	...	...	...	1,27,367	3	4

C. W. N. GRAHAM,
President.H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.F. H. STEWART, Vice-President.
H. C. BEGG,
E. H. BRAY,
M. G. CALVOCCRESI,
G. C. GODFREY,
H. HARRIS,
J. B. STRAIN,
A. TOPPING,
Committee.

Bengal Chamber of

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
To Interest on Debentures ...	4,875	0	0			
" Bank of Bengal—cost of manage- ment of same ...	30	15	9	4,914	15	9
" Insurance on Building ...	.....	...	...	325	0	0
" Net surplus for the year, carried to Capital Account ...	.....	...	...	10,959	15	4
TOTAL Rs. ...	.....	...	...	22,199	15	1

Examined and found correct.

 LOVELOCK & LEWIS,
 Chartered Accountants, } Auditors.

 CALCUTTA :—
 20th January 1912. }

Commerce, Calcutta.

the year ended 31st December 1911.

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
By Balance of Revenue Account ...	.....	...	...	4,984	15	0
" REET of No. 2, CLIVE STREET—						
Royal Exchange ...	8,100	0	0			
Chamber of Commerce ...	3,600	0	0			
Licensed Messurers' Department ...	3,600	0	0			
Restaurant ...	600	0	0			
Brokers' Exchange ...	960	0	0			
" Interest on Investment ...	.....	...	...	16,860	0	0
				655	0	1
TOTAL Rs. ...	.....	...	...	22,199	15	1

 C. W. N. GRAHAM,
 President.

 P. H. STEWART, Vice-President.
 H. C. DUGG,
 M. H. BRAY,
 M. G. CALVOGHESSI,
 G. C. GODFREY,
 H. DARRIS,
 J. B. STRAIN,
 A. TOPPING, } Committee.

 H. M. HAYWOOD,
 Secretary.

**Bengal Chamber of
BALANCE SHEET**

LIABILITIES.			Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
CAPITAL ACCOUNT.—								
As per last account	...		28,904	15	2			
Amount contributed by employees in 1911	...							
Rs. 3,890-14-6								
Add—Amounts contributed by Chamber in 1911	...		7,799	13	0			
Rs. 3,890-14-6			2,018	3	7			
Balance of Profit and Loss Account	...		38,722	15	9			
Less—Refunds	Rs. 1,650-3-9							
" Forfeits	" 209-9-8		1,839	13	5	36,883	2	4
SURVEY CREDITORS—								
Audit fee	...					32	0	0
TOTAL Rs.	...					36,915	2	4

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
To Expenses	174	6			
„ Net Profit to Balance Sheet	...	2,018	3	6		
					2,192	10
						1

CALCUTTA;
26th January 1912.

Examined and found correct.

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
Chartered Accountants, } Managers.

Commerce, Provident Fund.

as at 31st December 1911.

ASSETS.			Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
OUTSTANDING—								
Amounts due by Chamber	...					3,899	14	6
INVESTMENTS—								
4% Calcutta Port Trust Debentures for Rs. 31,000 @ Rs. 102-8½	...		31,775	0	0			
4% Calcutta Municipal Debentures for Rs. 500 @ Rs. 102-8½	...		512	8	0	32,287	8	0
Interest on Investments accrued	...					235	7	11
Cash—								
Bank of Bengal	...					492	3	11
TOTAL Rs.	...					36,915	2	4

for the year ending 31st December 1911.

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
By Interest	1,123	0	5			
" Forfeits	209	9	8			
" Profit on revaluation	850	0	0	2,192	10	1
		</				

C. W. N. GRAHAM,
F. H. STEWART, } Trustees.

List of Presidents of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

<i>President.</i>	<i>Firm.</i>	<i>Election.</i>
Mr. Jas. J. Mackenzie	Messrs. Mackillop, Stewart & Co.	1st May 1853
" Jas. J. Mackenzie	Do.	18th " 1854
" David Cowie	Cowie & Co.	21st " 1855
" David Cowie	Do.	21st " 1856
" David Cowie	Do.	27th " 1857
" D. Mackinlay	Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.	29th " 1858
" D. Mackinlay	Do.	28th " 1859
" J. N. Bullen	Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	19th " 1860
" W. S. Fitzwilliams	Agent, Chartered Mercantile Bank	6th " 1861
" J. N. Bullen	Messrs. Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	6th " 1862
" Wm. Maitland	Mackillop, Stewart & Co.	1st " 1863
" Hon. Mr. J. N. Bullen	Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	18th " 1864
" " J. N. Bullen	Do.	3rd June 1865
" Mr. F. Schiller	Borradale, Schiller & Co.	28th May 1866
" R. Scott-Moncrieff	Steel, McIntosh & Co.	31st " 1867
" Henry Crooke	Crooke, Rome & Co.	July 1867
" Jas. Rome	Do.	1st June 1868
" Jas. Rome	Do.	31st May 1869
" R. J. Bullen Smith	Jardine, Skinner & Co.	shortly after, no date
" Hon. Mr. R. J. Bullen Smith	Do.	31st May 1870
" " R. J. Bullen Smith	Do.	31st " 1871
" Mr. J. C. Murray	Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	31st " 1872
" J. C. Murray	Do.	31st " 1873
" Hon. Mr. R. H. Sutherland	Begg, Dunlop & Co.	Jan. 1874
" " B. D. Colvin	Colvin, Cowie & Co.	March 1874
" " B. D. Colvin	Do.	20th May 1874
" Mr. J. C. Murray	Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	8th Aug. 1874
" E. C. Morgan	Ashburner & Co.	8th May 1875
" J. C. Murray	Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.	31st " 1876
" B. D. Colvin	Colvin, Cowie & Co.	30th " 1877
" Benson Mackinnon	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.	1878
" Geo. Yale	Andrew, Yale & Co.	31st May 1878
" Geo. Yale	Do.	31st " 1879
" Hon. Mr. A. B. Inglis	Begg, Dunlop & Co.	Jan. 1880
" Mr. W. E. Crum	Graham & Co.	31st May 1880
" A. B. Inglis	Begg, Dunlop & Co.	31st " 1881
" R. Miller	Hoare, Miller & Co.	April 1882
" J. J. J. Kewick	Jardine, Skinner & Co.	7th Aug. 1883
" J. J. J. Kewick	Do.	29th May 1884
" J. J. J. Kewick	Do.	1885
" Hon. Mr. D. Cruickshank	Begg, Dunlop & Co.	29th May 1886
" Mr. H. B. H. Turner	Turner Morrison & Co.	22nd April 1887
" H. B. H. Turner	Do.	28th May 1887
" Hon. Mr. R. Steel	R. Steel & Co.	14th June 1887

<i>President.</i>	<i>Firm.</i>	<i>Election.</i>
Sir Alex. Wilson, Kt.	Messrs. Jardine, Skinner & Co.	29th Feb. 1888
" Alex. Wilson, Kt.	Do.	28th " 1889
Mr. Jas. L. Mackay	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.	28th " 1890
Hon. Mr. Jas. L. Mackay, C.I.E.	Do.	9th " 1891
" " Jas. L. Mackay, C.I.E.	Do.	29th " 1892
" " Jas. L. Mackay, C.I.E.	Do.	28th " 1893
" " P. Playfair	Barry & Co.	6th Oct. 1893
Mr. Allan Arthur	Finlay, Muir & Co.	26th Feb. 1891
Hon. Mr. P. Playfair	Barry & Co.	28th " 1895
" " Playfair, C.I.E.	Do.	29th " 1896
" " Allan Arthur	Ewing & Co.	19th March 1897
" " Allan Arthur	Do.	28th Feb. 1898
" " M. C. Turner	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.	17th May 1899
" " Allan Arthur	Ewing & Co.	21st Feb. 1899
Mr. G. W. Sutherland	Begg, Dunlop & Co.	29th " 1900
" " M. C. Turner	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.	26th " 1901
Hon. Mr. M. C. Turner	Do.	26th " 1902
Sir E. Cable, Kt.	Bird & Co.	27th " 1903
Hon. Mr. A. A. Apear	Apear & Co.	29th " 1904
" " A. A. Apear	Do.	28th " 1905
" " A. A. Apear, C.I.E.	Do.	28th " 1906
" " A. A. Apear, C.I.E.	Do.	27th " 1907
Mr. W. Brown	Finlay, Muir & Co.	28th " 1908
Hon. Mr. C. W. N. Graham	Graham & Co.	26th " 1909
Mr. A. M. Monteth	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.	3rd March 1910
Hon. Mr. C. W. N. Graham	Graham & Co.	24th Feb. 1911
Mr. A. M. Monteth	Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.	27th " 1912

Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1911-1912.

President.

HON. SIR C. W. N. GRAHAM, KT.

MESSRS. GRAHAM & CO.

Vice-President.

HON. MR. F. H. STEWART, C.I.E.

MESSRS. GLADSTONE, WYLLIE & CO.

Members.

MR. H. C. BRIGGS,

MESSRS. BRIGGS, DUNLOP & CO.

MR. E. H. BRAY,

MESSRS. GILLANDERS, ARBUTHNOT & CO.

MR. M. J. CALVOORESSI,

MESSRS. RALLI BROTHERS.

MR. H. HARRIS,

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA & CHINA.

MR. G. C. GODFREY,

BENGAL NAGPUR RAILWAY.

MR. J. B. STRAIN,

MESSRS. BIRD & CO.

MR. A. TOPPING,

MESSRS. MACNEILL & CO.

MEMBERS

OF THE

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

(Corrected to the 31st December 1911.)

Abdojabboy & Joomabboy Laljee.

Agelata, A., & Co.

Alahabad Bank, Ltd., *Calcutta Branch.*

Allen Brothers & Co., Ltd.

Alliance Bank of Simla, Ltd., *Calcutta Branch.*

Alexis Schweiger & Co., Ltd.

Anderson, Wright & Co.

Apcar & Co.

Arraen Co., Ltd.

Ashworth Taylor & Co.

Atherton, G., & Co.

Austrian Lloyd's S. N. Co.

Balmer, Lawrie & Co.

Bank of Bengal.

Barlow & Co.

Barry & Co.

Becker, Gray & Co.

Begg, Dunlop & Co.

Behrns, Sir Jacob, & Sons.

Bengal Iron and Steel Co., Ltd.

Bengal-Nagpur Railway Co., Ltd.

The Agent.

Bengal & North-Western Railway

Co., Ltd., *The Agent and Chief Engineers, Gorakhpore.*

Bengal Telephone Co., Ltd.

Bertram, J. R. Esq.

Bird & Co.

Birkmyre Bros.

Blackwood, Blackwood & Co.

Bombay Co., Ltd.

Bonnaud, Arthur, Esq.

Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd.

Bushell Ellist & Co.

Burn & Co., Ltd.

Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd.

Calcutta Port Commissioners, *Vice-Chairman.*

Calcutta Tramways Co., Ltd., *Managing Agent.*

Carritt, Moran & Co.

Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China.

Chunder, S. C., & Co.

Cohn Brothers & Fuchs.

Commercial Union Assurance Co., Ltd.

Continental Trading Society.

Cook & Son, Thomas.

Cresswell, W. S., & Co.

Currimbhoy, Ebrahim & Co.

Davenport & Co.

David, M., & Co., *Navaingunge.*

Delhi and London Bank, Ltd.

Deutsch-Asiatische Bank.

Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd.

Donaldson & Co., *Navaingunge.*

Duff, Thos., & Co., Ltd.

Duffus, J. C., & Co., Ltd.

Duncan Brothers & Co.

Durbhanga, K.C.I.E., the Hon'ble

Maharaja Baladur of, *Durbhanga.*

East Indian Railway Co., *The Agent.*

Eastern Bank, Ltd., The.

Eastern Bengal State Railway,

The Manager.

Empire, Ltd., The.

Englishman, Ltd., The.
Ernsthausen, Ltd.
Essabbay, A. M., Esq.
Ewing & Co., Ltd.
Fera, J. E. D., Esq.

Figgis, A. W., & Co.
Finlay, James, & Co., Ltd.
Fitze, Samuel, & Co., Ltd.

Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
Gladstone, Wyllie & Co.
Graham & Co.
Grandage & Co.
Grant, W. M. Esq., *Indigo Planter, Bhagulpore.*
Graves, Cotton & Co.
Grossmann & Co., Ltd.
Gulliland, Colin C., Esq.
Guzdar, P. E., & Co.

Hadenfeldt & Co.
Harley, F., & Co.
Harrisons & Crossfield, Ltd.
Hashim Ariff Bros., & Co.
Haworth, W., & Co.
Hazareemull, Heeralall.
Healy & Gresham, Ltd.
Helgers, F. W., & Co.
Henderson, George, & Co.
Hays, Fmco & Co.
Hoare, Miller & Co.
Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ltd.
Hong-Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Imperial Tobacco Co. of India, Ltd.
India General Steam Navigation & Ry. Co., Ltd.

Jambon & Co.
Janowitz, A., Esq.
Jardine, Skinner & Co.
Jessop & Co., Ltd.

Kahn & Kahn.

Karpeles, Jules, & Co.
Kerr, Tarruck & Co.
Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.
Khunnah, J., & Son.
Kilburn & Co.
Killick, Nixon & Co.'s Agency.
King Brothers.
King, Hamilton & Co.
King, John, & Co., Ltd.
Knight, R., & Sons, (*The Statesman.*)
Koch, Marcus, & Co.
Krishna Mills, Ltd., The, (*Deccan.*)

Landale & Clark, Ltd.
Landale & Morgan.
Law, Prawn Kissen, & Co.
Lipton, Ltd.
Louis Dreyfus & Co.
Lovelock & Lewes.
Lyall, Marshall & Co.

Mackenzie, Lyall & Co.
Mackilican, J., & Co.
Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
Mackintosh, Burn & Co.
Macneill & Co.
Main, A. and J., & Co., Ltd.
Manasseh, S., & Sons.
Mansfield & Sons, Ltd.
Martin & Co.
McLeod & Co.
Mehta, D. B., & Co.
Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.
Meugens, King & Co.
Meyer E. & Co., Ltd.
Meyer, Soetbeer & Co.
Miani Bussan Kaisha.
Moll, Schutte & Co.
Moran & Co.

National Bank of India, Ltd.

Oakes, Stanley, & Co.
Ogilvy, L. W., Esq. (*The Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd.*)
Oriental Gas Co., Ltd., of London,
Calcutta Branch.

Perry & Co.
Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Co.
Peninsular Tobacco Co., Ltd., (Monghyr).
Perman and Bynd.
Petrocchino Brothers.
Pigott, Chapman & Co.
Place, Siddons & Gough.
Planters' Stores & Agency Company Ltd.
Poppe, Delius & Co.
Fruit, T. R. Esq.
Fritchard, C. J. A. Esq., *Proprietor and Editor, "Indian Engineering."*

Ralli Brothers.
Randutt, Ramkissendass.
Reuter's Telegram Co., Ltd.
Rivers Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.
Royal Insurance Co.

Sassoon, David, & Co., Ltd.
Sassoon, E. D., & Co.
Sassoon, M. A. Esq.
Schröder, Smidt & Co.
Schüller, Dr. C.
Seal, Ramchand, & Co.
Sewaram Kaluram.
Shaw, Wallace & Co.
Shimwell & Brother.

Ships' Agency, late J. Daendels & Co., (*Agents, Java-Bengal Line.*)

Sim, R., & Co., *Naraingunge.*
Simpson, James, & Co., Ltd.
Sinclair, Murray & Co.
South British Insurance Company, Ltd.
Speyer & Co.
Standard Life Assurance Co.
Standard Oil Co. of New York.
Steinhers, Ltd.
Steel, Octavius, & Co.
Steel, R. & Co., Ltd.
Stein, Forbes & Co., Ltd.
Stewart, Mackenzie & Co.
Struthers & Co., Ltd.
Sun Insurance Office.

Targett, W. H., & Co. (*Capital*)
Thomas J., & Co.
Thomson, Lehzen & Co.
Turner, Morrison & Co.

Waldie, D., & Co.
Walker, Gerard & Co.
Williamson, Magor & Co.
Worman & Co.
Wyatt, A. W. N., Esq., *Proprietor, Peeprah Indigo Factory, Champaran.*

Yale, Andrew, & Co.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

The Most Hon'ble The Marquis of Lansdowne, K.G., P.C., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E.
Mr. J. Scobell-Armstrong, C.S.
Mr. J. E. O'Connor, C.I.E.
Mr. C. W. Odling, C.S.I., C.E.
Major-General Sir W. S. S. Bisset, K.C.I.B., R.R.
Sir William Comer Petheram, Kt., K.C.
Sir H. J. S. Cotton, K.C.S.I.
Sir Walter Roper Lawrence, Bart., G.C.I.E.

SUNDRY REFERENCES.

In addition to the subjects commented upon in the Report, the Committee have dealt with references from members and others in the following matters:—

Abstract of Proceedings: supply to Indian Chambers.
 Argentine Republic: trade with India.
 Bobbins: sale of.
 Boiler Commission: annual report for 1910-11.
 Building Materials: inclusion in statement of arrivals of produce.
 Canadian Immigration Act 1910.
 Coal Booking to Kidderpur Docks: stoppage of.
 Coal Yarn: Lacadives: auction sale of.
 Do. do. market value of roping.
 Colon: Emigration to.
 Commercial Travellers League: honorary membership of.
 Crushed food: Liability for loss en route from Dibrugarh.
 Delhi Durbar: proposed representation of Indian Chambers at.
 Delivery orders for gunnies.
 Ecuador Consulate: fees for signing documents.
 Emigration and Immigration in Madras Presidency: report for 1910.
 Epidemic Diseases Act III of 1897. Amendments in rule 1 of the rules under Plague regulation No. 14 of 25th April 1899.
 Explosives: Annual Report of the Chief Inspector in India for 1910-11.
 Famine in Rajputana: reduction in railway rates.
 Feather Trade.
 Government promissory notes: endorsement of.
 Grain Sacks: marking of.
 Gut industry.
 Indian tea in South America.
 International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers' Associations.
 Java Coffee: Government auction sale of.
 Joint Stock Company: interpretation of a clause in Articles of Association.
 Jute imports into Calcutta and the mill stations.
 Jute Statistics.
 Jute statistics: supply to the Director of Agriculture, Bengal.
 Do. do. do. do. E. B. & Assam.
 King Emperor's birthday holiday.
 Labour Market in districts of Bengal: conditions of.
 Marwari Jute Sellers Association.
 Mauritius Sugar Bags.
 Metric System of weights and measures.
 Mines in India: Report of the Chief Inspector for 1910.
 Mohurrum festival.
 Moragunga Channel: excavation of.

Nashki-Seistan trade route: Camel contract for carriage of goods.
 Netherlands India: Ordinance relating to admission into.
 Orissa ports: administration report for 1910-11.
 Piece-goods and yarns: statement of arrivals and despatches of, by rail and river.
 Piece-goods arbitrations: fees for.
 Piece-goods bookings to Delhi during Durbar.
 Plague: report on the progress of.
 Plantain fibre.
 Port of Calcutta: administration report for 1910-11.
 Do. do. detailed report re port charges, etc.
 Port Officer's Department: annual report for 1910-11.
 Railways passengers: supply of drinking water.
 Rap cake.
 Red Sea: Gulf of Akabah.
 Repertoire or Directory of French manufacturers.
 Rolling-stock on Indian Railways.
 Salonica and Smyrna: defence by mines of the ports of.
 St. John Ambulance Association: White book of.
 Secret Commissions and Bribery Prevention League.
 Shipping offices at Calcutta and the Orissa Ports: annual report for 1910-11.
 Spokane Chamber of Commerce: Proposed visit of the President to India.
 Tide Tables for the river Hooghly for 1912.
 Trade Marks: Registration of.
 Trade with Guatemala, Costa Rica, etc.
 Wheat, Linseed and Rapeseed: prices ruling in Calcutta and London.
 Wholesale prices of certain staple articles in Calcutta.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Committee of the Chamber, &c., and Mercantile
Associations.

(Corrected up to 26th April 1912).

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce :

1. Mr. A. M. MOSTEATH, *President*,
Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
2. " E. H. BRAY, *Vice-President*,
Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
3. COL. C. A. R. BROWNE, R.E. Manager, Eastern Bengal State Railway.
4. HON. SIR CECIL GRAHAM,
Kt. ... Messrs. Graham & Co.
5. Mr. H. S. JOHNSTON ... National Bank of India, Ltd.
6. " NORMAN McLEOD ... Messrs. McLeod & Co.
7. " J. C. SHERRICK ... Geo. Henderson & Co.
8. " A. TOPPING ... Macneill & Co.
9. " A. A. VLASTO ... Halli Brothers.

Representative of the Chamber on the Council of H. E. the Viceroy for making Laws and Regulations :

HON. SIR CECIL GRAHAM, Kt.
Messrs. Graham & Co.

* Representatives of the Chamber on the Council of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for making Laws and Regulations :

HON. MR. F. H. STEWART, C.I.E.,
Messrs. Gladstone, Wyllie & Co.

HON. MR. NORMAN McLEOD,
Messrs. McLeod & Co.

Representatives of the Chamber on the Port Trust :

1. Mr. H. C. BEGG ... Messrs. Begg, Dunlop & Co.
2. " E. H. BRAY ... " Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
3. " W. E. CRUM† ... " Graham & Co.
4. " C. J. KEER ... " Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
5. " A. C. PATTERSON ... " Becker, Gray & Co.
6. " A. TOPPING ... " Macneill & Co.

* Up to 31st March 1912.

† Mr. L. Edwards (*Acting*).

Representatives of the Chamber on the Calcutta Municipal Corporation :

1. Mr. J. R. BENTHAM ... Messrs. J. R. Bertram & Co.
2. " T. R. PRATT ... " T. R. Pratt & Co.
3. " W. R. RAE ... Manager, Sun Insurance Office.
4. " SHIRLEY TREMAYNE ... Messrs. W. H. Targett & Co.

Representatives of the Chamber on the Boiler Commission :

1. Mr. JOHN McPHERSON ... Manager, Barnagore Jute Factory Co., Ltd.
2. " G. F. SCOTT ... The Bengal Coal Co., Ltd.
3. " T. WILSON ... Messrs. Jessop & Co., Ltd.

Representative of the Chamber on the Board of Trustees, Indian Museum :

- Mr. R. G. D. THOMAS ... Messrs. J. Thomas & Co.

Representatives of the Chamber on the Smoke Commission :

1. Mr. A. B. DUNCAN ... The Clive Jute Mills Co., Ltd.
2. " JOHN TAYLOR ... Messrs. Burn & Co., Ltd.

Representative of the Chamber on the Government Work House :

- Mr. A. E. GOODWIN ... Messrs. Martin & Co.

Representatives of the Chamber on the Board of Examiners for Commercial Classes, Presidency College :

1. Mr. W. C. CURRIE ... Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
2. " W. A. LEE ... " Hoare, Miller & Co.

Representatives of the Chamber on the General Hospital Visiting Committee :

1. Hon. Sir CECIL GRAHAM, Kt. ... Messrs. Graham & Co.
2. Mr. J. B. STRAIN ... " Bird & Co.

Representative of the Chamber on the Campbell Hospital Visiting Committee :

- Mr. A. A. VLASTO ... Messrs. Ralli Brothers.

Representatives of the Chamber on the Hospital Nurses' Institution General Committee :

1. Hon. Sir CECIL GRAHAM, Kt. ... Messrs. Graham & Co.
2. Mr. J. B. STRAIN ... " Bird & Co.

Representative of the Chamber on the Lady Minto's Indian Nursing Association, Bengal Branch :

- Mr. A. TOPPING ... Messrs. Macneill & Co.

Representative of the Chamber on the Board of Trustees on the Calcutta Improvement Act, 1911 :

- Mr. R. G. D. THOMAS ... Messrs. J. Thomas & Co.

Licensed Measurers' Department Committee :

1. Mr. A. C. PATTERSON, *Chairman*, Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co.
2. " P. H. BROWNE ... " Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
3. " N. DAMIANO ... " Ralli Brothers.
4. " H. C. EDMONDSON ... " Turner, Morrison & Co.
5. " L. EDWARDS ... " Graham & Co.
6. " A. WEATHERHEAD ... " Hoare, Miller & Co.
7. " ... " "

Royal Exchange Committee:

1. Mr. A. M. MONTGATH, *President*,
Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie &
Co.
2. " E. H. BRAY, *Vice-President*,
Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot &
Co.
3. " G. B. DEAKIN ... " Landale & Morgan.
4. " C. N. DOUETIL ... " R. Steel & Co., Ltd.
5. " E. H. ELLES ... " Pigott, Chapman & Co.
6. " E. A. GOWARD ... " Walker, Goward & Co.
7. " H. S. JOHNSTON ... Agent, National Bank of India,
Ltd.
8. " GUY SHORROCK ... Messrs. Place, Siddons & Gough.
9. " JOHN SINCLAIR ... " Sinclair & Eck.

Piece-Goods Sub-Committee:

1. Mr. A. GLEN, *Chairman* ... Messrs. Gladstone, Wyllie & Co.
2. " B. C. APOSTOLIDES ... " A. Agelasto & Co.
3. " S. J. GILLEM ... " The Bombay Co., Ltd.
4. " H. G. HOUGHTON ... " Graham & Co.
5. " A. C. RALLI ... " Ralli Brothers.

Yarns Sub-Committee:

1. Mr. W. G. BRODIE, *Chairman*,
Messrs. Andrew Yule & Co.
2. " R. BAZLEY ... " Gladstone, Wyllie & Co.
3. " H. G. HOUGHTON ... " Graham & Co.
4. " E. D. ZALICHI ... " Ralli Brothers.

Railways Sub-Committee:

1. Col. C. A. R. BROWNE, R.E., *Chairman*,
Manager, E. B. S. Railway.
2. Mr. E. H. BRAY ... Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot &
Co.
3. " HAROLD P. MARTIN ... " Martin & Co.
4. " W. D. STEVEN ... " Kilburn & Co.
5. " A. TOPPING ... " Macneill & Co.

Shipping Sub-Committee:

1. Hon. Sir OSCIL GRAHAM, Kt., *Chairman*,
Messrs. Graham & Co.
2. Mr. J. CAMPBELL ... " Mackinnon, Mackenzie &
Co.
3. " W. K. DOWDING ... " Turner, Morrison & Co.
4. " R. A. ARNOLD JENKINS ... " The P. & O. S. N. Co.
5. " NORMAN MCLEOD ... " McLeod & Co.

Finance Sub-Committee:

1. Mr. H. S. JOHNSTON, *Chairman*,
Manager, National Bank of India, Ltd.
2. " L. G. DUNBAR ... Secretary and Treasurer, Bank of
Bengal.
3. " E. H. ELLES ... Messrs. Pigott, Chapman & Co.
4. " GUY SHORROCK ... " Place, Siddons & Gough.
5. " A. A. VLASTO ... " Ralli Brothers.

Inland Transport Sub-Committee:

1. Mr. A. TOPPING, *Chairman*, Messrs. Macneill & Co.
2. " H. C. BEGG ... " Begg, Dunlop & Co.
3. Col. C. A. R. BROWNE, R.E. Manager, E. B. S. Railway.
4. Mr. W. GIRDARD ... Messrs. Bird & Co.
5. " W. D. STEVEN ... " Kilburn & Co.

Electricity Sub-Committee:

1. Mr. F. RAWSON, O.M.S., *Chairman*,
Calcutta Electric Supply Corp.,
Ltd.
2. " C. G. T. EASTGATE, ... Messrs. Octavins, Steel & Co.
A.M.I.E.E.
3. " W. HODGKINSON ... " Balmer, Lawrie & Co.
4. " W. E. A. MORBY ... " Kilburn & Co.

Indian Tea Cess Committee:

Members.	Bodies or Authorities by whom recommended.
1. SIR APCAR APCAR, K.C.S.I....	1. } <i>Bengal Chamber of</i>
2. MR. H. S. JOHNSTON ...	2. } <i>Commerce.</i>
3. " A. TOPPING ...	3. }
4. " A. D. JACKSON ...	4. <i>Madras Chamber of</i>
	<i>Commerce.</i>
5. " W. A. DUNCAN ...	5. }
6. " W. O. GRAZEBROOK ...	6. }
8. " G. KINGSLEY ...	7. } <i>Indian Tea Association,</i>
9. " W. H. CARR ...	8. } <i>Calcutta.</i>
10. " J. MACKENZIE ...	9. }
11. " A. D. GORDON ...	10. }
	11. }
12. " R. N. FARQUHARSON ...	12. } <i>Assam Branch, Indian Tea</i>
13. " CHARLES FORBES ...	13. } <i>Association.</i>
14. " W. MACDONALD ...	14. } <i>Sirma Valley Branch,</i>
15. " W. T. CATHCART ...	15. } <i>Indian Tea Association.</i>
16. " ...	16. <i>The Darjeeling Planters' Association and the Terai Planters' Association, jointly.</i>
17. " W. A. J. THOMSON ...	17. <i>The Dooars Planters' Association.</i>
18. LIEUTENANT-COLONEL S. J. RENNIE, R.A.M.C. (retired.)	18. <i>The Dehra Doon Planters' Association.</i>
19. " ...	19. <i>The Kangra Valley Planters' Association.</i>
20. MR. J. CARSON PARKER ...	20. <i>The United Planters' Association of Southern India.</i>

MERCANTILE ASSOCIATIONS.

Indian Tea Association.

General Committee:

1. MR. G. KINGSLEY, *Chairman*, Messrs. Shaw, Wallace & Co.
2. " A. D. GORDON, *Vice-Chairman*, Messrs. Williamson, Magor & Co.
3. " H. W. CARR ... " Balmer, Lawrie & Co.
4. " F. G. CLARKE ... " Octavius, Steel & Co.
5. " G. F. A. DENNE ... " McLeod & Co.
6. " W. A. DUNCAN ... " Duncan Brothers & Co.
7. " W. G. FIGG ... " Begg, Dunlop & Co.
8. " R. GRAHAM ... " Jas. Finlay & Co., Ltd.
9. " W. F. REYNOLDS ... " Macneill & Co.

Darjeeling and Dooars Sub-Committee:

1. MR. W. H. MILES, *Chairman*, Messrs. J. Macillican & Co.
2. " G. H. CARTER ... " W. S. Crosswell & Co.
3. " F. G. CLARKE ... " Octavius, Steel & Co.
4. " J. M. DAVENPORT ... " Davenport & Co.
5. " W. M. EGERTON ... " Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
6. " A. D. GORDON ... " Williamson, Magor & Co.
7. " R. GRAHAM ... " James Finlay & Co., Ltd.
8. " J. A. C. MUNRO ... " Duncan Brothers & Co.

Scientific Department Sub-Committee:

1. Mr. G. KINGSLEY, *Chairman*, Messrs. Shaw, Wallace & Co.
2. " H. W. CARR ... " Balmer, Lawrie & Co.
3. " W. G. FERG ... " Begg, Dunlop & Co.
4. " A. D. GORDON ... " Williamson, Magor & Co.

Calcutta Tea Traders' Association, Committee:

1. Mr. W. J. LLOYD, *Chairman*, Messrs. Barry & Co.
2. " A. D. GORDON, *Vice-Chairman*, Messrs. Williamson, Magor & Co.
3. " W. P. AMPENOFF* ... " The Trading Co.
4. " H. C. BEGG ... " Begg, Dunlop & Co.
5. " J. BURNES ... " James Finlay & Co., Ltd.
6. " G. H. CARTER ... " W. S. Cresswell & Co.
7. " G. H. HILLIARD ... " Carrut, Moran & Co.
8. " C. D. INGLIS ... " Octavius, Steel & Co.
9. " R. G. D. THOMAS ... " J. Thomas & Co.

Indian Jute Mills' Association, Committee:

1. Mr. J. MACKENZIE, *Chairman*, Messrs. Macneill & Co.
2. " D. P. MCKENZIE ... " Duncan Brothers & Co.
3. " D. H. W. RITCHIE ... " Mackinson, Mackenzie & Co.
4. " J. C. SHORROCK ... " Geo. Henderson & Co.
5. " J. B. STRAIN ... " Bird & Co.

Calcutta Import Trade Association, Committee:

1. Mr. J. R. COULTHARD, *Chairman*, Messrs. Mackenzie, Lyall & Co.
2. " F. DOXEY, *Vice-Chairman*, Messrs. Barlow & Co.
3. " A. ANDERSON ... " Burn & Co., Ltd.
4. " A. C. LAW ... " Prawn Kissen Law & Co.
5. " G. LORENZO ... " A. Agelasto & Co.
6. " B. N. SINGAR ... " Kerr, Tarruck & Co.
7. " THRO. WALSH ... " Martin & Co.

* Mr. P. G. IVANOFF (*Acting*).**Calcutta Fire Insurance Agents' Association, Committee:**

1. Mr. D. LINDSAY, *Chairman*, Royal Insurance Co., Ltd.
2. " A. LEONARD-BELL, *Deputy Chairman*, Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation.
3. " C. W. BEWLEY ... London & Lancashire Insurance Co.
4. " LESLIE HAY ... Messrs. James Finlay & Co., Ltd.
5. " F. F. HOWARTH ... New Zealand Insurance Co., Ltd.
6. " J. C. LANG ... Messrs. Geo. Henderson & Co.
7. " W. R. RAE ... Sun Insurance Office.

Calcutta Marine Insurance Agents' Association, Committee:

1. Mr. VICTOR MURRAY, *Chairman*, South British Insurance Co., Ltd.
2. " C. G. H. DESCHMID, *Deputy Chairman*, Commercial Union Assurance Co., Ltd.
3. " H. LEONARD-BELL ... Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation.
4. " LESLIE HAY ... Messrs. Jas. Finlay & Co., Ltd.
5. " W. HENDERSON ... London & Lancashire Insurance Company.
6. " F. F. HOWARTH ... New Zealand Insurance Co., Ltd.
7. " H. W. D. SCHMIDT ... Union Assurance Society of Canton.

Calcutta Wheat and Seed Trade Association, Committee:

1. Mr. C. F. BRADEN, *Chairman*, Messrs. Becker, Gray & Co.
2. " C. J. CALFOPOULOU ... " F. C. Pallachi & Co.
3. " A. C. VON ERNSTHAUSEN ... " Ernsthausen, Ltd.
4. " W. HAMANN ... " Louis Dreyfus & Co.
5. " P. NICACCHI ... " Petroccchino Brothers.

**The Wine, Spirit and Beer Association of India,
Committee:**

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. C. W. THOMPSON, <i>Chairman</i> , | Messrs. Mackenzie, Lyall & Co. |
| 2. | " F. A. BANYARD ... " | Samuel, Fitze & Co., Ltd. |
| 3. | " W. G. HUMPHRIES ... " | Herbert, Parrott & Co. |
| 4. | " JOHN LITTLE ... " | John Dewar & Sons, Ltd. |
| 5. | " A. M. H. RUSSELL ... " | G. F. Kellner & Co. |
| 6. | " J. H. WITCHURCH ... " | Outler, Palmer & Co. |

**Indian Mining Association,
Committee:**

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. W. L. WANKLYN, <i>Chairman</i> , | Messrs. Andrew Yule & Co. |
| 2. | " E. W. BOWREY ... " | McLeod & Co. |
| 3. | " W. L. CAREY ... " | F. W. Heilgers & Co. |
| 4. | " S. G. L. EUSTACE ... " | Kilburn & Co. |
| 5. | " W. A. IRONSIDE ... " | Bird & Co. |
| 6. | " T. W. T. QUARMBY ... " | Balmer, Lawrie & Co. |
| 7. | " A. TOPPING ... " | Macneill & Co. |

**Calcutta Baled Jute Association,
Committee:**

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. C. N. DOUETIL, <i>Chairman</i> , | Messrs. R. Steel & Co., Ltd. |
| 2. | " J. E. BROWN* ... " | Landale & Morgan. |
| 3. | " J. N. CHONDER ... " | S. C. Chunder & Co. |
| 4. | " D. EASTON ... " | Lyall, Marshall & Co. |
| 5. | " A. C. VON ERNSTHAUSEN ... " | Ernsthausen, Ltd. |
| 6. | " M. C. GUZDAR ... " | P. E. Guzdar & Co. |
| 7. | " A. C. PATTERSON ... " | Becker, Gray & Co. |
| 8. | " T. M. THADDEUS ... " | T. M. Thaddeus & Co. |
| 9. | " A. TOSH ... " | J. Thomas & Co. |

**Indian Paper Makers' Association,
Committee:**

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. A. PERSTON, <i>Chairman</i> , | Messrs. Balmer, Lawrie & Co. |
| 2. | " R. KOTHAUS ... " | F. W. Heilgers & Co. |

* Mr. G. B. Denkin, Messrs. Landale & Morgan (*Acting*).

**Engineering and Iron Traders' Association,
Committee:**

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. JOHN TAYLOR, <i>Chairman</i> , | Messrs. Burn & Co., Ltd. |
| 2. | " I. R. CLARK* ... " | Jessop & Co., Ltd. |
| 3. | " GEO. A. KING ... " | John King & Co., Ltd. |

**Jute Fabrics Shippers' Association,
Committee:**

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. R. O. LAW, <i>Chairman</i> ... | Messrs. Birmymre Brothers. |
| 2. | " S. E. DESMETZ ... " | Ralli Brothers. |
| 3. | " A. C. VON ERNSTHAUSEN ... " | Ernsthausen, Ltd. |
| 4. | " C. A. GIANNACOPULO ... " | Gladstone, Wyllie & Co. |
| 5. | " C. DE M. KELLOCK ... " | Gillanders, Arbutnot & Co. |

**Calcutta Hydraulic Press Association,
Committee:**

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-------|
| 1. | _____ , <i>Chairman</i> , | _____ |
| 2. | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | _____ | _____ |
| 4. | _____ | _____ |
| 5. | _____ | _____ |

**Jute Fabrics Brokers' Association,
Committee:**

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. O. HADENFELDT, <i>Chairman</i> , | Messrs. Poppe, Delius & Co. |
| 2. | " G. S. E. COLVILLE ... " | J. Thomas & Co. |
| 3. | " C. T. GODFREY ... " | C. T. Godfrey & Co. |
| 4. | " J. W. HADWEN ... " | Perman & Hynd. |
| 5. | " T. NICOLL ... " | King Brothers. |

* Mr. T. Wilson (*Acting*).

