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SETT'S GUIDE TO COMMERCIAL PLACES

Containing full Commercial informations of principal markets
of Bengal, Behar, Orissa, North West (Frontier)
and Central Provinces of India.

PART I.

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BY

SANTOSH NATH SETT,

Author of the "Trader's Friend," "Secret of Trade,"
and "Book-Keeping in Bengalee."

CHANDERNAGORE-HOOGLHY.

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DEDICATION.

This book is humbly dedicated to my dear countrymen, those engaged in commerce and trade and the lay public as well with the earnest hope that it will help the initiated and the uninitiated alike in the almost forgotten path of earning a decent livelihood, enriching themselves and adding to their country's wealth and prosperity, which is *the gift of a Free Nation*.

SONTOSH.



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FOREWARD.



country's wealth is gauged by the volume of its trade and commerce. Poor India, once famous for her foreign trade is slowly but surely regaining her former importance. It is a hopeful augury of the time that India has of late determined to look to trade for the amelioration of her condition. Many of our countrymen are now engaged in trade. For their guidance I compiled a hand-book in Bengalee, entitled the "Mokamer-Banjha Tattwa. This book was highly appreciated by my countrymen and I was asked by some of my friends and others in the line to publish an English Edition of the same.

I have tried to describe in this book in plain and lucid language all that a tradesman is required to know and have laid down in a systematic form my personal experience and all the informations I gathered in the course of my travels through the different parts of India, in connection with my business, extending over a period of 20 years, I shall consider myself amply rewarded if my fellow-brethren of the country derive any benefit from the perusal of this book.

I take this opportunity to thank my friend, Babu Hari Das Dutta, Proprietor, Lila Printing and Binding Works of 14, Madan Baral Lane, Bowbazar, Calcutta, for the invaluable help he rendered me in going through and revising the manuscript and correcting the proofs. Also Babu Profulla Kumar Soor (Panch Babu), Proprietor of Messrs. Chunder



Mohan Soor & Co., the well-known Paper Merchants of Radhabazar, very kindly lent his helping hand in supplying me with the requisite quantity of printing papers on credit and at a moderate rate. It would have been very difficult for me to bring out this book in these days of high prices and paper scarcity without the valued help of Profulla Babu. May he live long and prosper.

Any suggestion for improvement and correction of mistakes that may have inadvertently crept in this edition will be thankfully received and utilized at the time of the next edition of the book.

CHANDERNAGORE, }

Dist. HOOGHLY. }

1st July 1921. }

Santosh Nath Sett.



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SETT'S GUIDE

TO

COMMERCIAL PLACES IN INDIA.

HOWRAH—The description in detail of the trade and commerce of the city of Calcutta will require the publication of a separate book and is beyond the scope of this Guide.

Howrah
(District Howrah) Much information may be had on the subject in the Calcutta Directory published by Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co. I shall try hereafter, if I can, to gather some additional information, as it is useless to narrate again what is already existing.

Only such information as will really be useful to the merchants and tradesmen in Howrah will be described here. It is against my principles to write voluminous books by narrating useless details and thereby spoil the gravity of the publication. The readers will come to know many new things if they will patiently wait.

There is a spot fixed by the Railway Company, within the spacious compound of the Howrah Railway Station, where marketing goes on. It lies in front of the Goods Sheds Nos. 1 & 2 and on the road-side. From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. the Bengali, Marwari and upcountry merchants and commission agents from Calcutta come in daily here for carrying on mercantile transactions on various goods consigned to them by rail. Here business is conducted mainly through the agency of brokers. Price is settled on seeing the samples and bags of the goods to be sold.

The purchasers are allowed to weigh the whole quantity of goods, should they so desire, or fix the price by weighing only four or five bags and looking at the *challans*. Others contract their purchases by looking at the receipts or forward



sale and voucher for the goods consigned to the station. Some other goods such as mustard-seeds, wheat, linseed, gram, peas, castor-seeds, poppy-seeds &c., which are transported to Howrah by rail are sold at the spot. The owners of oil-mills of Calcutta purchase mustard-seeds at this hat. The retail dealers of Calcutta and its suburbs purchase their merchandise at this place. Goods can be purchased here at a comparatively lower price than in Calcutta the difference being one half, one, and two annas per maund and they can be transported conveniently by rail or boats to different parts of the market. For these reasons the retail dealers obtain their goods here at a comparatively cheaper rate. All goods except rice and paddy are consigned to the Howrah railway station. Rice and paddy are carried direct to *Ramkrishnapore* through a railway siding and marketed at *Chāra-hat* in that place. Particulars of Ramkrishnapore have been separately given.

For the convenience of the merchants and traders the railway company have permitted them to weigh the goods within the goods-sheds and have given special rates for demurrage charges. The commission-agents try to dispose of the goods as soon as they reach Howrah. If they are unable to do so, they keep the goods on the spot, on payment of demurrage charges and sell them afterwards because demurrage on goods in wagons is charged at a higher rate.

There is a mart—the Howrah-Hat—on the west of the Howrah Railway Station. The way leading to the Hat passes through the railway overbridge. This is the most famous centre of trade in the district. The transaction is carried on in full swing between 6 a. m. to 8 a. m. on every Tuesday. Here cloths and ready made coats are imported in abundance. Various sorts of cheap, fancy-bordered country cloths manufactured in hand-looms are brought here for sale from different parts of the Howrah and Hughli districts. These cloths are locally known as "*Heto-deshi*" cloths



Various kinds of ready-made shirts, coats, chemises, children's frocks &c. are sold here. The majority of goods are sold to whole-sale merchants. Retail transactions are carried on to a very limited extent. The cloth merchants and dealers of Calcutta and suburbs make their purchases on Hat-days. The business is carried on in ready money and not on credit system. There is a Hat of similar nature at Chetla near Kalighat. Persons desirous of carrying on business on these marts should come and enquire locally.

Business of *molasses* is carried on here to a great extent. The molasses is imported from Java, Sumatra and other foreign countries and is used for tobacco. There are two kinds of *molasses*—the *Mat* or liquid and solid brought in baskets. The latter is melted on iron pans, canistered and exported to various parts of Bengal and the up-country. The Nakhodas and the Bombaywallas carry on this business.

THE RAMKRISHNAPUR Hát locally known as

Ramkrishnapur. *Chora Hat* is about half a mile distant from the Howrah Railway Station. The current weight is 80 totals a seer.

(District Howrah) Various sorts of merchandise, specially rice and paddy are consigned here in great quantities by goods-train for sale. The chief reason for import of goods at this Hát is that it stands on the right bank of the river Hugli and is connected with the main railway lines by a siding called the Ramkrishnapur siding and goods can be exported at a cheap rate from this market to different parts of the country by rail, steamers, cargo boats and country boats. Another reason for influx of goods at this market is that concession of a specially reduced rate is allowed by the Railway Co., full wagon railed in large quantities from the big centres of trade, the merchants getting their goods in a short time at a comparatively cheaper rate.



We have come to know while carrying on business at this mart that, rice in great quantities is consigned to this Hát daily from the chief centres of rice markets of the north, south, east and west Bengal. Besides rice *robi* crops i.e., grains, kalai, peas, barley, mustard-seed, *janera*, pulses, *masur*, *khesari*, *rahar*, wheat &c. are imported here though to a less extent. Ground-nuts, myrabolams, *khari*—salt (the salt used for manuring fields), and beam seeds which are mixed with *atta* are also brought here in enormous quantities.

Before the war when transport by Rail and Steamer was regular and convenient, thousands of bags of rice and other articles, used to be imported here, but now there is no regularity in export and import business, as the matter has been delegated to the management of Food-controller. Goods are imported and exported as permitted by the controller, so that, the business does not depend upon the free will of the merchants ; but on the sanction of the Controller. Under the circumstances there cannot be any regularity of or even there might be no mercantile transactions of the wholesale dealers for a fire days. The retail dealers however carry on their business daily. They sell one or two cart-loads of goods (1 cart-load-16 mds.) to each purchaser to the extent of 16 or 20 thousands mds. This shows the community of business at this place. It is not an exaggeration to say, that there is no other rice mart in Bengal like this. Here sale and purchase are conducted through the agency of brokers.

I shall now describe the methods of mercantile transactions conducted at this market. One willing to do business at this mart should be fully acquainted with the state of the market beforehand, otherwise one may be cheated at every step. There are three ways of marketing at this Hat. First—*pucca* bags ; secondly—Chalan price, and thirdly—Bill account.



Pucca bags are not sold without the help of brokers who make a contract for sale with the commission agents by showing them the samples of goods brought in by merchants. For this, the brokers gets a commission of one pice per maund from the dealers. I shall now describe what "*dhalta*" (excess weight) means. Generally marketing goes on after deducting excess weight of *one seer* per bag from the month of Baisak to the month of Aswin and *two seers* per bag from the month of Kartic to the month of Chaitra for every hundred bags. No excess weight is allowed to retail dealers who purchase only one or two cart-loads of goods. Some old retail shop-keeper purchasers, however, get excess weight on 20 or 30 bags from some commission agents—this is due to friendship and not according to the established regulations of the market. This system of marketing is called *pucca-bosta*.

The sale of one or two cart-loads of bags weighing two maunds each to retail shop-keepers is known as *Bili* or distribution sale. Marketing of *rarhi* and *kajla* rice is conducted among commission agents on the above noted *pucca bosta* system. Rebatement is allowed on *pucca bosta* system if *deshi* rice is piled and weighed one or two hundred bags at a time ; otherwise business is conducted at the rate written on challans. Business is carried on among commission agents at challan rate on boats loaded with *deshi* rice or *cholara* or other mill-husked *deshi* rice. Half a seer extra on weight and half a seer excess on each bag are deducted and half an anna is deducted on the price settled. This is called *challan* price.

The purchaser have to pay for weighing, sewing and exporting in *pucca bosta* system. In Ghat challan rates, the purchasers, that is the commission agents who purchase goods, have to pay nothing on these accounts. The charge for *mal bili* (distribution of goods) is 3 pice per bag, out of which one pice is actually paid by commission agents for loading carts and the balance 2 pice is shown under the account of



Interest. If the purchaser does not pay up money within 8 days, he has then to pay at the rate of 3 pice, otherwise he gets a rebatement charge of 4 annas per cart, at the rate of 2 pice—this is called *meti*.

Roughly speaking marketing goes on here under three rules. For further particulars on the subject, the following commission agents may be written to :—

Annada Prosad Dutta, Upendra Nath Dutta, Broja Nath Khan (deceased), Preo Nath Khan ;— they do not import much *rari* or *kajla* rice but to a certain extent, Their goods are chiefly carried by country boats.

Gocul Das Honsaraj, Chandan Mal Abboy Meal, Sital Prosad Kharag Prosad,—import only *rari* and *kajla* rice.

It will be convenient for dealers to stock their goods under those commission agents, who carry on business on similar goods.

SERAMPUR—12 miles off from the Howrah Railway

Station (E. I. R.) and is situated on the

right bank of the river Hughli. The bazar

Serampur.
(District Hughli.)

weight current is 80 tolas per seer. The

chief and prosperous trade of this locality

is the business on betel-leaves. Begampur, a village in the

neighbourhood, is noted for the production of this shrub.

Persons desirous of carrying on business on betel-leaves

should come over and make a local enquiry here for further

particulars of the concern. The leaves are railed to different

parts of the country and brought by country boats to

Calcutta.

Dhuties, *Saries* and other cotton fabrics are manufactured in the "Banga-Luxmi Cotton Mills," a factory established exclusively of indigenous capital. There is another Mill—the "Kalyan Cotton Mills" in this place where also fine clothes are manufactured.



SHEORAFULI—14 miles distant from the Howrah railway station (E. I. R.) and 2 miles (District Hughli.) north of the Serampur railway station.

The Seoraphuli Hat is adjacent to the railway station and is in a very flourishing state. It is held twice a week viz., on Saturday and Tuesday. It is a great mart on the main line of the E. I. R. between the Howrah and Burdwan stations. Here the bazar weights are of two kinds, viz. 80 and 80 $\frac{5}{8}$ tolas to a seer.

The articles of trade are :—vegetables, jute, *shon* or hemp, potatoes, onion, castor-cake, paddy, rice, *gur* and molasses &c. Considerable quantities of goods are brought in by rail for sale, from distant places such as Tarkeswar, Burdwan &c.

Among the fruits plantain, of various kinds is marketed in considerable quantity and exported to different parts of the country. Not only Bengal, but the Provinces of Behar and Orissa, United Provinces, and the Punjab get their supply of plaintain from this Hat. On the alluvial chars in the vicinity of Balagarh, 14 miles from Sheoraphuli vegetables are largely grown and brought to the Sheoraphuli-hat for sale. Ropes made of jute and hemp are manufactured at Baidyabati and brought for sale in this Hat. All the traders and merchants of the mill-bazars from Bhatpara to Barrackpur on the other side of the river indent their commodities from this Hat.

Jute transaction goes on here considerably. Jute is brought from localities intermediate between Tarkeswar and Burdwan. The jute collected here is known as 'Deswal' (native) and is chiefly supplied to the adjoining mills. The jute concern may thrive well here.

Potatoes and onions are abundantly imported here. Potatoes on their earliest season are brought from Bihar, Patna, Bhagalpur, Monghyr, Colgong, and Sultanganj in the Bihar and Orissa Provinces. They are afterwards superseded by local production which mainly comes from Memari,



Pandua, Magra, Hugli, Tarkeswar, Haripal, Singur and Baidyabati. Calcutta chiefly gets her supply from this Hat. When the local supply ceases in June and July, potatoes are imported from Darjeeling, Siliguri, Ghoom on the D. H. Ry. and Jaunpur, Ambala, Kalka and Nainital. At the end of the rainy season, potato seeds are imported to this Hat in plenty. Cultivators from Hugli and parts of Howrah buy them from this Hat. The seeds chiefly come from Patna, Behar, Darjeeling and Ghoom. Onions, too, being imported from potato supplying centres on their first appearance, have a large sale here.

Castor-cakes are sold to a considerable quantity to the cultivators for producing potatoes. Merchants would do well to purchase the cakes in June and July, when the price is low and sell them in August and September when the price is high.

Goods are carried by rail, boats and steamers.

Merchants and Commission Agents.—Messrs. Nafar Chandra Ghose, Annada Addy, Joggeswar Ghose, Adhar Purkaiti and others.

TARAKESWAR—18 miles from the Howrah Ry. station. Weight is 80 totals per seer, (District Hughli.) also 82½ totals per seer.

The chief productions are Jagree, rice, paddy, potatoes, jute etc. Considerable quantities of mustard-cake, castor-cake, mustard oil, salt and kerosine oil are sold here. Some of the articles cited above are brought here from Calcutta and up-country. Rice and paddy are the chief articles of trade. Goods are despatched by rail.

Merchants and Commission Agents:—Messrs. Beharilal Dey, Sashi Bhusan Pal.

BHADRESWAR—18 miles from the Howrah Railway Station. The mart is on the right bank (District Hughli.) of the river Hughli and about 2 miles off from the railway station. The weight is 82½ tolas per seer.



Rice, grains and seeds that is gram, masur, rahar, kalai, oats, mustard oil, *atta*, flour, sugar, kerosine oil, jaggree and oil cakes are imported here in abundance from distant and well-known commercial places of India. The sale of rice both *balam* and *deski* is enormous.

Quarter of a century ago the trade here was brisk. Large cargo boats used to lie at anchor below the bazar on the river, but the business has diminished to a certain extent since then. Many big merchants have closed their business. Goods are transported by boats and rail.

Commission Agents :—Messrs. Benode Behari Nandi, (Tobacco and Jute dealer), Brojo Nath Kundu (General Merchants), Behari Lal Neogi, and Jagannath Dey,

CHANDERNAGAR—21 miles from the Howrah Railway Station. The market, locally known as the Lakshmiganj, stands on the right bank of the river Hugli and is about 1½ miles from the railway station. The weight is 82½ tolas a seer.

The chief articles of trade are rice, paddy, potato, molasses, jute and onions. Cotton cloths are manufactured locally on hand looms in considerable quantities which, for nicety and durability, are much appreciated and generally known as Farasdanga *dhuties* and *saries*. Business on these cloths are carried on by various merchants of the neighbouring places. Once the business prospered well but it has now dwindled owing to the introduction of foreign goods of comparatively much low price. Thursday is the hat-day of this market.

It is a noted place for the manufacture of unpolished wooden chairs exported to Calcutta daily by passenger and goods train. The principal dealers are :—Hari Podo Seal, Moti Lal Dass, Jotindra Nath Dass, and Rockhit, Dey, Ghose & Co.



Business on plantains and cocoanuts goes on extensively here.

Commission Agents and Merchants :—Messrs. Jitendra Nath Kundu, Tarini Charan De, Haran Chandra Ghose, Sidheswar Neogi and others.

MALLICK KASEM'S HAT—Chinsurah Railway station is 22 miles from Howrah. The hat is 2 miles from the station and 1 mile from the river. The weight is $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas a seer.

Mallick Kasem's Hat.
(District Hughli.)

Jute, paddy, rice, potato, *kachu*, onions, jaggree, pulses and oil-cakes are the chief articles of trade. The hat takes place on every Monday and Thursday of the week. Formerly, vegetables had a cheap sale here, but now it is next to Sheoraphuli in importance. Goods are carried by boats and rail.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Messrs. Ekkari Ghosh, Haran Chandra Ghosh.

MAGRA—29 miles distant from the Howrah Railway Station. The *Magra Ganj* is a great mart which is connected with the river Hughli by a navigable channel known as Magra Khal. The standard weight is 82 tolas a seer.

Magra.
(District Hughli.)

Rice, paddy, potato, oil-cakes, jute, *kalai* &c., are stocked here in abundance—the first two being the chief articles of trade in the mart. Rice and paddy are brought in by bullock carts from the surrounding parts of the locality and transported by rail or boats to Calcutta, Ramkrishnapur and Chetla. There are four rice-mills in the mart.

The business on castor-cakes is a profitable one. Cakes stocked in *Ashar* and sold in *Bhadra* will yield a good profit to the merchants. Potatoes in large quantities are exported to Calcutta. Business in this mart is likely to prove profitable.



Large quantities of Magra Sand dug out from the bed of the old Saraswati river and other parts of the locality are exported to Calcutta and elsewhere for building purposes from Magra. This is also a lucrative business.

Merchants and Commission Agents—Messrs. Beharilal Das, Janaki Nath Ghosh, Sreeman Hazra, Hari Charan Nandi.

BURDWAN—69 miles distant from the Howrah Railway Station. The town which is the

Burdwan. head-quarters of the district is two miles (District Burdwan.) off from the railway station. Various sorts of articles are marketed in Burdwan.

There are three sorts of weights current at this place, *viz*—60, 80 and 82 tolas a seer.

Rice, paddy, *kalai*, molasses, tobacco and grains seeds are marketed here in sufficient quantities. There are other markets in this locality in which trade on rice and paddy is carried on extensively *viz*. Bajey-Pratappur (near the Railway station, Nutunganj, Borehat, Alamganj and Sadarghat. Great qualities of rice and paddy are imported from Burdwan to Eastern Bengal, Howrah, Baliaghatta and other places. The common varieties of rice largely used are Dudkalma, Jotakalma, Garapallah and other coarse kinds of rice. Rice of better qualities is also stocked here *viz*., Ramshali, Dudhenona, Parmannasali, Banktuli and Badsha-bhog. There are two oil and six rice mills in the town. Grains and seeds *i.e.* gram, wheat, mustard seed, dal, masur, (lentil), khesaree, peas, jaggree, molasses, sugar, poppy-seed, chillies, ghi, oil, spices of all descriptions, oats, *kalai*, moog, potatoes, onions, garlic, tobacco, hemp, timber, cotton and all food grains are imported from U. P. to this place for sale by Bengali, Marwari, Hindustani and Nacoda merchants. Most of these merchants sell their goods through *Aratdars* and they keep their sircars in the Aratdar's Agency throughout the year. To write in detail the full



description of this place will make a voluminous book which is beyond the scope of this handbook.

Paddy and rice are the chief articles of business of this well known town. Most of the merchants of the Calcutta side *i.e.* Chandernagore, Chinsurah, Hooghly, Bhadreswar, Sheoraphuli, Bally, and the principal stations from Bhatpara to Sodepur (E. B. Ry.) purchase rice here all along the year. Many kinds of rice are produced here, for particulars of which, please read my "Historic Commercial Production of India." Also enquire of the following dealers.

Commission Agents (Aratdars).

Rice and Paddy merchants :—Sarat Chander Paul, Hari Pado Dey of Borehat, Post Nutanganj—Burdwan ; Kartic Chander Sinha of Alamgang—Post Nutanganj ; Basanta Lall Kundu, Bakkeswar Ta, Samir Munsî, Sheik Yakub Munsî of Sadarghat—Post Nutanganj ; Bholanath Banerjee, Ram Charan Mondal, Kartic Chandra Singha, Durga Dass Nundy of Bajey-Pratabpur—Burdwan (R. S.)

Grains, Seeds and General Merchants :—Raj Kristo Dutt, Bonowari Lall Panja, Bakshiram Marwari, Beni Vakati, Haridas Paul.

BONPAS—8½ miles from the Howrah Railway station (District Burdwan) and the first station on the loopline after Khana-junction. The standard weights are 60 and 80 tolas a seer. The village Bonpas is 3 miles off from the railway station. Gold, silver, and Guilt ornaments are made here, also plates, dishes and other utensils of brass and gun-metal. Spades, scythes, bill-hooks, knives, betelnut-cutters, ploughshares, axes and other iron instruments are manufactured and transported to other parts of the country. Many skilled workmen reside here.