**Baled Jute Shippers' Association,
Committee:**

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. C. N. DOUETIL, <i>Chairman</i> , | Messrs. R. Steel & Co., Ltd. |
| 2. | " C. F. BEADEL ... " | Becker, Gray & Co. |
| 3. | " DAVID EASTON ... " | Lyall, Marshall & Co. |
| 4. | " A. C. VON ERNSTHAUSEN ... " | Ernsthausen, Ltd. |
| 5. | " O. G. NOMIC ... " | Ralli Brothers. |

**Baled Jute Brokers' Association,
Committee:**

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. T. M. THADDEUS, <i>Chairman</i> , | Messrs. T. M. Thaddus & Co. |
| 2. | " J. E. BROWN ... " | Landale & Morgan. |
| 3. | " J. B. CRUGHTON ... " | Sinclair, Murray & Co. |
| 4. | " J. E. COWIE ... " | J. Thomas & Co. |
| 5. | " T. O. DUNCAN ... " | F. C. Pallachi & Co. |

**Recognised Associations of the Bengal Chamber
of Commerce.**

NAME.	JOINED.
Calcutta Wheat and Seed Trade Association	... July 1884.
Indian Jute Mills' Association	... November 1884.
Indian Tea Association	... May 1885.
Calcutta Tea Traders' Association...	... September 1886.
Calcutta Fire Insurance Agents' Association	... July 1888.
Calcutta Import Trade Association	... September 1890.
Calcutta Marine Insurance Agents' Association	... April 1891.
The Wine, Spirit and Beer Association of India.	... December 1891.
Indian Mining Association	... March 1892.
Calcutta Baled Jute Association	... May 1892.
Indian Paper Makers' Association	... May 1895.
Engineering and Iron Trades Association	... December 1895.
Jute Fabrics Shippers' Association	... January 1899.
Calcutta Hydraulic Press Association	... December 1903.
Jute Fabrics Brokers' Association	... January 1906.
Baled Jute Shippers' Association	... March 1908.
Baled Jute Brokers' Association	... March 1910.

REPORT :
PIECE-GOODS SUB-COMMITTEE.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDING,

Calcutta, 31st January 1912.

REPORT OF THE PIECE-GOODS SUB-COMMITTEE.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to submit to you the Fourteenth Annual Report of the work done in connection with Piece-Goods Arbitrations conducted under the Rules of the Tribunal of Arbitration as well as applications for survey reports.

As regards piece-goods arbitrations, the past year has been normal, the number of cases disposed of being three hundred and two as compared with three hundred in 1910. These were made up of two hundred and sixty-one regular arbitrations under the Rules of the Tribunal, and forty-one were applications for survey reports. The income derived by the Chamber from Institution fees and from references undertaken for non-members amounted to Rs. 6,906 as compared with Rs. 5,008 in 1910.

COUNTER INDICATION OF THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

In November last, you referred to us for an expression of opinion, a letter of 30th October from the Collector of Customs on the subject of the counter indication of the country of origin. The Collector referred to the decision which had been arrived at last year on this subject, and mentioned that a similar point had arisen in connection with glazed labels bearing representations of Indian deities commonly attached to piece-goods. The orders regarding such labels were contained in Rule 33 of the Merchandise Marks Manual and required such representations to bear counter indications of the country of origin when applied to goods made or produced beyond the limits of British India. These instructions were given effect to in the case of goods imported from countries other than the United Kingdom. In the case of British piece-goods such labels had in the past also ordinarily borne the stamp or name of the British manufacturer, shipping or importing firm, and no objection had been raised to them on the analogy of the decision arrived

at in connection with the trade descriptions in the vernacular which had been under discussion last year. Recently, however, importations had occurred of goods bearing labels not stamped with the name of the firm or in fact with any words at all except the name or names of the deities in an Indian vernacular with possibly the words "Registered as Copyright." Such labels contravened the provisions of the Merchandise Marks Act and the question arose as to whether it was necessary to take exception to them. The same question was also raised as regards similar markings actually stamped on the goods.

After inspecting the samples of the labels and of certain pieces of cloth with the markings mentioned, we expressed our opinion that goods bearing labels like the samples or markings such as those on the samples of cloth submitted, should bear some counter indication of origin.

*LIST OF COTTON PIECE-GOODS.—Reference from the Collector
of Customs regarding lace undershirts.*

In August last, you referred to us for an expression of opinion, a letter of 1st August from the Collector of Customs, with reference to the question as to whether white cotton lace undershirts should be regarded as "apparel" or "cotton hosiery."

The Collector pointed out that these undershirts differed from the ordinary cotton undershirt of knitted stockinette material inasmuch as they contained no hosiery material except the ends of the sleeves. The articles appeared to be cut from the piece shaped and machine sewn throughout. In was arguable whether they should be regarded as "Apparel" or "Cotton Hosiery." It seemed to him that the matter appeared to turn on the question as to whether by the usage of the trade the term hosiery was understood to include only articles made wholly or mainly of knitted stockinette material or was held to have a less restricted significance.

We replied that the lace undershirts in question should be classed as "cotton hosiery." It seemed to us that there was the same analogy between a lace undershirt and an ordinary undershirt as there was between a fancy open-work stocking and an ordinary stocking. We further expressed the view that all undershirts should be classed as "hosiery" and that to draw any distinction between the various styles would lead to difficulties. We pointed out that if the suggestion of the Chamber that cotton undershirts should be left in the list of cotton piece-goods had been accepted, the present difficulty would not have arisen.

PAYMENT OF EXTRA PREMIUM TO COVER WAR RISKS.

In November last, you referred to us, for an expression of opinion, a letter of 13th idem from a member of the Chamber, intimating that they had recently been charged by a firm of Man-

chester shippers extra premium to cover war risks on goods purchased on c. i. f. terms, and suggesting that you should take up this matter with the Manchester Chamber.

We were of opinion that when the shippers accepted a certain c. i. f. price for the goods they should have at that time made their arrangements for the cost, freight and insurance of the goods. If the price to be paid for any of these items had afterwards risen, the shippers should be responsible and not the indenter. We recommended, however, that before you took any steps in the matter you should obtain legal opinion upon it. We understand that the legal opinion obtained by you confirms our view.

INDIAN PATENTS AND DESIGNS ACT, 1912.

At your request we examined the draft rules which the Government of India proposed to make under the Indian Patents and Designs Act, 1912, and also considered the letter from Messrs. Sanderson & Co. advising the Chamber upon them. We found that we had no suggestions to offer, and advised you accordingly.

*QUESTION AS TO WHETHER A DIFFERENCE IN STAMPING
RENDERIS GOODS LIABLE TO CANCELLATION.*

On a reference from a member of the Chamber, in February last, as to the custom of the Calcutta market regarding the stamping of goods, and whether a difference in stamping rendered the goods liable to cancellation, we replied that the custom of the Calcutta market is that the stamping is part of the contract and that goods wrongly stamped are liable to cancellation.

*QUESTION OF SHIPMENT SAMPLES FOR A FIRST SHIPMENT
BEING A SUFFICIENT TENDER FOR A SECOND SHIPMENT.*

We were asked by a member of the Chamber, in February last, for an expression of opinion with reference to the question of shipment samples for a first shipment being a sufficient tender for the second shipment.

We replied that shipment samples were in no case a tender for the goods. The goods themselves were the tender. Most Calcutta contracts had a clause allowing the buyer forty days from landing date in which to claim for inferiority of sample. Practically all Calcutta contracts had a clause reading "This agreement is to be deemed and construed as a separate contract in respect of each instalment of goods undermentioned, and the rights and liabilities of the vendors and purchasers respectively shall be the same as though a separate contract had been made out and signed in respect of each instalment." We added that, as far as we were aware there was no agreement between the Manchester and Calcutta Chambers on the subject and no question had ever been raised.

QUESTION OF VALIDITY OF A CONTRACT BASED
ON INCORRECT TELEGRAM.

In March last, we were asked by a member of the Chamber for an expression of our opinion as to whether they were liable, according to the custom of the Calcutta market, under the following circumstances.—An offer had been received by them from a native firm for 50 bales dhooties at 2s. 3d. and this was duly wired home, a quotation of 2s. 4d. being received. At 5 p.m. in the evening, the customer called and verbally offered to increase the quantity to 75 bales and the price to 2/3d which was accepted forthwith, and a sale note given to the customer. This was wired home and the next morning a reply was received that there had been a mistake and the price should be 2s. 6 3/4d. The firm in question wrote to the customer at 8-30 a.m. and advised him to this effect, but the latter claimed delivery or a difference of 4 annas per piece. The firm contended that a contract issued at 5-30 p.m. (practically after office hours) and cancelled at 8-30 the next morning (before office hours) through a mistake in telegrams could not be said to be binding.

We replied that, in our opinion, there was a valid contract between the firm and the customer for 75 bales at 2s. 3 3/4d. unless there was anything in the contract or sale note which provided against mistakes in telegrams.

PIECE-GOODS IN COUNTRY BOUND BALES.

We were consulted, in May last, by the Goods Superintendent, East Indian Railway, and the Marwari Chamber of Commerce with reference to the loss arising out of country bound bales of piece-goods booked from Calcutta to up-country stations and the steps which might be taken to obviate it. We appointed two of our number to confer with the Goods Superintendent and the representatives of the Marwari Chamber. As a result of a conference which took place, it was agreed that hoops at an interval of five inches, in two directions, with single gummies, as proposed by the Marwari Association, would give a reasonable protection to the Railway Company against pilferage, and that the Railway Company should refuse bales with loose hoops or bales which were not bound as stated.

STAMPING OF PIECE-GOODS.

To a reference from a member of the Chamber, in September last, as to whether it is the custom of this market that a dealer has the option of cancelling his purchase in the event of the quality number being stamped in blue instead of in gold, as instructed, we replied that there was no "custom of the market" in such cases. We suggested that in case of a dispute on the point the matter should be submitted to arbitration in the usual way.

FEES FOR PRIVATE PIECE-GOODS ARBITRATIONS.

In reply to a reference from you, in November last, we agreed with your suggestion that piece-goods arbitrators on the Chamber's list should be asked to charge for private piece-goods arbitrations, a fee of Rs. 24 instead of Rs. 16, for each case, in order that the cost of private arbitrations may be the same as that of an arbitration held by the Chamber. We agreed that it was not in the interests of the piece-goods trade that private arbitrations should be largely resorted to. We note that you issued a circular to all piece-goods arbitrators on the Chamber's list to this effect and we understand that the increased fee recommended is being charged by arbitrators for private arbitrations in disputes relating to piece-goods.

LATE SHIPMENT OF PIECE-GOODS.

In reply to a question from a member of the Chamber, in December last, as to whether, if an extension of three months is asked for and the goods are actually shipped in two months, the correct allowance is 3 1/2 per cent. or 2 1/2 per cent., we replied that, in our opinion, the correct allowance is 2 1/2 per cent.

In November, we were asked for our opinion as to whether, if suppliers failed to supply goods during the period contracted for and if they produced a certificate by a Chamber of Commerce that the goods were late owing to strike, the suppliers were liable to pay an allowance or not. We replied that, in our opinion, if the extension required did not exceed one month, the goods must be taken without an allowance, and that a Chamber of Commerce certificate must be accepted as proof of strike.

In September, we were asked for an expression of opinion with reference to liability for late shipment in the following circumstances:—12 bales of Grey Shirtings were sold under one contract for shipment in February 5 bales, March 5 bales, April 2 bales. In consequence of a stoppage at the mill in January the goods were shipped February nil, March 7 bales, April 3 bales and May 2 bales. In each case the goods were not therefore more than one month late. We replied that, in our opinion, any contract made before the breakdown or strike is protected for one month under the *force majeure* clause. Since each instalment is deemed a separate contract, the seller had the right to make use of the clause as regards his February, March and April shipments on account of a breakdown or strike in January.

In July, we were asked for our opinion on the following point.—A firm of Manchester shippers wired for one month's extension on a lot of piece-goods. This was granted by the Calcutta indenter. A little later on they wired for a further month's extension on the same lot, which was also granted. The point was as to whether the shippers should pay the late shipment allowance

for each month separately, i.e. $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for each extension equalling 3 per cent. or the allowance for an extension of two months, viz $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. We replied that, in our opinion $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. was the correct allowance.

Certain other questions with regard to the interpretation of the *force majeure* clause having arisen, we note that you took legal opinions upon them which have been circulated for the information of members of the Chamber in circulars Nos. 356-1911 and 408-1911 of 4th October and 10th November 1911, respectively.

Certain questions were also raised by the Calcutta Import Trade Association in connection with the recent strikes in Manchester and the opinion of all members of the Chamber were asked upon them. You consulted us with reference to the replies received from members, and we submitted to you a draft of a clause which we considered might be inserted in Calcutta contracts after communication with the Chambers of Commerce of London, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow and Bradford. But on further consideration of the question we have ventured, in anticipation of sanction, to take further Counsel's opinion on some points which have arisen, and on receipt of the opinion we will address you again on the subject.

STATEMENTS REGARDING ARBITRATIONS AND SURVEYS DURING THE YEAR 1911.

The usual detailed statements regarding arbitrations and surveys are appended for information.

The classes of goods in which references have been most frequent were:—

	1911.	1910.
White Nainsooks	...	9
" Dhooties	...	6
Gray Shirtings	...	17
" Dhooties	...	31
Sarries	...	7
Prints	...	9
Shawls	...	12
Undershirts	...	33
Blankets	...	17

The following were references for assessment of allowances for mildew, stain, spot, and other damages:—

	1911.	1910.
Gray Shirtings	...	11
" Dhooty	...	10
White Dhooties	...	5
Red Cambrics	...	2
Umbrella Furniture	...	2
Hosiery	...	1

The following table shows the number of references during each of the last five years, and the manner in which they were disposed of:—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
YEAR.	Total number of references.	Number of references in which an allowance was given.	Number of references in which no allowance was given.	Percentage of cases in which no allowance was given.	Number of cases in which cancellation of contract was avoided.	Number of cases in which an allowance was given and institution of cancellation.
1907	328	201	107	32	20	...
1908	721	514	342	47	64	1
1909	300	143	154	44	23	...
1910	300	144	119	39	37	...
1911	302	153	111	36	37	1

The following comparative statement shows the amount earned by the Department in respect of references undertaken for parties, not members of the Chamber, during the last five years and from additional institution fees during the last two years:—

Year.	Amount. Rs.
1907	...
1908	...
1909	...
*1910	...
*1911	...

We are, GENTLEMEN,
Your most obedient servants,

W. E. CRUM, *Chairman*
R. BAZLEY,
W. R. CRAIK,
S. J. GILLUM,
A. C. RALLI, } *Members.*

* Institution fee of Rs. 16 levied as from 1st June 1910.

List of Piece-Goods Arbitrations dealt with under the Rules of the Tribunal of Arbitration and Surveys during 1911.

Goods.		January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	TOTAL.
White Muslins	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	1	2	...	10
" Mulls	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	7
" Jaconets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
" Shirts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Drills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Grey Shirtings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Rhinoceros	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	6
" Jaconets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madapolams	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Khaki Shirtings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Blankets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Broad Cloth	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Broadies	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Flannels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Flannel Shirt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	3
Costings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dorings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alpacas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hosiery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Woolens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muslins, Dyed	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	3
Prints	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sarries	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shawls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shirtings, Col'd	...	6	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Singlets	...	12	4	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Stripes, Fancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Comfortors	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	8	18	...	26
Trousers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Blankets, Cloth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Umbrella Furniture	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	5
Velveten	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Parasols, Cloth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	3
Venetians	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Parasols, Cloth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bags, Cotton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lounge	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Back, Ital. Italian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Cashmere	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suits, Wool	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
White Crochet Cotton	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cotton Thread	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Furths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Silken Ribbons	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shawls, Stamping on goods	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL.	...	29	18	15	10	12	15	15	24	35	24	66	30	302

List of Piece-Goods Arbitrations dealt with under the Rules of the Tribunal of Arbitration during the year 1911.

Goods.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
White Linens	...	1	...	...	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	9	14
" Diagonal	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
" Jacquets	1	...	1	2
" Sarves	1	...	...	...	1
" Trills
Grey Shirtings	...	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	3	4	5	24
" Diagonal
" Jacquets
" Sarves
" Multipilams	1	...	...	...	...	1
Khaki Shirtings	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blankets
" Broad Cloth	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" Bedreads
" Quilts	1	2	1	3
" Cottings
" Percales	1	1	1	4
" Alpaca
" Hosiery	1	2	2	5
" Velvets
" Moins, Dyed	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	5
" Sateen
" Shiraz	...	6	3	...	2	...	...	3	2	4	5	1	18
" Shirtings, Gold
" Shirtings, Gold	...	12	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
" Onafets	1	1	5	3	...	9	6	14	7	62
" Strips, Fancy
" Singlets	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	7
" Trousings	1	1	1	...	2	6
" Veneled Furniture
" Velvetan	1	1	...	...	...	2
" Veneled
" Umbrella Cloth	1	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	5
" Rag, Cotton
" Quilts
" Sarves, Dyed	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
" White Crochet Cotton.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" Tullies	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" Satens Ribbons
Total.	27	18	15	9	12	15	10	10	31	21	52	32	261

List of Piece-Goods Surveys during 1911.

Goods.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
White Neckties	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	5
" Rhodies
Grey Rhodies
" Shirtings
Taramatta Cloth
Cotton Tread
Umbrella Cloth	1	...	...	1	...	...	2
Sarries
Flannel
Flannel Shirt
Loongee
Prints
Undershirts
Black Italinas
Cotton Thread
Shawls
Wrong Stamping on goods
TOTAL	2	...	...	1	...	...	5	4	3	14	7	41	

REPORT:
YARNS SUB-COMMITTEE.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDING,

Calcutta, 30th January 1912.

REPORT : YARNS SUB-COMMITTEE.

To
THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE.
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

In August last, you referred to us for an expression of opinion, a letter from the Burma Chamber of Commerce, asking for the support of this Chamber to a representation, which they had addressed to the Government of India, with regard to the make-up of grey and bleached yarns and the reductions permissible in the latter. Reference was made to certain regulations which had been issued by the Collector of Customs, Burma, one of which was as follows :—"Reduced grey and bleached cotton yarn will be passed provided that they are distinctly marked as reduced and comply with all the conditions required for the yarn of the lower count number." It was stated that the enforcement of the regulations would completely disorganise the trade, as they prohibited the make-up and reductions which had been customary in that market for the past thirty or forty years. That market was said to require all bleached twofold yarn and 30s and 40s grey yarn to be made up in 5 lb. bundles, and the make-up prescribed by the Act entailed a most awkward and unsightly bundle. Further, as these yarns were sold by the hank, the retailer was unable conveniently to sell less than 20 hanks, at a time, whereas formerly he could supply either two or three hanks according to requirements. Importers in Burma admitted that some restriction was necessary regarding the reduction of bleached yarns, but suggested that it should be limited to 10 per cent.

We replied that, with regard to the question of make-up, we recognised the difficulty of meeting the convenience of the retail dealer in the Burma market, but it seemed to us that it might be possible to effect some compromise whereby importers would be allowed to import bundles containing a larger number of knots than the present regulations require. But, with reference to the question of reduction of bleached yarn, we were not aware that hardship was experienced by importers conforming to the requirements of

the Merchandise Marks Act. If this were the case in the Burma market, it could not be reasonably suggested that importers there should be placed on a different footing with regard to the requirements of the Act than importers for the Indian market, where the regulations are rigidly enforced. We added that, if consulted, you should reply to the Government of India in the above sense, and point out that the regulation, referred to above, was *ultra vires*. The Act was specially passed to stop reductions in the make-up of grey yarns, and to allow of permissible reductions in bleached yarns. We were not aware of any orders of the Government of India permitting reductions of grey yarn.

In March last, you enquired whether we considered it would be of interest to the mercantile community if statistics of the import trade in cotton twist and yarn (Indian) and cotton piece-goods (Indian) by rail, road, river and canal were included in Tables Nos. 1 and 2 of the monthly "Statement showing the quantities of the principal staples of traffic imported into and exported from Calcutta."

We replied that, in our opinion, the additional statistics would be of value to the mercantile community.

No other references have been made to us during the year.

We are, GENTLEMEN,
Your obedient servants,
W. G. BRODIE, *Chairman*,
C. ANNINOS,
R. BAZLEY, } *Members.*
H. G. HOUGHTON, }

REPORT: SHIPPING SUB-COMMITTEE.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDING,

Calcutta, 30th January 1912.

REPORT: SHIPPING SUB-COMMITTEE.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

Immediately after we had taken office, you asked to be furnished with our opinion upon a proposal for the exemption of fishing vessels from the payment of port dues in the ports of Calcutta, Cuttack and Balasore. The question was raised in connection with an enquiry by the Government of India as to whether there is a case for the general exemption of fishing vessels from the payment of port dues at all Indian ports. We approved of the proposal, and recommended that it should be adopted.

The next reference that you made to us was on the subject of certain amendments of the provincial rules for the conduct of examinations of masters and mates of foreign-going and home-trade ships. We approved of these amendments, which had been introduced by the Government of Bengal.

In March you submitted to us, for examination, the Chittagong Port Bill, the object of which is to consolidate and to amend the law relating to the port of Chittagong. Shipping firms, members of the Chamber, took exception to certain of the provisions of this measure, and asked that you should request the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam to reconsider them. The provisions in question were designed to enable the Port Commissioners to require ocean-going steamers to use such docks, jetties, wharves, etc. as may be constructed either by the Port Commissioners, or by the Assam Bengal Railway. We agreed with the shipping firms that the enactment of these clauses would be detrimental to shipping interests generally, and particularly to the interests of those firms who have already provided themselves, at a heavy expenditure of capital, with landing-stages, pontoons, and other landing and shipping facilities. We accordingly recommended that the protest that the firms in question had made against the clauses should be supported by the Chamber.

In April we recommended you to support the Indian Mining Association in the objections that they raised to the insertion, by the Institute of London Underwriters, in the warranties of steamers insured for time, of the following clause namely:—"Warranted 'not to sail with Indian coal as cargo between March 1st and June 30th.'" The Association asked that you should draw the attention of the London Chamber of Commerce to the clause, and we were of opinion that you should take this course.

In the same month you asked for our views upon an alteration, which had been made by the Cochin Chamber of Commerce, in the Cochin tonnage scale for *cargo*. We considered the alteration, but as *cargo* is not shipped from Calcutta, it did not seem to us to necessitate a modification of the Calcutta scale.

In the report of last year's Sub-Committee reference was made to a proposal that the telegraph office at Saugor Island should be closed. This proposal you submitted to us, and we confirmed the opinion expressed by our predecessors, namely, that the office ought not to be closed. It was understood to be the intention of Government to substitute telephonic for telegraphic communication between Saugor and Mud Point. We considered that this was a retrograde step, and we recommended you to advocate the retention of the telegraph office, although we understood that the cost of so doing would be heavy.

In June you put before us a representation by the principal boat companies in Calcutta with reference to the thefts of jute gamies, etc., which occur from boats either in transit, or alongside vessels, in port limits. We were of opinion that you should approach the Government of Bengal on the subject, as was recommended by the committee.

At about the same time you asked for our views upon a proposal, which was made by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, for the reduction of the discount on differences of outward freights from Bombay. We replied that we did not think there was need for you to remark on this proposal. The shipping systems of Calcutta and Bombay are entirely distinct, and a modification in one does not in any way affect the other.

The question of the navigation of the river Hooghly by night was considered by us at your request. It was raised by the Liners Conference, who expressed themselves as being strongly of opinion that the Chamber should urge the Calcutta Port Commissioners to take steps to have the channels lighted with the least possible delay. We recognised the importance of the question, and suggested that Committee to investigate it, and to report.

You submitted to us an enquiry from the Karachi Chamber of Commerce with reference to the Prior-to-entry system in force at Calcutta Custom House. We supplied the information required

by the Karachi Chamber, and suggested that it should be passed on to that body.

You have made two references to us during the year, on the subject of the form of agreements with Indian shippers. It was proposed by the Government of Bengal that certain modifications should be made in the form, and after examining these we expressed our approval of them.

In August you consulted us on the subject of the freight chargeable on tea dust and fannings shipped in bags. The steamship lines trading between India and China had asked for an opinion from the Chamber as to the weight per ton, of 50 cub. ft., upon which freight should be calculated. We agreed with your proposal that the weight should be 12½ cwt. per ton for both dust and fannings.

You submitted to us a reference from the Burma Chamber of Commerce on the subject of a notification dated 8th April 1911 by the Government of India, declaring that the provisions of the Inland Steam Vessels Act 1894 were to be made applicable to vessels that ordinarily ply on inland waters in the province of Burma, and that are propelled by electricity, or other mechanical power. The notification made at the same time certain modifications in the Act, one of these being that every motor vessel plying on inland waters would be required to carry a certificated master and a certificated engineer. The Burma Chamber objected to this, and asked if a similar regulation had been introduced in Bengal. We made enquiries and came to the conclusion that two certificated men were necessary in the interests of owners. We informed you accordingly, and stated at the same time that no similar regulation had been prescribed for this province.

In September you referred to us a case in which an enquiry was made as to whether brokerage was payable by the owners of a steamer on a cancelled charter containing the following clause, namely:—

"3½ per cent. commission to include brokerage on gross amount of freight, dead freight and demurrage earned under the charter to be paid to (Calcutta agents of the steamer)".

On the facts as stated, and assuming that the charter was cancelled without consideration, it did not seem to the majority of us that brokerage was payable.

We expressed approval of a proposal, made by the Committee of your Licensed Measurers' Department, that the rebate on the measurement charges levied by the Department should be reduced from 33½ per cent. to 25 per cent. But we suggested that the reduction should be experimental for one year, and that the question should be reconsidered at the end of that period.

In October you consulted us with reference to a question connected with the re-exportation of imported transhipped goods. A

company, members of the Chamber, enquired if steamship companies are justified in issuing a qualified bill of lading for such goods when they are re-exported. We recommended that you should reply to this enquiry in the affirmative, as it is not unreasonable for owners of steamers to protect themselves with reference to the contents of original invoices, after the cargo has been through the hands of stowdors, shed custodians and others.

In reply to an enquiry from you we expressed the opinion that, under an ordinary bill of lading, a steamer cannot be held liable for leakage, or for breakage of fragile goods. The enquiry included dryage also, but as we were not informed of the class of cargo in question, we were unable to express an opinion as to this.

You have recently consulted us with reference to the question of accommodation at the Kidderpur Docks for the export grain traffic. This question is now under consideration by a special Committee of the Port Commissioners, whose enquiries in connection with it have not yet been concluded. We are not altogether convinced that the existing accommodation and facilities for handling traffic are being utilised to the best possible advantage; and we suggested, therefore, that you should recommend to the Commissioners that the special Committee should satisfy themselves upon this point. If after enquiry they find that a more advantageous use might be made of the existing accommodation and facilities, they might look into the causes of the existing method of working, and put forward remedial measures.

We are, GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servants,

F. H. STEWART, (<i>Chairman</i>),	} <i>Members.</i>
F. C. DANGER,	
L. EDWARDS,	
R. A. ARNOLD JENKINS,	
G. G. MONTEATH,	

REPORT: RAILWAYS SUB-COMMITTEE.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDING,

Calcutta, 30th January 1912.

REPORT: RAILWAYS SUB-COMMITTEE.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

In March you invited us to consider the Chittagong Port Bill, the object of which is to consolidate, and to amend the law relating to the port of Chittagong. Shipping firms, members of the Chamber, took exception to certain of the provisions of this measure, and asked that you should request the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam to reconsider them. The provisions in question were designed to enable the Port Commissioners to require ocean-going steamers to use such docks, jetties, wharves, etc., as may be constructed either by the Commissioners, or by the Assam Bengal Railway. We thought that this was unfair to those shipping firms who have constructed their own pontoons, landing-stages, etc., and we accordingly recommended that you should support the request for the reconsideration of the clauses.

You consulted us with reference to a proposal that the Indian railway risk note forms should be assimilated to those used on English railways. This proposal had been referred to you by the Railway Board, whose attention had been drawn to it by various representations that had been made to them. You placed before us the views of the Bombay Chamber, and also a draft letter that you contemplated submitting to the Railway Board. We generally agreed with the opinion expressed in the draft, which was to the effect that the assimilation of the Indian forms to those used in England would be of doubtful benefit to the mercantile community.

The question of the adjustment of overcharges of railway freight was considered by us, at your request, early in the year. We explained the system followed, and gave you the information necessary to enable you to reply to an enquiry which had been made.

You requested us to advise you upon a representation, which was made in February 1911 by the Narayanganj Chamber of

Commerce, on the subject of the Bhairab Bazar-Tangyi Railway. This line is designed to link up the Dacca-Mymensingh and the Assam Bengal Railways: its construction was strongly opposed by the Narayanganj Chamber on the ground that it was not needed by commercial interests. The Narayanganj Chamber also took exception to a proposal that the railway authorities had put forward whereby the height of the railway bridge over the Lakhya river was to be only 25 ft. We did not express an opinion as to whether the line should or should not be constructed; but we agreed that the headway of the bridge ought to be more than 25 ft.

Quite recently you consulted us with reference to a proposed line from Bhairab Bazar to Netrakona. This project also was opposed by the Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce, and we were in agreement with that body in thinking that there are other, and more urgently needed, lines which should first be constructed.

We are, GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servants,

G. C. GODFREY, <i>Chairman.</i>	} <i>Members.</i>
E. H. BRAY,	
W. D. STEVEN,	
A. TOPPING,	
C. W. WALSH,	

REPORT:
INLAND TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDING,

Calcutta, 30th January 1912.

REPORT: ISLAND TRANSPORT SUB-COMMITTEE.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

You have made several references to us during the year on the subject of the maintenance and improvement of the waterways of Bengal and of Eastern Bengal and Assam. One of these references was in connection with a proposal for the enlargement of the Standing Joint Committee, which was appointed by the Government of Bengal in 1906, to inspect periodically the natural and artificial waterways between Calcutta and Eastern Bengal, and to suggest measures of improvement. Our predecessors had recommended that this Joint Committee should be enlarged by the addition of mercantile representatives. This recommendation we supported, and we noted with satisfaction that it was accepted by the two provincial Governments. In remarking upon it the Government of Bengal put forward for consideration a suggestion that the standing Committee might be placed under the control of the Railway Board; and upon this suggestion you requested our views. We took strong exception to it, as we did not think that either the railways or the waterways would be benefited by such an arrangement. If the Railway Board were to become a transportation board, giving equal care to the interests of water transport and rail transport the question would assume a different aspect. But such an extension of the powers and duties of the Board was not apparently contemplated by Government. We were glad to observe that you supported our views in this connection.

In March you asked us to consider a representation, which the Narayanganj Chamber of Commerce had made to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam, with reference to the Bhairab Bazar and Tangyi Railway. This connection is designed to link up the Dacca-Mymensingh and Assam-Bengal Railways. The Narayanganj Chamber opposed its construction, on the ground that it was not needed in the interests of local commerce. The railway authorities also proposed that the railway bridge over the river Lakhya

should have a headway of not more than 25 ft. Against this proposal the Narayanganj Chamber protested, because they considered that such a headway would impede and restrict the navigation of the river. We did not express an opinion as to the necessity, or otherwise, for the construction of the line, but we agreed with the Narayanganj Chamber that a headway of more than 25 ft. was required for the Lakhya bridge. We reported to you in this sense.

In August we expressed general approval of certain amendments that the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam proposed to make in the rules relating to the examination of engineers and engine-drivers of inland steam vessels. These rules are proscribed under the provisions of the Inland Steam Vessels Act VI of 1884. We took exception to only one point, which we observe you brought to the notice of Government.

In reply to an enquiry from you in December, we expressed the opinion that the work of despoising the Madaripur Bhil, which is now in progress, should continue to be subject to the control of the Government of Bengal. A question was raised as to whether the control should, or should not, be made over to the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam, and you had been consulted with reference thereto.

The project for the canalisation of Tolly's Nullah has been before us during the year, but we understand that it has been deferred pending the preparation of a revised estimate of cost.

We are, GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servants,

J. B. STRAIN, *Chairman.*

H. C. BEGG,

G. C. GODFREY, } *Members.*

W. D. STEVEN,

A. TOPPING,

REPORT:

FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDING,

Calcutta, 30th January 1912.

REPORT: FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

At the beginning of the year you invited our views upon a proposal that the rates of stamp duty on bills of exchange below Rs. 1,000 should be enhanced. We approved of this proposal, which was calculated to bring the duty on small bills into line with that charged on bills in excess of Rs. 1,000. Subsequently the proposal was embodied in a bill amending the Stamp Act, which measure is still under the consideration of Government.

The question of the use of adhesive revenue stamps has been before us on several occasions during the year. Stated briefly the present position is that on brokers' notes stamp duty is payable by adhesive stamps so long as the duty does not exceed two annas. It follows, therefore, that adhesive stamps may be used on notes intimating the sale or purchase of bills of exchange. Similarly, they may be used on notes intimating the sale or purchase of Government paper, shares, stocks, etc., if the particular transaction does not involve more than Rs. 20,000. If the value of the shares, stocks, etc., is more than that sum adhesive stamps cannot be used. And, as you are already aware, the duty on share transfers when the sale is effected by a separate deed is not now, and never has been, legally payable by adhesive stamps. The Bombay Chamber suggested that a new set of adhesive stamps should be issued; and we do not object to a new issue. We are, however, very strongly of opinion that the practice of stamping share transfers and brokers' notes with adhesive stamps should be first legalised; and we are glad to observe that you have impressed the importance of this upon the attention of Government.

In April last you asked us to consider a Bill to amend the law relating to Co-operative Credit Societies. We examined it carefully, and expressed to you our agreement with its provisions.

You consulted us in May on the subject of section 20 of the Indian Coinage Act III of 1906. This section empowers the Governor-General in Council, or the local Government, to authorise persons to cut, or to break counterfeit coin. The list of persons so authorised is contained in article 576 of the Civil Account Code, Vol. I. The Government of Bengal suggested that the list should be enlarged, and they invited your assistance in the matter. We recommended that members of the Chamber should be asked to undertake the duty prescribed by the section, and we understand that a number of them consented, at your request, to do so.

At our suggestion, you made in June an enquiry from the Government of India, Finance Department, with reference to the question of the registration of currency notes. A proposal for the discontinuance of registration in the case of notes of Rs. 100, and lower denominations, was put forward two years ago. On the recommendation of the Finance Sub-Committee you remarked upon this proposal, but the views of Government have not been yet communicated. In answer to the enquiry which you made in June last the Comptroller-General stated that no decision had been arrived at by Government in the matter.

In August you asked for our opinion upon an enquiry from the Karachi Chamber of Commerce as to whether duplicate receipts to be stamped. We were of opinion that duplicates ought to be stamped, and this view was confirmed by the legal advisers of the Chamber. At the same time the practice in Calcutta is not uniform.

In September we recommended that you should object to a new regulation prescribed by the Indian Post Office with reference to the compulsory insurance of currency notes. As the regulation was worded it appeared that currency notes sent by post would require to be in all cases insured to their full value. But the Government of India subsequently explained that this was not the intention, and that the regulation would be complied with by a minimum payment of one anna which insures a postal packet to the extent of Rs. 50.

You referred to us in September on the subject of a proposal that a gold currency should be introduced into India. This proposal was made by the Hon. Mr. M. de P. Webb, C. I. E., Chairman of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce, who elaborated it in a memorandum entitled "Gold for India." We examined the memorandum attentively, and considered the question in detail. We could not, however, recommend you to co-operate in a movement having for its object the establishment of a gold currency in India. It is satisfactorily, and we would deprecate interference with it. We note that you supported us in this view.

In November we expressed our disapproval of a suggestion, which had been referred to you by the Collector of Stamp Revenue,

that a one anna *handi* stamp paper should be introduced. The adhesive stamp, which is at present in use, seems to us to meet all requirements.

We are, GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servants,

H. HARRIS, (*Chairman*),

S. C. BERRIDGE,

M. J. CALVOCORESSI,

E. H. ELLES,

J. MACKENZIE,

N. H. Y. WARREN,

} *Members.*

Price of Silver in America, London and Calcutta; Demand Exchange in Calcutta; Monthly Council Drafts on India; and Gold held in European Banks.

Quotations nearest to 1st and 15th of each month.	Price of Silver per oz. in America.	Price of Silver per oz. in London.	Price of 17 1/2 B. Bar Silver per 100 toluin in Calcutta including Import duty.	On Demand rates of Exchange in Calcutta on London.	Monthly amount of Secretary of State's Drafts on India.	Amount of Gold in the European Banks.
1910.	Cents.	d.	Rs. As. P.	s. d.	Rs.	£
January ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	64 7 0	1 4 1/2	3,44,70,000	484,776,131
" ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	63 14 0	1 4 1/2		488,681,201
February ...	52	2 1/2	63 8 0	1 4 1/2	3,91,86,000	498,800,709
" ...	51 1/2	2 1/2	64 0 0	1 4 1/2		496,553,003
March ...	50 1/2	2 1/2	63 0 0	1 4 1/2	7,99,90,000	495,966,178
" ...	51 1/2	2 1/2	69 14 0	1 4 1/2 to 5/8		493,432,739
April ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	70 0 0	1 4 1/2	3,70,47,000	492,366,689
" ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	62 9 0	1 4 1/2		487,450,801
May ...	54	2 1/2	72 15 0	1 4 1/2	3,47,70,000	490,670,001
" ...	54	2 1/2	72 7 0	1 3 1/2		491,340,799
June ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	72 3 0	1 3 1/2	2,02,40,000	493,999,640
" ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	72 5 0	1 3 1/2		493,037,251
July ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	72 4 0	1 3 1/2 to 1-1/2	1,60,40,000	494,870,933
" ...	54 1/2	2 1/2	73 0 0	1 4		491,411,407
August ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	71 14 0	1 4 to 1 3/4	2,10,60,000	491,881,537
" ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	71 10 0	1 4		493,063,113
September ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	70 13 0	1 4 1/2	1,91,60,000	493,164,002
" ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	71 14 0	1 4 1/2		491,854,642
October ...	54	2 1/2	72 9 0	1 4 1/2	2,86,80,000	494,021,227
" ...	55 1/2	2 1/2	75 5 0	1 4 1/2		484,181,787
November ...	56	2 1/2	75 1 0	1 4 1/2	1,63,10,000	484,076,633
" ...	55 1/2	2 1/2	74 0 0	1 4 1/2		488,425,411
December ...	55	2 1/2	73 10 0	1 4 1/2	3,22,40,000	495,376,392
" ...	54 1/2	2 1/2	73 8 0	1 4 1/2		490,549,890

Price of Silver in America, London and Calcutta; Demand Exchange in Calcutta; Monthly Council Drafts on India; and Gold held in European Banks.

Quotations nearest to 1st and 15th of each month.	Price of Silver per oz. in America.	Price of Silver per oz. in London.	Price of 17 1/2 B. Bar Silver per 100 toluin in Calcutta including Import duty.	On Demand rates of Exchange in Calcutta on London.	Monthly amount of Secretary of State's Drafts on India.	Amount of Gold in the European Banks.
1911.	Cents.	d.	Rs. As. P.	s. d.	Rs.	£
January ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	74 10 0	1 4 1/2	4,92,10,000	477,071,288
" ...	54 1/2	2 1/2	72 14 0	1 4 1/2		480,315,221
February ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	71 9 0	1 4 1/2	4,00,00,000	491,618,972
" ...	51 1/2	2 1/2	70 2 0	1 4 1/2 to 1		495,014,710
March ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	71 12 0	1 4 1/2	4,42,00,000	496,169,768
" ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	71 9 0	1 4 1/2		498,512,134
April ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	71 14 0	1 4 1/2	4,20,20,000	497,672,910
" ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	71 11 0	1 4 1/2		490,847,592
May ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	72 5 0	1 4 1/2	3,64,60,000	496,894,762
" ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	72 2 0	1 4 1/2		496,716,660
June ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	72 0 0	1 4	3,16,70,000	500,546,684
" ...	53 1/2	2 1/2	72 0 0	1 4 to 3/4		498,893,224
July ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	71 8 0	1 4 1/2	2,11,90,000	503,015,811
" ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	71 5 0	1 4 1/2		499,683,839
August ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	70 9 0	1 4 1/2	2,60,00,000	499,985,647
" ...	52	2 1/2	70 7 0	1 4 1/2		501,414,515
September ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	71 2 0	1 4 1/2 to 1 1/4	2,31,00,000	508,030,454
" ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	71 2 0	1 4 1/2		508,277,328
October ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	71 11 0	1 4 1/2 to 1	2,30,50,000	499,851,904
" ...	52 1/2	2 1/2	70 15 0	1 4 1/2		486,795,178
November ...	54 1/2	2 1/2	72 12 0	1 4 1/2 to 3/4	2,34,20,000	487,096,984
" ...	55 1/2	2 1/2	74 4 0	1 4 1/2		489,856,740
December ...	55 1/2	2 1/2	74 2 0	1 4 1/2	1,80,80,000	493,172,910
" ...	55	2 1/2	74 0 0	1 4 1/2		490,004,391

REPORT:
ELECTRICITY SUB-COMMITTEE.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDING,

Calcutta, 30th January 1912.

REPORT : ELECTRICITY SUB-COMMITTEE.

To
THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

The only reference that you made to us during the year was on the subject of the Coalfields Electric License of 1909. This license, which was originally issued to the Bengal Coalfields Power Co., Ltd. in 1907 for a period of two years, was extended for a further period ending on the 15th November 1911. The Government of Bengal enquired if the Chamber would approve of a second extension for a period of five years, and upon this enquiry you invited our views. We recommended that the Indian Mining Association should be consulted, but at the same time we thought that the extension should not be for more than six months. We understand that the Committee of the Association were in agreement with this view, and that you also supported it. We learned subsequently that the Government of Bengal decided to extend the license for one year, i.e., to 31st December 1912.

We are, GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servants,

G. C. GODFREY, *Chairman.*

C. T. EASTGATE,

W. HODGKINSON,

E. J. OAKLEY,

F. RAWSON,

} *Members.*

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT
OF THE
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
1st JULY 1910 to 30th JUNE 1911.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDING,

Calcutta, 25th October 1911.

No. 1769—1911.

A. C. PATTERSON, Esq.,
Chairman.

N. ZALICHI, Esq.,

J. HARVEY, Esq.,

L. EDWARDS, Esq.,

W. R. SMITH, Esq.,

H. C. EDMONDSON, Esq.,

A. S. J. BAKER, Esq.,

*Committee, Licensed Measurers'
Department.*

GENTLEMEN,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of the Twenty-eighth Annual Report of the Licensed Measurers' Department, being that for the year 1910-1911.

2. The Committee of the Chamber have read the report with much interest, and they have carefully considered the various matters with which it deals. They regret that the expenditure should have so largely exceeded the revenue; and in this connection they have closely examined your proposal for the further reduction—to 25 per cent.—of the measurement rebate. On the figures which you put forward in the report, it certainly appears to be desirable that the reduction should be made, at least experimentally. The Committee have accordingly sanctioned it for the current year, at the end of which period they propose to consider the question again. They observe that the check to the growth of the income of the Department was due almost entirely to the deficient jute crop but they agree with you that even with a normal jute crop an increase in the charges levied by the Department would appear to be needed. They entirely approve of the action which you are taking in the way of carefully supervising the rapidly increasing expenditure of the Department.

3. The Provident Fund is in a very satisfactory position, and on its present basis it may be reasonably expected to tend to make the service attractive. The Committee are also glad to see that the Measurers' Club has had a successful year, and that it is appreciated by the officers.

4. In conclusion, I am to express to you the best thanks of the Committee for your services during the past year. They notice with much pleasure that the Department is working smoothly and with a remarkable freedom from complaints on the part of its constituents. This is an eminently satisfactory state of affairs, for which they feel that they are entirely indebted to your efficient management.

I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Yours faithfully,

H. M. HAYWOOD,

Secretary.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT,

ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDING,

Calcutta, 15th August 1911.

To

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to submit our report on the working of the Department for the year which ended on the 30th June 1911. We have at the same time to request you to be good enough to appoint a new Sub-Committee to manage the Department during the current year.

At our first meeting, which was held on the 23rd September 1910, we unanimously elected Mr. A. C. Patterson as our Chairman. Mr. Patterson has held office throughout the year.

There have been several changes in the Committee during the year. In January, Mr. B. Hope of Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., was succeeded by Mr. H. C. Edmondson. In March, Mr. N. Damiano of Messrs. Ralli Bros. gave place to Mr. N. Zalichi. In May, Mr. H. J. Hawes of Messrs. Graham & Co. resigned, and his seat was taken by Mr. L. Edwards, and Mr. P. H. Broome of Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co. was succeeded by Mr. A. S. J. Baker.

Including the Superintendent and the Deputy Superintendent, the staff, on the 30th June 1911, consisted of 115 officers, as compared with 109 on the corresponding date of the previous year. We have granted Mr. James Knox, the Superintendent, six months' leave of absence dating from May of the current year. Mr. Knox manages the business of the Department carefully and well; and his efforts are ably seconded by Mr. A. H. Lugg, the Deputy Superintendent, who is acting for him during his absence. But the work is arduous, and we have deemed it to be advisable further to strengthen the supervising staff. To this end we have appointed as Assistant Superintendent, Mr. W. S. Harvey, who was formerly in the service of the B. I. S. N. Co., Ltd. Mr. Harvey joined his appointment on the 18th February 1911. The Inspectors and Measurers have continued to work efficiently and have given satisfaction.

The audited revenue and profit and loss accounts and the balance-sheet are, as usual, appended to the report. In comparison with the

Finance.

preceding year, there has been a decrease in the net income. The figures are:—

1909-10	...	Rs. 2,98,308	8	9
1910-11	...	„ 2,96,292	5	9
Decrease	...	„ 2,016	3	0

To the total indicated, measurements contributed Rs. 1,74,873-5-1, as against Rs. 1,83,049-5-6 in 1909-10. Weighments realised Rs. 1,13,369-11-3 as compared with Rs. 1,07,118-4-7.

Mill fees amounted to Rs. 3,719-8-0 as against Rs. 3,407-8-0 in 1909-10; and the Sunday fees aggregated Rs. 2,385, as compared with Rs. 2,140.

The expenditure for each of the years 1909-10 and 1910-11 was as follows:—

1909-10	...	Rs. 2,97,442	8	6
1910-11	...	„ 3,20,017	1	8
Increase	...	„ 22,564	9	2

The Revenue Account shows a loss of Rs. 23,724-5-11 as compared with a profit of Rs. 866-0-3 in the preceding year. A sum of Rs. 1,242-11-1 is carried to the credit of profit and loss account, being the amount of interest realised on investments, less depreciation of office furniture and plant and other debits. The net loss is therefore Rs. 22,481-10-10.

The large increase in expenditure is attributable mainly to the greater cost of the establishment, and to the addition which we have made to the departmental contribution to the Provident Fund. The growth in establishment charges is due to the improved scale of pay which we introduced in 1908. The increase in the Provident Fund contribution is on account of the modification which we made last year in the rules of the Fund, and which we explained in our last report.

In our report for the year 1908-09 we recommended that the measurement rebate should be reduced from 40 per cent to 25 per cent, and the weightment rebate from 12 per cent to 9 per cent. You but you were not disposed to reduce the measurement rebate below 33½ per cent. We now venture again to urge that the reduction in the measurement rebate should be made, as we feel that the Department is being worked on a very narrow margin. To meet our liabilities it has been necessary for us to realise Government year. Our invested funds have been consequently reduced to that extent, and they now stand at Rs. 1,70,000.

The growth of the income of the Department has been temporarily checked during the past year by the short jute crop. The deficit would have been much smaller had the exports of jute been normal: for, as the following statements show, the jute weighed and measured was less to the extent of upwards of five lakhs of bales, than it was in the preceding year. Nevertheless we feel that the charges levied by the Department require to be enhanced, for the cost of working is heavier now than it was formerly. We have referred in our previous annual reports to the growth of expenditure consequent upon the need for more efficient and up-to-date methods, and more stringent supervision. Within the last three years we have completely revised, and greatly improved, the scale of pay of the officers; and we have added to the attractions of the service by enlarging the scope of the Provident Fund. Furthermore, we have augmented the supervising staff, and we have thereby been enabled to exercise more effective control over the work. We are fully alive to the fact that these measures have greatly increased expenditure; and we are consequently exercising a most careful check in every direction. But we are convinced that the efficiency of the Department has been also greatly increased; and in support of this view we may mention that during the past twelve months we have not received a single complaint of incorrect weighing or measuring, or of any description of misconduct on the part of the officers, from any constituent of the Department. In these circumstances we feel that the Department now offers to its constituents as efficient service, and that we are not unreasonable in urging that the greater cost should be met by higher charges.

The following is a statement of the invested funds standing to the credit of the Department on the 30th June 1911:—

General Account.

3½% Government Securities	...	Rs. 1,20,300	par value.
5% Calcutta Municipal Debentures...	...	6,000	„
4% Do. Do. Do.	...	45,000	„

Provident Fund, with which is incorporated the Retiring Bonus Fund.

3½% Government Securities	...	Rs. 28,800	par value.
5% Calcutta Municipal Debentures...	...	5,000	„
4% Do. Do. Do.	...	54,000	„
4% Do. Do. Do.	...	5,000	„
10 Bank of Bengal Shares	...	7,000	„
4% Bombay Improvement Trust Loan	...	10,000	„
4% Bombay Municipal Debentures...	...	18,000	„
4½% Rangoon Municipal Debentures...	...	10,000	„
4½% Rangoon Port Trust Debentures	...	20,000	„
4% Do. Do. Do.	...	6,500	„
4% Calcutta Port Trust Debentures	...	1,500	„
4½% Do. Do. Do.	...	1,500	„

Compassionate Fund.

3½% Government Securities	...	Rs. 3,000	par value.
---------------------------	-----	-----------	------------

We have included in this report, as usual, the schedule of charges for weighing and measuring goods.

In the following statements we particularise the business of the Department during the past year, as compared with the year 1909-10.

The first statement to which we have referred, gives the number of packages measured during the year, and also the number measured during the preceding twelve months. There is, it will be noticed, a net decrease of 501,279 packages, as compared with a net decrease of 241,176 packages during 1909-10. It will be seen that the decrease was mainly in jute and gunnies :—

Goods.	From 1st July 1909 to 30th June 1910.	From 1st July 1910 to 30th June 1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
Jute Cuttings, Rejections and Thread-waste. <i>Phys.</i>	35,27,591	32,18,752	.....	3,08,839
Hemp ... "	6,811	17,250	10,439	.....
Cotton ... "	61,850	69,842	7,992	.....
Tobacco ... "	1,750	9,823	8,073	.....
Shellac ... "	2,00,919	1,37,681	.....	63,238
Hides ... "	11,185	2,328	.....	8,857
Gunnies ... "	15,95,683	14,79,792	.....	1,15,891
Indigo ... "	1,382	1,511	129	.....
Tea ... "	5,14,316	4,56,337	.....	57,979
Sundries ... "	4,21,786	4,48,678	26,892	.....
TOTAL PACKAGES ...	63,43,273	58,41,994	53,525	5,54,804
NET DECREASE ...	.....	.....	.....	5,01,279

The next statement gives details of weighment, and shows that there has been a net increase of 743,518 packages against an increase of 1,230,745 packages in the preceding year. The number of bales of jute weighed has diminished by 236,655, and the number of bales of gunnies has fallen from 1,156,228 to 1,082,024. The principal increase has been in rice :—

Goods.	From 1st July 1909 to 30th June 1910.	From 1st July 1910 to 30th June 1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
Jute and Cuttings <i>Phys.</i>	27,60,977	25,24,322	.....	2,36,655
Cotton ... "	14,529	13,826	.....	703
Gunnies ... "	11,56,228	10,82,024	.....	74,204
Rice ... "	13,92,885	23,72,145	9,79,260	.....
Seeds ... "	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sundries ... "	17,33,818	18,32,439	98,621	.....
Tea ... "	22,452	11,710	.....	10,742
Hides ... "	29,421	17,362	.....	12,059
TOTAL ...	71,10,310	78,53,828	10,77,881	3,34,363
NET INCREASE ...	.....	.....	7,43,518	.....
	Tons. Cwt.	Tons. Cwt.	Tons. Cwt.	Tons. Cwt.
Metals ...	3,783 5	3,465 5	.....	318 0
Coal ...	1,946 6	417 15	.....	1,528 11
TOTAL ...	5,729 11	3,883 0	.....	1,846 11

The third statement shows the average measurements of jute bales, as taken at thirty-two Press-houses near Calcutta during the year. For comparative purposes similar figures are given for twenty previous years.

SEASON.	Total bales measured.	Average measurement.		Largest average of a Press.		Smallest average of a Press.	
		Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
1890-1891 ...	26,70,996	51	8-69	52	4-85	51	1-22
1891-1892 ...	16,98,447	51	3-85	52	1-10	50	0-10
1892-1893 ...	25,93,787	51	5-14	53	0-22	50	2-11
1893-1894 ...	21,37,395	51	8-07	53	8-25	50	4-80
1894-1895 ...	31,02,444	51	5-39	53	0-76	51	1-22
1895-1896 ...	29,61,274	51	6-79	52	9-14	51	0-07
1896-1897 ...	27,02,023	51	11-00	53	10-28	51	1-91
1897-1898 ...	36,61,830	51	8-41	53	5-76	50	11-00
1898-1899 ...	23,13,388	51	9-00	53	0-50	51	3-90
1899-1900 ...	21,04,189	52	0-15	52	9-65	51	3-90
1900-1901 ...	28,56,857	52	0-37	52	7-00	51	7-05
1901-1902 ...	37,67,298	51	10-50	52	4-88	51	6-99
1902-1903 ...	26,93,366	51	10-03	52	1-40	51	3-50
1903-1904 ...	30,24,156	51	9-52	52	2-19	51	6-12
1904-1905 ...	29,44,076	51	11-36	52	8-25	51	4-31
1905-1906 ...	35,69,599	51	11-99	53	3-78	51	1-22
1906-1907 ...	37,04,672	52	9-48	55	3-15	51	0-33
1907-1908 ...	35,43,698	52	3-00	54	1-98	51	2-40
1908-1909 ...	38,95,676	52	8-29	55	1-77	51	1-32
1909-1910 ...	31,54,254	52	11-36	54	10-34	51	4-09
1910-1911 ...	31,78,400	53	2-21	55	2-16	51	8-74

The fourth statement shows the progress of the work of the Measurements and Weight Department since the year 1884-1885—

YEARS.	MEASUREMENT.			WEIGHT.		
	Packages.	Increase.	Decrease.	Packages.	Increase.	Decrease.
1884-1885	19,42,596	...	...	...	...	...
1885-1886	20,85,174	1,42,578	...	...	...	...
1886-1887	24,56,594	3,71,420	...	...	...	...
1887-1888	26,79,372	2,22,778	...	...	...	...
1888-1889	30,68,759	3,89,387	...	11,61,774	...	...
1889-1890	32,17,004	1,48,245	...	15,44,189	3,82,415	...
1890-1891	35,87,967	3,70,963	...	18,96,604	3,52,415	...
1891-1892	23,35,126	...	12,52,841	12,82,663	...	6,13,941
1892-1893	34,30,735	10,95,609	...	19,39,413	6,56,750	...
1893-1894	30,78,978	...	3,51,757	20,34,150	94,737	...
1894-1895	11,46,385	10,67,407	...	26,21,393	5,87,243	...
1895-1896	41,58,348	11,963	...	26,71,795	50,402	...
1896-1897	11,74,785	16,437	...	27,38,939	67,144	...
1897-1898	52,42,139	10,67,354	...	39,00,563	11,61,624	...
1898-1899	38,74,563	...	13,67,576	33,92,881	...	5,07,682
1899-1900	38,77,837	3,274	...	33,19,927	...	72,954
1900-1901	48,02,018	9,24,181	...	38,69,147	5,49,220	...
1901-1902	55,43,199	7,41,181	...	43,57,594	4,88,447	...
1902-1903	47,24,965	...	8,18,234	40,55,419	...	3,02,175
1903-1904	51,95,824	4,70,859	...	42,65,271	2,09,852	...
1904-1905	50,85,223	...	1,10,601	48,78,633	6,13,362	...
1905-1906	57,52,886	6,67,663	...	56,11,836	7,33,203	...
1906-1907	63,52,936	6,00,050	...	58,12,623	2,00,787	...
1907-1908	61,53,230	...	1,99,706	58,27,288	14,665	...
1908-1909	65,84,449	4,31,219	...	58,79,565	52,277	...
1909-1910	63,43,273	...	2,41,176	71,10,310	12,30,745	...
1910-1911	58,41,994	...	5,01,274	78,53,828	7,43,518	...

The fifth statement gives the number of officers on the staff in each year since 1883, when the Department was established, and in detail the number on the 30th June 1911 :—

Year.	Strength.	Year.	Strength.
1883	15	1897-1898	53
1884	19	1898-1899	57
1885	31	1899-1900	59
1886	27	1900-1901	58
1887	25	1901-1902	69
1888	30	1902-1903	70
1889	38	1903-1904	74
1890	37	1904-1905	80
1891	36	1905-1906	88
1892	37	1906-1907	88
1893	40	1907-1908	91
1893-1894	49	1908-1909	89
1894-1895	47	1909-1910	99
1895-1896	54	1910-1911	109
1896-1897	50	1911-1912	115

The staff of the Department on the 30th June 1911 consisted of :—

- 1 Superintendent.
- 1 Deputy Superintendent.
- 1 Assistant do.
- 5 Inspectors.
- 63 Messengers (4 grades).
- 37 Apprentices.
- 3 Scalewrights.
- 2 Telephone operators.
- 2 Store-keepers.

Total 115

We would once more tender our thanks to the Medical Officer of the Department, Dr. J. E. Panioty, for his unremitting attention to the medical needs of the officers. As usual, his duties were performed entirely to our satisfaction.

On the 30th June 1911 the assets of the Provident Fund amounted to Rs. 1,99,937-9-3 as compared with Rs. 1,86,416-6-1 on the 30th June 1910. The financial position of the Fund is, therefore, entirely satisfactory. The Chairman (Mr. A. C. Patterson) and Mr. W. R. Smith are the present Trustees of the Fund.

The Compassionate Fund continues to be largely availed of by the officers of the Department. They are allowed to take loans from it at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum repayable by instalments of Rs. 10 monthly.

The Messurers' Club has had a satisfactory year. It has a membership of 84 officers; and it closed its accounts for the year with a credit balance of Rs. 123-8-4. The Club owes its success largely to Dr. J. E. Panioty, who, in the capacity of Chairman, devotes much time and thought to its affairs.

We are,
GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient servants,

A. C. PATTERSON, *Chairman*.
A. S. J. BAKER,
H. C. EDMONDSON,
L. EDWARDS,
J. HARVEY,
W. R. SMITH,
N. ZALIOHI,

} *Members.*

Licensed Measurers Department.

Staff.

30TH JUNE 1911.

- 1 Superintendent.
- 1 Deputy Superintendent.
- 1 Assistant Superintendent.
- 5 Inspectors.
- 63 Measurers.
- 37 Apprentices.
- 3 Scalewrights.
- 2 Storekeepers.
- 2 Telephone operators.

 115

Superintendent.

JAS. KNOX,
Master Mariner.

Deputy Superintendent.

A. H. LUGG,
Master Mariner.

Assistant Superintendent.

W. S. HARVEY,
Master Mariner.

Personal Assistant to Superintendent.

A. C. D'SANTOS.

Inspectors.

M. A. MANUK. J. E. ALLISON.
H. G. DEVERINNE. J. S. HODGES.
C. W. STUART.

Measurers, 1st Grade.

E. POWELL.	A. M. DIAS.
A. H. DOVER.	D. R. WILSON.
G. A. MONNIER.	E. W. PALMER.
J. P. MARTIN.	A. SWARIS.
D. J. QUANTIN.	P. J. DOVER.
C. L. AGACY.	A. EWING.

Measurers, 2nd Grade.

C. E. MAYER.	H. HICKMAN.
A. JOHNSON.	E. J. AGACY.
C. S. MONNIER.	D. M. WINN.
A. C. D'SANTOS. (<i>Personal Assistant to Superintendent</i>).	C. GRIFFITH.
	A. O. SNELL.
	S. C. STEWART.
H. P. PALMER.	C. S. DISSENT.
E. O. SWARIS.	C. W. LAW.

F. J. REARDON.

Measurers, 3rd Grade.

C. ANSTED.	A. H. MATHEWS.
G. AINSIE.	J. H. STEWART.
W. J. GRIFFITHS.	J. W. REHRLLO.
B. REBERG.	C. E. WHITE.
L. C. LEMOND.	R. C. JOSEPH.
	W. H. SHELVERTON.

Measurers, 4th Grade.

G. L. HOWATSON.	R. C. CHRISTIAN.
C. K. HERBERT.	J. E. CURRIE.
H. GRIFFITHS.	H. E. RID.
R. S. H. KIERNANDER.	D. J. FARRELL.
F. M. SHORT.	G. L. SPOUTT.
R. A. FRANCOIS.	C. A. DUNDIE.
F. H. GREY.	C. L. SMITH.
S. J. D'MOIRAH.	W. H. MUNRO.

Measurers, 4th Grade—(concluded).

R. A. WAUGH.	S. J. AUGUSTINE.
E. H. LAWRENCE.	T. M. BLAKE.
E. C. M. MONTAGUE.	J. D'SILVA.
B. O. GLENDAY.	W. E. WISE.
	O. F. MACKRODT.

Senior Apprentices.

D. S. MUNRO.	U. E. D'CRUZ.
A. J. D. MANUK.	C. A. WINTER.
L. S. PHILLIPS.	T. MARTYR.
F. S. FIELD.	H. PRITCHARD.
H. C. J. D'SILVA.	T. THORPE.
T. O. MAYER.	A. S. GREGORY.
F. COELHO.	E. M. GINIVAN.
W. H. NONEY.	L. TAYLOR.
G. F. LEICESTER.	C. HYRATY.
G. P. H. LEMONDINE.	P. J. CARVEY.
W. PRITCHARD.	L. C. BARLOW.
C. J. DROUVEN.	R. G. MARTINDALE.
R. B. HEWETSON.	G. V. GEORGE.
A. D. PITCHER.	P. W. KENNAN.
W. O. MACDONALD.	S. J. LEFEVRE.

Junior Apprentices.

R. DERFHOLTS.	P. FORTADO.
S. C. EDGE.	A. E. MACDONALD.
J. H. CARVALLO.	B. J. HANGCOCK.
	F. G. PAUL.

Workshop, Kidderpore Docks.

G. D. BOYD	... Scalewright.
W. BENSLEY	... Assistant Scalewright.
A. H. JAMES	... 2nd do. do.
A. THOMAS	... Storekeeper.
E. M. YOUNG	... Assistant Storekeeper.

Telephone Operators.

P. O. CROWE ... *Head Office.*
 P. H. FALLOON ... *Kidderpore Docks.*

Cash Department and Bill Branch.

CHUNDY CHURN DHUR.	RADHAJUGAL DHUR.
GOKOOL NATH DASS.	DHONESHWAR BANERJEE.
DEJENDRA NATH CHATTERJEE.	PROBODH MOHUN CHATTERJEE.
GONESH CHUNDER DHUR.	TULSI CHURN CHATTERJEE.
ANUKUL CHUNDER BISWAS.	ROMANI MOHUN CHATTERJEE.
PARESH NATH CHATTERJEE.	JOGESWAR KOONDGO.
KIRRON CHUNDER BOSE.	SURENDRA NATH DHUR.

Calculators.

NILMONKEY GHOSAL.	HEM CHUNDER GHOSAL
LOLIT MOHAN MOOKERJEE.	SARADAPROSAD ROY.
RADHA ROMAN SEN.	CHUNDY DASS MOOKERJEE.

KUNJO BEHARY GHOSAL.

Checkers.

NOLINSKYANTO MOOKERJEE.	DURGA NATH DUTT.
ASWANI KUMAR CHATTERJEE.	PROMOTHA NATH MOOKERJEE.

Record-Keepers.

AUDHOR CHUNDER DEY.	BANKIM CHUNDER BANERJEE.
SATISH CHUNDER GHOSE.	FANI BIJUSAN MOOKERJEE.

Despa chers.

NASHI RAM HALDER.	KRISHNA MOHUN MOOKERJEE.
	JOGESWAR BISWAS.

Office Store-Keepers.

RAJENDRA LALL BANERJEE.	DAKSHINA KUMAR CHATTERJEE.
CHANDU CHUNDRAN BANERJEE.	

Typists.

BATA KRISHNA MOOKERJEE.	HARISADHON CHATTERJEE.
-------------------------	------------------------

Scale-Room.

2 Carpenters.	3 Vicemen.
	2 Cleaners.

Menial Establishment.

1 Duffry.	6 Oarsmen
4 Janadars.	60 Peons.
30 Durwans.	4 Bearers.
1 Puncher.	6 Sweepers (including goomty).
5 Coachmen.	2 Bhistsos.
2 Syces.	4 Coolies.
1 Manjee.	1 Engine-Driver.

1 Assistant Engine-Driver.
 1 Serang.
 1 Sookhani.
 1 Khalasi.

LICENSED MEASURERS DEPARTMENT.

Inventory of Weighing and Measuring Apparatus and Transport.

GAUGING INSTRUMENTS :—

1 Complete set of Gauging Instruments, Board of Trade pattern, comprising :—

In Head Office.	1	Head Rod.	} Verified and certified and stamped by Standard Department, London.
	1	Bung Rod.	
	1	Long Calliper.	
	2	Head callipers and a copy of Keene's Handbook of gauging.	
In Head Office.	1	Best Syke's standard Hydrometer with lens, front thermometer No. 1072 complete in case with books of tables to 100 and table of corrections.	} Verified and certified by Superintendent, Kew Observatory.

MEASURING IMPLEMENTS :—

In Head Office.	1	Standard ebony calliper.
	1	Mahogany sliding calliper.
	1	6 feet flat steel standard rod.
	8	Teakwood callipers with brass index 8 ft. to 9 ft.
	1	" " " " " 5 ft. for casks.
	6	" " " " " 6 ft. for Gunnies.
	88	" " " " " 5 ft. for Jute, Cotton, etc.

In Head Office.	11	Teakwood callipers with brass index 3 ft. to 4 ft. for casks.
	5	" " " " " 3½ ft. Claw end for casks.
	1	20 ft. Teakwood folding rod.
	1	5 ft. " rod with brass slide.
	5	2 ft. Wooden rules.
	1	100 ft. Steel Chesterman's tape.
	7	50 ft. Steel wove Chesterman's tape.
	5	Wooden chain and rope gauges with brass slide.
	1	Steel standard wire gauge.

CUBIC MEASURES :—

- 1 of 1 c. ft. Brass.
- 1 of 10 c. ft. Iron.
- 1 of 250 c. ft. Teakwood, mounted on removable wheels.

LIQUID MEASURES :—

- 1 Set brass standard liquid measure from 1 gallon down to ½ gill.

WEIGHTS :—

- 1 Set brass standard avoirdupois from 1 cwt. down to ¼ oz.
- 1 Set brass standard Indian from 1 maund down to ¼ chik.
- 142 Iron of 56 lbs. each
- 4 Sets Iron from 28 lbs. down to ¼ lb.
- 1 Iron of 1 maund.
- 7 " " 20 seers.
- 6 " " 10 seers.
- 2 " " 5 seers.
- 1 Set Iron from 2½ seers down to 2 chiks.

Made and tested by Calcutta Mint.

SCALES AND WEIGHING MACHINES.

BEAM SCALES :—

- | | | |
|---|--|---------------|
| 1 | Inspectors balance with trays on folding tripod to weigh up to 14 lbs. | } In one box. |
| 1 | Inspectors balance on pillar with trays to weigh up to 4 lbs. | |
| 1 | Test scale with trays on tripod to weigh up to 28 lbs. | } In box. |
| 1 | 5½ ft. Beam for testing weights up to 112 lbs. | |
| 1 | of 1 ton capacity. | |
| 1 | with trays of 1000 lbs. capacity. | |
| 2 | with trays of 800 lbs. capacity. | |
| 2 | with trays of 200 lbs. capacity. | |

COUNTERPOISE SCALES :—

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 4 | of 7 cwt. or 10 maunds capacity | } For Jute & Cotton. |
| 1 | of 700 lbs. capacity | |
| 33 | of 450 lbs. " | |
| 1 | of 280 lbs. " | |
| 5 | of 20 cwt. capacity | } For Coal. |
| 4 | of 20 " | |
| 3 | of 10 " | |
| 1 | Thomson's 5 cwt. | |

PLATFORM WEIGHING MACHINES :—

- | | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| | 2 | Portable to weigh 4,000 lbs. or 55 maunds. (One with tilt). |
| | 5 | Portable to weigh 2,000 lbs. or 27 maunds. |
| In Hd. Office. | 1 | Personal to weigh up to 32 stone with measuring rod. |

CRANE WEIGHING MACHINES :—

- | | |
|----|--------------------|
| 1 | of 5 ton capacity. |
| 5 | of 2 ton " |
| 57 | of 20 cwt. " |
| 9 | of 10 cwt. " |

72

DIFFERENTIAL LIFTS :—

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1 | of 5 tons. |
| 1 | of 2 tons. |
| 2 | of 1 ton. |

COAL TUBS :—

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 9 | of 10 cwt. capacity. |
| 1 | of 8 cwt. " |
| 7 | of 5 cwt. " |

IRON CRADLES :—

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 2 | for Jute. |
| 5 | for Pig Iron. |
| 2 | for Bar Iron. |
| 2 | for Plate Iron. |
| 4 | for Bags. |

WOODEN TRAYS, OR PLATFORMS :—

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 | of 4' x 4'. |
| 5 | of 4' x 2' = 6" with suspending chains. |

FRAMES AND STANDARDS :—

- | | |
|----|---|
| 8 | of Teakwood 8' to 10' for coal, hides, gunnies. |
| 38 | of " 6' for jute, cotton, etc. |
| 7 | of Iron 7½ ft. high for metal weightments. |
| 16 | of Iron 6 ft. " for metal, jute, etc. |
| 3 | Iron standards for Beam Scales. |
| 4 | Wooden tripods 14 ft. long iron capped and shed for coal weightments. |

76

SLINGS :—

- 37 of Rope and chain for weighing gunnies.
- 2 of Chain.

HOOKS :—

- 25 for Gummies.
- 47 for Jute, cotton, etc.
- 7 for Casks.
- 5 to clamp to deck beams for suspending weighing machines on.

84

TRANSPORT IN STABLES OUTSIDE DOCK GATE :—

- 3 Four-wheeled horse carts to carry 6 cwt. each.
- 1 Two-wheeled buffalo cart to carry 30 cwt.
- 1 Two-wheeled hand cart to carry 3 cwt.
- 3 Horses.
- 2 Buffaloes.

A. H. LUGG,
Deputy Superintendent,
 LICENSED MEASURERS DEPT.

D. BOYD,
Scalewright.

Comparative Statement of Goods Measured from 1st July 1893 to 30th June 1911.

[illegible]

Monthly Statement of Goods Measured—Season 1910-1911.

Month.	Days of Fasting, Jejunium, and Wakes.	Hemp.	Quacco.	Octon.	Shalke.	Hites.	Gumite.	Indigo.	Tea.	Sandies.	Total.
July	...	29,264	5,101	580	6,217	10,270	104	1,48,570	23	65,073	257,580
August	...	1,88,805	310	1,600	3,692	6,290	139	1,87,428	...	60,345	4,73,405
September	...	431,250	250	1,052	4,465	138	1,57,411	...	72,550	7,98,409	33,815
October	...	6,07,848	...	917	2,556	10,131	117	1,21,672	...	50,410	97,023
November	...	530,692	505	...	0,767	12,155	298	1,28,300	...	68,573	52,005
December	...	373,153	1,170	838	6,068	13,690	124	1,66,467	241	41,999	3,41,463
January	1911	4,94,557	631	683	5,446	12,704	100	99,707	699	32,203	4,73,684
February	...	2,97,133	968	735	8,196	12,025	138	1,66,716	433	13,299	29,301
March	...	1,90,328	2,224	665	6,705	13,323	455	1,58,528	106	12,238	41,604
April	...	1,22,475	2,569	800	4,830	13,855	180	91,143	8	3,418	51,697
May	...	99,705	3,000	800	7,629	15,683	185	1,66,681	...	4,412	39,770
June	...	28,560	3,232	1,075	7,666	12,485	247	88,903	...	26,537	2,92,544
Total.	...	32,18,752	17,290	9,822	60,842	1,37,081	2,328	14,70,702	1,011	45,457	88,41,094

PRESS-HOUSE.		STATEMENT SHOWING THE Total and Average Mains							
		SEASON 1890-91.		SEASON 1900-1901.		SEASON 1901-02.		SEASON 1902.	
Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.		
Camperdown	...	60,168	51-7-05	1,35,850	52-2-00	1,81,363	53-1-10	1,11,022	51-8-00
Jheel	...	1,26,625	51-0-00	1,64,026	52-0-15	1,50,723	53-10-17	1,56,490	51-0-00
Bengal	...	83,829	52-0-15	66,454	...	1,06,440	...	82,636	51-0-00
Ralli Bco.	...	5,91,123	51-4-35	6,71,861	52-0-15	6,61,782	53-1-17	6,64,031	52-0-00
Calcutta	...	50,450	51-0-00	1,44,743	51-0-00	2,05,010	51-4-45	97,280	51-0-00
Chittopore	...	60,683	52-0-15	70,453	...	82,616	...	113,601	52-0-00
Yidm	...	5,00,868	52-4-75	1,07,569	...	83,520	53-11-17	1,03,839	51-0-00
Shenal Bank	...	2,01,601	51-0-00	1,27,191	...	1,45,121	51-10-08	46,060	51-10-00
Canal	...	45,000	51-0-00	67,181	51-11-30	76,137	53-8-58	60,675	51-0-00
Ascheria	...	22,469	52-7-15	65,057	...	63,209	53-10-23	47,404	51-0-00
Victoria	...	16,321	51-0-00	51,000	52-4-75	50,427	53-0-04	25,650	52-0-00
Hoghtly	...	1,66,310	51-0-00	1,07,878	52-0-15	2,06,205	51-11-24	1,26,481	51-0-00
Plating Ghat	...	1,29,894	51-0-00	1,30,850	51-8-15	1,71,274	53-8-56	1,27,380	51-0-00
Golabare	...	55,964	51-0-00	48,105	51-11-20	...	...	44,721	51-0-00
Riverside	...	43,641	52-3-00	57,647	53-0-15	55,061	51-8-00	...	...
Gauda's	...	1,06,415	52-7-00	1,59,489	52-0-15	1,91,028	53-0-00	1,36,380	51-0-00
Namnyth's	...	1,26,674	52-0-15	1,74,567	52-7-00	2,57,000	52-7-17	1,76,775	51-0-00
Went's	...	1,00,853	51-3-30	38,203	51-0-00	38,060	51-0-00	45,815	51-0-00
Horrah	...	44,815	51-8-15	54,115	51-0-00	43,400	52-1-15	65,465	51-0-00
Solkas	...	60,463	51-0-15	98,100	51-11-30	78,189	53-3-25	41,151	51-0-00
Empress of India	...	1,01,168	52-0-30	1,12,304	51-0-00	1,24,404	51-8-51	1,20,055	51-0-00
P. & C. Garden Reach	...	37,717	52-0-65	18,393	52-0-15	1,11,487	51-1-17	77,110	51-0-00
Imperial	25,369	51-7-43	61,858	51-0-00
Ganges
Kachmit
Atlas
Krishna
Sun
Rajagomath
Sun's
Doris
Kates Kuntapkar
Ocean
Central
Total	...	21,18,180	52-0-15	25,68,567	52-0-27	35,18,283	53-10-05	26,53,590	51-8-00

A. H. LUGG,
Deputy Superintendent.

July, 1903.		August, 1903.		September, 1903.		October, 1903.		November, 1903.		December, 1903.		January, 1904.		February, 1904.		March, 1904.		April, 1904.		May, 1904.		June, 1904.	
SEASON 1903-04.		SEASON 1904-05.		SEASON 1905-06.		SEASON 1906-07.		SEASON 1907-08.		SEASON 1908-09.		SEASON 1909-10.		SEASON 1910-11.		SEASON 1911-12.		SEASON 1912-13.		SEASON 1913-14.		SEASON 1914-15.	
Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.	Quantity.	Average.
1,00,000	01-10	1,21,994	01-03	1,30,000	03-12	1,48,710	01-09	74,604	01-09	1,13,250	01-07	14,750	01-11/28	1,00,000	05-27								
1,20,000	01-08	1,61,031	02-08	1,60,078	02-15	1,37,437	02-25	1,20,291	02-10	1,27,033	10-128	1,08,644	04-24	1,41,079	04-24								
1,40,000	01-08	1,20,501	02-13	1,10,000	02-07	1,10,450	04-04	71,354	04-18	79,031	01-22	67,330	02-28	83,039	02-18								
1,60,000	01-09	1,60,527	01-10/1	73,000	03-03	83,638	04-08	67,905	02-01	61,300	01-10/2	47,615	01-23	1,24,715	01-28								
1,80,000	01-08	1,45,031	01-01	2,01,005	01-08	1,36,701	01-10/30	27,000	01-21	57,316	01-16	5,083,317	02-29	1,25,701	02-28								
0,395	01-02	62,758	01-10	1,13,340	01-08	1,05,647	01-10/27	1,24,821	01-09	1,04,840	01-12	1,00,000	04-02	67,178	03-08								
3,00,013	01-29	3,10,512	02-05	2,60,002	02-05	2,01,455	04-11/23	3,18,023	03-18	1,08,000	04-02	1,28,723	03-05	1,00,000	03-05								
1,28,454	01-02	1,28,452	02-05	1,10,000	01-10	1,38,844	04-07	1,31,305	02-10	1,20,310	02-10	1,31,410	02-29										
0,335	01-01	49,058	01-05	58,137	01-08	60,233	01-08	70,000	01-21	60,775	01-05	71,281	01-05	1,20,654	01-05								
20,048	02-02	70,018	02-10	1,22,026	02-10/4	1,20,000	02-10	1,05,077	02-08	1,000	05-17	15,000	05-17	2,000	05-17								
62,58	01-01	62,58	01-01	62,58	01-01	62,58	01-01	62,58	01-01	62,58	01-01	62,58	01-01	62,58	01-01								
1,00,072	01-06	1,00,000	02-11/5	1,00,000	02-11/5	1,00,000	02-11/5	1,00,000	02-11/5	1,00,000	02-11/5	1,00,000	02-11/5	1,00,000	02-11/5								
...								
1,28,251	01-03	1,28,050	01-07	1,38,002	01-04	1,37,087	01-17/10	2,04,107	01-08	52,007	01-21	1,70,425	01-05	1,22,070	01-04								
0,395	01-04	1,08,793	02-18	60,843	01-05	1,00,205	01-03/6	60,040	01-03	1,04,683	02-07	46,874	01-07	31,013	01-03								
...								
2,65,100	01-11	1,36,043	02-15	3,40,105	02-03	1,28,005	03-10/6	1,67,001	01-08	3,03,070	02-20	3,04,438	02-06	1,00,000	03-08								
1,00,010	01-02	1,10,080	01-10	1,10,013	01-13	1,00,000	03-06	1,00,000	02-03	1,00,000	02-03	1,00,000	02-03	1,00,000	02-03								
0,000	01-04	64,378	01-13	83,000	01-07/2	80,000	02-07	60,000	01-05	1,00,000	02-07	1,00,000	02-07	1,00,000	02-07								
80,000	01-10	1,00,000	01-10/30	1,00,000	01-10/30	1,00,000	01-10/30	1,00,000	01-10/30	1,00,000	01-10/30	1,00,000	01-10/30	1,00,000	01-10/30								
0,000	01-07	60,000	01-07	60,000	01-07	60,000	01-07	60,000	01-07	60,000	01-07	60,000	01-07	60,000	01-07								
1,00,000	01-07	1,22,011	01-08	2,00,000	01-05	1,00,000	03-06	1,00,000	01-04	1,20,000	02-05	1,10,000	02-05	1,10,000	02-05								
8,100	02-05	62,508	01-08	1,25,711	01-10/26	1,00,000	01-10/26	1,00,000	01-10/26	1,00,000	01-10/26	1,00,000	01-10/26	1,00,000	01-10/26								
1,10,012	01-03	77,346	02-03	65,530	02-04/7	67,135	03-20	82,100	01-04	1,10,000	02-08	1,10,000	02-08	1,10,000	02-08								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								
...								