*Merchants and Commission Agents :—*Netaidas (business of Chemically Guilt Ornaments) ; Beni Das (Gold and Silver



smith), Gaur Sundar Roy, Gorachand Roy, Rohini Roy, and Kali Chakravurty (dealers in Brass and bell-metal utensils.)

SONAMUKHI—The Panagar Railway station is 9 miles from the Howrah railway station. (District Bankura) Sonamukhi is 10 miles distant from the Panagar station and is on the other side of the Damodar, river. Silk cloths such as *tasar*, *matka*, *chadar* are manufactured here and exported to different parts of the country. Besides these lac, rice, barley and silk-works are stored here in abundance. Bazar weights are 60 and 80 tolas a seer.

Merchants and Commission Agents—Prabhakar Kundu, Abhoy Kumar Sen, Beni Chandra and Sita Nath Daw.

RANIGANJ—120 miles from the Howrah railway station. The market is close to the station. The current weight is 80 tolas a seer. (District Burdwan) Raniganj is a principal site of trade from which the districts of Burdwan, Bankura and Manbhum get their supplies. People come here from different parts of the country for marketing. The chief local productions are rice, paddy and coal, which are purchased here and exported to various places. Innumerable varieties of provisions and goods are imported here from the chief commercial places of India by the Marwari and Hindusthani merchants. The number of Bengali merchants is limited. There are pottery-works of Messrs. Burn & Co., both at Raniganj and Durgapur where tiles, bricks, by rail jugs, pots and various sorts of moulds and household utensils pipes, jars, are manufactured on a large scale and despatched to different parts of the province. Raniganj is also famous for brass and bell-metal works. In these factories plates, glasses, dishes, cups, lotas &c., are manufactured.

There are three oil mills here all belonging to the Marwari merchants. In spite of this, mustard oil and oil cakes are imported from Calcutta. Here is a paper mill named



"Bengal Paper Mills" under the supervision of Messrs. Balmer Lawrie & Co. of Calcutta. Various sorts of papers are manufactured in this mill and despatched to different places of India. Apart from this, there is a factory in the village of Bansa, a short distance off from the Raniganj railway station where the Bengal Dyers and Skinners & Co., manufacture a tanning extract from myrobolams, which is exported to Scotland in Europe. Raniganj has the first class coal field in the district. There are several coal mines adjacent to the place and coal is abundantly despatched daily via Raniganj to various places of India. The principal coal mines of Bengal Coal Co., Ltd., and Raniganj Coal Co. are situated here.

For further information enquire of the following Merchants :—and Commission Agents (Aratdars) :—

SAGAR MULL MARWARI, DURGA PROSAD MARWARI.

Bell-Metal :—Akkori Nundy, Dhankristo Sett.

MADHUPUR—Is 188 miles from Howrah station.

(Dict. Santhal Parganas. The market is close to the railway station—the hat is held twice in the week.

The weight is 80 siccas. Here rice, paddy, arahar, myrobolams, mahua flowers and seeds, timber, and cattle (goats and fowls) plentifully come on Mondays and Fridays, when Hats are held. Besides these, food grains and raw materials, tamarind, mustard seed, *anantamool*. (Hemedesmy) are gathered. It is a health resort. Mahua flower and seeds and myrobolams are largely purchased and stocked by the local merchants to a great extent. All these goods are despatched to Howrah and flowers are sold to distilleries. Most of the dealers are Marwaries ; a few are Deswals and Bengalees. Babu Satya Prassana Dey is a big Contractor and Zaminder. Any information required will be gladly supplied. Enquire of the following traders and Commission Agents (Aratdars) :—



Ramjas Marwari, and Dwarka Dass Panna Lall.

DEOGHAR—205 miles distant from Howrah. Passen-

(*Santhal Parganas*) gers are transhipped to the Deoghar line from the Baidynath Junction. Weight—80

tolas. Rahar, molasses, mahua flower and its seeds, ghee, til, myrobolams, rice, paddy, kurathi, jonera, barbatty, linseed, mustard seeds, castor seed and jute are brought here for sale. *Rahar* of big size known as *maghi* rahar are brought here in sufficient quantities from Pous. There are shellac factories at Nanihat in the vicinity of Deoghur whence large quantities of lac are transported to Calcutta. There is also a hat at Sarath where *chirrah* is brought in abundance for sale. This is also a good place for trade. Many pilgrims resort here to the temple of Baidyanath. Many Bengalis also come here for a change.

Merchant and Commission Agents :—Dukhi Saha, Ramdhoni Saha, Surajmal Marwari, Manji Saha, Panchkari Saha.

SIMULTOLA—217 miles distant from Howrah. There

(*Dist. Monghyr*) are markets at Telwa in the vicinity of Simultola. Weight—84 tolas=1 seer.

Mohua, its seeds and oil, jonera, rahar, castor seed, linseed, mustard, rice, paddy, myrobolams, timber, molasses &c. are brought in here.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Sanjogi Saha, Mohadeb Sitaram.

GIRIDIH—206 miles distant from the Howrah Rail-

(*Dist. Hazaribagh*) way station. Change at Madhupur for the Giridih station. The bazar is close to the station. Weight—80 tolas a seer. Rice, paddy, mahua,

its seeds, oil, jonera, myrobolam, gur, and mustard seeds are the chief productions of this locality. Giridih is an important centre of trade. There are no Bengali merchants, but the rich Marwaris are the chief traders of this market.



Commission Agents :—Ganesh Dass Gobordhan Dass,
Hajarimal Ram Chunder.

PACHAMBA bazar is 3 miles distant from Giridih. Yellow mustard seeds, myrobolams, poppy-seeds and good molasses (*gur*) are available here. Fifteen to fifteen half seers of oil are extracted from the mustard seeds of this locality. *Gur* is also of fine colour and is exported to various parts of the country. There are many collieries in Giridi from which good coals are obtained.

Commission Agents :—Sonai Ram Ramdhan, Nanda L. Ramdin Ram.

JHA-JHA—228 miles off from the Howrah railway station. The bazar is close to the station. (Dist. Monghyr.) Current weight is 84 tolas a seer. Jute, sone or hemp, *jonera*, *mohua*, its seeds and oil, castor oil, mustard seeds, *gur*, *ghee*, linseed &c. are imported here. Many merchants come here from Bengal for purchasing *gur* which is of a very good quality. *Gur* is not actually brought to the market for sale, but it can be purchased from the *dehats* i.e., surrounding villages with the help of brokers. The weight prevailing in the *dehat* or villages is *kanchi* i.e. 60 tolas a seer. Fuel, jungle wood and charcoal can be had here.

Commission Agents :—Ramjosh Roy Tularam, Mangniram, Nibaran Chander Roy.

JAMOOEE—224 miles distant from the Howrah railway station, and 4 miles off from the (District Monghyr) station. Two streams which flow duly on during the rainy season have to be crossed on the way. The current weight here is 84 tolas a seer. *Mahuz*, its seed and oil, *gur*, *ghee*, linseed, and *shal*-leaves are imported here. Many Bengali merchants come here from Lower Bengal to purchase *gur* which is of good quality. It is not procurable at the market but can be had in the adjoining villages with the help of brokers. The weight in villages is *kanchi* i.e. 60 tolas a seer.

Commission Agents :—Ghasiram Jagannath, Harkishen Vakati, Vadu Sha Shamlal.



LUCKEESERAI.—262 Miles off from the Howrah railway station. The bazar is close by. (District Monghyr). Weight 84 tolas. Here is a mustard oil mill. It has become a great centre of trade. Grains, seeds, and *telan* goods (oil seeds) are imported here in abundance. *jaggree*, *ghee*, sugar, *dal* (pulses), oil-cakes, onions, garlic, potatoes, tobaccos, chillies &c., are marketted here. The rich Marwari merchants have good many *golas*. The market is prospering day by day, as there is no good Bazar in the vicinity.

Commission Agents :—Kaniram Deokaram Ram, Damu Ram Babu Ram, Sita Ram Shibsankar Ram and others.

BARHIYA.—271 Miles distant from the Howrah railway station. The bazar is close to (District Monghyr). the railway station. Standard weight is 84 tolas a seer. Grams of big size of Mokameh Tal, peas, *masuri* (Lentil), *khesari* and other grains and seeds are imported here. Goods are much mixed with particles of earth. They are purchased in the neighbouring villages, consequently it takes time to carry them to proper destination. Much inconvenience and trouble are felt in rainy season for *kancha* roads and the cost of carriage is rather expensive.

Commission Agents :—Naupchand Mugniram, Tansukroy Kanailal, Mohanlal Hardeo Das.

MOKAMEH.—282 Miles distant from the Howrah railway station. The bazar is one mile (District Patna.) off from the station and close to the river Ganges. Current weight is 84 tolas a seer. Big sized grains and seeds are imported here. Such things are produced nowhere else, but they are mixed with particles of earth. Grams and other seeds and grains, chillies, oil-cakes, pulses, potatoes, onions, garlic, tobacco, &c. are brought here in abundance. The market is chiefly famous for big-sized.



gram masuri, khesari, peas, and chillies. The goods are transported by boats, steamers and rail.

Commission Agents :—Bhagwandas Jowlaprasad, Noupchand Magniram, Sadaram Sagarmal.

BARH.—299 Miles distant from the Howrah railway station. The market is two miles off from the station. The current weight is 84 tolas a seer. As the market stands on the river Ganges it is very convenient to transport goods. All sorts of grains and seeds as well as tobacco, potatoes, onions, garlic, chillies good *bansmati* sun-dried rice, oil-cakes (*ghani*) &c. are imported here in large quantities. Tobacco and chillies are brought here in abundance from the Darbhanga district. Many big merchants of Eastern Bengal come here to purchase chillies only.

Commission Agents :—Sitaram Lachman Das (tobacco), Kaluram Marwari, Haranarayanram Gourilal, Mewalal Kaliprosad, Babuchand Luchminarayan, Harokchand Newdar, Anantlal Madholal, Khetrilal Bansilal.

PATNA.—332 Miles distant from the Howrah railway station, and close to the river Ganges. District). The weights here are 75, 80 and 82 tolas a seer. All sorts of goods are imported to and exported from this place. As a great centre of trade Patna stands next to Calcutta. All goods are available here in large quantities. There are many mills and factories in Patna. Grains and seeds, potatoes, onions, cabbages, cauliflowers, spices and other vegetables, *Khari* salt, oil-cakes, tobaccoes &c. are brought here in great quantities. Merchants willing to carry on business should personally come here and be thoroughly acquainted with the place, otherwise they will not understand the ways of the market. The Railway Co. have granted special rates on various goods of this station. Goods in sufficient quantities are carried to and from this place by



boats and steamers. There are many commission agents for various sorts of goods at Patna. Goods of many rich English merchants are marketted here. The Bengal Bank has a branch office here. It is beyond the scope of this book to give a full description of Patna.

Commission Agents :—Sashi Bhusan Ghose, Kalidas Sinha, Batakrishna and Kamalakanta Saha, Ramniranjan Badridas, Ramchandra Ramnarayan, Mongal Chand Shevchand.