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

Figures for

1909-1910.

Dr.

REVENUE ACCOUNT from

[illegible]

Profit 1909-1910	...	Rs.	866	0	3
Loss 1910-1911	...	"	23,724	5	11

A. H. LUGG,
Deputy Superintendent.

CALCUTTA, 30th June 1911.

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

1st July 1910 to 30th June 1911.

Gr.

Figures for

1909-1910.

INCOME.		Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
June Measurement Account	...	1,06,532	8	9												
Less rebate	...	31,928	13	4												
July Measurement Account	...	1,57,433	4	4												
Less rebate	...	47,236	8	2												
August Measurement Account	...	97	10	6												
Less rebate	...	4	8	9												
					98	1	9									
					1,51,898	7	4									
Add—Work done but not billed as on 30th June 1911	...				4,036	15	3									
					1,85,930	6	7									
Less—Work done but not billed as on 30th June 1910	...				11,357	1	6									
								1,74,873	5	1						
Weightment Account	...	1,20,820	9	8												
Less rebate	...	9,140	1	11												
Input Weightment Account	...	4,132	2	3												
Less rebate	...	166	11	6												
					3,965	6	9									
					1,15,645	14	6									
Add—Work done but not billed as on 30th June 1911	...				2,062	0	9									
					1,17,708	15	3									
Less—Work done but not billed as on 30th June 1910	...				4,339	4	0									
								1,13,369	11	3						
Mill Fee Account	...							3,719	8	0						
Shanty Fee	...							2,385	0	0						
Miscellaneous expenses of Weightment Account	...							1,945	3	5						
Balance transferred from Profit and Loss Account	...							23,724	5	11						
Total Rs.	...							3,20,017	1	8						

LOVELOCK & LEWES, } *Auditors.* H. M. HAYWOOD, *Secretary*
 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.

Dr.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

CALCUTTA, 30th June 1911.

A. H. LUGG,
Deputy Superintendent.

17 30th June 1911.

१२

**Figures for
1909-1910.**

LOVELOCK & LEWES, } Auditors. H. M. HAYWOOD, Secretary

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Figures for
1909-1910.

Dr.

BALANCE SHEET

Rs.	As. P.	Rs.	As. P.	Rs.	As. P.	Rs.	As. P.
				LIABILITIES			
				To Profit and Loss Account:—			
				Balance at credit ...			
		2,23,419	4 0				
		772	6 2	" Workshop building repairing Account ...		982	5 8
		1,000	0 0	" Chundoo Churo Dhar's Security Account ...		1,000	0 0
		200	0 0	" Honooman Doley's Security Account ...		200	0 0
		3	0 0	" Early and Late Fee Account ...		68	0 0
		20,702	11 2	" Deposit Account Balance ...		11,954	4 1
		2,68,678	0 0			2,27,716	3 3

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

LICENSED MEASURES' DEPARTMENT,

PROVIDENT FUND,

Calcutta, 2nd August 1911.

THE TRUSTEES OF

THE PROVIDENT FUND.

DEAR SIRS,

We have the pleasure of enclosing herein the account of the Provident Fund for the year ending 30th June 1911.

Profit and Loss Account—

There is a surplus on this account of Rs. 10,846-14-10

made up as follows:—

	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Interest on Securities ...	6,841	12	11			
Forfeited Contribution ...	577	8	1			
Forfeited interest on compulsory subscription Account ...	13	15	8			
Profit on Revaluation of Securities ...	3,965	6	0			
Less—Salaries ...	450	0	0	11,398	10	8
Sundry expenses ...	101	11	10			
				551	11	10
				10,846	14	10

Profit on Revaluation of Securities ...

Rs. 3,965 6 0

This amount is made up as follows:—

Value 30th June 1911.										Increase.	Decrease.
Rs.	As.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
Securities as on 30th June 1910 and as at present:—											
8,000 Government Promissory Notes	3½%	95	5	0	17,545	5	0	0	28,000	0	0
8,000 Calcutta Municipal Debentures	5%	104	0	0	5,200	0	0	0	1,000	0	0
11,000 Do	4%	98	0	0	20,478	0	0	0	11,000	0	0
6,500 Calcutta Port Trust Debentures	4%	98	0	0	6,370	0	0	0	0,500	0	0
1,500 Do	4½%	102	0	0	1,545	0	0	0	1,000	0	0
1,000 Bombay Improvement Trust Loan Debentures	4%	103	0	0	7,210	0	0	0	7,000	0	0
10,000 Bombay Municipal Debentures	4%	98	8	0	9,850	0	0	0	10,000	0	0
8,000 Rangoon Port Trust Debentures	4%	98	8	0	19,800	0	0	0	35,000	0	0
19,000 Do	4½%	105	0	0	10,500	0	0	0	10,000	0	0
600 Rangoon Municipal Debentures	4½%	105	0	0	18,300	0	0	0	15,000	0	0
1,500 Do	4½%	105	0	0	18,300	0	0	0	1,000	0	0
600 Bank of Bengal Shares of 500 each	—	1,417	8	0	15,175	0	0	0	5,000	0	0
12,800					1,72,665	5	0	0	1,72,400	0	0
Securities purchased during the year:—											
2,100 Calcutta Municipal Debentures	4%	104	0	0	2,525	0	0	0	2,600	0	0
1,15,000					1,74,600	5	0	0	1,65,000	0	0
									1,78,555	11	0
									4,167	14	0
									503	8	0
									8,965	6	0

The surplus of Rupees 10,846-14-10 has been divided *pro rata* between the employees contributing to the fund on the basis of the balances standing at their credit on 30th June 1911. The surplus thus divided yields Rupees 6-14-4-76 per cent. on the amount at credit of each employee.

	Rs.	As.	P.
Compulsory Subscriptions for the year were ...	16,273	14	7
Voluntary Subscriptions for the year were ...	.....	
Compulsory Subscriptions repaid during the year amount to ...	7,877	15	4
Voluntary Subscriptions repaid during the year amount to ...	11,706	0	2

Yours faithfully,

LOVELOCK & LEWES,

Managers.

1909-1910.

BALANCE SHEET of

Note—The valuation of the above investments is taken from Bank of Bengal closing quotations of 30th June 1911.

CALCUTTA, 30th June 1911.

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
Managers

on the 30th June 1911.

Figures for

1909-1910.

A. C. PATTERSON,
W. R. SMITH, } Trustees

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
COMPASSIONATE

Figures for

1909-1910.

Dr.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the

[illegible]

CALCUTTA, 30th June 1911.

A. H. LUGG,
Deputy Superintendent.

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.
FUND ACCOUNT.

Figures for

1909-1910.

Cr.

year ending 30th June 1911.

1910.		Rn.	As. P.	Rn.	As. P.	Rn.	As. P.	Rn.	As. P.
July ...	1 By Amount shown as per last statement			4,817	211			4,768	15
	" Amount of interest on Government Paper and Loan			178	11 8			158	15 10
	TOTAL ...			5,095	14 7			4,927	10 12

LOVELOCK & LEWES,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, } Auditors.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

Figures for

1909-1910.

212

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
COMPASSIONATE

Dr.

BALANCE SHEET as at

Rs.		As. P.		Rs.		As. P.	
				4,917	2 11		
				To Balance Credit			

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

Schedule of Charges for Weighment and Measurement of Goods.

NOTE.

1. The charges shown in the subjoined list are :—
 - (a) In the case of *Weighment* for 10 per cent. of any lot, subject to a rebate of 9 per cent., except for those commodities marked *nett*.
 - (b) In the case of *Measurement* for 7 per cent. of any lot, subject to a rebate of 33½ per cent.
2. The minimum charge for any order is Rs. 3, except in the case of iron weighments, where the minimum charge is Rs. 6.
3. If measurement be checked by actual weighment, the Schedule rate will be charged on the actual quantity passed over the scale.
4. The following are certain special charges :
 - (a) *Goods selected for arbitration* and sealed by the Officers of the Department, Rs. 10 per lot.
 - (b) *Piece-goods* measured and weighed for arbitration or survey purposes, Rs. 10 nett per case.
 - (c) *Sampling*, Rs. 10 per lot. If the sampling is done in connection with weighment, the minimum charge is Rs. 3.
 - (d) *Jute in drums* Rs. 7-8 per one hundred drafts irrespective of whether the drums are weighed two, three, or five at a time.
 - (e) *Coal, Iron and similar minerals*, As. 4 per ton up to 100 tons; in excess of 100 tons, As. 3 per ton; in excess of 200 tons, As. 2 per ton.
 - (f) *Tallying*.—The Schedule rates for the particular commodity, plus an addition of one-half such rate.
 - (g) *Weights*.—Testing and correcting weights, As. 4 each.

- (h) *Scales, testing and correcting*.—*Beam Scales*. Not exceeding 5 cwt., Rs. 1. Not exceeding 10 cwt., Rs. 2. Not exceeding 2 tons, Rs. 3.—*Platform Scales*. Not exceeding 5 cwt., Rs. 2. Not exceeding 10 cwt., Rs. 3. Not exceeding 1 ton, Rs. 5. Not exceeding 2 tons, Rs. 10. These charges cover testing and correcting only. The minimum charge for any single test will be Rs. 10.
5. If the weighment or measurement of percentages larger than those made in paragraph 1 (a) and (b) is required, special arrangements must be made with the Superintendent. Special arrangements must also be made for measuring coal, ballast and similar articles, for stock-taking, or other purposes.
6. In all cases labour must be supplied.
7. For each Officer in attendance at mills, press-houses or godowns, a minimum charge of Rs. 6 per day is levied.
8. The following distance charges are levied in addition to the Schedule rates :—
 - (a) Outside the limits of the old Port, Rs. 10 per day, for each Officer.
 - (b) Diamond Harbour, or a place at an equal distance, Rs. 15 per day for each Officer.
 - (c) North of Chitpore bridge, East of Lower Circular Road, South of the Docks, or half a mile to the West of the Howrah bank of the river Hooghly, Rs. 10 per day for each Officer.
9. The following holiday fees are charged in addition to the Schedule rates :—

Shipping.—Sunday, Rs. 5; Christmas day, Good Friday, New Year's day, and King Emperor's birthday, Rs. 10 for each Officer.

Press-houses.—Sunday, Christmas day, Good Friday, New Year's day, and King Emperor's birthday, Rs. 15 for one Officer, and Rs. 5 for each additional Officer.

ARTICLES.	Quantities.	Rates for weight- ment.			Rates for measur- ment.
		Rs.	As.	P.	
Oils in cases ...	Per case ...	Rs.	1	0	12/6 per ton of 50 cts.
Optum in chests ...	" chest ...	0	2	0	do.
Oxide ...	" ton ...	0	4	0	do.
Paper in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Paper stock in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	0	0	0	do.
Piece-goods in bales ...	" bale ...	1	2	0	do.
Paper in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Paint in drums ...	" drum ...	0	1	0	do.
Flags in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0	0	do.
Italian in bundles ...	" bundles ...	0	1	0	do.
Rope in coils ...	" coil ...	0	1	0	do.
Roofs in barrels ...	" barrel ...	0	2	0	do.
Rice, grain or seeds in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Rice dust in bags ...	" " " ...	0	12	0	do.
Red-wood ...	" ton ...	0	4	0	do.
Spirits in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Spirits in casks ...	" cask ...	0	2	0	do.
Safflower in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0	0	do.
Sago in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Saltpears ...	" ton ...	0	4	0	do.
Salt ...	" ton ...	0	4	0	do.
Shells in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Silk in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Sulfate of Soda in barrels ...	" barrel ...	0	2	0	do.
Silk in bales ...	" 100 bags ...	1	0	0	do.
Sugar in bags ...	" ton ...	0	4	0	do.
Sugar in baskets ...	" " " ...	0	4	0	do.
Sulph. Soda in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Skins in bales ...	" bale ...	0	1	0	11/- nett.
Straw plates in cases ...	" case ...	0	2	0	12/6 per ton of 50 cts.
Sulphate of Copper in casks ...	" cask ...	0	2	0	do.
Scandlings ...	" case ...	0	1	0	12/6 per ton of 50 cts.
Talc in cases ...	" case ...	0	1	0	do.
Tea in chests ...	" chest ...	0	0	3	do.
Tea waste in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	do.
Timber in boxes ...	" box ...	0	1	0	do.
Timber ...	" ton ...	0	4	0	do.
Tolacoe in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0	0	1/- 50 per bale
Turnsole in bags ...	" 100 bags ...	0	12	0	12/6 per ton of 50 cts.
Tamarind in barrels ...	" barrel ...	0	2	0	do.
Thermal waste in bales ...	" 100 bales ...	1	0	0	1/- 50 per bale
Wool in bales ...	" " " ...	1	0	0	do.
Yarn in bales ...	" " " ...	1	0	0	12/6 per ton of 50 cts.

JAS. KNOX,
Superintendent.

H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

CALCUTTA, 10th September 1900.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT.

At a Special General Meeting of the Chamber, held on 4th October 1883 the following Resolution was adopted:—

"That Rule I under the Chamber's Towns Schedule be altered as follows, in accordance with the Resolutions proposed and adopted by the mercantile community at their meeting on the 3rd July 1882, and in accordance with the notice issued by the Chamber of Commerce, on the 4th July 1882, under rule 23 of the Chamber, viz.:

- 1.—That where freight is payable by measurement, measurement to be by Sworn Measurers, to be placed under the direction of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.
- 2.—That measurement to be taken at place of shipment, i.e. exporting wharf, jitty or press-house where adjacent to place of shipment at measuring Superintendent's discretion, but only whilst the bales are actually being removed in course of shipment.
- 3.—That such measurement be final.
- 4.—That in cases of short-out cargo or cargo transferred from one vessel to another, original measurements to hold good.
- 5.—But that any cargo re-loaded be re-measured.
- 6.—That measurement be taken at the largest part of the bales, inside the lashing on the one side, and outside on the other.
- 7.—That the measurement of jute shipment without measurement shall be entirely at shipper's risk, and that measurement to be a matter of special arrangement between the shippers and ship; further, that all expenses connected with the measurement thereof be payable by the shippers.
- 8.—That all cotton and other baled cargo arriving at the East Indian Railway Company's terminus at Howrah for shipment direct by boat to be measured by the Sworn Measurers in the Railway Company's shed while being removed in actual course of shipment.
- 9.—That all baled cargo pressed at, or exported from, any of the press-houses to which a Sworn Measure may be attached be treated in the manner as jute, and as provided for in the second Resolution.
- 10.—That gunny bales packed at, or exported from, mills, within the limits of the port, be also measured as described in the second Resolution.
- 11.—That gunny bales or other cargo exported by boat direct from outside the limits of the port be measured by the Sworn Measurers on the deck of the ship or alongside; but it shall be optional with outside mills and press-houses to make arrangements with the Measuring Committee, on such terms as may be mutually agreed on for the attendance of Sworn Measurers at their ordinary shipping wharves for measurements in accordance with Rule 2.
- 12.—That all baled, cased, or other cargo not provided for in any of the foregoing Resolutions, and which at present, is measured on this side under any of

the tonnage schedules now in use in the Port, or which may require to be measured on this side, by a special arrangement made between shippers and ship, that all such cargo be measured on the Custom House Wharf (if for export by boat) or in the jolly shoal (if for shipment through the jetties) by the Sworn Measurers.

13.—That for the present the Sworn Measurers to be appointed to carry out this scheme be placed under the direction of a Representative Committee to be nominated by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

14.—That the charge for measurement be defrayed by the ship.

H. W. J. WOOD,

Secretary.

1st January 1884.

SCHEDULE.

Not less than seven per cent. to be measured if the bales have been pressed in 400 lbs. press boxes; but where bales pressed in 500 lbs. press boxes are also included in the lot, the percentages must be taken proportionately. All crooked or badly-pressed bales shall be objected to for measurement, and the Measurer shall cause all such bales to be returned to the Press-houses, having previously ripped open the lachings in such a way as to cause them to be re-pressed; but if Press-houses elect to have them shipped, a fair percentage of all such bales must be measured. Measurement to be taken at the largest part of the bale inside the laching on the one side and outside on the other. In taking the length and breadth, the measurement of one bale shall be with ticket upwards and of another with the ticket downwards.

Jute.
- Cuttings.
- Rejections.
- Thread Waste.
- Rope Ends.
Gunny Outtings.
Cotton.
- Rope.
- Safflower.
Tobacco Leaf and
all other goods
packed in bales
bound with rope
lashing.

Cotton.
- Gunny Cloth.
- Bags.
Piece goods.
Twist and all other
goods packed in
bales bound with
hoops.

Indigo.
Shallac.
Sutton Lac.
Lacdyne.
Tea.
Piece-goods and all
other goods pack-
ed in cases.

Hides.
Skins.

Fishing Rods.

Not less than seven per cent. to be measured of each *assortment*, and the measurement must be taken of the surface and not over the hoop binding. In small lots up to 50, not less than five bales are to be measured.

Not less than five per cent of each *assortment* to be measured.

Not less than five per cent of each *assortment* and *size* to be measured.

Five to ten per cent to be measured.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

PROVIDENT FUND.

1. These Rules and Regulations shall take effect as from the 1st day of January 1899.

2. "Department" shall be and include the members of the Committee, for the time being, of the Licensed Measurers' Department of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

"Managers" shall be the persons or person in whom the management of the Fund shall, for the time being, be vested as hereinafter provided.

"Trustees" shall be and include the Trustees of the Fund, for the time being, appointed as hereinafter provided.

"Salary" comprises only the fixed monthly salary received by each employe from the Department, and does not include any bonus, commission, or other remuneration or profit whatever, uncertain in amount, or derived by any employe by any means outside his fixed ascertained salary.

3. The management of the Fund shall, subject to the general supervision and control of the Department, be vested in the members, for the time being, constituting the firm of Messrs. Lovelock and Lewes, Chartered Accountants, or such other person or persons as the Department may, from time to time, at its uncontrolled discretion appoint, and the necessary expenses of management, including the remuneration of the Managers (to be, from time to time, agreed on by the Managers and the Department), shall be borne by, and be a charge on, the Fund.

The Committee of the Licensed Measurers' Department shall appoint, annually, in the month of September, two Trustees of the Fund, both of whom shall be members of the Committee. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the course of any year, the Committee shall appoint one of their number to fill the vacancy for the remainder of such year.

5. Every employe of the Department in the service of the Department on 1st January 1899, and every employe who shall join the service of the Department on or after that date, shall submit to these Rules and Regulations, and every such employe shall sign an Agreement in the form annexed to these Rules and Regulations.

6. Subscriptions to the Fund shall be as follows:—

- (1) In the case of employes whose salary does not exceed Rs. 100 monthly, a sum equal to 6 per cent on the amount of the salary of each employe shall be deducted by the Department, monthly, from such salary before payment of the same.
- (2) In the case of employes whose salary exceeds Rs. 100 monthly, a sum equal to 8½ per cent on the amount of the salary of each employe shall be deducted by the Department, monthly, from such salary before payment of the same.

7. The Department shall in any manner it may think most convenient, from time to time, deduct from any sum payable by them to any employe, whether by way of salary, or otherwise, such sum as may be required to pay any subscription due from him to the Fund, and shall, from time to time, pay over to the managers all sums so deducted by them.

8. The subscriptions of any employe absent on leave or furlough shall, during the period of such absence, be assessed on the salary allowed during such absence, but any employe shall be at liberty, subject to the consent of the Department, to subscribe on the full amount of his salary, if desired, provided notice in writing of such desire shall have been given by him to the Department prior to the due date for payment of salary next after such employe shall have obtained leave or furlough.

9. Deleted, 28th July 1910.

10. For and in respect of each complete year ending with the 30th day of June, the Department shall contribute to the Fund a sum equal to the aggregate amount of the subscriptions of all the employes of the Department for such year, and shall pay the same to the credit of the Fund.

11. The Managers shall, from time to time, pay into the Bank of Bengal at Calcutta, or any other Bank at Calcutta sanctioned by the Department, to the credit of an account to be opened in the name of the Trustees, all moneys received by the Managers after payment thereout of the expenses of management. All money to the credit of such account shall be dealt with only in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, and all or any portion of such moneys shall be withdrawn from such account only by cheques bearing the signatures of the two Trustees in addition to the signature of the Secretary of the Department.

12. All moneys not immediately required for the purpose of the Fund shall be, from time to time, invested by the Trustees at their discretion in any of the following Securities, that is to say, any

of the Rupee or Sterling Securities of the Government of India, or any Securities, the interest on which is or shall be guaranteed by the Government of India or in the Bonds, Debentures, or Securities of, or issued by, any Public, Municipal or Local Body or Authority in India, or in the fully paid-up Stock or Shares of any of the Presidency Banks in India, with power for the Trustees at their discretion, from time to time, to vary or transmute such investments into or for others of any nature hereinbefore authorised.

13. The Trustees shall, from time to time, upon the written requisition of the Managers, pay to them such sum or sums as may be required for the purposes of these Rules and Regulations, and shall, if necessary, raise the moneys required for same by a sale of the Securities held by the Trustees or of a sufficient part thereof, or by a loan of the Security of the same.

14. On the 30th day of June in each year, the Managers shall credit each employé with the equivalent of his subscription for the preceding year, as provided for under Rule 10, and thereafter, having ascertained the amount available for division among the members arising from the interest accrued on Securities, any sums forfeited to the Fund under these Rules and Regulations and all other moneys (if any) that should properly be brought into account, the Managers shall provisionally credit each employé in proportion to the amount standing to his credit on each 30th June in respect of his total subscriptions, with his share of the amount, so ascertained.

15. On or as soon as may be after the 30th day of June 1899, and the 30th day of June of every succeeding year, the Managers shall ascertain and fix the market-value, as on the said 30th June, of the total net Investments and Securities held by or belonging to the Fund, including interest up to the same day on any Securities, on which interest is usually calculated on sale or transfer thereof, and after deducting the payments made therefrom, and providing for debts and ascertained liabilities, paid or incurred respectively, agreeably with these Rules and Regulations, the Managers shall forthwith debit or credit, as the case may be, the account of each employé in the books of the Fund with a share of the difference between the value as appearing from the last preceding valuation recorded in the said books and the then market-value as so fixed and ascertained as aforesaid of the said Investments and Securities, including interest as aforesaid, in proportion to the amount at credit of each employé on the said 30th June.

16. A statement of account of each employé shall be made up to the 30th June of each year, and each employé shall be required to certify in writing upon such account that the amount therein shown, as standing to his credit, is correct.

17. Except, as is by these Rules and Regulations expressly provided, no member, or any person or persons on his behalf, in respect of his interest in the Fund, shall be entitled to claim any payment of money to him or them.

18. On the death of any employé, the Managers shall pay to his Executors or Administrators the amount standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 30th day of June preceding such death, and shall also pay to his Executors or Administrators, the amount in full of his paid-up subscriptions for the then current year.

19. On the voluntary resignation or retirement of any employé from the service of the Department, without the existence of any cause justifying his dismissal, the Managers shall pay to him the aggregate amount subscribed by him to the Fund and the amount (if any) standing to his credit for interest, and shall, in respect of the balance standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 30th day of June preceding such resignation or retirement, pay to him one-twentieth part of such balance for each completed year of service from the 1st January 1899.

20. In case of any employé becoming permanently incapacitated owing to injury sustained whilst in the service of the Department, or in case of resignation or retirement with the previous written sanction of the Department of any employé owing to illness, old age, or any other reason considered adequate by the Department and so certified in writing by them, the Managers shall (subject to the provisions of these Rules) pay to such incapacitated, resigning, or retiring employé the amount standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 30th day of June preceding such incapacity, resignation, or retirement, and also (subject as aforesaid) the full amount of his paid-up subscriptions for the then current year, together with such sums as are provided for under Rule 10.

21. If any employé shall be dismissed from the service of the Department, the Managers shall (subject to these Rules) pay to him the aggregate amount only subscribed by him to the Fund, without interest, and the balance, if any, of all moneys then standing to his credit in the books of the Fund shall (subject as aforesaid), upon such dismissal, be forfeited to the use of the Fund and shall be dealt with accordingly: Provided also that the Managers may at any time, with the consent of the Department, pay to any such dismissed member the amount to which he would have been entitled under Rule 19, if he had voluntarily retired from the service of the Department and had not been dismissed.

22. The Department shall have a first and paramount charge upon the amount, from time to time, standing to the credit of each employé and upon all other moneys of the Fund in or to which he may be interested or entitled for and in respect of all losses, damages, costs, and expenses, which the Department may at any time pay,

sustain, or be put to, by reason of any act of embezzlement, or default of or by such employé and the amount, from time to time standing to the credit of such employé, and all such other moneys as aforesaid shall be deemed and treated as a deposit made by him with the Department as security for his fidelity and be dealt with accordingly; and in the event of any claim arising by the Department against any employé under this rule, the same shall be paid, so far as the Funds in which such employé shall be interested shall extend, by the Fund to the Department on the written requisition of the Committee of the Department, and such employé shall absolutely forfeit all right and interest thereto and therein.

23. In case any employé shall die leaving any money standing to his credit in the books of the Fund, such moneys shall be paid only to the Executor or Administrator of the deceased member, on the production, to the Managers, of Probate of the Will or of Letters of Administration to the estate of such employé.

24. In all cases wherein a certificate shall be required of the amount of the balance standing in the books of the Fund to the credit of a deceased member, for the purpose of obtaining, free of stamp duty, a grant of Probate or Letters of Administration, or any other purpose, such certificate shall be in the following form:—

No.	
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	
LICENSED MEASURERS' DEPARTMENT	
PROVIDENT FUND.	
<i>It is hereby certified that the balance standing in the books of</i>	
<i>the Provident Fund of the Licensed Measurers' Department, Bengal</i>	
<i>Chamber of Commerce, to the credit of</i>	
<i>of</i>	<i>numbered as above on the</i>
<i>day of</i>	<i>was Rupees</i>
<i>Dated this</i>	<i>day of</i> 19
<i>Entered</i> .....	.....
<i>Examined</i>	<i>Managers</i>

25. No employé shall be entitled to transfer or assign, whether by way of security or otherwise howsoever, his interest or any part thereof in the Fund, and no such transfer or assignment shall be valid, and the Managers, Trustees, or Department, shall not recognise or be bound by notice to them, respectively, of any such transfer or assignment, and all moneys standing in the books of the Fund to the credit of the employé so transferring, or assigning his interest as aforesaid, shall forthwith be forfeited as from the date of such transfer or assignment, to the use of the Fund, and be dealt with accordingly; and further, if any prohibitory order or attachment, or process of a Civil Court, be served upon the Trustees, or Department, or the Managers, or any of them, or any person employed in the books of the Fund shall be attached, or be ordered to be paid into a Civil Court, or be ordered to be withheld from such employé, such moneys shall forthwith be forfeited to the use of the Fund, and be dealt with accordingly. And if any employé shall file his petition in insolvency or be adjudged bankrupt, or if he or his property, shall otherwise become amenable to any law relating to bankruptcy, or insolvency in India, Great Britain or elsewhere, or if he shall make any arrangement or composition with his creditors, his interest and every part thereof in the Fund shall thereupon cease and determine and all moneys then standing and which thereafter might stand to the credit of the employé in the books of the Fund shall forthwith be likewise forfeited to the use of the Fund and be dealt with accordingly. And if any employé shall become a lunatic or of unsound mind or his mental incapacity shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Department, then, unless and until a Committee to the estate of such lunatic shall be duly constituted, the Department shall be at liberty to withhold and retain any moneys so standing as aforesaid to the credit of such employé: Provided that the Department shall be at liberty, if the Department in their uncontrolled discretion shall so think fit, at any time thereafter, to give such moneys or any part thereof for the benefit of any such employé, or his wife, children, or relations, and the Managers shall deal with such moneys accordingly on the written requisition of the Department.

26. It shall be lawful for the Department, from time to time and at any time hereafter, in writing under their hands, to alter, vary, modify, remake, rescind, or add to, these Rules and Regulations, or any of them, but so that no such alteration, variation, modification, remaking, rescission, or addition shall affect the rights of any employé with respect to the Fund.

27. If any dispute shall, at any time, arise between the Managers or the Trustees, for the time being, of the Fund on the one hand and any employé or any Executor, Administrator, or next-of-kin of any employé, or any person claiming as such next-of-kin, or

in any other capacity, on the other hand, regarding these Rules and Regulations and the interpretation thereof, or any matter arising thereout or connected therewith, then and in every such case the matter in dispute shall be referred in writing to two arbitrators, and such reference shall be deemed to be a submission to arbitration within the Indian Arbitration Act, 1899, or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof, for the time being in force, the provisions whereof shall apply as far as applicable.

I hereby declare that I have read the foregoing Rules and Regulations of the Provident Fund of the Licensed Measurers' Department of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and that I agree to be bound by them.

Dated the _____ day of _____ 19 _____

Name in full _____

Date of birth _____

Nature of appointment _____

Date of joining service _____

Salary per mensem, Rupees _____

Signature _____

Witness _____

REPORT: ROYAL EXCHANGE.



ROYAL EXCHANGE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 1911.

THE PRESIDENT AND COMMITTEE,
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the provisions of rule 7 of the Rules of the Royal Exchange, we have now the honour to submit a report on its working for the year ended 31st December 1911.

2. During the year two firms and two individual members resigned, two firms and one individual member closed their business, one individual member changed his designation as a firm, and ten new firms and four individual members were elected. At the end of the year there were upon the Exchange Register 145 firms and 31 individual members. A list of the firms and individual subscribers on the 31st December 1911 is appended to this Report.

3. We submit a balance sheet and revenue account for the year ended 31st December 1911, which has been prepared, as usual, by Messrs. Lovelock and Leves, Accountants of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. The surplus of income over expenditure, shown in the Revenue Account, is Rs. 4,731-4-10 against Rs. 4,839-4-6 in the year 1910. In accordance with the provisions of rule 21 of the Rules of the Exchange, this amount has been transferred to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce as a contribution towards the

Your obedient servants,
C. W. N. GRAHAM, *President*,
F. H. STEWART, *Vice-President*,
H. HARRIS,
C. N. DOUETH,
JOHN SINCLAIR, } *Members.*
GUY SHORROCK,
E. H. ELLES,
J. E. BROWN,
E. A. GOWARD,

Secretary.

31st January 1912.

ROYAL EXCHANGE, CALCUTTA.

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st December 1911.

LIABILITIES	Rs. As. P.		Rs. As. P.		ASSETS	Rs. As. P.		Rs. As. P.
	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.		Rs.	P.	
SHORT CAPITALS—					OUTSTANDING—			
Begul Chamber of Commerce for					Subscriptions	...	.....	113 0 0
Monthly Rent, Taxes, etc. for	1,165	10 0			Quilt—			
December 1911	...		115	0	At Bank of Bengal	...	4,430 12 6	
Establishment	...		1,250	10 0	In hand—	...	188 2 4	4,618 14 10
BEGUL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE—								
Contribution Account	...							
	...		3,481	4 10				
Total Rs. ...	...				TOTAL RS. ...	...	.....	4,761 14 10

Examined and found correct.

LOVELOCK & LEWIS,

Auditors.

Calcutta, 23rd January 1912.

C. W. N. GRAHAM,

President.

H. M. HAYWOOD,

Secretary.

ROYAL EX.

Revenue Account for the

EXPENDITURE	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
To RENT	8,100	0	0			
" MUNICIPAL RATES AND TAXES	2,817	4	3			
" CONTRIBUTION TO QUADRENNIAL REPAIRS	1,250	0	0			
" MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION TO BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE				12,167	4	3
" ESTABLISHMENT				2,400	0	0
" RESTAURANT LICENSE				1,868	6	0
" BOOKS AND NEWSPAPERS	1,370	14	8	200	0	0
" STAMPS	28	0	6			
" PRINTING AND STATIONERY	177	3	6			
" TELEPHONE SUBSCRIPTION	200	0	0			
" PETTY CHARGES	1,167	14	3	2,944	0	11
SURPLUS INCOME over expenditure transferred to Bengal Chamber of Commerce Contribution Account (Rule 21, Royal Exchange)				4,731	4	10
TOTAL Rs.				24,311	0	0

Examined and found correct.

CALCUTTA,

28th January 1912. }

LOVELOCK & LEWES,

Chartered Accountants,

} Auditors.

CHANGE, CALCUTTA.

year ended 31st December 1911.

INCOME.	Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
BY EXCHANGE FEES				425	0	0
" SUBSCRIPTIONS				23,886	0	0
TOTAL Rs.				24,311	0	0

G. W. N. GRAHAM,

President.

H. M. HAYWOOD,

Secretary.

Royal Exchange.

COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1911.

President:

THE HON'BLE SIR C. W. N. GRAHAM, KT.
MESSRS. GRAHAM & CO.

Vice-President:

THE HON'BLE MR. F. H. STEWART, C.LE.
MESSRS. GLAINSTONE WYLLIE & CO.

Members:

MR. H. HARRIS,
CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA & CHINA.

MR. C. N. DOUGHERTY,
MESSRS. R. STEEL & CO. LD.

MR. JOHN SINCLAIR,
MESSRS. SINCLAIR & ECK.

MR. GUY SHORROCK,
MESSRS. PLACHE, SIDGONS & GOUCH.

MR. E. H. ELLES,
MESSRS. PIGOTT, CHAPMAN & CO.

MR. J. E. BROWN,
MESSRS. LANDALE & MORGAN.

MR. E. A. GOWARD,
MESSRS. WALKER GOWARD & CO.

LIST OF MEMBERS AS ON 31st DECEMBER 1911.

FIRMS.

Allen Brothers & Co., Ltd., (4)
Allanco Bank of Simla, Ltd., (3)
Anderson, Wright & Co., (3)
Apar & Co., (2)
Apar, T. S., & Co., (2)
Arracan Co., Ltd., (3)
Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd., (6)
Austrian Lloyd Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., (2)

Bailey & Co., (1)
Baker, Laverie & Co., (3)
Barry & Co., (3)
Becker, Gray & Co., (3)
Begg, Dunlop & Co., (2)
Bairns, Sir Jacob, & Sons, (2)
Bengal Coal Co., Ltd., (2)
Bengal-Nagpur Ry. Co., Ltd., (3)
Berthoud & Co., (2)
Botts, C. C., & Co., (2)

(Tipperah, Chundpur)

Binning, J., & Co., (2)
Bird & Co., (13)
Birkmyre Brothers, (3)
Black & Co., (6)
Bentley Co., Ltd., The, (3)
Bullen & Co., (2)
Bark Brothers, (1)
Barn & Co., Ltd., (3)
Barn, W. J., & Co., (1)

Cartwright, H. D., & Co., (5)
Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, (3)
Chundor, S. C. & Co., (4)
Commercial Union Assurance Co., Ltd., (3)
Cresswell, W. S., & Co., (3)
Crichton Barton & Co., (2)

Damiano, A., & Co., (2)
Delhi & London Bank, Ltd., (2)

Demetrius Brothers, (2)
Dent, T. E., & Co., (2)
Ducast, W. F. & Co., (2)
Duff, Thomas, & Co., Ltd., (2)
Duffus, J. C., & Co., Ltd., (2)
Duncan Brothers & Co., (3)
Duncan, Sherriif & Co., (3)
East Indian Railway Co., (2)
Eastern Bank Ltd., (3)
Eastern Bengal State Railway, (3)
Empire, Ltd., The, (3)
"Englishman," Ltd., The, (2)
Ernsthausen, Ltd., (8)

Figgis, A. W., & Co., (4)
Finlay, James, & Co., Ltd., (21)

Gillanders, Arbutnot & Co., (7)
Gladstone, Wyllie & Co., (3)
Godfrey, C. T., & Co., (3)
Gow, James, & Co., (1)
Graham & Co., (18)
Grandage & Co., (3)
Graves, Cotton & Co., (2)
Grossmann & Co., Ltd., (2)
Guzdar, P. E. & Co., Ltd., (3)

Hadenfeldt & Co., (2)
Halford, Smith & Co., (3)
Haworth, W. & Co., (8)
Heilgers, F. W., & Co., (22)
Henderson, George, & Co., (14)
Hoare, Miller & Co., (3)

Jardine, Skinner & Co., (23)
Jessop & Co., Ltd., (2)
John, A. M., & Co., (3)

Kettlewell, Bullen & Co., (3)
Kilburn & Co., (3)
Killick Nixon & Co.'s Agency, (2)
King Brothers, (6)

FIRMS.—*contd.*

Koch, Marcus & Co., (1)
 Landale & Clark, Ltd., (5)
 Landale & Morgan, (5)
 Lipton, Ltd., (2)
 Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co., (2)
 London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Co., (4)
 Lovelock & Leves, (3)
 Low, H. V. & Co., (3)
 Lyall, Marshall & Co., (3)
 Ludlow Manufacturing Associates (Boston), (2)
 Mackenzie, Lyall & Co., (2)
 Macmillan, J. & Co., (3)
 Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co., (4)
 Macneil & Co., (1)
 Main, A. & J., & Co., Ltd., (2)
 Manasseh S. & Sons, (3)
 Markwald, Henry, & Co., (2)
 Martelli, W. G., & Co., (2)
 Martin & Co., (2)
 Massey & Co., (5)
 McCluskie, E. T., & Co., (3)
 McGregor & Balfour Ltd., (2)
 McLeod & Co., (2)
 Meyer, B. & Co., Ltd., (2)
 Millar, D. L., & Co., (4)
 Moran & Co., (10)
 Mylton, Wallace & Co., (2)
 National Bank of India, Ltd., (3)
 New Zealand Insurance Co., Ltd., (2)
 Norman Brothers, (4)
 Nourse, James, Ltd., (2)
 Palicchi, F. C., & Co., (4)
 P. & O. S. N. Co., (3)
 Pernan & Hynd, (2)
 Petrocchino Brothers, (3)
 Pigott, Chapman & Co., (7)
 Place, Siddons & Gough, (5)
 Planters' Stores & Agency Co., Ltd., (2)
 Poppe, Delius & Co., (10)
 Port Commissioners, (4)
 Posner & Co., (2)
 Ralli Brothers, (11)
 Remington Typewriter Co., (3)
 Reynolds, R. A. B. & Co., (2)
 Royal Insurance Co., Ltd., (3)
 Russo-Asiatic Bank, (3)
 Sarkis & Co., (1)
 Sassoon, David & Co., (1)
 Sassoon, E. D., & Co., (2)
 Scott, James, & Sons, Ltd., (3)
 Shaw, Wallace & Co., (35)
 Siemens Bros., Dynamo Works, Ltd., (4)
 Sim, R., & Co., (Narainjunge) (10)
 Sinclair & Eck, (4)
 Sinclair, Murray & Co., (12)
 Smith, Andrew & Co., (1)
 Smith, Ross & Co., (3)
 South British Insurance Co., Ltd., (2)
 Standard Oil Co. of New York, (3)
 Stead, R., & Co., Ltd., (2)
 Stewart & Co., (2)
 Targett, W. H., & Co., (3)
 Taylor, Ashworth, & Co., (1)
 Thaddeus, T. M., & Co., (3)
 Thomas, J., & Co., (28)
 Turner Morrison & Co., (21)
 Walker, Goward & Co., (4)
 Walker, W. J., & Co., (2)
 Ward, G., & Co., (2)
 Watson, Innes & Co., (1)
 Williamson, Magor & Co., (4)
 Windram & Co., (1)
 Zillo & Co., (3)

INDIVIDUALS.