DINAPUR.—344 Miles distant from Howrah railway station and the bazar is close to the station. The river Ganges is 4 miles from Bazar. The standard weight is 80 tolas a seer. The chief products are :—Gram, masur, wheat, linseed, castor seed, oats, barley, chillies, chaki-gur, khari masurdal, potatoes, cabbages, mangoes, butter, hides &c. Of these Dinapur butter, potatoes and khari-masurdal, are famous.

The potato business may go on well here. From the month of *Sravan* potatoes for sowing begin to be imported which again are exported to Burdwan, Bolpur, Gushkara, Memari, Pandua, Magra, Chinsurah, Sheoraphuli, Tarakeswar and Calcutta in the Bengal Presidency. Then from the middle of the month of *Aswin* new potatoes and cauliflowers begin to be exported and the business lasts up to the month of *Magh*. Not only are these things sent to the places noted above, but they are also exported to Dacca, Narayanganj, Chandpur, Comilla, Hagiganj, Noakhali, Bogra, Pabna &c., in Eastern Bengal. The merchants of Eastern Bengal depute their men for this purpose. There is another class of petty dealers of vegetables who come here and export potatoes and cauliflowers annually. Every year fresh batches of these dealers come here and generally suffer loss in their transactions, because business on perishable articles is as profitable as it is liable to loss. If these goods are not stolen and do not rot on



the way, the business is profitable, otherwise it may bring on dead loss to the dealers. It is better to purchase potatoes and cauliflowers by making a contract of the fields, while the crops are there. As this contract system is convenient, many persons follow this practice. When the potato season is over, business on chaki-gur (crude gur or bheli gur) begins. The local jaggree is of fine colour and is exported to the eastern and western parts of the country. The business on mango begins from the month of Jaista. Different varieties of mangoes such as Bombay, Langra, Malda etc., can be had here being the fruits from the grafts brought from Bombay, Langra, Malda, &c.

The *khari-masurdal* of Dinapur is of very good quality and large quantities of it are exported to Eastern Bengal as the inhabitants of this part of Bengal are very fond of it and consume it throughout the year, specially during the rains. The Dinapur butter is a well-known article. A few merchants have established their dairy-farms, where good and cheap butter is produced. The Dinapur butter has a good reputation in the Calcutta market, where it is exported daily in tins by rail. As soon as it reaches the Howrah railway station platform, the butter-dealers come in and dispose of them there in the morning between 7 and 10 A.M. Butter is exported to Calcutta not only from Dinapur but from other places and sold off at the station in the morning. First class shoes and boots are manufactured in the Dinapur Cantonment and are exported to different parts of the country. Various kinds of table clothes, napkins, towels of damask pattern, of mat-pattern and of birds-eye-pattern are produced here and are generally preferred. For further particulars please enquire of the following merchants.

Commission Agents :—Lonkarandas Jankidas, Maliram Gangaprasad, Jankydas & Sons,—General order Suppliers, Lochmon Vakati (Butter merchant), S. B. Dairy Co, Nathui Lal (Cabinet maker).



DIGHA-GHAT.—344 miles distant from Howrah railway station. The station and the bazar stands on the river Ganges. The current weight is 80 tolas a seer. Grains and seeds of various kinds are imported here, but it is chiefly noted for potatoes, cabbages, onions, mangoes, &c.

Commission Agents :—Dukhit Lal, Bhagwan Das.

BENARES.—429 miles distant from the Howrah railway station. Benares, a Junction station of the East Indian and Oudh and Rohilkhund railways can be reached *via* Moghalsarai, a junction station where both the main line and the Grand Chord line of the E. I. Ry. meet. Benares is situated on the river Ganges and is a very big city. All things are imported to and exported from this place. As a detailed description of the city will be voluminous, a brief description of the place is given. One should come here and make a searching enquiry personally before one can be familiar with the creek and corner of trade secrets and ways of the place. This is a great centre of trade and all sorts of trade can well be carried on. Many Bengalees have domiciled here. Various kinds of weights are current here such as :—60, 80 and 96 tolas a seer respectively. Information on these points can be obtained from the local Commission Agents.

Grains and Seeds—Gram, wheat, castor, linseed, mustard, oil-cake, sugar, poppy-seed, *rahar*, *ghee*, *wung*, potatoes, various kinds of vegetables and *meviah* fruits, opium, blankets, blanket-sheets, many sorts of silk cloths, chaddars and curious utensils, beads of *rudrakha*, toys of wood, earth and brass, *surti*, tobacco, snuff, *satka*, *gargara*, country-made *attar* and essential oils, marble utensils, variety of ivory articles and fancy goods, *lac-churis*, jewellery, images of gods and goddesses carved out of stones, *Narayan-sila* &c., are available here.



The following articles are specially worthy of mention :—

Among grains and seeds—wheat, mustared, *rahar*, castor, *mug*, and good *mungdal* are produced here in abundance. There are a castor cake mill-here which manufacture good cakes. In the beginning of new season the merchants purchase these goods in great quantities and transport them to the different parts of Bengal. The business is a good and profitable one.

Various sorts of vegetables and fruits are obtainable here *viz* : potatoes, cauliflower, lemon (*páti*), guava, orange, *náspati* apple, grapes, pomegranate, mango, lichi &c. They are sent down to Calcutta for sale and the business is a very profitable one and many have prospered in this trade.

Blankets, blanket-sheets, good *satranchis* and *galichas* which are fine and durable are manufactured here and exported to different parts of the country.

Benares is noted for best silk. There are many good and skilful artificers here. Their technical art is much admired even by the Europeans. *Tasar*, *cheli*, *shati*, *dhuti*, *chadar*, cloths for coats and shirts, *orna*, *turban*, *matk a dhuti*, *khethia* and other silk cloths are manufactured here. Nowhere else can be found such artistic works in embroidery as in Benares. The price of a Benaras sati ranges from Rs. 25 to 1000. Besides silk, various kinds of cotton cloth and calico are manufactured.

Different kinds of brass and bell metal utensils, plates and dishes, toys and coloured fancy goods &c. are manufactured here. They are not done in other place.

Good *surti* tobacco, *sarda*, Benares *khambira*, snuff are produced here in great quantities. Best wire *satkhas* and *farsis* are also manufactured.

Country-made scented articles such as good rose-water, *keora*, *attars* and florid oils of different flavours can be had in



large quantities. Besides these, there are various kinds of preserved fruits and fruit-syrups, Achars, Morabbas are exported from here to different parts of the county in large quantities.

Plates, dishes, glasses cups, and images of different gods and goddesses made out from white and black marble stones in sufficient quantities, Narayan-Sila, Shridhar-murti, Gobinda-jee, Gopal-murti, Sivalinga and other images of family deities are available here.

Different kinds of buttons, combs, pens, fans, toys, sticks, chess, spoons, handles, pipes, bangles and different varieties of figures, images and fancy goods made of ivory are manufactured.

Various sorts of toys of wood and coloured lacs and models of fruits, vegetables &c. can be had here.

In addition to this, diamonds, stones, pearls, corals, filgree-works, of silver and gold are available in large quantities. Considerable ingenuity is displayed in the making of these articles. In fact, all these things are procured here in sufficient quantities, for the commercial business. Enquire of the following merchants and Commission Agents, who will supply further details.

Grains and Seeds.—Lawjie Jeena Master at Machhodhi Bazar, Rajaram at Ramapura, Sarajuprasad Gangaprosad at Machhodi-Bazar.

Silk-merchants.—Balmukund Mull Silk Mills Co., Beneras Silk Manufacturing Co., Binapani Silk Stores, Gauri Sankar Khettry (gold thread laces, silk yarns, diamond Dies &c.) at Gaighat, Lal Bahadur Sing Lalji.

Carpets—Ishak M. D. & Sons, Jugāl Kishore Bros at Chowk.

Rudrakhsa-seller—Nibaron Ch. Dass at Dassawamedh.

Perfumers—Shila Nath & Co., at Dassawamedh.



Jewellers—Joshi Kashinath Parmanand at Suttala, Krishna and Bros. at 3-4 Chowk, P. Sankarnath and Sons at Farsh Baloojis Street, Sohanlall Basantlall at Lakhichantra, Shivashankardas, Ramsankardas at Thatheri Bazar.

Surti, Zarda and Snuff—Shewratan Sahu Debiprasad Sunghiwi Sahu at Narial Bazar.

Tobacco Factory—Badalram Luchminaran at Kumghosi Gate.

General Merchants—Durga Prasad Ramcharan. at Dassawainedh. R. D. and Sons at Chowk. General, Trading Co. at Chawk, Badruddin Nooruddin & Co., at Baheliā Tola.

MIRZAPUR.—458 Miles distant from the Howrah railway station. Local current weight is (District.) 84 tolas a seer. This is the headquarters of the district. Grains and seeds such as gram &c., are imported to the market, but no edible grains worthy of mention is brought here. Good blankets are available here which are much exported to different parts of the country. The blanket business is a profitable one. The Mirzapuri *panpar* is a well-known article of food. There are many *panpar* factories here and local people also prepare them at home. The merchants collect them from local manufacturers. Such tasteful *panpar* is not to be found elsewhere. Brass and bell-metal wares are manufactured on a large scale. There are many workmen and work-shops where plates, dishes, water-pots &c., chiefly used by up-countrymen are manufactured. Light, cheap and fancy goods are not manufactured here. Stone business is a flourishing concern. Stone-beams, rafters, pillars, sheets, tiles and slates of different shapes and sizes for building purposes are prepared and sent over to different parts of the country. *Sil*, grinding stones, lose *bel-chakis*, rollers &c. are made. There are many factories here belonging to the



Bengalies, Europeans and local men. Messrs. Burn & Co., the well-known firm of Calcutta have got a big workshop here. Besides stones, ample quantities of lac are brought in by Railway and manufactured into shellac and despatched to Calcutta. This is one of the important trades.

Commission Agents—Vakratram Gobindram, Kunjalal Beharilal, Bansidhar Sewprasad.

Manufacturers—Lalta Prasad & Sons, Hanuman Prasad & Co., Sheik Abdul Karim, Rahmatullah & Bros., E. Hill & Co.

Stone Merchants and Querries—Badrinath Seth of Gaughat; Mirzapur Stone Co., Madho Prasad & Co., Mirzapur Stone and Trading Co., Bengal Stone Co.

Lac Dealers—Ghasiram Baldeo Dass, Gouri Sanker Pattack, Dhansook Dass Jet mull, Bansidhur Sew Prasad.

Flour Mills—Hanuman Flour Mills.

Oil and Rice Mills—Domri Shaw Thakuram and Gunga Prasad Oil and Rice Mills.

ALLAHABAD.—The Railway Station is 514 miles from Howrah Station and on the right side of the rivers Ganges and Jumna. It is the seat of Government of the United Provinces. It being one of the chief cities in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, all sorts of commercial productions are imported to and exported from this place. There are many factories, oil-mills, flour mills and workshops, but no articles of special interest can be had here.