Allen, J. H.
 Apear, Alex. A., Jr.
 Arkis, Ezra.
 Atkinson, W.
 Baster, C. G.
 Blisco, W. B.
 Bonnard, Arthur
 Butchart, J.
 Caird, Geo.
 Cohen, Aaron A.
 Fellmann, H. B.
 Gregory, C. O.
 Gregory, G. I. M.
 Gregory, M. S. (*Serajung*).
 Gros, E. F.
 Gubley, A. R.
 Lukes, James
 Lukes, Norman R.
 Mair, Alex.
 Mann, G. C. S. (*Dacca*).
 Nahapiet, T. S.
 Pogose, P.
 Quin, M. H.
 Reed, J.
 Reid, R. J.
 Robertson, G. A.
 Romald, A.
 Rustomjee, R. H. M.
 Saklat, J. H.
 Verianues, P. O.
 Voigt, Fred.

ROYAL EXCHANGE.

RULES.

1. The Royal Exchange is intended for the use of members only, in accordance with the rules and regulations hereinafter set out.

2. The election of members shall be vested in the Committee, and the elections shall be by ballot or otherwise at the Ordinary Monthly Meetings. The Committee may elect a limited number of honorary members.

3. The Royal Exchange shall be managed by a Committee of nine persons. The President and Vice-President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce shall be *ex-officio* President and Vice-President of the Committee of the Royal Exchange. The Members of the Royal Exchange shall elect seven members of the Committee, including—one Merchant, one Banker, one Stock Broker, one Exchange Broker, one Produce Broker, and one Freight Broker. Failing such members offering themselves, others will be eligible.

4. The election of Members of the Committee, under the preceding rule, shall take place in February of each year; and the new Committee shall come into office from the first March next ensuing after the election. The election shall be by ballot.

5. The Exchange shall be open to members from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. except on Saturdays, when it shall be open from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. The holidays to be observed by the Royal Exchange shall be the holidays declared by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

6. The Committee shall have power from time to time, besides electing members, to make by-laws, fix the rates of entrance fee and subscription, and, generally, to conduct the business of the Royal Exchange and of the Restaurant attached thereto, as an Association working in connection with the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

7. The Committee shall submit, in February of each year, a report of the working of the Royal Exchange to the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

8. No person shall be allowed to attend the Exchange without having previously paid his entrance fee and subscription.

9. The subscription to the Royal Exchange shall be for the present:—

Rs. 10 per mensem for every Firm or Company admitting up to three representatives; and an extra charge of Rs. 5 per mensem for every additional representative. A payment of Rs. 25 per mensem by a Firm or Company shall secure the right of membership for the whole of their European staff, but the names of those

members of the staff, who are to exercise the privilege of attending the Exchange, must be sent in to the Master, who will furnish each one with a ticket, as under rule 10.

Rs. 5 per mensem for every individual not established under the style of a Firm or Company.

For *mofussil* members, the subscription shall be as follows:—

Rs. 6 per mensem for every Firm or Company admitting up to three representatives; and an extra charge of Rs. 3 per mensem for every additional representative.

Rs. 3 per mensem for each individual not established in the *mofussil* under the style of a Firm or Company.

The above subscriptions shall be collected monthly, as from the 1st of June 1893. No entrance fee will be charged to subscribers joining the Royal Exchange on its foundation.

10. Each subscriber, on payment of his subscription, will be furnished with a ticket, which must be produced on demand. Any subscriber refusing to show his ticket, when so demanded, shall be liable to refusal of admission at the discretion of the Master.

11. Any person creating a disturbance in the Royal Exchange or wilfully interfering with the comfort of the subscribers, shall be liable to removal from the list of members.

12. Members may use the reading-room and lounge of the Exchange, but shall not remove any papers, books, maps or documents of any kind from the premises.

13. Members may have the use of Committee rooms set apart for the purpose of Public Meetings. Applications for the use of rooms will be dealt with according to priority.

14. Public Companies and Associations, not members of the Royal Exchange, may have the use of Committee rooms for the purposes of public meetings of shareholders or members upon payment of a fee to be determined by the Committee, and to be deposited at the time of making the application.

15. No Assistant to a Firm or Company shall be eligible for election unless one of his principals is a member. A member elected as an Assistant to a Firm or Company, and who shall cease to be an Assistant of such Firm or Company, shall thereby cease to be a member, but may be afterwards elected as an Assistant, under the rule, or as a principal.

16. The name of any member who shall neglect, after written notice, to pay his subscription within two months after it is due, shall be posted in the room, and if the subscription shall remain unpaid for a further term of two weeks, shall cease to be a member.

Any individual member, who may be absent from Calcutta for more than three consecutive calendar months, shall be entitled

to claim exemption from payment of his subscription during such absence.

17. The Committee shall have power to call a General Meeting of the members of the Exchange at their discretion. They shall call a General Meeting upon receiving a requisition signed by fifteen members. At meetings called by requisition only the business mentioned in the requisition shall be transacted.

18. All proceedings of the Committee shall be subject to confirmation at the next ensuing General Meeting.

RESTAURANT.

19. Complaints in any way affecting the Restaurant shall be made to the Committee in writing.

VISITORS.

20. Strangers visiting Calcutta and non-residents of Calcutta may be introduced by any subscriber for ten consecutive days, and may, on payment of one-half the subscription, be elected temporary members for a period of not less than one month and not more than three months, and not oftener than once a year. Subscribers introducing strangers must enter the names of the persons introduced in a book provided for that purpose.

GENERAL.

21. After defraying the necessary expenses, any balance of the funds of the Royal Exchange shall be made over to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce as a contribution towards the payment of the Debentures issued by the Chamber, and to the interest thereon.

22. The Secretary and the Assistant Secretary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce shall be *ex-officio* Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Royal Exchange.

23. The Assistant Secretary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce shall be *ex-officio* Master of the Royal Exchange, and all complaints and suggestions shall, in the first instance, be made to him.

24. A list of newspapers supplied to rooms shall be exhibited in a conspicuous place in the reading-room, and the Committee may add others to the list, upon receiving a requisition from twenty-five members, showing that such additions would be desirable and useful.

25. No advertisement bills will be allowed to be posted in any of the rooms of the Exchange, or on the walls of the Exchange premises, and no samples of goods shall be exhibited.

26. The rules, or any of them, may not be rescinded or altered, nor may new rules be made, unless by a Resolution passed at a Special General Meeting, at which at least twenty-five members shall

be present, and such Resolution must be passed by a majority consisting of at least two-thirds of the number of votes given. Resolutions passed under this rule shall come into force at once, and shall not need confirmation at any subsequent Special General Meeting.

By order,

H. M. HAYWOOD,

Secretary.

ROYAL EXCHANGE.

BY-LAWS.

1. Newspapers and books are not to be removed from the premises.
2. Any one found writing upon, or defacing, the walls or Notice Boards at the Exchange, or the books or newspapers in the reading-room, or otherwise injuring them, may be excluded for such time as the Committee may determine.
3. The Committee shall have power to close any part of the Royal Exchange, from time to time, on such occasions and for such time as they may deem necessary.
4. Any member having a suggestion to make as regards the papers kept in the Exchange, or for adding thereto, shall address the Committee through the Master.
5. Members may use the reading-room for the purpose of taking notes or memoranda, or consulting works of reference available to members.
6. The Committee will supply "Royal Exchange Memorandum forms," which are only to be used on the premises.
7. Tiffin will be supplied in the Restaurant according to a notice approved by the Committee and to be signed by the Master.
8. Wines and spirits will also be supplied at rates to be approved by the Committee.
9. The Restaurant shall be open for such hours as may, from time to time, be approved by the Committee.
10. The lessee of the Restaurant may supply dinners to members, to be given on the top flat; the rates for these dinners shall be a matter of arrangement between the lessee and the members concerned. When such dinners are given, the lessee shall pay to the Committee the sum of Rs. 4 for use of the rooms, cook-rooms, etc., on the top flat.
11. Disorderly conduct in the Restaurant, or excess of any kind, shall be reported by the lessee to the Committee, through the Master, and shall be dealt with as the Committee may determine.
12. The lessee of the Restaurant shall not employ any person, the disapproval of whose conduct shall have been communicated to him by the Committee.
13. A Smoking-room will be provided on the top flat.
14. The Committee appeal to members to abstain from giving servants of the Exchange, or of the Restaurant, any gratuities. The Committee lay stress upon this by-law.

15. The Brokers' room is entirely private, and admission thereto is at the pleasure and discretion of the members of the room.
16. A room, or rooms will be set aside, on the top floor, where members may make a change of dress.
17. By arrangement with the Master, a room on the top flat may be reserved for private meetings.
18. Mofussil members may have their correspondence addressed to the care of the Master, Royal Exchange.
19. A list of newspapers supplied to the Royal Exchange shall be exhibited in a conspicuous place in the Reading-room.

By order of the Committee,
H. M. HAYWOOD,
Secretary.

MEMORANDUM & ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
OF THE
BENCAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

OF

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

1. The name of the Association is THE BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
2. The Registered Office of the Association will be situate at No. 1, Clive Street, Calcutta; or at such other place in Calcutta as the Association may from time to time determine.
3. The objects for which the Association is established are—
 - (1)—To promote and protect the trade, commerce and manufacture of India, and in particular the trade, commerce and manufactures of Calcutta.
 - (2)—To watch over and protect the general commercial interests of India, or any part thereof, and the interests of persons engaged in trade, commerce or manufactures, in India, and in particular in Calcutta.
 - (3)—To consider all questions connected with trade, commerce and manufactures.
 - (4)—To collect and circulate statistics and other information relating to trade, commerce and manufactures.
 - (5)—To promote or oppose legislative and other measures affecting trade, commerce or manufactures.
 - (6)—To adjust controversies between members of the Association.
 - (7)—To arbitrate in the settlement of disputes arising out of commercial transactions between parties willing or agreeing to abide by the judgment and decision of the Association.
 - (8)—To establish just and equitable principles in trade.
 - (9)—To form a code or codes of practice to simplify and facilitate transaction of business.
 - (10)—To maintain uniformity in rules, regulations, and usage of trade.
 - (11)—To communicate with Chambers of Commerce and other mercantile and public bodies throughout the world, and concert and promote measures for the protection

of trade, commerce and manufactures, and persons engaged therein.

- (12)—To provide, regulate and maintain a suitable building or room, or suitable building or rooms, for a Commercial Exchange in Calcutta.
- (13)—To provide rooms and other facilities for holding and conducting sales of property, brokerage or commercial transactions, meetings of creditors, companies or arbitrators and other like matters.
- (14)—To establish and conduct in or in connection with any building or room erected, provided, regulated or maintained by the Association for the purposes aforesaid, a restaurant for the use of the members of the Association and others resorting to such building or room for the negotiation or transaction of business.
- (15)—To acquire by purchase, taking on lease, or otherwise, lands and buildings, and all other property, moveable and immovable, which the Association, for the purposes thereof, may from time to time think proper to acquire, and in particular to acquire by purchase the premises Nos. 1 and 2, Clive Street, Calcutta, for such Commercial Exchange as mentioned in sub-section (12), and certain property on the south side of New China Bazar Street, and to carry into effect the contract already entered into between the Hon'ble Mr. J. L. Mackay, C.I.E., on behalf of the Association and the Liquidator of the New Oriental Banking Corporation, Ltd., and others for the purchase of the said several premises for the price or sum of Rs. 3,70,000.
- (16)—To sell, improve, manage, develop, exchange, lease or let, under-lease or sublet, mortgage, dispose of, turn to account or otherwise deal with all or any part of the property of the Association.
- (17)—To construct upon any premises acquired for the purposes of the Association any building or buildings for the purposes of the Association, and to alter, add to, or remove, any building upon such premises.
- (18)—To borrow or raise any money required for the purposes of the Association, upon such terms and in such manner and on such securities as may be determined, and in particular by the issue of debentures charged upon all or any of the property of the Association.
- (19)—To subscribe, to become a member of, and co-operate with, any other Association, whether incorporated or not, whose objects are altogether or in part similar to those of this Association, and to procure from, and

communicate to, any such Association, such information as may be likely to forward the objects of this Association.

- (20)—To do all such other things as may be conducive to the extension of trade, commerce or manufactures, or incidental to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

4. The income and property of the Association whatsoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Association, as set forth in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend or bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit, to the persons who at any time are, or have been, members of the Association, or to any of them, or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Association, or to any member thereof, or other person in return for any services actually rendered to the Association, or the payment of interest on money borrowed from any member of the Association.

5. The fourth paragraph of this Memorandum is a condition on which a license is granted by the local Government of Bengal to the Association, in pursuance of Section 26 of the Indian Companies Act, 1882.

6. If any member of the Association pays or receives any dividend, bonus, or other profit in contravention of the fourth paragraph of this Memorandum, his liability shall be unlimited.

7. Every member of the Association undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Association, in the event of the same being wound up during the time that he is a member, or within one year afterwards, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Association contracted before the time at which he ceases to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up the same and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors amongst themselves, such amount as may be required not exceeding Rs. 50, or in case of his liability becoming unlimited, such other amount as may be required in pursuance of the last preceding paragraph of this Memorandum.

8. If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the Association, there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to, or distributed among, the members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions, having objects similar to the objects of the Association, to be determined by the members of the Association at or before the time of dissolution, and in default thereof by such Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.

We, the several persons whose names and addresses are subscribed, are desirous of being formed into an Association in pursuance of this Memorandum of Association.

No.	NAMES, ADDRESSES AND DESCRIPTION OF SUBSCRIBERS.
1	JAS. L. MACKAY, 16, STRAND ROAD, CALCUTTA, <i>Merchant.</i>
2	P. PLAYFAIR, 5, LYON'S RANGE, CALCUTTA, <i>Merchant.</i>
3	JOHN A. RALLI, 9, OLIVE ROW, CALCUTTA, <i>Merchant.</i>
4	J. A. TOOMEY, 8, COUNCIL HOUSE STREET, CALCUTTA, <i>Bank Manager.</i>
5	JAS. TURNER, 3, OLIVE GHAT STREET, CALCUTTA, <i>Merchant.</i>
6	R. GARDINER, LT.-COL., R.E., EAST INDIAN RAILWAY HOUSE, OLIVE STREET, <i>Agent, E. I. Ry. Co.</i>
7	J. N. STUART, 103, OLIVE STREET, <i>Merchant.</i>
8	JAS. STEVENSON, 9, OLIVE STREET, <i>Merchant.</i>
9	N. H. T. BECKER, 2/3, OLIVE ROW, <i>Merchant.</i>

Dated the 20th day of June 1893.

Witness to the above }
Signatures. } ELPHINSTONE JACKSON,
Attended Clerk to R. L. Upton,
Solicitor, Calcutta.

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

OF

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

1. In these Articles, unless there be something in the subject or context inconsistent therewith—
"THE CHAMBER" means the "Bengal Chamber of Commerce" incorporated under Section 26 of the Indian Companies Act, 1882.
"MEMBER" means a member of the Chamber.
"GENERAL MEETING" means a general meeting of the Chamber.
"THE PRESIDENT" means the President of the Chamber.
"THE VICE-PRESIDENT" means the Vice-President of the Chamber.
"THE COMMITTEE" means the Committee of the Chamber elected under these Articles.
"THE SECRETARY" means the Secretary to the Chamber.
2. For the purposes of registration the Chamber is declared to consist of 200 members.
3. The Committee may, when they think fit, register an increase of members.
4. The Chamber is established for the purpose expressed in the Memorandum of Association.

MEMBERS.

5. There shall be two classes of members—permanent and honorary.
6. Every individual, firm, joint-stock company or other corporation, respectively, who or which, immediately before the registration of the Chamber, was a member of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce as it existed unincorporated, shall *ipso facto* and without election be a member, permanent or honorary, as the case may be, of the Chamber.
7. Merchants, bankers, shipowners, representatives of commercial railway and insurance companies, brokers, persons and firms engaged in commerce, agriculture, mining or manufacture, and joint-stock companies or other corporations, formed for any purpose

or object connected with commerce, agriculture, mining or manufacture, and persons engaged in or connected with art, science or literature, may be elected as permanent members of the Chamber.

8. Any firm, joint-stock company or other corporation eligible for election as a permanent member may become a permanent member in their conventional or corporate name.

9. Subject to the provisions and restrictions contained in these articles, the right and privileges of membership may, in the case of a firm elected in their conventional name as a member, be exercised by any partner in such firm, or by any person authorised by power of attorney or letter of procuration, to sign the name of the firm or to sign such name per procuration, and may, in the case of a joint-stock company or other corporation elected a member in its corporate name, be exercised by any responsible officer of such company or corporation.

10. A candidate for election as a permanent member, whether an individual, a firm or a joint-stock company or other corporation, shall be proposed by one and seconded by another permanent member, and be elected provisionally by the Committee, and such election shall be subject to confirmation at the Annual General Meeting next ensuing such provisional election.

11. A firm shall not cease to be a member by reason only of a change in the constitution of the firm occasioned by the admission or retirement or death of a partner, provided the business of the firm is continued in the conventional name in which such firm was elected a member.

12. A firm, joint-stock company or other corporation shall cease to be a member upon any change being made in the conventional or corporate name of the firm, company or corporation.

13. Any permanent member may withdraw from the Chamber by giving two calendar months' notice in writing to the Secretary of the intention of such member so to do, and upon the expiration of the notice such member shall cease to be a member.

14. The subscription to the funds of the Chamber, of permanent members residing or carrying on business in Calcutta, shall be Rs. 20 per annum, and that of permanent members residing or carrying on business elsewhere than in Calcutta, shall be Rs. 32 per annum.

15. Honorary members shall not be required to subscribe to the Funds of the Chamber.

16. Any member whose subscription shall be three months in arrears, and who shall not pay such arrears within one month after written notice calling for such payment, shall cease to be a member, and the name of such defaulting member shall be removed by the Committee from the list of members.

17. If it shall appear to the Committee that any member has not conformed to these articles or to the by-laws or regulations of the

Chamber, or that any member has been guilty of any conduct likely to reflect detrimentally on the Chamber, the Committee shall be empowered to request such member to resign, and, if the member so requested shall not resign, within two weeks after such request, the Committee shall thereupon convene a Special General Meeting, and if at such meeting a majority of three-fourths of the members present, and voting, vote for the expulsion of the member so offending, such member shall thereupon cease to be a member.

18. A firm or joint-stock company or other corporation, who shall resign or be expelled under the last preceding article, shall be eligible for re-election after the expiry of one year from the date of resignation or expulsion, provided not less than three members in addition to the proposer and seconder, concur in the proposal for re-election.

19. An individual who shall resign or be expelled under Article 17 shall not be eligible for re-election.

20. Any member who shall by any means cease to be a member shall nevertheless remain liable for and shall pay to the Chamber all moneys which at the time of such member ceasing to be a member may be due from such member to the Chamber.

21. Officials and others indirectly connected with the trade, commerce or manufactures of Bengal or who may have rendered distinguished services to the interests represented by the Chamber, may be elected honorary members by the Committee upon the proposal of any permanent members, whether members of the Committee or not.

22. Strangers visiting the Presidency may be admitted by the Committee as honorary members for a period not exceeding two months, on the proposal of any permanent member, whether a member of the Committee or not.

23. Honorary members shall be entitled to receive the last published report of the Committee, and to attend and speak, but not to vote, at any General meeting held during their membership, and may, upon the invitation of the President, Vice-President or Chairman, as the case may be, attend under the like conditions any meeting of Committee or of any departmental Committee or Sub-Committee.

REGISTER OF MEMBERS.

24. A list or register of members shall be kept, in which shall be set forth the names and addresses of the members, permanent and honorary, for the time being, and in which all changes in membership from time to time taking place shall be recorded.

OFFICERS.

25. There shall be the following Officers of the Chamber, namely, a President, Vice-President, seven ordinary members of Committee, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, and an Auditor. The officers of the Chamber, with the exception of the Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Auditor, shall act without remuneration.

26. The Committee shall consist of nine members, namely, the President and Vice-President and seven ordinary members.

27. Until the Annual General Meeting in the year 1884, the following shall be the officers of the Chamber:—

President—The Honourable Mr. James L. Mackay, C.L.E.

Vice-President—The Honourable Sir Patrick Playfair.

Ordinary Members of the Committee—

1. John A. Halli, Esq.
2. J. A. Toomey, Esq.
3. James Turner, Esq.
4. Lieutenant-Colonel R. Gardiner, R.E.
5. J. N. Stuart, Esq.
6. James Stevenson, Esq.
7. N. H. T. Becker, Esq.

Secretary—S. E. J. Clarke, Esq.

Assistant Secretary—William Parsons, Esq.

Auditors—Messrs. Lovelock and Lewes.

28. The President, Vice-President and the ordinary members of the Committee shall retire at each Annual General Meeting. A retiring officer shall be eligible for re-election.

29. Any permanent member, any partner in or person holding a power-of-attorney or letter of procuration from a firm registered as a permanent member in their conventional name, and any person being a responsible officer of any joint-stock company or other corporation registered as a permanent member in its corporate name, shall be eligible for election as an officer of the Chamber.

30. During the tenure of office as President, Vice-President or as an ordinary member of Committee, by any partner in or person holding a power-of-attorney or letter of procuration from a firm registered as a permanent member in their conventional name, or during the tenure of office as President, Vice-President or as an ordinary member of Committee by any person being a responsible officer of any joint-stock company or other corporation registered as a permanent member in its corporate name, no other partner or person representing the same firm, company or corporation, as the case may be, shall be eligible for election as a member of Committee.

31. If the President, Vice-President or any ordinary member of Committee shall be absent from Calcutta for a period of three consecutive months, the Committee shall declare his office vacant, and he shall thereupon cease to be an officer of the Chamber.

ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.

32. At each Annual General Meeting the members shall fill up the places vacated by the retirement of the President, Vice-President and ordinary members of the Committee.

33. The retiring members of the Committee shall before their retirement from office, and before or contemporaneously with the issue of voting cards by the Secretary under the next succeeding articles, intimate to members of the Chamber the interest for which it may, in their opinion, be desirable that special representatives shall be elected as members of the Committee.

34. The election of the President, Vice-President and the ordinary members of the Committee shall be determined by a majority of the votes of members. Such votes shall be given by voting cards to be numbered and signed by the Secretary, and to be issued by him not less than 14 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. No voting cards shall be received or used unless so numbered and signed.

35. The voting cards shall be returned to the Secretary within seven days from the date on which the same shall be issued, and no voting cards shall be used unless returned within that time.

36. On the return of the voting cards to the Secretary, such cards shall be examined by two permanent members who shall be appointed by the Committee as scrutineers, and the scrutineers so appointed shall report the result of their examination for confirmation at the Annual General Meeting.

37. If any vacancy shall occur in the office of President or Vice-President during the interval between two Annual General Meetings, the Committee shall, if the vacancy shall occur in any month other than the months of January or February in any year, or they may, if the vacancy shall occur in either January or February in any year, proceed to fill the vacancy until the next President, the case may be, to fill the vacancy shall be determined at the ensuing Annual General Meeting. The election shall be given by a majority of the votes of members. The votes shall be given by voting cards numbered, signed, issued, returned and examined in manner prescribed for the election of a President or Vice-President at an Annual General Meeting. The result of the examination of the voting cards by the scrutineers shall be communicated to members by a letter signed and circulated by the Secretary.

38. Any vacancy in the Committee other than in the office of President or Vice-President occurring in the interval between two

Annual General Meetings shall be filled up by the Committee electing a member to supply the vacancy.

39. The Secretary and Assistant Secretary shall be appointed by the Committee at a remuneration, such appointment to be subject to confirmation at the next ensuing Annual General Meeting.

40. The Auditor shall, from time to time, be appointed by the Committee at a remuneration to be fixed by the Committee.

PRESIDENT.

41. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Committee, at all general meetings and over all deputations. He shall preside at the Annual General Meetings, address the members on such subjects as he may deem proper to bring to their notice, but such address shall not be taken to represent the views of the Chamber or of the Committee unless such representation is expressly indicated.

42. The President shall also, at any time when he shall deem proper, communicate to the Chamber or to the Committee such matters, and shall make such suggestions as may, in his opinion, tend to promote the prosperity and welfare, and increase the usefulness of the Chamber, and shall perform such other duties as may be incident to the office of President.

VICE-PRESIDENT.

43. The Vice-President, in the absence of the President, shall have the powers and perform the duties of the President.

THE COMMITTEE.

44. The Committee shall meet at such times as they may deem advisable, and may make such regulations as they think proper as to the summoning and holding of meetings of the Committee, and for the transaction of business at such meetings, and the record of their proceedings shall be open to the inspection of members, subject to such regulations as the Committee may, from time to time, deem expedient.

45. The President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President, shall be *ex-officio* Chairman of the Committee. In the absence of both President and Vice-President, the Committee shall elect their own Chairman.

46. Five members of the Committee shall form a *quorum* for the transaction of business.

47. All proceedings of the Committee shall be subject to the control of the Chamber in Annual General Meeting.

48. A yearly report of the proceedings of the Committee shall be prepared, printed and circulated for the information of the members of the Chamber, at least three days previous to the Annual

General Meeting. Such report shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting for confirmation, and shall be confirmed or otherwise dealt with or disposed of as the Meeting shall determine.

49. The management of the business and funds of the Chamber shall be vested in the Committee who, in addition to the powers by these articles expressly conferred upon them, may exercise all such powers and do all such acts and things as may be exercised or done by the Chamber, and are not hereby or by law expressly directed or required to be exercised or done by the Chamber in General Meeting.

50. Without prejudice to the general powers conferred by Article 49 hereof, the Committee shall have power—

- (a) To carry out on the part of the Chamber the contract for the purchase of the premises, including Nos. 1 and 2, Clive Street, Calcutta, referred to in section 3, and sub-section 15, of the Memorandum of Association and in relation thereto to raise the sum of Rs. 2,60,000 on 5 per cent. mortgage debentures charged on the said property Nos. 1 and 2, Clive Street, and to complete and issue such debentures.
- (b) To appoint any departmental Committees or Sub-Committees of the members of the Committee, or of the members of the Chamber, and such Departmental Committees or Sub-Committees may be permanent or temporary or for special purposes as the Committee may determine.
- (c) To delegate, subject to such conditions as they think fit, any of their powers to Departmental Committees, or Sub-Committees, and to make, vary and repeal by-laws or rules for the regulation of the proceedings of Departmental Committees or Sub-Committees.
- (d) To make, vary and repeal by-laws or rules for the regulation of the business of the Chamber, of the officers or servants, or of the members of the Chamber or of any department or section of the Chamber.
- (e) To enter into arrangements upon such terms and subject to such conditions as the Committee may deem desirable, for working in connection with any Association organized for the protection or better development of any branch of trade, commerce or manufacture in Bengal, or with like objects that may apply to be allowed to work in connection with the Chamber, provided the objects for which such Association is formed are not inconsistent with the objects of the Chamber, as defined in its Memorandum of Association.

- (1) To make such by-laws as the Committee may consider expedient for the regulation of the joint working of the business of any Association connected with the Chamber, or for the purpose of defining the terms and conditions of the joint working of the business of such Association, or as may, from time to time, be agreed upon between such Association and the Committee.

SECRETARY.

51. The Secretary shall devote himself entirely to the business and affairs of the Chamber except in cases where he has received the special permission of the Committee. He shall have charge of all correspondence, and shall keep an account of the funds of the Chamber and of funds connected with or in any way controlled by the Chamber. He shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the Chamber and of the Committee, of the Departmental Committees and Sub-Committees, and of all Associations connected with the Chamber. He shall have the care of the rooms, furniture, library, pictures, and of all documents belonging to the Chamber. He shall give notice of all meetings of the Chamber, of the Committee, of the Departmental Committees and Sub-Committees of the Committee, of the of all Associations working in connection with the Chamber, and shall duly notify members of their election, shall countersign all cheques signed by the President or any Chairman of an Association, Chamber or Committee, shall collect all dues from members of the connection with the Chamber. He shall prepare the annual report of the Chamber under the guidance of the Committee, and the reports of all Committees, and of all Associations connected with the Chamber, and generally shall perform all such duties as are incident to his office.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

52. The Assistant Secretary, in the absence of the Secretary, shall perform all or any of the duties of the Secretary, and all such of the duties of the Secretary as may be assigned to him from time to time by the Secretary with the sanction of the Committee.

AUDITORS.

53. The Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Chamber, of Departments of the Chamber, Associations connected with the Chamber, and of all funds connected with or controlled by the Chamber.

GENERAL MEETINGS.

54. The first General Meeting shall be held at such time, not being more than six months after the incorporation of the Chamber and at such place as the Committee may determine.

55. Subsequent General Meetings shall be held in the month of February, in every year, at such place as the Committee may consider convenient for the despatch of business at which a report of the proceedings of the Committee and the yearly accounts shall be submitted for confirmation. Such meetings shall be called Annual General Meetings.

56. The Committee may, whenever they think fit, and they shall upon a requisition made in writing by any five members, convene a Special General Meeting.

57. Any requisition made by the members shall express the object of the Special General Meeting proposed to be called, and shall be left with the Secretary.

58. Upon the receipt of such requisition, the Committee shall forthwith proceed to convene a Special General Meeting, and such meeting shall be held within 15 days from the date of the receipt of such requisition unless it be convened to consider, revise or amend (a) any by-law or by-laws relating to Arbitrations, (b) any by-law or by-laws or rules relating to the Measurement Department of the Chamber, (c) the Chamber's Schedule of Commission Charges, (d) the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule for the Port of Calcutta, (e) the Chamber's form of Bill of Lading, or (f) the regulations of the Chamber as contained in these Articles of Association.

59. One month's notice at the least, specifying the place, the day and hour of meeting, and the nature of the special business, shall be given of any Special General Meeting convened to consider, revise or amend the by-laws or rules relating to Arbitrations or to the Measurement Department or to revise or amend the Chamber's Schedule of Commission Charges, or the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule for the Port of Calcutta.

60. Six months' notice at the least, specifying the place, the day and hour of meeting and the nature of the special business, shall be given of any Special General Meeting convened to consider, revise, amend or deal with the Chamber's form of Bill of Lading.

61. At Special General Meetings only the business of which notice has been given, or such questions as naturally arise thereon, shall be discussed.

62. Resolutions passed at any Special General Meeting convened for the purpose of considering, revising or amending the by-laws or rules relating to Arbitrations or to the Measurement Department, the Chamber's Schedule of Commission Charges, or the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule for the Port of Calcutta or for the

purpose of considering, revising, amending, or dealing with the Chamber's form of Bill of Lading, shall not take effect unless and until such resolutions shall be confirmed at a subsequent Special General Meeting held as regards resolutions passed to revise or amend the by-laws or rules relating to Arbitrations or to the Mes- senger Department, the Chamber's Schedule of Commission Charges, or the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule for the Port of Calcutta, at an interval of not less than one month from the date at which such resolution was first passed, and as regards resolutions passed to revise, amend or deal with the Chamber's form of Bill of Lading at an interval of not less than three months from the date at which such resolution was first passed.

63. Subject to the provisions of the Indian Companies Act, 1882, as to the power to alter regulations by special resolution, three months' notice at the least, specifying the place, the day and the hour of meeting and the nature of special business, shall be given of any Special General Meeting convened to revise, alter or amend the regulations of the Chamber as contained in these Articles of Association.

64. Except as herein, and in the Indian Companies Act, 1882, provided, resolutions passed at any Special General Meeting shall take effect and come into operation on the dates on which they shall be passed, unless the time from which they shall take effect and come into operation be otherwise expressly stated in such resolution.

65. The non-receipt of a notice convening any General Meeting by any member shall not invalidate the proceedings at any such meeting.

66. Any number of members present and entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting shall constitute a *quorum*, but at any Special General Meeting twelve members shall constitute a *quorum*. No business shall be transacted at any Special General Meeting unless a *quorum* of members is present at the commencement of such business.

67. If within half an hour from the time appointed for a meeting, if convened upon the requisition of members, shall be dis- missa day in the following week, at the same time and place; and if at such adjourned meeting a *quorum* of members is not present, the meeting shall be adjourned *time etc.*

68. The Chairman may, with the consent of the meeting, adjourn any meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjourn- ment took place.

69. Every question submitted to a General Meeting shall be decided by a majority of members present and voting at such meeting.

VOTES OF MEMBERS.

70. Every permanent member shall have one vote.

71. Any number of representatives of a firm registered as a member in their conventional name, or any joint-stock company or other corporation registered as a member in its corporate name may attend any General Meeting, but only one of such representatives shall be entitled to vote.

NOTICES.

72. A notice may be served upon any member either personal- ly or by sending it through the post in a prepaid letter, addressed to such member at such member's registered address.

73. Any notice sent by post shall be deemed to have been served at the time when the letter containing the same would be delivered in the ordinary course of the post.

SEAL.

74. The Committee shall forthwith provide a common seal for the Chamber. The seal shall be deposited with the Secretary and shall never be affixed to any document except in the presence of the President or Vice-President, and in pursuance of a Resolution of the Committee or of the Chamber in General Meeting.

75. Deeds, bonds, and other contracts under seal made on behalf of the Chamber, sealed with the common seal of the Chamber, and signed by the President or Vice-President and countersigned by the Secretary or the person acting as Secretary shall be deemed to be duly executed.

No.	NAMES, ADDRESSES AND DESCRIPTION OF SUBSCRIBERS.
1	JAS. L. MACKEY, 16, STRAND ROAD, CALCUTTA, Merchant.
2	P. PLAYFAIR, 5, LYON'S RANGE, CALCUTTA, Merchant.
3	JOHN A. RALLI, 9, OLIVE ROW, CALCUTTA, Merchant.

No.	NAMES, ADDRESSES AND DESCRIPTION OF SUBSCRIBERS.
4	J. A. TOOMEY, 3, COUNCIL HOUSE STREET, CALCUTTA, <i>Bank Manager.</i>
5	JAS. TURNER, 3, CLIVE GHAT STREET, CALCUTTA, <i>Merchant.</i>
6	R. GARDINER, LT.-COL., R. E., EAST INDIAN RAILWAY HOUSE, CLIVE STREET, <i>Agent, E. I. Ry. Co.</i>
7	J. N. STUART, 103, CLIVE STREET, <i>Merchant.</i>
8	JAS. STEVENSON, 9, CLIVE STREET, <i>Merchant.</i>
9	N. H. T. BECKER, 2/3, CLIVE ROW, <i>Merchant.</i>

Dated this 20th day of June 1893.

Witness to all the above
Signatures.

} ELPHINSTONE JACKSON,
*Atticled Clerk to R. L. Upton,
Solicitor, Calcutta.*

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

RULES

OF THE

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION

ADOPTED BY RESOLUTIONS

Passed at a Special General Meeting held on 16th January, 1912.
Confirmed at a subsequent like meeting held on 27th February, 1912.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION. RULES.

Interpretation.

I. The marginal notes hereto shall not affect the construction hereof, and in these Rules the following words have the following meanings:—

- (1) "CHAMBER" means the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.
- (2) "MEMBERS" means the members for the time being of the Chamber.
- (3) "TRIBUNAL" means the Tribunal of Arbitration hereby constituted.
- (4) "REFERENCES" means any submission or agreement to refer differences or disputes to the Tribunal.
- (5) "PARTY" shall include an individual, a firm or a company.
- (6) "COURT" means the Arbitrator or Arbitrators appointed for determining a particular dispute, or the Umpire where an Umpire has been appointed and is acting in the arbitration.

Interpretation
Clause.

Objects and Constitution of Tribunal.

II. The object of the Tribunal is the determination, settlement and adjustment of disputes and differences relating to trade, business, manufactures, and to customs of trade, between parties, all or any of whom reside or carry on business personally or by agent or otherwise in Calcutta, or elsewhere in India or Burma, by whomsoever of such parties the said disputes and differences be submitted.

Objects.

III. (1) The Tribunal shall consist of and be constituted by such members or assistants to members as may, from time to time, annually or otherwise be selected by the Registrar as hereinafter mentioned and be willing to serve on the Tribunal.

Constitution.

(2) The Registrar shall from time to time, annually or otherwise as he shall consider necessary, select and make a list of such members and/or assistants to members as may be willing to serve to constitute the Tribunal for the time being and shall circulate to all members a printed copy of such list, and may, if he thinks fit, supply a copy of the said list to persons other than members applying for the same.

(3) The Registrar may at any time, if he thinks proper so to do, add to the said list the names of other persons qualified as aforesaid, and it shall not be necessary in such case to print or to circulate any list of the added names, but a list of the members of the Tribunal complete for the time being shall be kept by the Registrar, and shall always be open to inspection by members on application and, at the discretion of the Registrar, also by persons other than members.

Registrar.

IV. The Secretary, or Acting Secretary, for the time being of the Chamber, shall be and he is hereby appointed to be and to act as the Registrar of the Tribunal and his duty as such shall ordinarily consist of or include the following:—

He shall, by himself or his subordinates, receive submissions, references, or applications to the Tribunal and receive payment of fees and costs; constitute the Court; receive all applications made to the Court by the parties, and communicate to them the orders and directions of the Court; keep a register of submissions, references and applications to the Tribunal and of awards, and such other books and memoranda, and make such returns as the Chamber or the Tribunal shall from time to time require, and generally carry out the directions of the Court, and take such steps as may be necessary to assist the Court in the execution of its functions.