Grains and seeds are imported in abundance. Most of the dealers are Deswals and Mawaries. Local weight is 96 tolas a seer.

Commission Agents (Aratdars of Grains and Seeds):—Kishori Lal Makunda Lal, Ram Charan Dass Hazarimull, Radha Krishna Beniprasad.



Among the Mill industries, we note the following :—

(I) Fine flour mills under the management of Marawries ; Allahabad Milling Co., Ltd. ; Luchminarayan Flour Mills, Choudhury Flour Mills, one oil mill under the name of Marawri Oil Mills, two soap factories, two sugar factories under the name of Jaunpur Sugar factory, Tribeni Deshi Sugar Works.

(II) Tanneries :—Allahabad Tanneries, Wheeler's Tannery, Government Tannery.

DARANAGAR.—Sirathu Railway Station is 544 (District Allahabad.) miles from the Howrah Railway Station and Daranagar Bazar is 2 miles off from the railway station. Current weight is 105 tolas a seer. It is an important centre of trade. Great quantities of grain, wheat, castor, linseed, *poppy seed*, mustard, *rahar*, *musuri*, *khesari*, *ghee*, janera &c. are imported here. Among these *seti* mustard is of fine quality which as well as poppy seeds can be had in abundance. The local goods are of good quality and colour, the admixture thereto being very small. Many merchants come here from Bengal during the new season to purchase *poppy seed*.

Commission * Agents—Baladeo Ram Mohadeo, Debidin Kamta Prosad, Hiralal Giridharilal.

Khaga—565 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station. Weight 80 tolas a seer. The (District Fatapur) bazar is close to the station. All sorts of grains and seeds are available. Mustard and *poppy seeds* are exported here in large quantities and can be purchased abundantly.

Commission agents—Ajodhya Prosad Ramgopal.

Cawnpur—933 miles distant from the Howrah railway station. Weights 80 and 82½ tolas a seer. (District) It is a great centre of commercial and industrial trade of growing importance. It is situated on the



right bank of river Ganges. It is an important Junction of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, E. I. Ry., B. N. W. Ry., B. B. C. I. Ry., and G. I. P. Ry. The bazar is close to the Railway station. Various kinds of goods are imported to and exported from this place. There are many mills, factories, and workshops &c. in Cawnpur. Grains, wheat, linseed, mustard, *dana*, *rahar*, *mosuri*, *khesari*, all sorts of pulses, blankets, hides, leather goods, refined sugar, cotton seeds, janera, castor, ghee, oil, til, *mug*, *kalai*, oil-cakes &c. are available in large quantities. The local mustard is noted for the quantity of oil which can be extracted from it. There are many mustard oil mills which produce fine oil that is exported to Calcutta where it is sold at a high price. The oil has a good-name in the Calcutta market. Oil-cakes are exported to the Punjab and not to Lower Bengal. Local *kalai* and *mug* are noted for their quality and quantity. *Ghee* of inferior quality mixed with oil and fat are imported here in large quantities. Big sized *rahar* is available here in large quantities. It is sold at high price in Calcutta market.

Pulse-grinding business to such a large extent, dal of such good quality and such large quantity can nowhere else be found. *Rahar*, *mosoori*, *Khesari*, *mug*, gram and all sorts of *dal* are ground and husked here and exported to Calcutta in enormous quantities. Those willing to carry on business on dal may gain experience if they come and inspect the dal-workshops here. Various kinds of wire seaves, dusting machines &c. are used in these dal-grinding work-shops.

There are many lard-factories in Cawnpur. Great quantities of lard are exported to England and other foreign countries after they are refined in the local factories. Bristles can be had here in large quantities. This is a very lucrative concern and many persons have become rich in this business. Bristle can be obtained at a cheap rate from the surrounding villages if some earnest



money is given to the villagers. The major portion of bristles is exported to England and other European countries. Many Englishmen have established their workshops at Cawnpur where brushes, dusters &c. are manufactured.

Hides and skins are available here in large number which are purchased by many rich English merchants. They can be tanned, polished and coloured just as they are done in foreign countries. Such number of tanneries cannot be found in other parts of India. There are nine sugar factories here in which fine sugar is manufactured in large quantities by scientific process from the sugar-cane produced in the locality. The factory of Messrs. Begg Suderland & Co. heads the list of the factories.

There are eight flour-mills in Cawnpur in which flour is produced in large quantities and exported to Calcutta. There are ten cotton and woolen mills—the woolen goods are being sold now-a-days at a high price. Goods can be purchased from the factories at retail and whole-sale prices. Many English merchants have established mills and factories and carry on commercial transactions here. The Marwari Merchants are predominant. Cawnpur is a chief centre of trade in the United Provinces.

Here are a large number of Woolen Mills, Rice, Dal and Oil Mills, Flour Mills, Jute Mills, Spining and Weaving Mills, Cotton Mills, Dyeing and Manufacturing Mills, Sugar Mills, Tannery Works, Soap Works, Iron Works, Ice factory, Hosiery Factories, Chemical Works, Brick and Tile Works, Brush Factories, Box Factories and a number of flourishing small Industries which produce enormous articles.

Commission Agents—Narayan Das Lachman Das. at Nayaganj ; Ramcharandas Rambilas Ram of Generalganj ; Mundal Lal of Mowlaganj, Ramnath Baijnath, Gouri Dutt Tulsiram, Tejpal Jamuna Das of Colonelganj.



Shoe Factories—Cawnpur National Shoe Factory, Eastern Boots and Shoes Factory—760 Halsey Road. Zahir M. & Co., at Colonelganj Road—hides, refined tallow and skin merchants.

Brush Factory—Presidency Brush Factory, British India Brush Factory.

Cotton Mills—Elgin Mills, Muir Mills, Delhi Cloth Mills Co. National Spining and weaning Factory. Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co.

Flour Mills—Ganges Flour Mills at Harrisganj, Cawnpur Flour Mills Co, Sharif Flour Mills at Gowaltol, United Flour Mills, Noronha's Steam Flour Mills, Karundia Industrial Development Co., Sriram Mohadeoprasad, U. P. Oil & Flour Mill Co.

Oil Mills—Cawnpur Oil Mills Co., Hazarimal Tulsiram Oil and Ginning Factory, Baldeodas and Kedarnath Oil Mills, Premier Oil Mills.

Dal Mills—Debidin Bhagwandin, George Rice and Flour Mills Co. Shohratganj Rice and Oil Mills.

Soap Works—Kaiser Soap Manufacturing Co.

Sugar Works—Cawnpur Sugar Works, Ganges Sugar Works, Lyallpur Sugar Works, Indian Sugar Mills Co., U. P. Sugar Mills, Baijnath Balmukund Sugar Factory, Champaran Sugar Factory.

Tannery—Cawnpur Leather Works, Cooper Allen & Co., Indian National Tannery, Cawnpur Tannery. United Provinces Tannery Co.

ETAWAH—720 miles from the Howrah Railway

District.

Station. The bazar is close to the station.

Weight 80 tolas a seer. Gram, wheat, linseed, mustard, poppy seeds, *kalai*, ghee, oil-cakes, *masuri*, *rahar*, castor &c. can be had here in enormous quantities—the chief articles being *man*-mustard, poppy-seed and *gahee*



Mustard is imported in large quantities from which oil can be extracted up to 15 seers.

There is little admixture in the seed. Very good ghee is available here which is purchased by many merchants from Calcutta. Etawah is noted for *ghee*.

Commission Agents—Joykissen Joygopal, Baldeo Sahai Pryag Nath, Dhanji Dadabhai, Sitaram Tularam, Muralidhur Gowrisankar.

JASWANTNAGAR—729 miles from the Howrah Railway station. The bazar is close to (Dist Etawah). the station. Weight 80 tolas. As the articles imported here are of the same kind as has been described under Etawah—it is needless to give a description again of the same under this heading.

Commission Agents :—Jowala Ram Piraban Dayal, Badri Prasad Jowala Prosad.

KHURJA—852 miles from the Howrah Railway station. The bazar is close to the station. Dist. Bulandar-
sahar. Weight 80 tolas. Grains and seeds such as gram, wheat, linseed, mustard, kalai, *mosuri*, *rahar*, ghee, castor, *janera*, &c. are imported out of which *man*-mustard and ghee are excellent and can be had in sufficient quantities. The mustard and ghee of Khurja are sold at a high price in the market. Many Calcutta Merchants purchase their goods here. Cummin-seed, ani-seed, meti, corriander-seeds, jowan etc., are imported here in large quantities and exported to Patna, Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Sahebganj and other places.

Of all kinds of ghee imported in Calcutta from the different parts of India, the Khurja ghee is sold at a vesy high rate. This ghee is sold in the Calcutta Market as the best of its kind under different TRADE MARKS. Of these marks, 'Sri ghee,' 'Ramdas mark,' 'Mahananda mark' are well-known. Ghee is available in Khurja in very large quantities. The



Calcutta Corporation has declared it to be pure after experiment. The Bhadua ghee which comes from Bhadua in Khurja is the best ghee in Khurja and consequently fetches the highest price. Owing to the good reputation of the MARKED GHEES in the Calcutta market, some merchants despatch ghee from the neighbouring stations under the name of Khurja *ghee* and derive much profit. It is an important industrial centre of cotton and ginning factories and a smaller quantity of Indigo trade.

Commission Agents :—Harmuk Roy Gobinram, Mohanlal Fatechand, Sukdeb Das Gangaram. Hari Charan Nandi. Cotton factory—Amalokchand Gobindram, Basonti Ram Ramnaran Ramlal.

Ghee Merchants —Nondo Lal Karuri, Durga Charan Rockhit, Ram Kristo Rockhit, Mohendra Dutta.

Hatras—806 miles from the Howrah Railway station. (District Aligarh.) The bazar is close to the station. Weight 82 tolas. Here also goods are imported like Khurja. The *man* mustard and ghee of Hatras are the best of their kinds. Ghee is imported in large quantities and exported to Calcutta and other places. Like Cawnpur dals are prepared here from grains.

Mun-mustard seeds can be had in sufficient quantities in Aligarh throughout the year. Large quantities of these are exported to Calcutta. They are also despatched to Raniganj, Burdwan, Memari, Magra, Bhadreswar &c. in Bengal. The local ghee is of very good quality, colour and recent and is available in large quantities. It is sold creditably in the Calcutta market. Aligarh is an important centre of trade. Biri-kalai can be had here in large quantities which are exported to different parts of Bengal where they are sold with ease. The town has spinning mills, Weaving Mills and Cotton ginning factories.



Commission Agents—Netaram Khaliram, Gobardhan Das. Asharam Sharma & Co.,—General merchants, manufactures of cutlery.