Constitution of Court.

Appointments
of
Arbitrators.

V. (1) In every case where a dispute has arisen either in relation to a contract which provides for a decision thereof by the Chamber or the Tribunal, or in relation to a contract which does not so provide, but the parties to which have by a special agreement signed by them referred the particular dispute for settlement by the arbitration of the Chamber or of the Tribunal, an application for arbitration may be addressed by either party to the Registrar, which application, in the case of disputes relating to piece goods, shall be in such form as the Committee of the Chamber may from time to time prescribe.

(2) On receipt of such application, the Registrar shall constitute a Court for the adjudication of the dispute by appointing and nominating in writing two Arbitrators, selected by him from the Tribunal constituted as aforesaid; or if the parties so desire, one Arbitrator only, or three Arbitrators.

(3) The consent to act of the Arbitrator or the Arbitrators shall be obtained by the Registrar, and the arbitration shall forthwith proceed in accordance with these rules.

(4) In the event of the Arbitrators disagreeing, the Registrar shall appoint and nominate an Umpire to be selected from the List aforesaid, and whose consent to act shall be obtained by the Registrar such Umpire shall then proceed with the arbitration in accordance with these rules.

VI. In making any appointment and nomination as aforesaid the Registrar shall select, as far as possible, persons or a person having a practical knowledge of the subject-matter of the contract or contracts in question, and the Registrar shall not appoint any person who for any reason within his knowledge would not be a proper person to act as Arbitrator or Umpire in the particular matter; but no award shall be invalid nor shall any objection be taken thereto by any party, on the ground that any person so nominated and appointed did not possess such practical knowledge, or was not in fact a proper person to act as arbitrator or Umpire, but whose unfitness was unknown to the Registrar.

Arbitrators
to have prac-
tical know-
ledge.

VII. The names or name of the persons or person constituting the Court shall not ordinarily be disclosed to the parties nor shall the parties be entitled to such information as of right. In the event of any of the parties applying on special grounds (to be specified in writing to the Registrar) for the disclosure of the said names or name the decision as to whether such disclosure shall be made or not shall rest in the absolute discretion of the Registrar. The non-disclosure of the said names or name shall not in any case affect the validity of the arbitration proceedings, or of any award therein nor afford ground of objection to the filing of the award.

Names of
Arbitrators.

VIII. If any Arbitrator or Umpire decline or fail to act, or if he die, or become incapable of acting, the Registrar may substitute and appoint a new Arbitrator or Umpire in manner aforesaid, and the Court so reconstituted shall proceed with the arbitration with liberty to act on the record of the proceedings as then existing and on the evidence, if any, then taken in the arbitration, or to commence the arbitration *de novo*.

Arbitrator
failing to act.

Conduct of Arbitrations.

IX. The parties shall within such time as may be directed by the Court, prepare and submit to the Registrar a written statement of their respective cases.

Statement
to be filed
within speci-
fied time.

X. The Court may at its discretion enlarge the time for submission of a written statement, but it shall not be bound to receive or to consider any written statement of either party tendered after the expiration of the original or subsequently extended time as the case may be.

Enlargement
of time for
submission of
statement.

XI. All applications which the parties desire to make to the Court, and all notices to be given to the parties before or during the course of the arbitration, or otherwise in relation thereto, shall be made through the Registrar, who shall communicate the orders and directions of the Court thereon to the parties.

Communi-
cation to be
made through
the Registrar.

XII. The said parties, respectively, shall do all acts necessary to enable the Court to make a just award, and shall not wilfully do or cause or allow to be done any act to delay or to prevent the Court from making an award, and if either party shall do or cause or

Obligations
of the parties.

allow to be done any such act, that party shall pay to the other such costs as the Court shall deem reasonable.

Hearing. XIII. Unless oral evidence beyond mere proof of documents of which the factum is not disputed is taken, it shall not be necessary to have a formal hearing before the Court, but in all cases the Court shall have power to appoint a time and place for the hearing of references when it considers a hearing to be necessary.

Appearance of parties. XIV. No party to a reference shall, without express permission of the Court, be entitled to appear by Counsel, Attorney or other Advocate or adviser, before the Court, but the Court at its discretion may, through the Registrar, require the parties, with or without witnesses, to attend before it or before any Committee or Sub-Committee of the Chamber to be examined on or without oath or solemn affirmation.

Evidence. XV. The parties to the reference, and all persons claiming through them, respectively, shall, subject to the provision of any law for the time being in force, submit to be examined by the Court on oath or affirmation in relation to the matters in dispute, and shall, subject as aforesaid—

produce before the Court all books, deeds, papers, accounts, writings and documents within their possession or power, respectively, which may be required or called for by the Court;

comply with the requirements of the Court as to the production and selection of samples;

and generally do all other things, which during the proceedings on the reference, the Court may require.

Absence of parties. XVI. The Court may proceed with the reference notwithstanding any failure to file a written statement within due time and may also proceed with the reference in the absence of any or both of the parties who under these Rules is entitled to appear and being desirous of appearing before the Court shall, after due notice, refuse or neglect to attend.

Arbitrators empowered to consult, Consult, Solicitors and Solicitors or Counsel. XVII. The Court may at its own instance at any time or times before making a final award, and at the expense of the parties consult, refer to, and act on and adopt the advice, recommendations or suggestions of any Committee or Sub-Committee of the Chamber having or exercising special jurisdiction or powers relating to the particular industry, commodity, produce or branch of trade concerned in the reference or of any experts whether members or not. The Court may also, at the like expense of the parties, consult and adopt the advice of Solicitors or Counsel upon any question of law, evidence, practice, or procedure arising in the course of the reference.

Decision of majority. XVIII. In cases where the Court shall consist of more than two Arbitrators the decision of the majority shall be taken as the decision of the Court.

Awards.

XIX. The Court shall make its award in writing within thirty days after entering on the reference or on or before any later day to which the Court, by any writing signed by them, may from time to time, enlarge the time for making the award.

XX. The Umpire shall make his award within thirty days after his entering upon the reference or on or before any later day to which he, by any writing signed by him, may from time to time, enlarge the time for making his award.

XXI. If the Court have allowed the time or extended time to expire without making any award, and without having signified to the Registrar that they cannot agree, the Registrar shall constitute in manner aforesaid another Court which shall proceed with the arbitration and shall be at liberty to act upon the record of the proceedings as then existing and on the evidence, if any, then taken in the arbitration or to commence the arbitration *de novo*.

XXII. The Court may, by its award, order and determine what it shall think fit to be done by either of the said parties respecting the matters referred.

XXIII. The decision or award of every Court shall be signed by the Court and by the Registrar. When completed, a copy of the award shall be sent by the Registrar to each of the parties, but the name or names of the member or members of the Court shall not ordinarily be disclosed on such copy and such non-disclosure shall not affect the validity of the award nor afford any ground of objection to the same being filed.

XXIV. The parties shall in all things abide by and obey the award, which shall be binding on the parties notwithstanding the death of any party before or after the making of the award, and so that such death shall not operate as a revocation of the submission.

XXV. Subject to the operation of section 14 of the Indian Arbitration Act, 1899, no objection shall be taken or be entertained to any application to file an award, nor shall any award be set aside or varied or attempted to be set aside or varied by reason or on account of any informality, omission, delay or error in the proceedings or of any neglect, omission, delay, mistake or error by the Court in or about the same or in relation thereto.

XXVI. Whenever an award directs that a certain act or thing shall be done by one party to the reference, e.g., delivering or taking (with or without allowance) delivery of goods and such party fails to comply with the award, the party in whose favour the award is made may make a fresh application for a further award determining the amount of damages or compensation payable by reason of such failure, and the Registrar, on receipt of such application, shall proceed to constitute a new Court, which may or may not consist of the same or of one or more of the members constituting the Court who made the first award, and the new Court shall proceed

Time for making award by Arbitrator.

Time for making award by Umpire.

Extension of time.

Enactment of Award.

Signatures to and issue of Award.

Award binding on all parties.

Setting aside of Award.

Further Award.

under these rules to arbitrate on the said application and the award thereon may be filed separately or together with the original award.

Fees.

XXVII. (1) The said parties shall pay as and when demanded by the Registrar all fees, charges and expenses incident to the reference and the award thereon according to the scale prescribed, for the time being, by the Committee of the Chamber, and all further fees, charges and expenses falling under rule XVII.

(2) Any party making such payment may recover the whole or any part of the sum so paid from any other party ultimately held by the Court to be liable to pay the same.

(3) Unless the Court shall otherwise direct, no rebate or refund shall be claimed or made in respect of fees, charges or expenses when once incurred, or paid.

XXVIII. The cost of the reference and award including fees payable, according to the scale aforesaid, to the Court shall be in the discretion of the Court, who may direct to and by whom and in what manner and in what proportion such costs or any part thereof shall be borne and paid, and may tax and settle the amount of costs to be so paid or any part thereof, and may award costs to be paid as between solicitor and client.

Immunity of Arbitration.

XXIX. Neither of the parties shall bring or prosecute any suit or proceeding whatever against the Court, or any member thereof, for or in respect of the matters in dispute or any of them or of the arbitration nor any such suit or proceeding (save for the enforcement of the award) against the other party.

Notices.

XXX. All notices required by these rules to be given, shall be in writing and shall be sufficiently given if left at the last known place of abode or business of the party to whom the notice is addressed, or if sent by post prepaid addressed to him by name at such place of abode or business, and not returned through the post undelivered, before signature of the award by the Court and shall, if sent by post, be deemed to have been given at the time at which a letter would in the ordinary course be delivered. In the case of person having no place of business there, the place of abode or business of the agent shall be deemed that of the party. Every determination and award of the Court shall be deemed and taken for all purposes to be the determination and award of the Tribunal or the Chamber, as the case may be.

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION

OF THE

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Resolution of the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce adopted at a Meeting held on the 6th March 1912.

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION
OF THE
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

**Resolution of the Committee of the Bengal
Chamber of Commerce adopted at a Meeting
held on the 6th March 1912.**

Resolved—

(1) That henceforth, and until further notice, application in disputes relating to piece-goods referred to in rule V (1) of the rules of the Tribunal of Arbitration adopted and confirmed at Special General Meetings of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce held on the 12th January and 27th February 1912, respectively, shall be in the following hereby prescribed form:—

Calcutta,.....19

To

THE REGISTRAR,
TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION.

DEAR SIR,

PIECE-GOODS ARBITRATIONS.

Under rule v (1) of the rules of the above Tribunal, we, the undersigned, hereby apply for the appointment of.....Arbitrator and the issue of an Award for cancellation of the contract or allowance or such other relief as the Arbitrators may think fit to award upon the undermentioned complaint or upon investigation of all facts arising out of the contract. We give particulars of the dispute below.

We hand you Rs.....on account of fees, the original contract and the sale sample.

Yours faithfully,

.....(Sellers).

.....(Buyers).

(Buyer's address).....

Contract No....., dated.....

Goods covered by Contract.....

Basis of Sale.....

* Here state whether one or two Arbitrators are required.

Shipments :—

Mark.	Nos.	Quantity.	Steamer.	Mark.	Nos.	Quantity.	Steamer.

Packages available for inspection.....

Buyers' complaints.....

Sellers' remarks.....

(2) That until further notice the scale of fees referred to in rule XXVII (1) of the rules aforesaid is hereby prescribed to be as follows:—

Piece-Goods Arbitrations :

Arbitrators and Umpires—

For contracts involving only one quality of cloth.

For quality, dimensions, etc. ... Rs. 16-0

For mildew 16-0

For quality, dimensions, etc., and mildew .. 32-0

For contracts involving ranges of cloth.

For quality, dimensions, etc., for first quality 16-0

For quality, dimensions, etc., for each additional quality 4-0

For mildew 16-0

For quality, dimensions, etc., and mildew, for 1st quality 32-0

For quality, dimensions, etc., for each additional quality 4-0

For other piece-goods arbitrations, fees according to the merits of the case.

Institution fee to be prepaid in every case .. 16-0

Jute Arbitrations :

Arbitrators and Umpires—

Rs. 80-0 each

For wages of sorters 1-8 "

Expenses connected with selection and carriage of samples 20-0 "

Institution fee to be prepaid in every case .. 32-0 "

General Arbitrations :

Arbitrators and Umpires—

For gunnies Rs. 80-0 each

For all other classes of goods 32-0 "

For other arbitrations and those involving consideration of documents only, fees according to the merits of each case.

Institution fee to be prepaid in every case .. 32-0

When neither of the parties to an arbitration is a permanent member of the Chamber, residing and carrying on business in Calcutta, double fees will be payable; and if and so often as one Arbitrator only shall be appointed or shall act as sole Arbitrator, he shall be entitled to a double set of fees, namely, the fees chargeable hereunder by two Arbitrators.

Stamp Fees :

To be paid in all cases Rs. 5-0

For certified copies of awards Ro. 1-0

Additional Fees :

Additional fees within the discretion of the Court, but not exceeding the fee prescribed by the scale for the particular reference, shall be payable in cases where goods are examined at premises other than those of the Chamber in respect of every attendance at such other premises.

(3) That the aforesaid prescribed scale of fees shall be deemed to take effect as on and from the 28th February 1912.

(4) That a copy of this resolution be published for the information of all members of the Chamber.

By order of the Committee,

H. M. HAYWOOD,

Secretary.

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION.

LIST OF PIECE-GOODS ARBITRATION.

List of Approved Arbitrators for disputes relating to Piece-Goods for the year 1912-1913.

NAMES.	FIRMS.
Arthur, Mr. C. G. ...	Messrs. <i>Fering & Co., Ltd.</i>
Baddley, Mr. T. V. ...	" <i>Allen Bros. & Co., Ltd.</i>
Baird, Mr. M. P. ...	" <i>Gillanders, Arnold & Co.</i>
Ballarin, Mr. F. ...	" <i>Jules, Karpelos & Co.</i>
Bazley, Mr. R. ...	" <i>Gladstone, Wylie & Co.</i>
Behrens, Mr. Frank ...	" <i>Sir Jacob Behrens & Sons.</i>
Bell, Mr. H. P. ...	" <i>Kahn & Kahn.</i>
Clarke, Mr. W. M. ...	" <i>Anderson, Wright & Co.</i>
Cockell, Mr. C. F. ...	" <i>Allen Brothers & Co., Ltd.</i>
Coulthard, Mr. J. R. ...	" <i>Mackenzie, Lyall & Co.</i>
Crupper, Mr. P. ...	" <i>Hoare, Miller & Co.</i>
Davison, Mr. W. H. ...	" <i>Graham & Co.</i>
Darnor, Mr. R. ...	" <i>Kahn & Kahn.</i>
Doxey, Mr. F. ...	" <i>Barlow & Co.</i>
Evans, Mr. A. G. ...	" <i>Kahn & Kahn.</i>
Fairlie, Mr. W. S. ...	" <i>Graham & Co.</i>
Fuhrhop, Mr. Wm. ...	" <i>Mr. A. Janowitz.</i>
Hessling, Mr. H. H. ...	Messrs. <i>Steinert, Ltd.</i>
Hobbs, Mr. H. F. ...	" <i>Grundage & Co.</i>
Hobbsall, Mr. H. V. ...	" <i>Steinert, Ltd.</i>
Jensen, Mr. W. ...	" <i>The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ltd.</i>
Johnston, Mr. F. S. ...	" <i>Synthers & Co., Ltd.</i>
Kay, Mr. J. Reid ...	" <i>James Finlay & Co., Ltd.</i>
Kee, Mr. R. ...	" <i>Birkmyre Brothers.</i>
Kohl, Mr. F. ...	" <i>Schroder, Smidt & Co.</i>
Kerr, Mr. F. S. ...	" <i>The Bombay Co., Ltd.</i>
Klomis, Mr. E. A. ...	" <i>Worman & Co.</i>
Knox-Ord, Mr. W. ...	" <i>Ralli Brothers.</i>
Lehmann, Mr. I. W. ...	" <i>A. Agelasto & Co.</i>
Lorenzo, Mr. G. ...	" <i>James Finlay & Co., Ltd.</i>
McConnell, Mr. Wm. ...	" <i>Grundage & Co.</i>
Mohr, Mr. A. J. ...	

NAMES.	FIRMS.
Oakes, Mr. S. J. ...	Messrs. <i>Slane, Wallace & Co.</i>
Pattiti, Mr. F. W. ...	" <i>Killed, Nison & Co.</i>
Petrocchino, Mr. E. S. ...	" <i>Petrocchino Bros.</i>
Rasch, Mr. G. O. ...	" <i>The Holland-Bombay Trading Co., Ltd.</i>
Ritz, Mr. L. ...	" <i>Meyer, Soelner & Co.</i>
Sadlow, Mr. D. K. ...	" <i>Greaves, Cotton & Co.</i>
Smith, Mr. M. H. ...	" <i>Kettlesell, Bullen & Co.</i>
Stephen, Mr. S. P. ...	" <i>Slane, Wallace & Co.</i>
Sutton, Mr. S. H. ...	" <i>Birkmyre Brothers.</i>
Taylor, Mr. James ...	" <i>Ashworth, Taylor & Co.</i>
Tiedemann, Mr. F. ...	" <i>Schroder, Smidt & Co.</i>
Zalicht, Mr. E. D. ...	" <i>Ralli Brothers.</i>
Zorff, Mr. G. H. E. ...	" <i>Greaves, Cotton & Co.</i>

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION.

LIST OF ARBITRATORS FOR JUTE, JUTE CUTTINGS AND MANUFACTURED GOODS.

List of approved Arbitrators for disputes relating to Jute,
Jute Cuttings and Manufactured Goods for the year 1912-1913.

NAMES.	FIRMS.
|| Abbott, Mr. E. G.	Messrs. Macneil & Co.
† Alexander, Mr. C.	" Geo : Henderson & Co.
† Asser, Mr. O.	" J. C. Duffus & Co., Ltd.
† Banks, Mr. H. K.	" J. Thomas & Co.
§ Banks, Mr. William H.	" Donaldson & Co., (Narayangung).
† Barnot, Mr. J. A.	" Ralli Brothers.
† Barton, Mr. J. F.	" Hoare, Miller & Co.
§ Bartholomew, Mr. C. P. F.	" Landale & Morgan.
§ Baxter, Mr. Arthur W.	" R. Sim & Co., Ltd., (Narayangung).
† Beadel, Mr. C. F.	" Becker, Gray & Co.
† Binning, Mr. F. J.	" J. Thomas & Co.
§ Bryan, Mr. O. R. W.	" Geo : Henderson & Co., Agents, Messrs. M. David & Co., (Narayangung).
† Broton, Mr. A. W. de	" Lyall, Marshall & Co.
† Brown, Mr. R. C.	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
† Brakenridge, Mr. D. H.	" J. C. Duffus & Co., Ltd.
† Chancellour, Mr. H. S. V.	" Becker, Gray & Co.
† Charles, Mr. F. R. S.	" Geo : Henderson & Co.
† Child, Mr. R. H.	" Bird & Co.
† Cook, Mr. J.	" Sinclair, Murray & Co.
|| Oruden, Mr. D. A. C.	" Gillanders, Arbluthnot & Co.
† Orlicton, Mr. J. B.	" Sinclair, Murray & Co.
† Curtis-Hayward, Mr. T.	" Geo : Henderson & Co.
† Darkin, Mr. G. B.	" Landale & Morgan.
† Donatelli, Mr. S. O.	" Ralli Brothers.
† Donstil, Mr. C. N.	" Bird & Co.

NAMES	FIRMS
† Drimmie, Mr. T. H. K.	Messrs. J. Thomas & Co.
† Duncan, Mr. R.	" Andrew Yule & Co.
† Easton, Mr. David	" Lyall, Marshall & Co.
§ Ewan, Mr. James B.	" Donaldson & Co., (Narayangung).
† Ferguson, Mr. W. A.	" Poppe, Datus & Co.
† Fleming, Mr. A.	" Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.
† Ford, Mr. J.	" J. Thomas & Co.
† Gall, Mr. R. L. B.	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
† Georgiadis, Mr. G. A.	" Sinclair, Murray & Co.
† Giannacopoulos, Mr. C. A.	" Gladstone, Wylie & Co.
† Glen, Mr. Robert	" Birkmyre Brothers.
† Gurney, Mr. R. M.	" Bird & Co.
† Hall, Mr. O.	" Hadenfeldt & Co.
† Hall, Mr. D. K.	" P. W. Helgers & Co.
† Hannish, Mr. G. S.	" W. Haworth & Co.
† Harvey, Mr. Inglis	" Becker, Gray & Co.
† Hassenbalg, Mr. C.	" Hadenfeldt & Co.
† How, Mr. D. P.	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
† Hunter, Mr. W.	" Gillanders, Arbluthnot & Co.
† Hughes, Mr. G. F.	" Poppe, Datus & Co.
† Hynd, Mr. George	" Ferman & Hynd.
† Kellock, Mr. G. de M. (in questions other than actual quality)	" Gillanders, Arbluthnot & Co.
† Koch, Mr. Marcus	" Marcus Koch & Co.
† Kyll, Mr. F. P.	" Begg, Dunlop & Co.
† Law, Mr. R. O.	" Birkmyre Brothers.
† Langford-James, Mr. R.	" Jas : Binyon & Co., Ltd.
† Landale, Mr. H. R.	" Geo : Henderson & Co.
† Longmuir, Mr. James	" R. Sim & Co., Ltd., (Narayangung).
§ MacLachlan, Mr. Duncan	" Sinclair, Murray & Co., Agents, Narayangung Co., Ltd.
† Mann, Mr. Alex	" Sinclair, Murray & Co.
† MacLeod, Mr. J. C.	" McLeod & Co.
† Marshall, Mr. E. H.	" Lyall, Marshall & Co.
† Matthew, Mr. A.	" Landale & Clark, Ltd.
† Martin, Mr. F. R.	" Bird & Co.

NAMES.	FIRMS.
|| McKenzia, Mr. D. P.	Messrs. Duncan Brothers & Co.
|| Melville, Mr. W. D.	" Almonell & Co.
|| Morrison, Mr. M.	" W. Haworth & Co.
|| More, Mr. John	" J. Thomas & Co.
* Murray, Mr. A. R.	" Thos : Duff & Co., Ld.
§ Muir, Mr. R. H.	" Geo : Henderson & Co.
† Nahapiet, Mr. Thad. S.	" Jas : Finlay & Co., Ld., Agents, Messrs. M. Sarkies & Son (Na- vayungung).
§ Nicoll, Mr. Alexander	" R. Sim & Co., Ld., (Navayungung).
* Peat, Mr. H. M.	" Bird & Co.
† Pover, Mr. F. E. H.	" Blackwood, Blackwood & Co.
* Robertson, Mr. J. Bell.	" Bird & Co.
* Robertson, Mr. J.	" Thomas Duff & Co., Ld.
§ Robertson, Mr. B.	" Geo : Henderson & Co., Agents, Messrs. M. David & Co., (Na- vayungung).
§ Singleton, Mr. S.	" W. Haworth & Co.
† Shircoro, Mr. H. M.	" Jas : Finlay & Co., Ld. Agents, Messrs. M. Sarkies & Son (Na- vayungung).
§ Smallwood, Mr. E. S.	" Laudale & Morgan.
§ Smith, Mr. Andrew	" W. Haworth & Co.
§ Soutar, Mr. W. J.	" Andrew Smith & Co.
* Stewart, Mr. J. C.	" Laudale & Clark, Ld.
§ Stein, Mr. G. K.	" Jas : Finlay & Co., Ld. R. Sim & Co., Ld., (Navayungung).
† Suttio, Mr. P. E.	" Sinclair, Murray & Co.
§ Tarbot, Mr. G.	" W. Haworth & Co.
† Thoms, Mr. R. S.	" Geo : Henderson & Co.
† Tosh, Mr. Alfred	" J. Thomas & Co.
|| Tosh, Mr. C. W.	" Begg Dunlop & Co.
|| Tyndall, Mr. W. W.	" Do. Do.
|| Tyndall, Mr. J. W.	" Do. Do.
* Tynis, Mr. D. A.	" Kettlewell, Bullen & Co.
* Watson, Mr. E. A.	" McLeod & Co.
† Wild, Mr. C. A.	" Anderson, Wright & Co.

NAMES.	FIRMS.
|| Wilson, Mr. R. B.	Messrs. Birkmyre Brothers.
|| Wilson, Mr. A. D.	" Geo : Henderson & Co.
§ Will, Mr. R. R.	" Do.
† Wood, Mr. H. D.	" The Arracan Co., Ld.
* Wylie, Mr. D. A.	" McLeod & Co.
† Young, Mr. Stephen	" Duncan Brothers & Co.
* Zimmermann, Mr. E. J. W....	" Anderson, Wright & Co.

- * For Manufactured goods, Jute and Jute Cuttings.
- † For Manufactured goods.
- ‡ For Jute and Jute Cuttings.
- § For Jute and Manufactured goods.
- || For Jute only.
- †† For Cuttings only.

TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION.

ARBITRATORS FOR MISCELLANEOUS GOODS, 1912-13.

ANCHORS & CHAINS.

Mr. A. Anderson	...	Messrs. Burn & Co., Ltd.
" C. E. Engel	...	Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside	...	Bird & Co.
" Millar M. King	...	John King & Co., Ltd.
" W. F. Macnamy	...	G. Atherton & Co.
" A. J. Moir	...	Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike	...	Barlow & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	Martin & Co.
" E. Walton	...	G. Atherton & Co.

ANILINE DYES.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs	...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" O. H. Kramer	...	Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir	...	Grandage & Co.
" E. Walton	...	} G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	

BOLTS & NUTS.

Mr. L. Bullé	...	Messrs. Schröder, Smidt & Co.
" D. Elias	...	Worman & Co.
" C. E. Engel	...	Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside	...	Bird & Co.
" Millar M. King	...	John King & Co., Ltd.
" W. F. Macnamy	...	G. Atherton & Co.
" A. J. Moir	...	Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike	...	Barlow & Co.
" L. Ritz	...	Meyer, Soetheer & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	Martin & Co.
" E. Walton	...	G. Atherton & Co.

BOOTS & SHOES.

Mr. D. Elias	...	} Messrs. Worman & Co.
" Max Kraven	...	
" O. H. Kramer	...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" A. Pike	...	Barlow & Co.
" R. Ernst Wolfe	...	Stewart, Mackenzie & Co.

BRASS.

Mr. H. S. Bull	...	Messrs. The Bontay Co., Ltd.
" C. E. Engel	...	Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside	...	Bird & Co.
" Geo. A. King	...	John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir	...	Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike	...	Barlow & Co.
" Dr. C. Schulten	...	Dr. C. Schulten.
" Mr. Theo. Walsh	...	Messrs. Martin & Co.
" E. Walton	...	G. Atherton & Co.

CEMENT.

Mr. C. E. Engel	...	Messrs. Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	Grandage & Co.
" Millar M. King	...	John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir	...	Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike	...	Barlow & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	Martin & Co.
" A. H. E. Vanquelin	...	Bird & Co.

CHALK.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs	...	} Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir	...	
" A. Pike	...	Barlow & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	Martin & Co.
" A. C. Wright	...	Turner, Morrison & Co.

CHEMICALS.

Mr. L. Bullé	...	Messrs. Schröder, Smidt & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	} Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir	...	
" Dr. C. Schulten	...	Dr. C. Schulten.
" Mr. S. M. Tyrer	...	} Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" E. Walton	...	
" R. Ernst Wolfe	...	Stewart, Mackenzie & Co.
" A. C. Wright	...	Turner, Morrison & Co.

CHINA CLAY.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs	...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" Millar M. King	...	John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir	...	Grandage & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	Martin & Co.

COAL.

Mr. E. W. Bowrey	...	Messrs. McLeod & Co.
" W. L. Carey	...	" F. W. Heiglers & Co.
" H. W. Fox	...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.
" W. A. Ironside	...	" Bird & Co.
" A. Jardine	...	" Macneill & Co.
" J. H. Jennaway	...	" Martin & Co.
" F. A. S. Longley	...	" Octavius, Steel & Co.
" G. G. Robertson	...	" Anderson Wright & Co.
" N. M. Ross	...	" McLeod & Co.
" B. A. White	...	" Bird & Co.
" W. J. Wood	...	" Shaw, Wallace & Co.

COAL TAR.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs	...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir	...	
" A. S. Paterson	...	
	...	" Blackwood, Blackwood & Co.
" A. Pike	...	" Barlow & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	" Martin & Co.
" A. C. Wright	...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

COKE.

Mr. E. W. Bowrey	...	Messrs. McLeod & Co.
" W. L. Carey	...	" F. W. Heiglers & Co.
" H. W. Fox	...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.
" W. A. Ironside	...	" Bird & Co.
" A. Jardine	...	" Macneill & Co.
" J. H. Jennaway	...	" Martin & Co.
" F. A. S. Longley	...	" Octavius, Steel & Co.
" S. M. Ross	...	" McLeod & Co.
" G. G. Robertson	...	" Anderson, Wright & Co.
" B. A. White	...	" Bird & Co.
" W. J. Wood	...	" Shaw, Wallace & Co.

CONDENSED MILK.

Mr. Max Kaven	...	Messrs. Worman & Co.
" W. F. Mackray	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" L. Ritz	...	" Meyer, Sothbe & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	" G. Atherton & Co.

COPPER.

Mr. B. S. Bell	...	Messrs. The Bombay Co., Ltd.
" C. E. Engel	...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	" Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside	...	" Bird & Co.

COPPER—(Continued).

Mr. Geo. A. King	...	Messrs. John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir	...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike	...	" Barlow & Co.
Dr. C. Schellen	...	" Dr. C. Schellen
Mr. E. Walton	...	Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	" Martin & Co.

COTTON.

Mr. W. G. Brodie	...	Messrs. Andrew Yule & Co.
" A. S. Paspati	...	" Ralli Bros.

CUTLERY.

Mr. L. Bull	...	Messrs. Schröder Smith & Co.
" D. Elias	...	" Worman & Co.
" C. E. Engel	...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	" Grandage & Co.
" O. H. Kramer	...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" Miller M. King	...	" John, King & Co., Ltd.
" W. F. Mackray	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. J. Moir	...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike	...	" Barlow & Co.
" L. Ritz	...	" Meyer, Sothbe & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	" Martin & Co.
" E. Walton	...	" G. Atherton & Co.

DRUGS & MEDICINES.

Mr. W. F. Mackray	...	Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	" Stewart, Mackenzie & Co.
" R. Ernst Wolfe	...	"

EARTHENWARE.

Mr. D. Elias	...	Messrs. Worman & Co.
" Wm. Fuhrhop	...	" Grandage & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	" Worman & Co.
" Max Kaven	...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" C. H. Kramer	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" W. F. Mackray	...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir	...	" Barlow & Co.
" A. Pike	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. Prevost	...	" Meyer, Sothbe & Co.
" L. Ritz	...	" Worman & Co.
" H. W. Scott	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	"

ELECTRICAL FITTINGS & SUPPLIES.

Mr. W. Bent ...	Messrs. Martin & Co.
" J. M. Gilmour ...	" John King & Co.
" D. J. Horn ...	" Ostavias, Steel & Co.
" E. M. Haghmann ...	" Pyne, Hinghamann & Co.
" W. E. A. Morby ...	" Kilburn & Co.
" T. R. Pratt ...	Mr. T. R. Pratt.
" A. Prevost ...	Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" C. A. B. Pyne ...	" Pyne, Hinghamann & Co.
" E. J. Sauer, A.M.I.E.E. ...	" Heatly & Gresham, Ltd.
" H. R. Speyer, A.M.I.E.E. ...	" Speyer & Co.

FIRE BRICKS.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs ...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" Millar M. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Martin & Co.

FIRE CLAY.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs ...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" Millar M. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Martin & Co.

GERMAN SILVER.

Mr. C. E. Engel ...	Messrs. Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" O. H. Kramer ...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.
Dr. C. Schulten ...	Dr. C. Schulten.
Mr. Theo. Walsh ...	Messrs. Martin & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

GLASS.

Mr. D. Elias ...	Messrs. Worman & Co.
" Wm. Fuhrhop ...	" Mr. A. Janowitz.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" Max Kaven ...	" Worman & Co.
" O. H. Kramer ...	" Alois Schweiger & Co. Ltd.
" W. F. Machray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.

GLASS—(Continued).

Mr. A. Prevost ...	Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" L. Ritz ...	" Meyer, Soethor & Co.
" H. W. Scott ...	" Worman & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

GLASS BANGLES & BEADS.

Mr. F. Ballarin ...	Messrs. Jules Karpelos & Co.
" D. Elias ...	" Worman & Co.
" Wm. Fuhrhop ...	" Mr. A. Janowitz.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" W. Jensen ...	" The Holland-Bambay Trading Co., Ltd.
" Max Kaven ...	" Worman & Co.
" O. H. Kramer ...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" W. F. Machray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.
" A. Prevost ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" L. Ritz ...	" Meyer, Soethor & Co.
" H. W. Scott ...	" Worman & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

GLASS BOTTLES.

Mr. Max Kaven ...	Messrs. Worman & Co.
" W. F. Machray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" Meyer, Soethor & Co.
" L. Ritz ...	" "

HABERDASHERY (Small ware, Buttons, Pins, etc., etc.)

Mr. Max Kaven ...	Messrs. Worman & Co.
" W. F. Machray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" L. Ritz ...	" Meyer, Soethor & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

HARDWARE.

Mr. L. Bullé ...	Messrs. Schröder Smidt & Co.
" D. Elias ...	" Worman & Co.
" C. E. Engel ...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" W. Jensen ...	" The Holland-Bambay Trading Co., Ltd.
" O. H. Kramer ...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" Millar M. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" W. F. Machray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.

HARDWARE—(Contd.).

Mr. A. Pike	...	Messrs. Barlow & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	" Martin & Co.
" B. Walton	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" W. L. Wanklyn (Corrugated Iron)	...	" Andrew Yule & Co.
" R. Ernst Wolfe	...	" Stewart, Mackenzie & Co.

HEMP ROPES.

Mr. C. N. Donistil*	...	Messrs. R. Steel & Co., Ltd.
" F. A. James	...	" Macneill & Co.
" O. H. Kramer	...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
Capt. W. R. Wright	...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

IRON.

Mr. A. Anderson	...	Messrs. Burn & Co., Ltd.
" H. S. Bull	...	" The Bombay Co., Ltd.
" L. Bull	...	" Schröder, Smidt & Co.
" C. E. Engel	...	" Kilburn & Co.
" W. A. Ironside	...	" Bird & Co.
" Geo. A. King	...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. Pike	...	" Barlow & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	" Martin & Co.

LEAD.

Mr. C. E. Engel	...	Messrs. Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	" Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside	...	" Bird & Co.
" Geo. A. King	...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir	...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike	...	" Barlow & Co.
Dr. C. Schulten	...	Dr. C. Schulten.
Mr. Theo. Walsh	...	Messrs. Martin & Co.
" B. Walton	...	" G. Atherton & Co.

LEATHER & LEATHER GOODS.

Mr. Millar M. King	...	Messrs. John King & Co., Ltd.
" O. H. Kramer	...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" A. Pike	...	" Barlow & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	" G. Atherton & Co.

*Raw Hemp.

MACHINERY.

Mr. A. Anderson	...	Messrs. Burn & Co., Ltd.
" A. G. Adams	...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.
" E. C. Cowdrey	...	" John Dickinson & Co., Ltd.
" M. Jasmi-Hood, A.M.I.C.E.	...	" Speyer & Co.
" W. A. Ironside	...	" Bird & Co.
" Geo. A. King	...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" H. G. Pooler	...	" John Dickinson & Co., Ltd.
" T. Reid	...	" Macneill & Co.
" H. Vaughan	...	" Martin & Co.

MATCHES.

Mr. L. Bull	...	Messrs. Schröder Smidt & Co.
" C. E. Engel	...	" Kilburn & Co.
" D. Elias	...	" Worman & Co.
" Wm. Fairbairn	...	" Mr. A. Janowitz.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" Max Kaven	...	" Worman & Co.
" O. H. Kramer	...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir	...	" Grandage & Co.
" L. Ritz	...	" Meyer, Soelbeer & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" E. Walton	...	" }
" R. Ernst Wolfe	...	" Stewart, Mackenzie & Co.

NAILS.

Mr. L. Bull	...	Messrs. Schröder Smidt & Co.
" D. Elias	...	" Worman & Co.
" C. E. Engel	...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs	...	" Grandage & Co.
" Millar M. King	...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" W. F. Machinery	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. J. Moir	...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike	...	" Barlow & Co.
" L. Ritz	...	" Meyer, Soelbeer & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh	...	" Martin & Co.
" E. Walton	...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" R. Ernst Wolfe	...	" Stewart, Mackenzie & Co.

*Printing Machinery and Printing Materials.

NEEDLES.

Mr. L. Bullé ...	Messrs. Schröder, Smidt & Co.
" D. Elias ...	" Worman & Co.
" C. E. Engel ...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" Millar M. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" O. H. Kramer ...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" W. F. Mackray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Piko ...	" Barlow & Co.
" L. Ritz ...	" Meyer, Sothbeer & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Martin & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

OIL.

Mr. L. Bullé* ...	Messrs. Schröder, Smidt & Co.
" W. D. Braithwaite ...	" Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" O. H. Kramer ...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" H. Boves Scott ...	" Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co.
" A. B. Westerhout ...	" Anderson, Wright & Co.
" A. C. Wright ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

PAINTS.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs ...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" Martin & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.
" A. C. Wright ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

PAPER.

Mr. E. C. Cowdroy ...	Messrs. John Dickinson & Co., Ltd.
" C. E. Engel ...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" Max Kaven ...	" Worman & Co.
" O. H. Kramer ...	" Alois Schweiger & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" H. G. Pooler ...	" John Dickinson & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

* White, Fume and Jelly Oil.

PERFUMES AND ESSENCE.

Mr. Max Kaven ...	Messrs. Worman & Co.
" W. F. Mackray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

PITCH.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs ...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Barlow & Co.
" A. Piko ...	" Theo. Walsh
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.
" A. C. Wright ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

QUICKSILVER.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs ...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Barlow & Co.
" A. Piko ...	" Dr. C. Schulten.
" Dr. C. Schulten ...	" Messrs. Martin & Co.
" Mr. Theo. Walsh ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

RED AND WHITE LEAD.

Mr. L. Bullé ...	Messrs. Schröder, Smidt & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" Martin & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.
" A. C. Wright ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

ROPES (Wire).

Mr. C. E. Engel ...	Messrs. Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Bird & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" Millar M. King ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" W. F. Mackray ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" T. R. Pratt.
" T. R. Pratt ...	" Messrs. Meyer, Sothbeer & Co.
" L. Ritz ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" Martin & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.
" Capt. W. R. Wright ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

ROBIN.

Mr. C. E. Engel ...	Messrs. Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Blackwood, Blackwood & Co.
" A. S. Paterson ...	" Blackwood, Blackwood & Co.

ROBIN.—(Contd.).

Mr. A. Pike ...	Messrs. Barlow & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Martin & Co.
" A. C. Wright ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

SADDLERY AND SADDLERS' IRONMONGERY.

Mr. W. F. Machray ...	Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.

SCHOOL SLATES.

Mr. Max Kaven ...	Messrs. Worman & Co.
" W. F. Machray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" Meyer, Soetbeer & Co.
" L. Ritz ...	" Meyer, Soetbeer & Co.

SCREWS.

Mr. L. Bullé ...	Messrs. Schröder, Smidt & Co.
" D. Elias ...	" Worman & Co.
" C. E. Engel ...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" Millar M. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" W. F. Machray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.
" L. Ritz ...	" Meyer, Soetbeer & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Martin & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" R. Ernst Wolfe ...	" Stewart, Mackenzie & Co.

SPELTER.

Mr. H. S. Bull ...	Messrs. The Bombay Co., Ltd.
" C. E. Engel ...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" Geo. A. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.
" Dr. C. Schulten ...	" Dr. C. Schulten.
" Mr. E. Walton ...	" Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Martin & Co.

STEEL.

Mr. A. Anderson ...	Messrs. Darn & Co., Ltd.
" H. S. Bull ...	" The Bombay Co., Ltd.
" L. Bullé ...	" Schröder, Smidt & Co.
" C. E. Engel ...	" Kilburn & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" Geo. A. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Martin & Co.

STRUCTURAL IRON WORK.

Mr. A. G. Adams ...	Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co.
" E. M. Hughmann ...	" Pyne, Hughmann & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" Geo. A. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" C. A. B. Pyne ...	" Pyne, Hughmann & Co.
" T. Shewell ...	" Burn & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Martin & Co.

SUGAR.

Mr. H. A. Bayley ...	Messrs. J. R. Bortman & Co.
" A. S. Paterson ...	" Blackwood, Blackwood & Co.
" A. B. Westerhout ...	" Anderson, Wright & Co.

TEA CHESTS.

Mr. T. A. Magnus ...	Messrs. Davenport & Co.
" W. M. Fraser ...	" Shaw, Wallace & Co.
" R. Ernst Wolfe ...	" Stewart, Mackenzie & Co.

TEA LEAD.

Mr. C. E. Engel ...	Messrs. Kilburn & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.
" Dr. C. Schulten ...	" Dr. C. Schulten.
" Mr. Theo. Walsh ...	" Messrs. Martin & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

TIN.

Mr. D. Elias ...	Messrs. Worman & Co.
" C. E. Engel ...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" Millar M. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" W. F. Mackray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Barlow & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.

TIN.—(Contd.).

Mr. L. Ritz ...	Messrs. Meyer, Soethoe & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Martin & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

TIN PLATES.

Mr. D. Elias ...	Messrs. Worman & Co.
" C. E. Engel ...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" Millar M. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" W. F. Machray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.
" L. Ritz ...	" Meyer, Soethoe & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Martin & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

TIN BOXES & MIRROR BOXES.

Mr. Max Kaven ...	Messrs. Worman & Co.
" W. F. Machray ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" Meyer, Soethoe & Co.
" L. Ritz ...	" Meyer, Soethoe & Co.

TOBACCO.

Mr. H. Abbott ...	Messrs. Imperial Tobacco Co., Ltd.
" F. Ballarin ...	" Jules Karpoles & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" A. B. Westerhout ...	" Anderson, Wright & Co.

TURPENTINE

Mr. H. F. Hobbs ...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" Martin & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.
" A. C. Wright ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

VARNISHES.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs ...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Mr. T. R. Pratt.
" T. R. Pratt ...	Messrs. G. Atherton & Co.
" S. M. Tyrer ...	" Martin & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" G. Atherton & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.
" A. C. Wright ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

WHITING.

Mr. H. F. Hobbs ...	Messrs. Grandage & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" Millar M. King ...	" Martin & Co.
" Theo. Walsh ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.
" A. C. Wright ...	" Turner, Morrison & Co.

YELLOW METAL.

Mr. H. S. Bull ...	Messrs. The Bombay Co., Ltd.
" C. E. Engel ...	" Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" Geo. A. King ...	" John King & Co., Ltd.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.
" Dr. C. Schulten ...	" Dr. C. Schulten.
" Mr. Theo. Walsh ...	Messrs. Martin & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

ZINC.

Mr. C. E. Engel ...	Messrs. Kilburn & Co.
" H. F. Hobbs ...	" Grandage & Co.
" W. A. Ironside ...	" Bird & Co.
" Geo. A. King ...	" John King & Co.
" A. J. Moir ...	" Grandage & Co.
" A. Pike ...	" Barlow & Co.
" Dr. C. Schulten ...	" Dr. C. Schulten.
" Mr. Theo. Walsh ...	Messrs. Martin & Co.
" E. Walton ...	" G. Atherton & Co.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF

THE PROVIDENT FUND.

Adopted at the Annual General Meeting of the Chamber held on Wednesday, the 27th February 1907.

1. These Rules and Regulations shall take effect as from the 1st day of January 1907.

2. "Chamber" means the Bengal Chamber of Commerce incorporated under Section 26 of the Indian Companies Act, 1882.

"Committee" means the members of the Committee for the time being of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

"Managers" means the persons or person in whom the management of the Fund shall, for the time being, be vested as hereinafter provided.

"Trustees" means the Trustees of the Fund, for the time being appointed as hereinafter provided.

"Salary" means only the fixed monthly salary received by each employé of the Chamber, and does not include any acting, officiating or personal allowance, bonus, commission, or other remuneration or profit whatever, uncertain in amount, or derived by any employé by any means outside his ascertained salary.

3. The management of the Fund shall, subject to the general supervision and control of the Committee, be vested in the members, for the time being, constituting the firm of Messrs. Lovelock and Leves, Chartered Accountants, or such other person or persons as appoint, and the necessary expenses of management, including the remuneration of the Managers (to be from time to time agreed on by the Managers and the Committee), shall be borne by and be a charge on the Fund.

4. The Committee shall appoint, annually, in the month of March, two Trustees of the Fund, both of whom shall be members of the Committee. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the course of any year, the Committee shall appoint one of their number to fill the vacancy for the remainder of such year.

5. Every employé of the Chamber in the service of the Chamber on 1st January 1907, and every employé who shall join the service of the Chamber on or after that date, shall submit to these

Rules and Regulations, and every such employé shall sign an Agreement in the form annexed to these Rules and Regulations.

6. The subscription to the Fund shall be a sum equal to 5 per cent. on the amount of the salary of each employé, which subscription shall be deducted by the Committee monthly from such salary before payment of same, and such subscription shall be placed to the credit of each employé with the Provident Fund.

7. The Committee shall in any manner it may think most convenient, from time to time, deduct from any sum payable by them to any employé, whether by way of salary or otherwise, such sum as may be required to pay any subscription due from him to the Fund, and shall, from time to time, deal with the sums so deducted in the manner prescribed in Rule 10.

8. The subscription of any employé absent on leave or furlough shall, during the period of such absence, be assessed on the salary allowed during such absence, but any employé shall be at liberty, subject to the consent of the Committee, to subscribe on the full amount of his salary, if desired, provided notice in writing of such desire shall have been given by him to the Committee prior to the due date for payment of salary next after such employé shall have obtained leave or furlough.

9. For and in respect of such complete year ending with the 31st day of December, the Chamber shall contribute to the Fund a sum equal to the aggregate amount of the subscriptions of all the employés of the Chamber for such year, and shall pay the same to the credit of the Fund, but the Chamber may at any time cease and withdraw contributions in respect of any employé whose interest in the Fund shall have been transferred, assigned, attached or otherwise dealt with or affected as indicated by Rule 24 and thereupon all money standing to the credit of such employé represented by, or referable to, contributions by the Chamber and the interest thereon shall on demand be refunded by the Trustees to the Chamber.

10. The Committee shall, from time to time, pay into the Bank of Bengal at Calcutta, or any other Bank at Calcutta sanctioned by the Committee, direct under advice of the Managers, to the credit of an account to be opened in the names of the Trustees, all moneys received by them after payment thereof of the expenses of management. All moneys to the credit of such account shall be dealt with only in accordance with these Rules and Regulations, and all or any portion of such moneys shall be withdrawn from such account only by cheques bearing the signatures of the two Trustees in addition to the signature of the Secretary of the Chamber.

11. All moneys not immediately required for the purpose of the Fund shall be, from time to time, invested by the Trustees in the name of the Bank of Bengal (who shall hold same in safe custody on behalf of the Trustees) at their discretion in any of the following Securities, that is to say—any of the Rupee or Sterling Securities

of the Government of India or any Securities, the interest on which is or shall be guaranteed by the Government of India, or in the Bonds, Debentures, or Securities of, or issued by, any Public, Municipal or local Body or Authority in India, or in the fully paid-up Stock or Shares of any of the Presidency Banks in India with power for the Trustees, at their discretion, from time to time, to vary or transmute such investments into or for others of any nature hereinbefore authorised. No Trustee shall be liable for any loss arising from or contingent upon any such investment, unless it has been occasioned by his negligence or fraud.

12. The Trustees shall, from time to time, upon the written requisition of the Managers, pay to them such sum or sums as may be required for the purposes of these Rules and Regulations, and shall, if necessary, raise the moneys required for same by a sale of the Securities held by the Trustees, or of a sufficient part thereof, or by loan on the security of the same.

13. On the 31st day of December in each year, the Managers shall credit each employé with the equivalent of his subscription for the preceding year, as provided for under Rule 2, and thereafter having ascertained the amount available for division among the members arising from the interest accrued on Securities, any sums forfeited to the Fund under these Rules and Regulations, and all other moneys (if any) that should properly be brought into account, less the necessary expenses of management as provided by Rule 3, the Managers shall provisionally credit each employé, in proportion to the amount standing to his credit on each 31st December in respect of his total subscriptions, with his share of the amount so ascertained.

14. On or as soon as may be after the 31st day of December 1907, and the 31st day of December of every succeeding year, the Managers, subject to the approval of the Trustees, shall ascertain and fix the market-value, as on the said 31st December, of the total net Investments and Securities held by or belonging to the Fund, including interest up to the same day on any Securities, on which interest is usually calculated on sale or transfer thereof, and after deducting the payments made therefrom, and providing for debts with these Rules and Regulations, the Managers shall forthwith debit or credit, as the case may be, the account of each employé in the books of the Fund with a share of the difference between the value as appearing from the last preceding valuation recorded in the said books and the then market-value as so fixed and ascertained as aforesaid of the said Investments and Securities, including interest as the said 31st December.

15. A statement of account of each employé shall be made up to the 31st December of each year, and each employé shall be

required to certify in writing upon such account that the amount therein shown, as standing to his credit, is correct.

16. Except as is by these Rules and Regulations expressly provided, no member or any person or persons on his behalf, in respect of his interest in the Fund, shall be entitled to claim any payment of money to him or them.

17. On the death of any employé, the Managers shall pay to his Executors or Administrators, the amount standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 31st day of December preceding such death, and shall also pay to his Executors or Administrators; the amount in full of his paid-up subscription for the then current year.

18. On the voluntary resignation or retirement of any employé from the service of the Chamber without the existence of any cause justifying his dismissal, the Managers shall pay to him the aggregate amount subscribed by him to the fund and the amount (if any) standing to his credit for interest, and shall in respect of the balance standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 31st day of December preceding such resignation or retirement, pay to him one-twentieth part of such balance for each completed year of service from the 1st January 1907.

19. In case of any employé becoming permanently incapacitated owing to injury sustained whilst in the service of the Chamber, or in case of the resignation or retirement with the previous written sanction of the Committee of any employé owing to illness, old age, or any other reason considered adequate by the Committee and so certified in writing by them, the Managers shall (subject to the provisions of these Rules) pay to such incapacitated, resigning or retiring employé, the amount standing to his credit in the books of the Fund on the 31st day of December preceding such incapacity, resignation, or retirement, and also (subject as aforesaid) the full amount of his paid-up subscriptions for the then current year, together with such sums as are provided for under Rules 9 and 13.

20. If any employé shall be dismissed from the service of the Chamber, the Managers shall (subject to these Rules) pay to him the aggregate amount only subscribed by him to the Fund, without interest, and the balance, if any, of all moneys then standing to his credit in the books of the Fund shall (subject as aforesaid) upon such dismissal be forfeited to the use of the Fund, and shall be dealt with accordingly; provided also that the Managers may at any time, with the consent of the Committee, pay to any such dismissed member the amount to which he would have been entitled under Rule 18, if he had voluntarily retired from the service of the Chamber and had not been dismissed.

21. The Chamber shall have a first and paramount charge upon the amount, from time to time, standing to the credit of each employé, and upon all other moneys of the Fund in or to which he

may be interested or entitled, for and in respect of all losses, damages, costs, and expenses, which the Chamber may at any time pay, sustain, or be put to, by reason of any act of embezzlement, or default of or by such employé, and the amount from time to time standing to the credit of each employé and all such other moneys as aforesaid, shall be deemed and treated as a deposit made by him with the Chamber as security for his fidelity and be dealt with accordingly, and in the event of any claim arising by the Chamber against any employé under this Rule, the same shall be paid, so far as the fund in which such employé shall be interested shall extend, by the Fund to the Chamber on the written requisition of the Committee, and such employé shall absolutely forfeit all right and interest thereto and therein.

22. In case any employé shall die leaving any moneys standing to his credit in the books of the Fund, such moneys shall be paid only to the Executor, or Administrator, of the deceased member, on the production to the Managers of Probate of the Will or of Letters of Administration to the Estate of such employé.

23. In all cases wherein a certificate shall be required of the amount of the balance standing in the books of the Fund to the credit of a deceased member, for the purpose of obtaining free of stamp duty a grant of Probate of Letters of Administration, or any other purpose, such certificate shall be in the following form:—

No. _____	
BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROVIDENT FUND.	
<i>It is hereby certified that the balance standing in the books of the Provident Fund of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, to the credit of</i>	
<i>_____ of _____</i>	<i>numbered as above on the _____</i>
<i>_____ day of _____</i>	<i>was Deposited dated this _____</i>
<i>_____ day of _____ 19 _____</i>	<i>Entered _____</i>
<i>Examined _____</i>	
Managers.	

24. No employé shall be entitled to draw money from the Fund, against his interest in it, or to transfer or assign, whether by way of security or otherwise howsoever, his interest or any part thereof in the Fund, and no such transfer or assignment shall be valid, and the Managers, Trustees, or Committee shall not recognize or be

bound by notice to them, respectively, of any such transfer or assignment, and all moneys standing in the books of the Fund to the credit of the employé so transferring or assigning his interest as aforesaid, shall forthwith be forfeited as from the date of such transfer or assignment to the use of the Fund, and be dealt with accordingly, and further, if any prohibitory order or attachment or process of a Civil Court, be served upon the Trustees, or the Committee or the Managers, or any of them, or any person on their behalf, by which any moneys standing to the credit of any employé in the books of the Fund shall be attached, or be ordered to be paid into a Civil Court, or be ordered to be withheld from such employé, such moneys shall forthwith be forfeited to the use of the fund, and be dealt with accordingly: provided that the Committee shall be at liberty, if the Committee in their uncontrolled discretion shall so think fit at any time thereafter, to give such moneys or any part thereof for the benefit of such employé, or his wife, children, or relations, and the Managers shall deal with such moneys accordingly on the written requisition of the Committee.

25. The Chamber undertakes to hold every Trustee indemnified against all proceedings, costs and expenses, occasioned by any claim in connection with the Fund, not arising from his negligence or fraud.

26. It shall be lawful for the Committee, from time to time, and at any time hereafter, in writing under their hands, to alter, vary, modify, re-make, rescind, or add to these Rules and Regulations, or any of them, but so that no such alteration, variation, modification, re-making, rescission, or addition shall affect the rights of any employé, with respect to the Fund.

27. If any dispute shall at any time arise between the Managers or the Trustees for the time being, of the Fund on the one hand, and any employé or any Executor, Administrator, or next-of-kin of any employé, or any person claiming as such next-of-kin or in any other capacity, on the other hand regarding these Rules and Regulations and the interpretation thereof, or any matter arising there or connected therewith, then and in every such case the matter in dispute shall be referred in writing to two Arbitrators, and such reference shall be deemed to be a submission to arbitration within the Indian Arbitration Act, 1899, or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof, for the time being in force, the provision whereof shall apply as far as applicable.

I hereby declare that I have read the foregoing Rules and Regulations of the Provident Fund of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and that I agree to be bound by them.

Dated the _____ day of _____ 19 _____

Name in full _____

Date of birth _____

Nature of appointment _____

Date of joining service _____

Salary per mensem, Rupees _____

Signature _____

Witness _____

CHAMBER RULINGS.

INDEX.

	No.
Advances on account of ships' disbursements	51
Agent—should return discount on insurance to constituents	13
Arrival—limit of time under contract	10
Ballast—paying freight, is cargo	22
Bill of Lading—adoption of new form of	25
Brokers—general liability of	49
Cargo—ship in position to give notice of readiness for outward	30
Cargo—lay-days for discharge of	40
Cargo—minimum intake of	43
Do. do. do.	43A
Cargo—Notice to receive	44
Cargo—as to discharge of	31
Cash for the ordinary disbursements of a vessel	53
Chartered vessels—delays in loading owing to accident or to fire	50
Charters—reckoning of lay-days	47
Charters—cancelling of	47
Charter—Party and shipping holidays	55
Claim for demurrage of a ship	2
Claim for leakage of oil on board	5
Claims—settlement for goods delivered in bad order	39
Commission—a "Sole Agent" entitled to	35
Commission—insolvent firm not entitled to	9
Cotton seed—weightment of	36
Demurrage—payment of same in sterling at demand rate	11
Demurrage—matter of arrangement between parties	45
Discount—Agent to return discount on insurance to constituents	18
F. A. S. Contracts—Shipment of goods under	58
Firm Offers	12
Freight—objectionable or unobjectionable light	15
Do. do. do.	33
F. O. B.—meaning of	6
General average and commission	64
Gonies—as to excess weight of	23
Holidays—as to the fixing of	17
Hospital Port Dues—notice of reduction in	28
Inclement weather—working days for ships and steamers during	56
Insurance—discount on to be returned by Agent to constituents	7
Inward Freight—definition of	48
Jute Market—value of	59
Lay-days—under Coal Charters—Steamers	8
Lay-days count under certain conditions while vessel is in stream	8

	No.
Lay-days—when to commence	16
Lay-days—computation of	49
Liability (general) of Brokers	49
Loading—President and Secretary of Chamber cannot grant certificate of	20
Loading—under Charter-Party, usual custom with regard to time	42
Loading of Chartered Vessels—delays owing to accidents or to fire	41
Measurement—as to ascertaining excess	50
Measurement—as to recovery for excess	3
Measurement—Captain not bound to measure alongside	4
Mercantile contracts—Sundays and Charter-Party Holidays in relations to	21
Ocean freights—Rate of exchange for payment of	57
Oil—claim for leakage of, on board	60
Oil—(Kerosine) rule for daily discharge of	5
Oil—(Kerosine)—as to discharge from ships in stream	34
Payment of Survey fees	32
Port limits—definition of	1
Rate of Exchange for payment of ocean freights	27
Running days—definition of	60
Salt—Indian maund used for weightment of	17
Saltpetre—Trade allowance on	38
Shipment of goods under F. A. S. Contracts	29
Shipment warehousing at jetties does not constitute a Shipment at Diamond Harbour—to be deemed and accepted as Calcutta shipment	58
Ships' disbursements—advances on account of	25
Steamers' Lay-days under Coal Charters	46
Sunday work—with regard to salt vessels	51
Sundays and Charter-Party Holidays—in relation to mercantile contracts	59
Survey on goods—where to be held	14
Time—as to limit of time for answer to message	57
Time shipment—Bill of Lading not proof of	37
Ventilation—with regard to rice steamers	12
Working days of the Port	34
Working hours of the Port	19
Working days for ships and steamers during inclement weather	17
	18
	56

CHAMBER RULINGS.

1.

In cases of dispute as to quality of produce where surveys are necessary to determine the question, the party in fault should pay the survey fees.

(5th June 1872).

2.

If a ship by her own fault has more cargo to take on board on the last of her lay-days than would constitute a full day's work, and if the shipper send the whole of the cargo alongside, he is absolved from any claim for demurrage of the ship.

(26th December 1872).

3.

Excess measurement must be ascertained on the average of the whole cargo in case of a Charter-Party, or in case of a Shipping Order, the average of the lot.

(29th January 1873).

4.

A chartered a ship and lets out a portion of the tonnage to B.

The cargo consists entirely of Jute, and B's portion exceeds 52 cubic feet, whilst A's is less than 52 cubic feet.

Query 1st.—Is A not entitled to recover from B for the excess measurement of his parcel?

Answer 1st.—A is entitled to recover from B.

Query 2nd.—In case of A's recovering, is he bound to pay the amount so recovered to the ship which has not suffered, the contract being between A and the ship for the entire cargo?

Answer 2nd.—The ship is not entitled to recover from A unless she can prove loss.

(29th January 1873).

5.

Query.—Can a shipper claim from ship for loss by alleged leakage on board of a certain quantity of oil?

Answer.—Though the Bill of Lading does not contain the protecting clause "not responsible for leakage," the vessel is not liable if the casks or cases were landed in good condition outwardly, except the consignee can prove bad or imputation of storage. The consignee has his remedy against his underwriters, not against the ship.

(22nd September 1873).

6.

The sale of goods F. O. B. is understood to mean that the seller, after the buyer has satisfied himself as to quality, undertakes to bear the charge of transit to the ship, the goods, however, being at the buyer's risk. When it is specially arranged that delivery is to be on board, the risk of transit belongs to, and should be borne by, the seller.

(3rd February 1877).

7.

When two-thirds of a ship's inward freight was payable at home and one-third in Calcutta, it was held that "Inward freight" meant the freight collected in Calcutta."

(5th April 1877).

8.

Question.—Whether lay-days can count while a vessel is in the stream or must she get into moorings before they begin to count?

Answer.—There being nothing to the contrary in the Charter-Party, lay-days will count while the vessel is in the stream, provided she is ready and able to discharge, and boats can lie alongside and remove cargo in safety.

(9th September 1877).

9.

When a firm takes over goods from a firm which has become insolvent, the suspended firm is not entitled to commission on the goods taken over, whether they had come under acceptance or not.

(23rd October 1878).

10.

By a clause in a contract a vessel is guaranteed to arrive between the 10th and 18th. The Committee held that the arrival on the morning of the 18th satisfied the condition in the clause.

(14th July 1879).

11.

Demurrage which is paid in sterling should be paid in rupees at the rate of the day for demand bills.

(19th July 1879).

12.

Query.—On Monday A takes a Shipping Order from B "subject to owner's approval by wire"; no answer arrives on Tuesday, but on Wednesday B informs A that the offer has been accepted. Is A bound?

Answer.—In the absence of a stipulation as to time within which the reply should be due, A is bound. (13th April 1880).

13.

An Agent should return to his constituents any discounts allowed on insurance. (25th May 1880).

14.

No Sunday work is allowed on board of salt vessels unless for the vessel's safety. (8th August 1881).

15.

A submitted a Charter-Party which provided *inter alia* that unobjectionable light ^{and} measurement goods in customary packages may be shipped as the balance of the Charterer's cargo.

A intended to ship 1,000 to 2,000 bags of turmeric, but the Agents for the steamer objected.

Held.—The word "unobjectionable" was vague and invited dispute, but usage appeared to sanction the shipment under such a Charter-Party as that referred to, of a reasonable amount of turmeric and, looking to the size of the steamer, 1,000 to 2,000 bags would not be unreasonable. (30th December 1881).

16.

Notice of readiness to discharge before entry of a vessel at the Custom House is not a proper notice.

If a vessel enters at a custom house before noon on, say, 1st of a month, lay-days commence 24 hours after such notice. If she enters at 1 P.M., then lay-days commence on the morning of the 3rd. (14th February 1882).

17.

"Running days" means every day without exception or exclusion.

"Working days" exclude Sundays, Christmas day, Good Friday and public Gazetted Holidays on which the Custom House and Bank of Bengal are closed.

After a vessel comes on demurrage, all days count, that is, the lay-days become "running." (8th February 1882).

[Note.—Holidays are now declared in December of each year by the Chamber, as under Shipping Orders and Charter-Parties according to the custom of the Port.]

18.

The working hours of the Port are from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M.; before 8 A. M. and after 5 P. M. counts overtime.

(5th September 1882).

19.

It is not the practice in this Port for steamers or vessels loaded with full cargoes of rice to be provided with through ventilation or with extra ventilation of any kind.

(25th January 1883).

20.

The President and Secretary of the Chamber cannot certify that a vessel has been loaded strictly in accordance with the custom of the Port of Calcutta. That can only be certified to by the Agents themselves and the stevedores who loaded the vessel.

(25th January 1883).

21.

A Captain is bound to measure alongside, unless such measurement has been specially stipulated for, and then the ton is to be taken at 54 cubic feet per ton of 5 bales.

(8th March 1883).

22.

Ballast when it pays freight becomes cargo. If Charterers have contracted for the whole ship, the Captain cannot take cargo of any description without their consent.

(24th July 1883).

23.

With reference to the Resolution of the 29th November 1883, it was voted in the case of gunnies that any excess weight over 2,240 lb. to the ton of 50 cubic feet should be paid for extra, unless the provision of average weight is stipulated for in the Charter-Party.

(2nd October 1885).

24.

Though Bills of Lading are granted by Agents, there is no custom of the Port making the possession of such documents proof of a time-shipment. A time-shipment can only be satisfied when the goods are actually on board. The possession of a Bill of Lading constitutes the delivery of the goods in shipment as between the consignee of the goods and the ship, but not between the Seller and the Buyer at home, unless the Contract bears the condition "Bill of Lading final."

(24th February 1886).

25.

There is no custom of the Port which would make warehousing at the jetties a shipment according to the custom of the Port.

(10th March 1886).

26.

Page 163, Report, 1886-1887.

The Conference Bill of Lading.—The following Resolution was proposed by the President, the Hon'ble Mr. D. Cruickshank and seconded by Mr. James Stevenson:—

"That the form of Bill of Lading, Calcutta to United Kingdom, agreed on in London on 11th April 1881 by a Committee of shipowners and merchants, and a copy of which is lodged with the Secretary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, be adopted for all ports whether in the United Kingdom or otherwise." At the suggestion of Mr. W. H. McKowan, the following words were added to the resolution: "as from 1st January 1887."

This Resolution came for confirmation before another Special General Meeting, held on 27th November 1886, and was confirmed on the motion of the Vice-President, Mr. W. Bleech, seconded by Mr. George Yule.

(26th May 1886).

27.

Page 147, Report, 1886-1887.

New rules of business.—The limits of the Port of Calcutta having been extended by a Notification of the Government of Bengal, dated 24th June 1886, which came into force on the 10th July 1886 so as to include within these limits the new petroleum depot at Budgo-Budgo, it has become necessary to frame a rule of business which shall meet the special circumstances which have made this extension of the Port necessary.

The following rule, which has met with almost unanimous support, is recommended by the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for general adoption:—

"Unless specified in the Charter-Party or Shipping Order, steamers or sailing vessels cannot demand of the consignee to take delivery of, or fill up, cargo, except within the limits of the Port, as set forth in the Notification of the 18th August 1879 of the Government of Bengal."

Page 147, Report 1886-1887.
Hospital Port Dues.—The following Notification reached the Committee early in September last :—

DARJEELING, 9th September 1886.

Notification.—In supersession of the Notification, dated the 12th September 1881, published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, dated the 14th September 1881, page 850, the Lieutenant-Governor, under the provisions of section 59, Act XII of 1875 (the Indian Ports Act), directs that the rate per ton of *Hospital Port Dues* levied on ships entering the Port of Calcutta shall be reduced from one anna to nine pies.

2. The Notification will take effect from the 1st October 1886.
 (9th September 1886).

29.

The trade allowance on saltpetre is usually—

If 5% saltpetre, 4 annas for every per cent. up to 7%			
2	"	"	over 7%
"	"	"	up to 9%
If 10% "	1 anna	"	up to 12½%
"	½	"	over 12½%
"	"	"	up to 15%

(24th September 1886).

30.

So long as a ship is ready to take in the stipulated quality of cargo continuously, she is in position to give notice of being ready for outward cargo, no matter if she has still a portion of her inward cargo on board.

31.

In the case of vessel discharging railway material, the rate of discharge was regulated by the terms of the Charter-Party, and where this was not the case, the only rule was, that the vessel should discharge as fast as she was able.

(17th December 1886).

32.

There is no rule of the Port which prevents vessels from discharging in the stream when there is no room at the Petroleum Wharf.

33.

The difficulties of defining "objectionable" and "unobjectionable" light freight being very great it was thought best to leave the question open, and for all disputed articles to be the subject of special arrangements.

(19th July 1887).

The Port Commissioners' rule for Dodge-Bridge is—a discharge of 8,000 cases of oil a day to entitle a vessel to remain at the jetties: a vessel failing to comply with this rule, might, if required, be compelled to leave the wharf.

(24th January 1889).

35.

Where there is a "Sole Agent," he is entitled to commission on sales.

(20th March 1889).

36.

Cotton seed is not mentioned in the Chamber's Tonnage Schedule, but a fair basis would be about 16 cwts. to the ton.

(16th September 1889).

37.

Unless a contract provides otherwise, a survey on goods must be held at the place of destination of the goods.

(16th September 1889).

38.

The Indian maund only is used by the Customs authorities for salt weighments. It weighs 82½ lbs.

39.

There is no custom of the Port to guide settlements on account of goods delivered short out of "had ordered" packages landed from ships or steamers; but if the Bill of Lading does not contain the clause "market price less charges saved," such claims are usually settled on the basis of the invoice value for goods actually missing. It is understood that legally the settlement should be effected on the basis of the market-value of missing goods on arrival of the ship or steamer, less freight when the same is payable at destination, or if already paid including the freight.

(5th August 1890).

40.

Without any absolute custom prevailing it is accepted, when a certain number of lay-days are allowed for the discharge of cargoes, that such lay-days are computed on the Bill of Lading quantity or on the inward manifest.

(6th September 1890).

41.

If under an ordinary Charter-Party with working days as lay-days, the weather is so inclement as to prevent the Charterer from loading off and sending his cargo alongside a Chartered Steamer or Vessel, that is a risk he has to run when chartering.

On the other hand, however, if cargo is alongside a Chartered Steamer or Vessel, and the weather is too inclement, in the Captain's opinion, to take it in that day, and he does not take it in, then the Charterer is entitled not to count that day as a lay-day under the Charter-Party.

(18th October 1890).

42.

In answer to the question as to what minimum quantity of cargo, according to the custom of the Port, should be taken in daily by a vessel of 1,420 tons chartered to have 30 days for loading, it was replied that there was no custom of the Port fixing the minimum quantity of cargo, but the opinion was expressed 75 tons daily for the first two, and the same quantity for the last two days, and 125 tons daily for the remainder of the working days, would be a reasonable quantity to be taken as a fair minimum for a ship of that size.

(12th January 1891).

43.

Minimum Intake of Cargo.—The following is a recommendation, made by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, as to what constitutes a fair and reasonable minimum of cargo to be daily taken in by a sailing vessel loading in this Port:—

Size of Vessel.		Jute Cargo.	Dag Cargo.
Tons.		Tons.	Tons.
1,000 to 1,500	...	150	200
1,500 to 2,000	...	200	300
Over 2,000	...	250	350

Half the above quantities to be taken in on the two first and two last days of loading.

(20th May 1891).

43A.

When the cargo consists of gunnies in usual bales, the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce recommend the following as constituting a fair and reasonable minimum to the daily taken in by a sailing vessel loading in this Port:—

Size of Vessel.	Gunnies in usual bales.
Tons.	Tons.
1,000 to 1,500	150
1,500 to 2,000	200
Over 2,000	250

Half the above quantities to be taken in on the two first and two last days of loading.

(31st January 1896).

44.

Notice to receive Cargo.—The notice a Shipper is to receive from a Ship's Agent for cargo to be put alongside, and of the quantity to be placed alongside, in one day, is a matter for arrangement between the Shippers and the Ship's Agents.

(10th June 1891).

45.

Demurrage.—Demurrage appears to be always a matter of arrangement of bargain between the parties, and is not a matter which can be settled by a ruling; but if in any case the parties concerned cannot come to a settlement, the Chamber can arbitrate under the General Arbitration Rules.

(23rd June 1891).

46.

Shipments at Diamond Harbour.—In cases where, for mutual convenience, arrangements are made to put cargo on board vessels at Diamond Harbour or between Calcutta and Diamond Harbour, shipments so made shall be deemed to be, and shall be accepted, as Calcutta Shipments.

(12th November 1891).

*[NOTE.—This rule is not believed to be binding on the other side without express arrangement to that effect.]

47.

Charters.—The following case was submitted by the Karachi Chamber of Commerce:—

"A steamer arrives under Charter, and the following clause is in the Charter-Party.—*Lay-days* are to commence unless at Charterers' option before the 15th January 1892; and Charterers are to have the right to cancel the Charter should the vessel not be clear and ready to load in a seaworthy condition on or before the 15th February.

"The Steamer, we will say, arrived at 5 P. M. on the 15th February in a seaworthy condition with her holds all clear. At 5 P. M. the offices are all shut, and the Captain cannot get his notice in till the morning of the 16th February, although his steamer was all clear and ready to take in cargo seven hours before the 15th day of February expired. Can Charterers cancel the Charter?"

The reply sent was that the custom of the Port of Calcutta would uphold the cancelling of the Charter under the circumstances set out.

(8th January 1892).

48.

Value of Jute marks.—In a suit (No. 270 of 1892), tried by Mr. Justice Truvelyan on 18th January 1893, for damages on account of the non-acceptance of 1,000 bales Jute a question of the value of the Jute mark was raised—on this point the Judge said:—

"It was suggested on behalf of the plaintiffs that, if the bales 'were marked (mark given) and contained Jute cuttings of any class, they would be sufficient to 'satisfy the contract.

This would be true if the expression—"Jute cuttings marked (mark given)" has no meaning in the market. If, on the other hand, it has any such meaning, then the plaintiffs must, under the terms of section 113 of the Indian Contract Act, be taken as guaranteeing that the goods supplied were what is commercially known by that description.

Section 113 of the Indian Contract Act, IX of 1872, is as under.

"113.—When goods are sold as being of a certain denomination, there is an implied warranty that they are such goods as are commercially known by that denomination, although the buyer may have bought by sample, or after inspection of the bulk."

Explanation.—But if the contract specifically states that the goods, though sold as of a certain denomination, are not warranted to be of that denomination, there is no implied warranty.

The Committee understand, as the invariable custom of the jute trade, that a certain mark carries with it, unless specially contracted for otherwise, a certain guarantee of quality with a reasonable divergence ruled by crop and period of delivery.

(14th April 1893).

49.

General liability of Brokers.—A reference having been made by the Indian Jute Manufacturers' Association "on the general question of the liability of brokers," the Committee replied:—In their opinion a broker is liable to his principals for consequences if he does not deliver identical contracts."

(3rd February 1893).

50.

Delays in loading Chartered vessels owing to accidents or to fire.—It was represented to the Committee that there was an "apparent necessity existing for a common understanding between Shippers and Ship Agents as to respective liability in cases where the loading of Chartered vessels is so seriously delayed by accident or fire as to render completion of loading within chartered lay-days impossible."

The Committee, however, hold that every such case should be clearly stated and dealt with upon its merits.

(22nd February 1892).

51.

Advances on account of ship's disbursements.—In the absence of a stipulation as to the usance at which the advance was to be calculated, the Committee decided that in the case of steamers, 3 months' and in the case of sailing vessels, 6 months' sight, documentary rate of exchange would be a fair usance.

(1st April 1892).

52.

London Billings—Firm Offers.—In the following case:—

A wires his London Agent B:—"A. B. C. mark we can buy 1,000 B/s. at £10—D. E. F. mark we offer you firm 1,000 B/s. at £81."

The Committee considered A was bound to pay on the offer made "firm."

(6th April 1892).

53.

Cash for the ordinary disbursement of a vessel.—On the following clause, extracted from a Charter-Party of a sailing vessel:—

"Cash for the ordinary disbursements of the vessel at the port of loading, if required by master, to be advanced at 'current rate of exchange on account of freight by the Charterer's Agent there, who shall not be responsible for its application not exceeding £——, free of interest, but, subject to cost of insurance and 2½

"per cent. commission, same to be deducted from the balance of freight on settlement."

The Committee ruled:—

"In the absence of a stipulation as to the usance at which the advance was to be calculated, in the case of steamers, 3 months, and in the case of sailing vessels, 6 months' sight documentary rate of exchange would be a fair usance."

(2nd May 1893).

54.

General average and Commission.—On a reference made to them, the Committee ruled:—

"A 2½ per cent. commission in the Chamber's Commission Schedule is not meant to be absolute and without regard to the work done. A general average case might become necessary without a vessel's cargo being touched in Calcutta. It would be hardly fair or reasonable, under such or similar circumstances, that Agents should receive an all-round 2½ per cent. commission on the value of the vessel's cargo."

(15th November 1893).

55.

Charter-Party and Shipping Holidays.—The working of import cargo on holidays, declared by the Chamber to be holidays under Charter-Parties and Shipping Orders, is governed by the rule applicable to Shipping Orders and Charter-Parties, and hence consignees are not bound to take delivery on such holidays as are notified to be holidays under Charter-Parties and Shipping Orders.

(2nd November 1897).

56.

Working days for Ships and Steamers during inclement weather.—During inclement weather, the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, in consultation with the Port Officer, will decide as to what may or may not be considered a working day."

(19th March 1901).

57.

Sundays and Charter-Party Holidays in relation to Mercantile Contracts.—Goods falling due for delivery on Sunday or on a day previous to the Sunday or the Charter-Party and Shipping Holiday, as the case may be.

(25th June 1902).

58.

Indian Jute Mills' Association Contract Shipment Clause.—In the event of shipment of goods sold under I.A.S. Contracts being deferred until the last day stipulated in the Contract, goods must be placed alongside the vessel not later than 2 o'clock p.m. on that day in order to constitute a proper tender under the Contract.

(1st October 1902).

Revised Ruling No. 59.

Steamers' Lay-days under Coal Charters:—

- (1) Under Coal Charters a Steamer's lay-days commence at 6 A.M. on the working day next following the day, before 12 noon of which notice of readiness to load has been given. But notice cannot be given until the vessel is (a) entered at the Custom House, and (b) until she is within the limits of the Port as defined in the Notification of 18th August 1870 of the Government of Bengal. (See note at foot)*.
- (2) In the case of a steamer not being loaded in time to leave her berth to sail by the morning tide of the day on which the loading is completed, half a day shall be counted, provided that loading is completed by mid-day. Should work be carried on after mid-day, a whole day shall be counted.

60.

Rate of Exchange for Payment of Ocean Freight.—Ocean Freight payable in Calcutta, whether on inward or outward Bills of Lading, shall be calculated at the rate of exchange for demand drafts given in the Calcutta Price Current and Money Market Report, published every Thursday by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the rate to be in force from the day after each mail day to the following mail day inclusive.