Agra—791 miles from Howrah and on the right bank of river Jumna. It is a Junction of the (District) G. I. P. Railway and E. I. Railway. Weight 80 tolas. Agra being a large city, various kinds of goods are imported to and exported from this locality. Agra is noted for architectural works of white marble stones toys, plates, dishes &c., blankets, ropes, carpets (Sataranchis), Galichas, soft stone nalicha, brass and bell-metal utensils plates and dishes shoes various kinds of cotton and woolen clothes &c. The city of Agra is worth visiting. The Tajmahal of Agra is of world-wide fame. There are mills and factories and embroidery works of pure lace are executed well here.

Agra marble stone is one of the most beautiful art manufactures in India. The magnificent edifices is one of the wonders of the world. Soap stone is available here and small trinkets of stones are produced in large quantities. The manufactures chiefly consist of looking glass frames, small round boxes, various toys and structures of marble stones. It is also a notable centre of trade for better qualities of hides.

Among grams and seeds there is a great mart of mustard seed, rai, wheat, masur gram, linseed, dal &c. All these goods are despatched by the Railway to different places of India, specially to Calcutta. Pure sugar is plenty.

Commission Agents—Achol Sing, Vakant Sing of Simson-ganj ; Khandari Chowdhuri and Rahimbox, Tejpal Jamuna Das ; Allah Box and Co. General Merchants and Order suppliers, Sarma & Sons (Brush Works), Satya Naran & Co.

Marble Merchants—Agra Marble Works Co., Adam Co., Empire Marble Merchants.



Shoës Factory—Ptars-Mds. Abdulla, Anglo Indian Trading Co., Emporium Steam Boot Factory, Agra Tannery. Hyderbox Mohamed Hafiz—Dholikhan-hides and tallow merchants.

Manufactures—Model Industry.

Carpets—Agra Carpet Factory, Otta Weylandt and Co.

Flour Mills—Vaisha Flour Mills, John Poller Flour Mills.

Chandausi—803 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station. Weight 107 tolas. The (Dist. Moradabad.) bazar is close to the station. Gram, wheat, linseed, mustard, *chaki gur*, cotton, *rahar*, *mosuri*, ghee, castor seed, oil-cake, *til* etc., are imported here. Of these wheat, *mun*-mustard, ghee and *chaki gur* are of very good quality and can be had in large quantities. The wheat here is of good big size and oil is extracted from 14½ to 15 seers per maund from mustard seeds.

Commission Agents—Gopal Dass and Bros, Khub Chand Joala Prosad, Manikram Golaproy, Ram Gopal Kisen Lal.

Aligarh—852 miles distant from the Howrah railway station. Weight 80 tolas. The bazar is close to the station. This is also an important centre of trade in the United Provinces. Sufficient quantities of grain, wheat, linseed, mustard, *arahar*, *chaki-gur*, ghee, *Poppy seed*, Kalai. Indigo, and cotton can be had here, of which *mun*-mustard, *biri-kalai* and ghee has a good name.

Many Bengali Merchants come here every year for the purpose of buying large quantity of mustard from this place. Best Quality of ghee is available here in abundance and despatched to Calcutta. There is some dairy firms, which produces best quality of Butter. Among the qualities of butter in India, Aligarh butter is the best in the market of Calcutta and it has a good name, specially. Mr. Caventer's butter.



A small manufacture of cotton ginning and spinning mills, inferior pottery works and dried sweet-meats is prepared in large quantities for export to Burma.

There are many big factories and workshops where locks, padlocks, keys etc., are manufactured which can well be compared with those of Hobbes & Co. of England. All sorts of liver works, padlocks, locks for boxes and chests are manufactured here. The Government have established a workshop of their own at this place.

Commission Agents :—Kumar Abdul Gafur Khan and Jobbar Ali Khan, Misirlal Bamdeb, Ramlal Girilal, Kanailal Brojabeharilal, Gangaram Surajmal, Ramjidas Lachmandas of Kanoliganj.

Aligarh Pottery works, and Carpets :—Sheik Golam Rasul.

Lock works—Diamond Jubilee Lock Works, Chobbsi & Co., Coronation Lock and Metal Works, Jubilee Workshop, Reliance Lock Factory.

Dairy—Aligarh Dairy Firm.

Meerut—919 miles distant from the Howrah railway station. Weight 80 tolas. The bazar (District) is at a short distance from the station. Great quantities of grains and seeds such as gram, wheat, linseed, mustard, castor, masuri, Khesari, *Chaki* gur, cotton &c. are imported here. Of these chaki-gur, wheat and cotton are available here in sufficient quantities. There are few cotton-presses and a soap factory.

Commission Agents :—Mohan Ram Gopal Rai, Deokaran Das, Ramsaran Das, Seoji Ram Ghasiram, East Indian Soap Factory.

Jaunpur—515 miles distant from the Howrah railway station and stands on the Oudh and (District) Rohilkhand Railway *via* Moghulsarai. It lies on the bank of Gomoti river. Weight 112 tolas.



The bazar is two miles distant from the station. All sorts of grains and seeds are imported here. There are a few sugar-factories where sugar is manufactured from sugar-canes produced locally. *Tora* mustard, poppy-seed, ghee, biri-kalai, and potatoes can be had in large quantities. Hilly potatoes are grown first in sufficient quantities in Jaunpur. Many persons export potatoes to Bengal. There are many florists in Jaunpur which is noted for otto, *rue*, rose-water and various sorts of scented oils.

Commission Agents :—Golabram Babulal Chowdhury, Rameswar Kapuria, Radhakisen Ramgopal, Ramratun Das.

Delhi—956 miles from the Howrah station, on the right bank of Jumna river. It is a great railway junction of the E. I. Ry., B. B. C. I. Ry., G. I. P. Ry., and O. R. Ry. It is the capital of British India and the head quarters of the Governor General of India. It is a chief centre of trade in India. All classes of raw goods, grains, seeds, cotton, silk manufactures, and goods of weaving mills, flour mills, oil mills, and biscuit factory are exported and imported in a large scale. Weight is 80 tolas a seer. In addition to these grains, seeds, spices, medical herbs and shrubs for Hakimi and Kaviraji drugs, various sorts of cotton and woollen cloths, velvet and kinkhap, salma, chumki and other *suchcha* ornamental works, metal utensils, good tobacco, surti, kiman, various kinds of toys, and country made rose-water, florid oil, pickles, leather goods, boots and shoes, satranchi and costly bed-sheets, galichas, gargoras, earthen wares, *merwa* fruits and all sorts of excellent things can be had here. Persons desirous of carrying on business here should come and particularly inspect the city personally.

Delhi was the ancient capital of India. The English made their capital at Calcutta for a long time ; but towards the latter part of Lord Hardinge's administration, the capital was removed to Delhi. This is the largest and most famous



city in India. Such a variety of costly articles of dresses can nowhere else be found. A full description of all subjects will make a voluminous book. Persons desirous of carrying on business would do well, if they come and stay here at least for a week.

Commission Agents for grains and seeds—Ramnarayan Radhakissen, Chondulal Rameswar Prosad,

Agents for flour mills—Ramranjan Badridas,

Scent merchants—Haji Golam Safiuddin,

Jewellers—Bhola Nath, Chandney Chawk ; Indian Jewellery Trading Co., Chandney Chawk ; Khoobchand Inderchand at Maliwara Street.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Chiman Lal Chandulal, Khari Bawri, and G. E. Bhattacharjee etc.

Art and Curious merchants—Chuton Lal at Kucha Salt Basa Daraiba ; Fazai Elahl S. & Co, 786 Sadar Bazar,

Flour Mills—Bhupendra Flour Mills, John's Flour Mills, Gonesh Flour Mills, Delhi Flour Mills.

Delhi Biscuit Co.

Madanpur—33 miles off from the Sealdah railway

Dist. Nadia

station. Local weight is 82½ tolas. The bazar is at Kaliganj—two miles distant from the station. The market is held twice a week, and goods are purchased on those days. Jute, mustard-seeds, sona-moog, rahar, masuri, biri-kalai, date-gur, potato, linseed, peas, tobacco, &c, are imported. This is a convenient hat for marketing, but business does not last throughout the year—it stops altogether during the rains. Goods cannot be obtained by means of correspondence. There are no well known commission-agents—all being purchasers ; so it is essential to depute a man on hat-days for purchasing goods.

Commission-Agents :—Monmpto Nath Biswas, Srihari Biswas.



Murshidabad—Murshidabad is 77 miles distant from the Sealdah railway station. There is another communication to Mursidabad (Dist. headquarters.) *via* Loop line, E. I. R, through Nalhati and Azimganj—the distance from Howrah being 172 miles. From Azimganj one has to go to Murshidabad by boat. Local weight is 80 tolas. Khagra is the chief town of Murshidabad, and Beharampur is adjacent to Khagra. The description of these three places has been given here. Silk and silk cloths, chadars, balaposh &c. are the chief articles of trade of this district. The English have many silk-factories here. These silk, silk-thread and cloths are imported to different parts of Europe. The fine silk chadars and cloths and fine and coarse matka cloths manufactured here are very durable. Now-a-days Murshidabad and Benares silk chadars are being extensively used instead of country-made cotton chadars. The silk trade of this place has been in a very prosperous condition since the *swadeshi* agitation. The balaposh of Murshidabad is the best of its kind—such a thing cannot be found elsewhere in India. There are many workshops at Khagra where very fine bell-metal utensils of various styles are manufactured and exported to different parts of the country. Such fancy and light utensils can not be found elsewhere. They are sold in the market as Khagrai utensils. Paddy, rice, jute, tobacco, jaggree, mung, grams, kalai, mustard seeds, red-pepper, masuri &c., are largely imported here. This is also an important centre of trade.

Commission Agents :—Rajkrishna Dutta, Madhusudan Dutta of Khagra (dealers in grains and seeds, gur &c.), Nanipada Saha, Nrisinha Prosad Saha, Radhika Prosad Dutta of Khagra (dealers in silk-cloths, threads and balapos), Rishi Pada Kundu, Ramgopal Kundu of Baluachar—dealers in silk-cloths, threads, balaposh and utensils. Various kinds of fine, artistic works on ivory are manufactured here ;—the name of the work-shop is “ The Murshidabad Art Agency”.



The proprietors of bell-metal utensils at Khagra are—
Kailas, Paramanik, Rishipada Kundu, Bijoy Krishna Bhadra,
Haricharan Mondal, Ganesh Das, Radha Khrishna Mistry
and Gostha Bihari Das.

Jiaganj—Change at Ranaghat from the Sealdah railway station for Jiaganj. The distance (Dist. Murshidabad.) is 81 miles. The local weight is $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas. The bazar stands on the river Hughli. This is the chief market in the district. Various sorts of goods are exported from and imported to this bazar. The grains and seeds of this place are known as 'deswal goods'. The seeds though small are not bad and free from admixture. Rice, paddy, jute, flax, kalai and mung are largely imported here. Besides these grams, wheat, linseed, mustard-seeds, peas, musuri, red-pepper, khesari, Jaggri, sona-moog, various kinds of silk cloth, balaposh, brass and bell-metal utensils &c. are available here. The big merchants have gadies and golas here where goods are purchased.

Commission Agents :—

Marwaris

Bengalis.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Chandan Mal Abhoy Mal | 1. Jogendra Nath Saha |
| 2. Ramchand Rekhhab and | 2. Modhusudan Saha. |
| 3. Juthalall Goneshlal | 3. Pranhari Pranballah Saha. |
| | 4. Kailas Chandra Dutta. |

Jiaganj—Baluchar is noted for its manufacture of silk. Such nice-looking and lasting cloths cannot be had from other places. The Balaposh of Murshidabad is of world-wide fame.

Merchants :—Messrs. Shib Sankar Saha, Gobinda Chandra Dhar, Radhica Prosad Das.

Murshidabad (Balukhar) is famous for fine artistic works on ivory.



Artists—1. Murari Mohan Bhaskar. 2. Gonesh Chandra Bhaskar. 3. Mahesh Chandra Bhaskar.

The local steel-trunk factory of Jangali Saha is well-known and the first of its kind. At present iron-safes are being manufactured in this factory.

Kalna—Kalna Court is 52 miles off from Howrah rail-

Dist. Burdwan way station on the E. I. Ry. Local weight is $82\frac{1}{2}$ tolas a seer. The bazar is on the river Hooghly and two miles from the railway station. Kalna is a Sub-Divisional Head-quarter of the Burdwan District. Formerly it was a renowned place of trade in the Burdwan District, when branch railway lines were not opened.

Kalna is a chief centre of trade in the Burdwan District where paddy and rice are imported in abundance. Many commission agents and merchants have granaries and godowans here. All sorts of rice are imported here from Burdwan. There are some 12 rice mills in Kalna. The rice brought in the market as well as that prepared in the mills are exported to Hoogly, Sripur, Balagarh, Ranaghat, Chinsurah, Chandernagore, Bhadreswar, Serampore, Sheoraphuli, Baly, Kankinarah, Barrackpur, Sukchar, Panihati and Calcutta. The mills here are busily engaged, as rice is conveniently transported by rail and boats. Those who wish to establish mills here may do so profitably. Many people come here, as it is a sub-divison of the Burdwan district. Besides rice and paddy, local grams, wheat, jute, peas, Kalai, masuri, khesari, mug, linseed, barley, mustard-seed, &c. are imported in large quantities. The import of these goods begins in the month of Falgun and ends in the month of Baisak. They are hardly available after this period.

Commission Agents :—Natu Behary Paul, Beharilal Dutta, Sasi Bhusan Sett.



Santipur—58 miles off from the Sealdah station of Ranaghat Ry. The local weight is 82 $\frac{5}{8}$ tolas. The bazar stands on the bank of

(Dist. Nadia) the river Hugli. It is an important centre of trade—the chief commodities being rice and paddy. There are big merchants and commission agents in this place. Large quantities of peas, musuri, biri-kalai, sona-mug, date-gur, dolo (raw) sugar, rahar, linseed, mustard-seeds, turmeric, jute, flax, country-made dhuties &c. are imported here. Jaggree is brought here in considerable quantities as there are many factories here for manufacturing dolo-sugar from date-gur. Sugar, dolo and mab-sugar are manufactured here, but not Dobora sugar. Molasses from sugarcane also are imported here in large quantities. The country-cloths of Santipur are well-brown. There are many hand-loomes here and various sorts of fine-bordered cloths are manufactured and exported to different parts of the county.

Once there were many sugar-factories here but they have now been reduced owing to the importation and competition of bounty-fed sugar from foreign countries. The local dolo sugar is sent to Sukchar where it is re-melted to ek-bora and do-bora sugar. Pitchers full of date-gur are imported here in great number during the proper season and by boats. The business on gur only may get on well here. Fine country-cloths are manufactured here which are second only to Dacca cloths. This cloth-business is an important trade of the locality. Many merchants come here from different parts of the country for these cloths. Such fine cloths can nowhere else be found except at Dacca.

Santipur was once famous for its fine muslin which used to be exported to Europe, but the weaving industry has declined owing to the importation of cheap Manchester cotton goods into this country.

Commission Agents :—Hira Lal Saha, and Sayed Mondol (cloth merchants), Jogendra Nath Halder, Rajani Dass, Atal Behary Kundu, Bhuban Mohon Kundu,



Merchants and Commission Agents :—Jogendra Nath Halder, Rajani Kanta Dass, and Atal Behary Kundu at Barabazer. Bhuban Mohon Kundu, Kali Dass Dutta, and Jadu Nath Modock at Nutanhut.

Goalundo—107 miles distant from the Sealdah railway station on the E. B. Railway. The local weight is 80 tolas a seer.

The entrance to the Eastern Bengal lies through Goalundo. It is a terminus station of the E. B. Ry. from Sealdah. The river Padma and the Jamuna have met here. Large steamers and cargo boats are always ready to carry passengers and goods to Dacca, Barisal, Khulna, Chittagong, Cachar, Calcutta, Monghyr Bhagalpur, Patna etc. Various kinds of goods are largely imported here. Grains and seeds, such as grams, wheat, linseed, mustard seed, peas, Masuri, Khesari, Kalai, chillies, date-jaggree, jute, turmeric, sona-moog, different kinds of chintz and napkins, water-melon, salted fish, dry fish, fresh hilsa-fish, tobacco are available in large quantities here. Fish business can be carried on here on an immense scale. The local hilsa-fish, watermelon and hand-loom cloths are well known and an enormous quantity of these are exported to Calcutta daily.

Commission Agents :—Mathuranath Shaha, Sarat Ch. Dutt, and Panchanon Sen.

Aranghatta—51 miles off from the Sealdah railway station on E. B. Railway. The local weight is $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas a seer. Aranghatta is on the bank of the river Churni, which is a tributary of the river Ganges. Goods are despatched by boats by the river Churni during rainy season to various places. The market is close to the Railway station. Large quantities of jute, mustard seed, castor-seed, sona-moog, rahar, kalai, masuri, khesari, date-jaggree, potatoes, chillies, tobacco etc., are imported here, out of which date-jaggree in earthen pitchers



(nagri) and country jute are available in considerable quantities. It is one of the important trade centres of the Nadia District. Noted industrial goods are not available here. For further particulars enquire of the following merchants.

Commission Agents :—Srimanta Ghose, Wazidali Mondol.

Kushtia—110 miles distant from the Sealdah railway station. Local weight is 80 tolas. The (District Nadia) bazar is close to the station. Sona-mug, peas, kalai, paddy, rice, date jaggree, linseed, castor seed, turmeric, jute, potatoes, various sorts of cloth &c. are available here ; of these jute, Jaggree and kalai are considerably imported. Kusthia-kalai bears a good name. Various kinds of cloths, napkins and chintz are woven here by hand-looms. Local turmeric is very good.

This is an important mart for deshwal jute. During the season time, large quantities of jute are imported to and exported from this place. The import of big jute lasts for 4 months from Bhadra to Agrahayan. There is a cotton-mill in Kushtia called the Mohini-Mills where very fine dhuties and various kinds of checks are manufactured. Many weavers live here who manufacture with hand-looms large quantities of pucca chintz which are exported to Calcutta market. There is a factory here conducted by Messrs. Renwick & Co. for refining sugar from date-gur by scientific process. It is a matter of regret that the rich men and the zamindars of the locality do not care for these things but they only enjoy the limited interest on Govt. Papers which they purchase on their account.

Commission Agents :—Chand Paramanic (big merchant), Nebaron Ch. Banerjee, Jogendra Nath Shaha, Harish, Ch. Roy Choudhary, Nilmony Sannyal, Hadek Bepari.

Sugar Mills—Messrs. Renwick & Co. (launch builders).

Cotton Mills—Kallyan Cotton Mills.



Haskhali—58 miles from Sealdah railway station to Bogula and from the latter station to Haskhali. Local weight $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas. Haskhali is 3 miles off from the Railway station. The bazar stands on the river Churni. Goods can conveniently be transported during the rainy season. All goods are imported here like Chakdah, Kalai, jaggree and jute are largely exported. The Kalai of this place is well-known and considerable quantities of it are exported from this place.

Commission Agents :—Chandi Mondol, Amanali Mondol and some Pode caste of locality.

Damukdia—120 miles distant from the Sealdah railway station, on E. B. R. Local weight is $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas. The bazar is close to the station. Goods are imported here like Chakdah. Jute, Jaggree and Kalai are available in large quantities. Fish-business can well be conducted here, fish being available at a convenient price.

Commission Agents :—Haribux Mohadeo and Adhar Chandra Sircar.

Kristoganj—From Sealdah to Sibnibas railway station is 65 miles on the E. B. Ry. The name of the bazar is Kristoganj, which is on the side of the railway station Sibnibas. Local weight is $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas a seer. Goods are despatched by railway. Large quantities of jute, mustard seed, sona-moog, rahar, kalai, masuri, khesari, date-gur, potatoes, chillies and tobacco are imported here ; of these date-jaggree in earthen pots (nagri) and country jute are available in large quantities. Most of the merchants are Bengalees and marwaries.

Commission Agents :—Sarbeswar Khan, Surja Kanta Kundu, Noni Gopal Paul, and Panchanon Dass.

Ranaghat—46 miles distant from the Sealdah Railway Station on E. B. Ry. The local weight is $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas a seer. Ranaghat is on the



Bank of the river Churni which is a tributary of the river Ganges. Goods are despatched by boats by the river Churny during rainy season and at all times by Rail. It is a junction station to the Ranaghat Krishnagar Light Railway.

Large quantities of jute, mustard seeds, sona-moog, rohar, masuri, oil-cakes, kalai, date-jaggree, cow-ghee, potatoes, linseed, peas, tobacco etc., are imported here. The best kind of sona-moog in the Nadia district is produced here which is sold at a high price in the Calcutta market. Pitchers of date-jaggree are imported here and then exported to different parts of the country. The sugar dealers purchase jaggree from this place during the season time. The "Nalen" jaggree of Ranaghat is noted for its sweet taste which cannot be found in any other part of the district. The local cow-ghee is pure and of good quality and is sold at a high price in the Calcutta market. A noted mistry named Radha Benode Dutt can make large bells for use in the Temples. For further particulars enquire of the following dealers :—

Commission Agents :—Rakhal Dass Dalal, Janardan, Kundu, Radha Gobindo Pramanic, Mati Lal Kundu, Shib Chandra Kundu.

Chakdah—38 miles distant from the Sealdah Railway station (E. B. R). Local weight is $82\frac{5}{8}$ (Dist.—Nadia) tolas per seer. The hat is one mile off from the station. Jute mustard-seeds, sona-moog, rohar, masuri, oilcakes, biri-kalai, date-jaggree, potatoes, linseed, peas, tobacco etc., are largely imported here. The hat is held twice a week and goods are imported on hat-days only. Goods have to be brought by deputing a man and not by correspondence. There are no well-known Commission Agents here. First class Hingli-tobacco can be obtained from the village-hat of Kumlay, which is 6 miles off from the Chakdah Bazar.