(21st December 1906).

* Limits of the Port of Calcutta as per Notification of 18th August 1870 of the Government of the Bengal:—

On the North.—A line drawn from the boundary pillar at the Consore Gou Foundry Ghat to a point on the opposite side at Chunderpore.

On the South.—A line drawn from a point called Pakpara on the north to a creek called Narakhul on the south.

So much of Tolly's Nullah as lies to the west of a line drawn across the Nullah 25 feet to the west of Hastings Bridge.

The Limits of the Port include to the east and west so much of the River Hooghly and the shores thereof as are within 50 yards of high-water mark, spring tides.

2nd November 1906.

Forms of Boat Note as adopted at a General Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on the 17th January 1880.

No.

Calcutta, 18 .

To

THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE

Ship

Sir,

Please receive on board the undernoted goods from

Messrs.

and grant a clean receipt for the same.

N. B.—This Cargo is only shipped on the special understanding that the Chief Officer will sign for all counter or quality marks and numbers, and the Bales of Packages are not to be taken on board except on these terms, and also when a sircar is in attendance to check the tally.

In case of any dispute, the shippers request prompt information in writing from one of the Officers of the ship.

Marks and Numbers.	Number of packages.	Description of goods.	

No.

Calcutta, 18 .

Received on board the ship
in good order and condition the undermentioned goods
from Messrs.

N. B. — The Chief Officer is requested not to take in any packages unless he is prepared to sign for all the qualifying marks and numbers.

All packages in bad order must be returned.

Marks and numbers.	Number of Packages.	Description of goods.	

Arrived alongside

Discharged

Returned

Remarks

(Signature.)

Chief officer,
Ship,
Mooring

CONVERSION OF STERLING FREIGHT INTO INDIAN CURRENCY.

The following Resolutions were adopted at a General Meeting of the Chamber, held on the 17th January 1882.

That the Resolutions adopted, 31st May 1876, respecting conversion into Indian currency of sterling freight and commission thereon be hereby rescinded, and that the following Resolution be substituted in their stead with immediate effect, viz:—

1. "That, in the absence of any stipulation to the contrary, sterling freight payable in Calcutta, including differences of freight adjusted in Calcutta, and all commission on sterling freight made payable at Calcutta or there brought into account, shall be reduced into Indian money at the rate of exchange for Bank Bills on London on demand which shall have been current on the mail day next preceding the day when the amount to be dealt with shall be ascertained.

2. "That, in the absence of anything to the contrary expressed, the words 'current rate of exchange' shall be held to mean the rate current for Bank Bills on London payable on demand.

3. "That, for the purposes of charging commission or adjusting differences, freight expressed in dollars (American) shall be converted into sterling at a uniform rate of fifty pence per dollar."

H. W. I. WOOD,
Secretary.

CONFERENCE BILL OF LADING.

Extract from Proceedings of a Special General Meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, held on 20th May 1886.

The Chairman said he would move the following Resolution:—

"That the form of Bill of Lading—Calcutta to United Kingdom—agreed on in London on 11th April 1881 by a committee of shipowners and merchants, and copy of which is lodged with the Secretary of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, be adopted for all ports, whether in the United Kingdom or otherwise."

"At the suggestion of Mr. W. H. McKewan, the following words were added to the Resolution: "as from 1st January 1887."

Mr. James Stevenson seconded the Resolution.

"It was then, as amended, put to the Meeting and carried."

This Resolution was on the motion of Mr. W. Dieck, Vice-President, seconded by Mr. George Yule, confirmed at a Special General Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held on the 27th November 1886.

S. E. J. CLARKE,
Secretary.

CONFERENCE BILL OF LADING.

Printed from a signed copy of Bill of Lading, dated 11th April 1881, agreed on in London by a Committee of Shipowners and Merchants, and lodged with the Secretary, Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

BILL OF LADING-CALCUTTA TO UNITED KINGDOM.

Shipped in good order and condition, by _____
on board the Ship _____ whereof
is master for this present voyage _____
lying in the Port of _____
and bound for _____
_____ being marked and numbered as per margin, and
to be delivered in the like good order and condition at the afore-
said Port of _____.

The Act of God; the Queen's enemies; loss or damage from fire on board, in hull or craft or on shore; any act, neglect or default whatsoever of Pilots, Master or crew in the navigation of the Ship in the ordinary course of the voyage and all and every the dangers and accidents of the seas and rivers, and of navigation of whatsoever nature or kind excepted).

into _____
or to his or their Assigns. Freight to be paid for the said goods at the rate of _____
without discount, but otherwise subject to the customary mode of payment. Average as aforesaid. In the event of claim for short delivery, price to be the market price of the day at Port of discharge on the day of the Ship's reporting at the Custom House, less charge and brokerage.

Weight, contents, and value unknown.

In witness whereof the Master or Agent of the said Ship has signed _____ Bill of Lading, exclusive of the Master's copy, all of this tenor and date, one of which being accomplished, the others to stand void.

Dated at Calcutta,

SCHEDULE OF COMMISSION CHARGES.

Revised and adopted by a Special General Meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce held on the 26th February 1882, with effect from that date.

1. On the sale, purchase, or shipment of Bullion, Gold Dust, or Coin ... 1 per cent.
2. On the purchase (when in funds) or sale of Raw Silk Silk Piece-goods, Opium, Pearls, Precious Stones or Jewellery ... 2½ "
3. On Purchasing ditto when funds are provided by the Agent ... 5 "
4. On the sale or purchase of all other goods, the Commission in all cases to be charged upon the gross amount of sales, and in regard to purchases upon both cost and charges ... 5 "
5. On returns of consignments if made in produce ... 2½ "
6. On returns of consignments if in Bills, Bullions, or Treasure ... 1 "
7. On accepting Bills against consignments ... 1 "
8. On the sale or purchase of ships, factories, houses, lands, and all property of like description ... 2½ "
9. On goods and treasure consigned, and all other property of any description referred to agency for sale, whether advanced upon or otherwise, which shall afterwards be withdrawn; and on goods consigned for conditional delivery to others and so delivered, on invoice amount at 2½ per rupee ... ½ com.
10. On making advances or procuring loans of money for commercial purposes, when the aggregate commission does not exceed 5 per cent. ... 2½ per cent.
11. On ordering or receiving and delivering goods or superintending the fulfilment of contracts, or on the shipment of goods, where no other commission is derived ... 2½ "
12. On guaranteeing Bills, Bonds or other engagements; and on becoming security for administration of Estates, or to Government for the disbursement of public money ... 2½ "
13. On ditto, or guaranteeing the due realisation of sales ... 2½ "
14. On the management of Estates for Executors or Administrators ... 2½ "
15. On chartering ships or engaging tonnage for constituents for vessels to proceed to outports for loading ... 2½ "
16. On advertising as the Agents for Owners or Commanders of ships for cabin passengers, on the amount of passage money, whether the same shall pass through the Agents' hands or not ... 2½ "

17. On procuring freight for a ship by Shipping Order or Charter, or on procuring employment for a ship on monthly hire, or acting as Agents for Owners, Captains, or Charterers of a vessel, upon the gross amount of freight, brokerage inclusive ... 5 per cent.
18. On engaging Asiatic Emigrants for a ship to the Mauritius, the West Indies or elsewhere, upon the gross amount of earnings ... 5 "
19. On engaging troops for a ship to Great Britain or elsewhere, on the gross amount of passage money for rank and file ... 2½ "
20. On realising inward freight, inward troop, emigrant, or cabin passage money ... 2½ "
21. On landing and re-shipping goods from any vessel in distress, or on landing and selling by auction damaged goods from any such vessel, and acting as Agent for the Master on behalf of all concerned—on the declared value of all such goods as may be re-shipped, and on the net proceeds of all such goods as may be publicly sold ... 2½ to 5 "
22. If Opium, Indigo, Raw Silk or Piece-goods ... 1½ to 2½ "
23. If Treasure, Precious Stones, or Jewellery ... 2 to 1 "
24. On effecting Insurances, claims, losses and averages of all classes, and on procuring return of premium ... 2½ "
25. On drawing, purchasing, selling, or negotiating Bills of Exchange ... 1 "
26. On debts or other claims when a process at law or arbitration is incurred in claiming them ... 2½ "
27. Or if recovered by such means ... 5 "
28. On Bills of Exchange returned dishonoured ... 1 "
29. On collecting house-rent ... 2½ "
30. On ships' disbursements ... 2½ "
31. On realising Bottomry Bonds or negotiating any loan on *respondentia* ... 2½ "
32. On granting Letters of Credit ... 1 "
33. On sale of purchase of Government Securities and Bank or other Joint Stock Shares, on the market value ... ½ "
34. On delivering up Government Securities and Bank or other Joint Stock Shares, on the market value ... ½ "
35. On all amounts debited and credited within the year (less the balance brought forward) upon which no commission, amounting to 5 per cent, has been charged. ... ½ "

600 Brothage when paid is to be separately charged.

S. E. J. CLARKE,

Secretary.

Tonnage Schedule and Measurement Rules for the Port of Calcutta.

ARTICLES.	Cwt. per ton Nett.	Cubic feet per ton.
Alum, in bags and boxes ...	20	...
Alum, in ...	20	...
Antford, in bags ...	8	50
Arrowroot, in cases ...	20	...
Arsenic, in bags or cases ...	20	...
Asafetida, in bags and boxes ...	20	50
Apparel, in boxes ...	6	...
Bark, in bags ...	20 gross	...
Bees' Wax ...	20	...
Bellis ...	20	50
Bistol-nut ...	20	...
Books ...	20	...
Borax ...	14	...
Bran ...	20	...
Brinstone ...	at per cent.	...
Bullion ...	16	50
Cadibac, in bags ...	...	...
Camphor, in cases ...	8	50
Cardamom, in raddies ...	...	...
... in boxes ...	...	50
Cash, in boxes ...	12	...
... in bags ...	16	...
Cut or seed ...	8	...
Chittie (dry), in bags ...	11	50
China Root, in bags ...	12	50
... in boxes ...	...	...
Chiretta, in bales ...	14	50
Cherash ...	...	...
Cigars ...	8	50
Cliven, in bags ...	...	...
... in boxes ...	20	50
Coads ...	...	...
Coslineal ...	18	...
Coffee, in bags ...	16	...
... in casks ...	20	...
Coral rough ...	12	...
Cate, leaves and unscraved ...	10	...
... in shells ...	24	...
Cash, or Cocconut kernel ...	12	...
Coriander seed ...	Actual measure.	50
Cotton, in bales ...	not at	...
... 20 ...	...	...
Cowries ...	8	...
Cumin seed ...	8	...
Cutch, in bags ...	18	50
... in cases ...	...	...
Dates, wet ...	20	...
... dry ...	18	...
Doll ...	20	...
Elephant's Teeth, in bulk ...	20	50
Paruturo ...	12	...
Garlic and Onions ...	16	...
Ginger ...	...	...

not exceeding
20 cwt. gross.

ARTICLES.	Cwt. per ton Nett.	Cubic feet per ton.
Gram	20	
Guns, in cases	60	
Gunny Bags and Gunny Cloth	not exceeding 2,240 lbs. gross.	
Gunjah	70	
Hemp	5 bales not exceed. 14 gross.	62
Hides, Buffalo or Cow, cured	14 gross.	
Horns, Horn Shavings and Tips	20	
Horns, Cow, Buffalo or Deer	20	
India-rubber in bags	16	
" " In cases	50	
Indigo	50	
Iron	50	
Jute	5 bales not exceed. 14 gross.	62
" Cuttings	5 bales not exceed. 14 gross.	62
Lac Dye	20 gross.	
Lard	20	
Lime	20	
Mace	20	
Machinery	20	
Metal	20	
Metlic Seed	18	
Myrabolans	18	
Nichases	2 punctures or 4 hides.	
Mother-o-pearl, in bags	20	
" " in chests	20	
Mowal Flowers	20	
Seed	20	
Musjoh	20	
Mustard or Rape Seed	20	
Niger Seed	20	
Nutmegs in cases or chests	16	
Nix Venica	16	
Onix	16	
Oil, in cases	20	
" " in chests	20	
" Seed Cake	20	
Opium	20	
Paddy	16	
Palmitine, in bags	16	
Pearl	20	
Pepper, Long	12	
" Black	14	
Pinks and Deals	20	
Pony Seed	10	
Pulchack	10	
Rags	20	
Raw Silk, in bales	20	
Refuse, for dungage	20	
Red Wood	5 bales not exceed. 14 gross.	62
Ribon	20	
Rice	20	
Rope in coils	16	
Rope Linn and Twines, in bundles	20	
Rum in cases	2 punctures or 4 hides.	

ARTICLES.	Cwt. per ton Nett.	Cubic feet per ton.
Safflower	5 bales not exceed. 14 gross.	62
Sago, in cases	20	
Sai Ammoniac in bags	20 gross	
Saltpetre	20	
Salt	20	
Saran Wood, for dungage	20	
Seoline, in cases	20	
Seoline, rough, in bags	16	
Shells, in cases	20	
Shells, rough, in bags	16	
Silk, Chinese	20	
" Wate	20	
Shins	14 gross	
Soap, country in cases	16	
" " in bags	20	
" " in bar	16	
Stick-lies, in cases	20	
" " in bags	20	
Sugar	20 gross	
Tallow, in cases or chests	20	
Tale	20 gross	
Tamarinds, in cases or chests	20	
Tapoca	20	
Tea	20	
Tea Seals	20	
Timber, round	20	
" square	20	
Thual	5 bales not ex- ceeding.	62
Tobacco, in bales	16	
Tortoise Shells, in chests	20	
Tumeric	16	
Wheat	20	
Wood	20	

Jute, Jute Cuttings, Hemp, Cotton, Safflower and other articles similarly packed are screened in bales varying from 300 to 400 lbs.

Goods in cases or chests to be calculated at gross weight when paying freight by weight.

At a Special General Meeting of the Chamber, held on the 29th November 1882, it was resolved—
That for Gunny Bags and Gunny Cloth, the ton shall be 50 cubic feet, not exceeding 2,240 lbs. "gross."
That the term "Dead Weight" shall be understood to mean the following articles "only": Sugar, Saltpetre, Rice, Wheat, Gram, Dholl, Peas and all Metals.

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and Steamers at Ports in India.

[illegible]

* Pressed bran to be understood as not less than 5 marks (of 32 lbs.) in a bag of 45 1/2 x 26 inches.
† Tare to apply to sailing tonnage only.
‡ Note—The Scale for grades differing from the standards to be settled by private arrangement between shippers and steam agents.
Any dispute between them to be referred to, and decided by, the Committee of the Chamber.

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and Steamers
at Ports in India—(contd.)

[illegible]

* As broken stowage.
† Rates apply to sailing tonnage only.

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and Steamers
at Ports in India—(contd.)

[illegible]

* As broken Storage.
† The formula for the calculation of the cubical contents of cylindrical packages is the square of the diameter multiplied into the length and 1/4 deducted from the product.

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and Steamers
at Ports in India—(contd.)

[illegible]

* Rates apply to calling long-distance only

**Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and Steamers
at Ports in India—(contd.)**

[illegible]

* Rates apply to calling teenagers only.

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and Steamers
at Ports in India—(contd.)

[illegible]

* Rates apply to sailing tonnage.

Chambers of Commerce Tonnage Schedule for Ships and Steamers
at Ports in India—(concl'd).

[illegible]

* Rates apply to mailing tonnage only.
† At vessel's option.

NOTES.

COLOMBO.

The standard ton of Colombo for ships and steamers for measurement of goods is 50 cubic feet.

In the Colombo Scale D signifies net delivered.

" " S " " shipped.

BOMBAY.

The standard ton at Bombay for ships for measurement of goods shall be taken at 50 cubic feet.

The tonnage scale for steamers shall be on the basis of 40 cubic feet, but in no case to exceed 20 cwt. dead weight to the ton.

Freight, Inwards.

Payable in Bombay.

That the conversion into Indian currency of sterling freight inward to Bombay, payable in Bombay, shall, unless otherwise stipulated, be made at the rate for Bank Bills on London payable on demand; and that the rate ruling at the close of a Mail shall be the rate applicable to such purpose during the subsequent week.

Freight, Outwards.

Payable in Bombay.

That freight outward from Bombay, stated in sterling, payable in Bombay (in the absence of any stipulation in the Shipping Order or Charter-Party to the contrary), shall be converted into Indian currency at the rate for Bank Bills on London payable on demand; and that the rate ruling at the close of a Mail shall be the rate applicable for Bills of Lading presented during the subsequent week; on difference of freight, $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. as customary in the case of Sailing Ships, and $\frac{1}{2}$ for Steamers being allowed as discount to cover cost of insurance and interest, until the due date of the freight.

Shut-out Cargo.

That in cases when shipping orders have been issued without any special stipulation in respect of shut-out cargo, the shipper, provided he has fulfilled the terms of his shipping order, shall have the right to demand a fresh shipping order in the first going vessel for the same port from the agent of the vessel that has failed to take in his cargo, and shall also be entitled to recover any losses and additional expenses which he may have incurred through his cargo being shut-out. If the agent declines or omits to grant this, the shipper should himself have the power to engage the necessary tonnage, and to claim on the said agent for any difference in freight or other expense to which he may have been put.

KURRACHEE.

The Kurrachee Tonnage Scale for steamers shall be on the basis of 40 cubic feet to the ton, but in no case to exceed 20 cwt. dead weight, except in the case of salt.

The standard ton at Kurrachee for measurement of goods shall be taken at 50 cubic feet for ships.

The freight on oil to be paid on the full gauge of the cask, ascertained at the port of discharge.

When freight is payable on weight, the same is to be on the net weight delivered.

When cotton is shipped at a rate per bale, in the absence of special agreement, if the average measurement exceeds 13 feet per bale, the ship shall be entitled to proportionate extra freight, but in no case shall a ship be compelled to take bales larger than 14 feet.

Freight, Inwards.

Payable in Kurrachee.

The conversion into Indian currency of sterling freight inward to Kurrachee, payable in Kurrachee, shall, unless otherwise stipulated, be made at the rate for Bank Bills on London payable on demand; and the rate ruling at the close of a Mail shall be the rate applicable to such purpose during the subsequent week.

Freight, Outwards.

Payable in Kurrachee.

Resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Chamber on 14th March 1853.

That difference of freight outward from Kurrachee, stated in sterling, payable in Kurrachee, in the absence of any stipulation in the Shipping Order or Charter-Party to the contrary, shall be converted into Indian currency at the rate for Bank Bills on London payable on demand; and that the rate ruling at the close of a Mail day shall be the rate applicable to such purpose during the subsequent week, $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. as customary in the case of Sailing Ships, and $\frac{1}{2}$ for steamers being allowed as discount to cover cost of insurance and interest, until the due date of the freight.

MADRAS AND COCONADA.

The articles mentioned in the margin are to be measured before Coir in Bale, Cotton, Gun-shipment at the press, godown, or on the job, Hemp, Jute, Mangle, beach, at the option of the shipper, and Sesua Leaf, Wood, Saraya- the measurement is to be entered on the face of the Bill of Lading. In measuring, the callipers are to take in the rope, or iron hoop, on the one side of the bale, and leave it out on the other. Half inches are to be given and taken alternately. Ten bales per cent. as a maximum are to be measured, moiety to be chosen by the shipper and moiety by the ship; and, in the event of

any dispute arising, the bales are to be measured by a Surveyor to be appointed by the Chamber of Commerce. The Surveyor's decision to be final, and his fee to be five rupees, one-half to be borne by each party. All other goods to be measured at port of discharge.

When freight is payable on weight, it is on the net weight delivered.

Note.—*Gingelly Seed, Groundnut Kernels, Castor Seed, &c.*, from the Madras Coast, are taken at the above scale; but if for a Continental or Mediterranean Port, it is usual to stipulate for 20 cwt. to the ton.

COCHIN AND MALABAR COAST.

Cair Junk, horns, oil-breakers, hides (loose), and all packages not exceeding 56lbs. gross may be taken as broken stowage at half freight.

All goods shipped by measurement to be measured before shipment, and the cubic contents entered on the face of the Bill of Lading. In measuring, the callipers are to take in the rope or iron on the one side of the bale, and leave it out on the other, $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch to be given and taken alternately; and that, in any case of dispute as to measurements, the Master Attendant be requested to measure the disputed package, and that his decision shall be considered final. The party found to be in error shall pay a fee of Rs. 15.

SINGAPORE AND PENANG.

Dunnage and Broken Stowage in all cases 20 cwt. Freight payable on net weight delivered, or on measurement delivered.

MONEY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

With their European or Indian equivalents.

CEYLON.

The weights and measures of Ceylon are the same as those of the United Kingdom. The money of the country is the rupee of British India with cents in place of annas and pice; thus Ceylon has a decimal coinage. By Ordinance No. 6 of 1903, gold was made a legal tender (at 15 rupees = £ 1).

CHINA.

MONEY.

The sole official coinage and the monetary unit of China has been hitherto the copper cash, of which about 1-220 = 1 taikwan taol, and about 35 = 1 penny. A coin recently issued in great numbers by the provincial mints is the 'hundredth of a dollar.' This coin, of which the issue to the end of 1906 is computed to have been 12,500,000,000 has been readily accepted, but hitherto at rates corresponding closely to the intrinsic value of the metal in it. The face value of the coin is about $\frac{1}{100}$ d.; the intrinsic worth about $\frac{1}{100}$ d. The use of silver bullion, or sycee as the medium of exchange, is not now much less common but the circulation of the dollar is certainly extending. The taikwan (or customs) taol, was equal in value in 1902 to 31½ d.

The dollar (of the same weight and touch as the Mexican dollar) is now current in all the provinces, even in out-of-the-way districts. Notes for cash are also much in vogue.

In the Treaty of September 6th, 1902, China agreed with Great Britain, to take the necessary steps to provide a uniform national coinage which should be legal tender for all purposes throughout the Empire, and an Imperial Decree was issued in October 1903, commanding the introduction of a uniform taol currency, of which the unit must be a silver taol coin of 98 touch weighing 1 K'ap'ing or Treasury scale taol or ounce. This decree was cancelled by a further decree of 25th May 1910, establishing the silver dollar (yuan) of 90 touch and weighing .72 Treasury-weight taol as the unit of currency. The touch and weight of the silver subsidiary coins (50c., 25c., and 10c.) was also definitely specified, while provision was made for further subsidiary coins 5c., nickel, 2c., $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and $\frac{1}{10}$ c. copper) of touch and weight to be laid down later. The circulating of these silver coins has begun, but none are as yet in circulation. By the law of May 1910, the several mints have been brought under the Central Government, and are no longer practically private ventures of local viceroys. The K'ap'ing taol weighs 375.82 grains, somewhat less than the Taikwan taol, which weighs

581.47 grains. A decree for uniform weights and measures was issued October 9, 1907, whereby the K'up'ing or Treasury scale was made the standard weight.

WEIGHT.

10 <i>Sa</i>	...=1 <i>Hu</i>
10 <i>Hu</i>	...=1 <i>Hao</i>
10 <i>Hao</i>	...=1 <i>Li</i> (nominal cash)
10 <i>Li</i>	...=1 <i>Fen</i> (Candaren)
10 <i>Fen</i>	...=1 <i>Chien</i> (Mace)
10 <i>Chien</i>	...=1 <i>Liang</i> (Tael)=14oz. avoirdupois by treaty.
10 <i>Liang</i>	...=1 <i>Chin</i> (Catty)=13lb. "
100 <i>Chin</i>	...=1 <i>Tan</i> (Picul)=133½ lb. "

CAPACITY.

10 <i>Ko</i>	...=1 <i>Sheng</i> .
10 <i>Sheng</i>	...=1 <i>Tsu</i> (holding from 6½ to 10 <i>Kin</i> of rice and measuring from 1-13 to 1-63 gallon).

Commodities, even liquids, such as oil, spirits, etc., are commonly bought and sold by weight.

LENGTH.

10 <i>Fen</i>	...=1 <i>Ts'ui</i> (inch).
10 <i>Ts'ui</i>	...=1 <i>Ch'ih</i> (foot)=14.1 English inches by treaty.
10 <i>Ch'ih</i>	...=1 <i>Chang</i> =2 fathoms.
1 <i>Li</i>	...=approximately 3 cables.

In the tariff settled by treaty between Great Britain and China, the *Ch'ih* of 14.1 English inches has been adopted as the legal standard. The standards of weight and length vary all over the Empire, the *Ch'ih*, for example, ranging from 9 to 16 English inches, and the *Chang* (=10 *Ch'ih*) in proportion; but at the Treaty Ports the use of the foreign treaty standard of *Ch'ih* and *Chang* is becoming common.

INDIA AND DEPENDENCIES.

The money, weight and measures of India and the British equivalents are as follows:

MONEY.

The <i>Pie</i>	... ..	...=½ Farthing
2 "	...=1 <i>Pice</i>	...=1 Farthing.
4 <i>Pice</i> , or 12 <i>Pies</i> =1 <i>Anna</i>	...=1 Penny.	
16 <i>Annas</i>	...=1 <i>Rupree</i>	...=1 Shilling and 4 Pence.
15 <i>Ruprees</i>	...=1 Sovereign	...=£1.

The rupee weighs one tola (a tola=180 grains), .916 fine.

The sum of 1,00,000 rupees is called a 'lac,' and of 1,00,00,000 a 'crore' of rupees.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The <i>Mauad</i> of Bengal of 40 <i>seers</i>	...=822 lbs. avoirdupois.
Bombay	...=28 lbs. nearly.
" " Madras	...=25 lbs. "
" " Tola	...=180 grs.
" " Guz of Bengal	...=36 inches.

An Act to provide for the ultimate adoption of a uniform system of weights and measures of capacity throughout British India was passed by the Governor General of India in Council in 1871. The Act orders: Art. 2.—'The primary standard of weight shall be called a *seer*, and shall be a weight of metal in the possession of the Government of India, equal, when weighed in a vacuum, to the weight known in France as the kilogramme, 2,205 lbs. avoirdupois'. Art. 3.—'The units of weights and measures of capacity shall be, for weights, the said *seer*; for measures of capacity, a measure containing one such *seer* of water at its maximum density, weighed in a vacuum.' 'Unless it be otherwise ordered, the sub-divisions of all weights and measures of capacity shall be expressed in decimal parts.' This Act, however, has never been brought into operation.

JAPAN.

The money, weights and measures in common use throughout Japan, and the British equivalents, are:—

The present monetary law came into force from October, 1897, by which gold standard was adopted. The unit of value is 0.75 grammes of pure gold, and is called the *yen*=24.044, which, however, is not coined. The pieces coined are as follows:—Gold coins ever, is not coined. The pieces coined are as follows:—Gold coins (20, 10, and 5 *sen* pieces), silver coins (50, 20, and 10 *sen* pieces), nickel coin (5 *sen* piece), and bronze coins (1 *sen* and 5 *rin* pieces). The *sen* is the hundredth part of a *yen*, and the *rin* is the tenth part of a *sen*. The gold coins are .900 fine, and the silver coins .800 fine. The gold coins formerly issued (20, 10, 5, 2, and 1 *yen* pieces) are used at double their face value. The One-*yen* silver coin formerly issued is withdrawn. The old silver 5-*sen* piece and copper 2, 1, ½ *sen* pieces, etc., are used as formerly.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The <i>Kin</i>	=160 <i>Momme</i> ... =1,323 lb. avoirdupois.
" <i>Kwan</i>	=1,000 " ... =8,267 "
" <i>Sen</i>	... =11,930 "
" <i>Shaku</i> (10 <i>Sin</i>)	... =6 <i>Shaku</i> ... =6,965 feet.
" <i>Ken</i>	=60 <i>Ken</i> ... =½ mile, 5,4229 chains.
" <i>Chō</i>	=36 <i>Chō</i> ... =2,44 miles.
" <i>Ri</i>	... =6,952 sq. miles.
" <i>Ri</i> , sq.	... =2.45 acres.
" <i>Chō</i> , land measure...	

The <i>Koku</i> , liquid	...	... = 39-7033 gallons.
" " dry	...	... = 4-9629 bushels.
" <i>To</i> , liquid	...	... = 3-9703 gallons.
" " dry	...	... = 1-9851 peck.

Besides, the system of weights and measures based on the metric system is acknowledged as legal in the following ratios:—

1 <i>Mètre</i> ...	= 3-3 <i>Stades</i> .
1 <i>Gram</i> ...	= 0-26667 <i>Momme</i> ($\frac{1}{2}$ <i>Momme</i>).

MAURITIUS.

The standard coin of Mauritius is the Indian rupee, with its sub-divisions. All accounts are kept in rupees. The metric system is in force.

NETHERLANDS (THE).

The money, weights and measures of the Netherlands and the British equivalents, are—

MONEY.

The standard coin is the 10-florin piece weighing 6-720 grammes, .900 fine, and thus containing 6-048 grammes of fine gold. The unit of the silver coinage is the *guilder* or *florin*, weighing 10 grammes, .945 fine, and containing 9-45 grammes of fine silver.

Gold is legal tender, and the silver coins issued before 1875.

The principal coins are—

The *guilder*, *guilder* or *florin*, of 100 cents. = 1*l.* 8*d.*, or 12*g.* = £1.

The *rijksdaaler* = 2*g.* guilders.

The Gold-piece of 10 guilders.

$\frac{1}{2}$ *guilder*, $\frac{1}{4}$ *guilder* (*Kraaije*), $\frac{1}{8}$ *guilder* *dubbeltje*.

Cent coins are: of nickel, 5 cents; of bronze, 1 cent, $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, and 2*g.* cents.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The metric system of weights and measures, and, with trifling changes, the metric denominations are adopted in the Netherlands.

NETHERLANDS, INDIA.

MONEY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The <i>Amsterdamsch Pond</i>	...	... = 1-09 lb. avoirdupois.
" <i>Piek</i>	...	... = 136 " "
" <i>Catty</i>	...	... = 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
" <i>Tjenghal</i>	...	... = 4 yards.

The only legal coins, as well as the weights and measures of Dutch-India are those of the Netherlands.

PERSIA.

MONEY.

The monetary unit is the *kran*, a silver coin, formerly weighing 28 *nakhods* (88 grains), then reduced to 26 *nakhods* (77 grains), now weighing only 24 *nakhods* (71 grains) or somewhat less. The reparation of pure silver was before the new coinage (commenced 1377) 92 to 95 per cent, it was then fixed at 90, but occasionally coins with only 89½ have been turned out from the mint. In 1874 a *kran* had the value of a franc, 25 being equal to 1*l.* The value of a *kran* is at present (January 1911) about 4*g.* 4*d.*, a 1*l.* bill on London being worth 55 *krans*.

The coins in circulation with their values calculated at exchange 1*l.* = 50 *krans* are:—

Copper:—	<i>Pal</i>	...	...	0-12 <i>d.</i>
	<i>Shahi</i> = 2 <i>Pal</i>	...	...	0-24 <i>d.</i>
	Two <i>Shahis</i> = 4 <i>Pal</i>	...	...	0-48 <i>d.</i>
	Four <i>Shahis</i> = 1 <i>Abdasi</i>	...	...	0-96 <i>d.</i>
Silver:—	Five <i>Shahis</i> = 10 <i>Pal</i> = $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>Kran</i>	...	...	1-90 <i>d.</i>
	Ten <i>Shahis</i> = $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>Kran</i>	...	...	2-40 <i>d.</i>
	One <i>Kran</i> = 20 <i>Shahis</i>	...	...	4-80 <i>d.</i>
	Two <i>Krans</i>	...	...	9-60 <i>d.</i>
	Five <i>Krans</i>	...	...	2 <i>l.</i> 0-00 <i>d.</i>

In consequence of an excess of coinage by a former mint master, the copper money greatly depreciated in value since 1896, and was circulating at less than its price of copper, *viz.*, 80 to 83 copper *shahis* (weighing about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.) to one silver *kran* (4*g.* 4*d.*). The Government then decided to introduce a nickel coinage instead; great quantities of five and ten centimes pieces, of same size and weight as those current in Belgium, and of the nominal value of $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1*l.* *krans* were coined at Brussels and put into circulation in the autumn of 1900, the copper coinage being withdrawn, and of these nickel pieces nearly five million *krans* face value are now (January 1911) in circulation.

Gold coins are:— $\frac{1}{2}$ *Toman*, $\frac{1}{4}$ *Toman*, $\frac{1}{8}$ *Toman*, 2, 5 and 10 *Tomans*; but they are not in circulation as current money, because of their ever varying value in *krans* (silver) and no coins of the higher values have been struck for some years. A *toman* in silver is the equivalent of 10 *krans* (now worth 3*l.* 4*d.*), but a gold *toman* has a value of 22 *krans* (7*l.* 4*d.*).

Accounts are reckoned in *dinars*, an imaginary coin the ten-thousandth part of a *toman* of ten *krans*. A *kran* therefore = 1,000 *dinars*; one *shahi* = 50 *dinars*.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The unit of weight is the *mishkal* (71 grains), sub-divided into 24 *nakhods* (2-96 grains) of 4 *gandum* (74 grain) each. Sixteen

miskals make a *dir*, and 5 *dir* make an *abdessi*, also called *seakkh* *kerindikh*. Most articles are bought and sold by a weight called *battann* or *man*. The *man* most frequently in use are—

<i>Man-i-Tabriz</i> = 1 <i>Abdessi</i> ...	= 640 <i>Miskals</i> ...	= 649 lbs.
<i>Man-i-Nak Abhassia</i> 9 <i>Abdessi</i> ...	= 720 " ...	= 710 "
<i>Man-i-Kolneh</i> (the old <i>man</i>) ...	= 1,000 " ...	= 1014 "
<i>Man-i-Shikh</i> = 2 <i>Tabriz Mans</i> ...	= 1,280 " ...	= 1298 "
<i>Man-i-Riz</i> = 4 " ...	= 2,560 " ...	= 2596 "
<i>Man-i-Bender Abhassia</i> ...	= 840 " ...	= 852 "
<i>Man-i-Hassani</i> = 16 <i>mans</i> of ...	= 720 " ...	= 11680 "
Corn, straw, coal, etc., are sold by <i>Kharair</i> ...	... = 100 <i>Tabriz Mans</i> = 649-142 "	

The unit of measure is the *zar* or *gez*; of this standard several are in use. The most common is the one of 40.95 inches; another, used in *Azerbaidjan*, equals 44.09 inches. A *farakh* theoretically = 6,000 *zar* of 40.95 inches = 3.87 miles. Some calculate the *farakh* at 6,000 *zar* of 44.09 inches = 4.17 miles.

The measure of surface is *jerib* = 1,000 to 1,066 square *zar* of 40.95 inches = 1,294 to 1,379 square yards.

RANGOON.

The measure of weight is the *ris* which equals 3.60 lb.* One-hundredth part of a *ris* is a *tial*.

The measure of capacity is the basket. This varies very much in different parts of the country, but in the Rangoon Municipal Bazaar the standard basket measure is enforced. Elsewhere a basket is an indefinite and fluctuating measure.

BURMESE MEASURES OF WEIGHT.

2 <i>Pai</i> ...	... = 1 <i>Moo</i> .
2 <i>Moo</i> ...	... = 1 <i>Mat</i> .
4 <i>Mats</i> ...	... = 1 <i>Tial</i> .
100 <i>Tials</i> ...	... = 1 <i>Viss</i> .
100 <i>Viss</i> ...	... = 3.60 lbs. from 1st April 1910.
	... = 3.65 lbs. up to 31st March 1910.

MEASURES OF CAPACITY.

1 <i>Lamwet</i> ...	... = 1 Gill.
9 <i>Lamwets</i> ...	... = 1 Pint.
9 <i>Lamays</i> ...	... = 1 Pint.
9 <i>Zalay</i> ...	... = 1 Quart.
9 <i>Eyes</i> ...	... = 1 Gallon.
9 <i>Zayoot</i> ...	... = 1 Peck.
9 <i>Seit</i> ...	... = 1 Bushel.
9 <i>Hkwai</i> ...	... = 1 Bushel.

* 3.65 lbs. up to 31st March 1910, and 1st April 1910, 3.60.

SIAM.

The unit of the monetary system is the silver *tical* weighing 15 grams 900 fine. Its value (formerly varying with the price of silver) was, by the Gold Standard Act of 1908, been fixed at 1*z*. 6*d*. or 13 *tials* = 2*l*. the gold value of the *tial* being equal to that of 55.8 centigrams of pure gold. There will be a 10 *tial* gold piece or *Dos* weighing 6.2 grams 900 fine and thus containing 5.58 grams of pure gold. In addition to the *tial*, the following coins are now actually in use:—the *Salung* = 1/2 *tial*; the 10 *Salung* pieces = 1/10 of a *tial*; the 5 = *Salung* piece = 1/20 of a *tial*; and the 10 = *Salung* = 1/10 of a *tial*. The *salung* is of silver 800 fine. The 10 = *salung* and 5 = *salung* pieces are of nickel, whilst the *Salung* is of bronze.

MEASURES OF WEIGHT.

1 <i>Tical</i> ...	= 15 grams or approximately .53 oz.
4 <i>Tials</i> ...	= 1 <i>Tamlung</i> (60 grams or 2 1/2 oz.)
20 <i>Tamlungs</i> ...	= 1 <i>Chang</i> (12 kilograms or 2 lbs. 10 3/4 oz.)
50 <i>Chang</i> ...	= 1 <i>Hap</i> (60 kilograms or slightly over 132 1/2 lbs.)

MEASURES OF LENGTH.

1 <i>Niu</i> ...	= .83 inches.
12 <i>Niu</i> ...	= 1 <i>Keup</i> (10 inches).
2 <i>Keup</i> ...	= 1 <i>Sek</i> (20 inches).
4 <i>Sek</i> ...	= 1 <i>Wa</i> (80 inches).
20 <i>Wa</i> ...	= 1 <i>Sen</i> (133 feet).
400 <i>Sen</i> ...	= 1 <i>Yot</i> (10 miles, roughly).

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MONEY WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The dollar, value 2*s*. 4*d*. is the standard coin of the Colony, and with the half-dollar and the British sovereign is legal tender for the payment of any amount. Subsidiary silver coins are 20, 10 and 5 cent pieces, copper coins are cents, half-cents, and quarter cents. On December 31st, 1909, Government currency notes to the value of £3,485,825-11-8 (\$29,878,505) were in circulation in the Colony and Federated Malay States.

The measure of length in use in the Settlements is the English yard, with its divisions and multiples, and land is measured by the English acre. The native terms are, however, still in use. Commercial weights are—

1 <i>Kati</i> ...	= 16 <i>Tahil</i> = 1 1/2 lb. avoirdupois.
1 <i>Picul</i> ...	= 100 <i>Kati</i> = 133 1/2 "
1 <i>Kayan</i> ...	= 40 <i>Picul</i> = 5,333 1/2 "

The Kati of 13 lbs. is known as the Chinese Kati. Another weight known as the Malay Kati, and still in partial use in Penang, is equal to the weight of 24 Spanish dollars, or 9984 grains. This gives 142.628 lbs. as the weight of the picul, and 5,705.343 lbs. as the weight of the koyan. The measures of capacity throughout the Colony are the gantang or gallon, and chupak or quart.