The river churni which passes by the village is only navigable during the rainy season, when goods are carried by boats. At other times, goods are carried by rail. The Chakdaha hat is one of the chief marts in the Nadia District. Many merchants from Hoogly, Chandernagore, Baidyabati, Bhadreswar, Kankinara, Shamnagar etc. come here and purchase goods on market-days. Large quantities of *Khajurgur* can be obtained here and the merchants who have sugar-factories purchase jaggree from this hat. The sona-moog of this locality is well-known and large quantities of this moog are brought here for sale at the first appearance of the crop. For further particulars enquire of the following dealers :—

Commission Agents :—Kartic Chandra Singha, Naffer Daptari, and Durga Charan Mukerjee.

Hilly—on the Siliguri line ; 224 miles distant from the Sealdah railway station. The local weight is 60 tolas a seer. There is a river about four miles off from the bazar. It is not convenient to despatch goods by boats except during the rainy season. The bazar being close to the railway station, goods can be transported by rail with the help of carts throughout the year. This is a chief centre of trade in the Bogra district. Grains and seeds such as grams, wheat, linseed, mustard-seeds, barley, sona-moog, kalai, masuri, khesari, rahar, and peas &c., are obtainable here in abundance. These goods are called 'deshwal.' The grains are rather small and are sold in Calcutta at a less price than those imported from up-country. The import of these goods lasts from the month of Falgoon to Joistha ; then it decreases. In the season time many merchants from the East and West Bengal purchase goods here and export them to their respective marts and to Calcutta market. These goods are sold by the Commission Agents of Hatkhola, Calcutta. Rice, paddy and jute are largely imported here besides grains and seeds. Paddy worth ten thousand rupees can be purchased in a single day. The major portion of rice



is of coarse and medium quality. The rice-mill-owners purchase paddy from this place and paddy-merchants export their goods in large quantities to Howrah—Ramkrishnapur. Jute called “deshi” is also available here in large quantities. Jute purchased here is exported to Calcutta. Those who wish to do mofassil agency business may open agency of their own here. Goods are imported here in such large quantities, that purchasing business can go on all round the year. There are a few marts like this in Bengal where goods can be purchased throughout the year.

Commission Agents—Brojendra Kumar Saha, Manik Chandra Kundu, Ramanath Saha, and Gopal Lal Majumdar.

Chuadanga station is 84 miles distant from the Sealdah station on E. B. Ry. The market being close to the railway station is called “Chuadanga-rail-bazar.” Jute, paddy, rice, betel-nuts, Jaggree (both date and sugarcane) and all sorts of grains and seeds are largely imported here and transported by rail to different parts of the country. The jaggree gur of this place is of very good quality, especially, pitchers of date-gur which are imported here in large number. The sugar merchants purchase annually large quantities of jaggree pitchers at this place. During the jute-season, many Bengalis, Marwari and European merchants come here to purchase jute in great quantities. Grains and seeds are imported during the new season up to the month of Chaitra, and the import decreases afterwards. These goods are known in Calcutta as “deshwal.”

Commission Agents—Madhusudan Saha, Tarini Charan Pal, Rashbehari Saha, and Krishna Behari Saha.

Hasanabad is 44 miles distant from the Sealdah Station on E. B. Ry. The market is 7 to 8 miles off from the Hasanabad Ry. station. Rice and paddy are chiefly imported here, and the local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The hat is held on every Sunday and Thursday. Rice worth about Rs. 10,000 is



imported here in a single hat-day. There is no other rice-mart in the 24 Parganas district so big as this. *Dadnai, lotanama, marisal, baran, &c.* and coarse rice and paddy are brought here in large quantities for sale. The conveyance from the station to the bazar is by boats which carry passengers and goods. Mug, potatoes, jaggree, chillies, kalai, masuri, khesari, jute, flax &c., are also imported here. Goods can only be purchased on market days and not on other days. Goods are chiefly brought here by boats. There is another big hat at the place called 'Baradal-hat' which is about 24 miles off from the station. The communication is by means of river. There are no good Commission Agents. The petty dealers collect goods. It is better to inspect the market personally. The rate may prove favourable.

Kasba—From Howrah to Katihar via Loop line and thence to Kasba—264 miles. Kasba can also be reached from Sealdah station via Parbatipur Junction—283 miles. Local weights are 80 and 85 tolas a seer. The bazar is on the side of the railway station. The chief productions are jute, hemp, rice, paddy, red mustard-seed (*kajla*).

Kasba is the chief mart for rice and paddy in the Purnea district. Such a large quantity of import of these articles does not take place in any other part of the district. The rice and paddy are imported from the north and exported by merchants from Eastern and Western Bengal to the various parts of the country. The jute of Kasba is well-known and is imported in large quantities. The Marwari and Bengali merchants purchase this jute and send it to Calcutta. There are some agencies here of the European merchants of Calcutta where jute is purchased. From this it appears that jute business is an important concern here. *Kajla* mustard-seeds are also imported in great quantities which are sent by rail to stations on the E. I. R., Loop-line, Burdwan, Bhadreswar, and Calcutta. This business, however,



does not last throughout the year. In short, business can well be carried on those articles which are imported here in abundance.

Further information required may be referred to the following merchants :—

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Doctor Anadi Nath Mukerjee, and Geru Mondol.

Katihar—From the Howrah Railway station to Sahebganj *via* Loop Line (E. I. R.), from (Dist. Purnea. Sahebganj to Maniharighat, thence to Katihar—242 miles. Or from the Sealdah railway station to Damukdia Ghat (E. I. R.) ; then by ferry steamer to Saraghat ; from Saraghat to Parbatipur junction by rail ; change again at Parbatipur for Kathihar—261 miles. Local weight 85 tolas. The bazar is close to the station. Jute, flax, tobacco, kajla, mustard-seeds, linseed, (chota dana), rice, paddy, blankets, oil-cakes &c., are largely imported here.

Commission Agents—Kapur Naik, Ramkanta Mahato.

Barsoi—From Howrah to Katihar *via* Loop Line, thence to Barsai—266 miles. Another (Dist. Purnea.) communication is from Sealdah *via* Parbatipur junction—distance 285 miles. Local weight is 85 tolas a seer. The market is close to the station. As goods are imported here as in Kathihar, it is needless to describe it again. The Mahananda river passes by the market ; so goods are conveniently transported from this place. Dry fish is available here in considerable quantities.

The hat is held here once a week. There is no such big hat as this in the Purnea district. Jaggree, jute, mustard-seeds, rice, coarse cloth, blankets, honey, wax, bullock cart-wheels, cattle, buffalos, goats, camel and other animals, and chillies and dried fish are imported to this hat in large quantities. Gunny-bags and fine and coarse mats of local manufacture are largely sold here. Large quantities of jute



are imported here as in Purnea and then exported to Calcutta. Besides jute, tobacco is brought here in abundance which the Aracanese purchase in season time for the manufacture of Burma cigars. The local tobacco is of good quality. For further particulars about tobacco please refer to my book entitled "Historic Commercial Products of India."

Commission Agents :—Kristolal Majumdar, Jhialal Saha, Wottam Ram Shaha, Ramdhani Shaha, Kaluram Shaha.

Sonali—From Howrah to Kathihar by Loop line—thence to Sonali—252 miles. Sonali can (District Purnea.) also be reached from Sealdah *via* Parbatipur junction—372 miles. Local weight is 85 tolas. The bazar is close to the Station. Here goods are imported as in Purnea.

Commission Agents :—Bokai Sha, Behary Sha, Bansidhur Bhagabandass, Sewbuxrai Hajarimull, Ratanchand Daramchand.

Forbeshganj—From the Howrah railway station (E. I. R.) to Kathihar *via* Loop line and (Dist. Purnea.) from the latter station to Forbeshganj. The other communication is from the Sealdah railway station (E. B. R.) *via* Parbatipur junction. Local weight is 80 and 85 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the railway station. Goods are imported here like Kathihar.

Commission Agents :—Rajendra Nath Basu, M. B. Sing, Nirmol Saha, Bhajan Ram Baksiram.

Fulbari—is 259 miles off from the Sealdah station, E. B. Ry. The bazar is close to the (Dist. Rangpur.) station. There being no river near by, all goods are imported and exported by rail. The local weight is 60 tolas a seer. Large quantities of paddy, rice, jute, masuri, khesari, kalai, barley, grams, mustard-seeds, rahar &c., are imported here. The first three being the chief among all. During the season, time, rice and paddy pur-



chased here and exported in great quantities to various places. Both coarse and fine rice is imported here. Fulbari is a well-known mart for jute. The jute business lasts from the month of Sravan to Aghran. Many Bengali and Marwari merchants from Calcutta side and Eastern Bengal come here during the season time to purchase jute, which is exported to Calcutta.

Commission Agents :—Kishorilal Saha, Jagabandhu Pramanik, Rasiklal Saha, Kanai Lall Dutta & Sons, Lakhikanta Dey, Jogendra Nath Chatterjee.

Domar—is 282 miles distant from the Sealdah railway station (E. B. R.). The bazar is close to (District Rangpur.) the station. The local weight is 60 tolas a seer. Rice, paddy, jute, ginger both fresh and dried, tobacco &c., are imported here in large quantities. The famous pulo (9), bishpat, broad leaf, motihar &c., are largely cultivated here. Many rich merchants of Calcutta and of the United Provinces come here to purchase these tobacco. Tobacco is sold here both by weight and unit stock. Stocks can only be conveniently purchased by clever men who have acquired experience in business by practice. If tobacco is purchased with due care and caution, an excess weight of 4 to 5 seers which means a profit of Rs. 2 to 3 per maund can be realised.

Commission Agents —Joygobinda Das, Panchanon Poddar.

Kissenganj—From the Howrah railway station (E. I. R.) to Kathihar *via* Loop line and from (Dist. Purnea.) the latter place to Kissenganj. Another route to Kissenganj is from the Sealdah railway station (E. B. R.) *via* Parbatipur junction. Local weights are 85 and 90 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. Goods are imported here as to Kathihar.

A sort of coloured cloth which is called 'fatash' is manufactured here in hand-loom. Carriage-wheels, mats and hand-loom gunny are also manufactured here. When there



were no jute-mills in this country, the gunny-bags of local manufacture were used for carrying goods. Gunny-bags were then manufactured in large numbers throughout the district, which the merchants exported to various parts of the country. The business has now nearly been closed owing to the competition of cheap gunnies manufactured in jute-mills of this country. The local gunnies are more used only for covering bundles of tobacco and carrying lime and brick-dust.

Commission Agents :—Pramatha Nath Ghose, Behari Neogi, and Rajoni Kanta Kundu.

Bhutan—lies in the interior of the Himalyas and to the east of Sikkim. It is 50 miles off (Dist. Bhutan.) from Darjeeling. Carriages drawn by camels, rickshaws and tongas are available. One has to go to Cownia railway station from Sealdah by E. B. Railway line, cross the Tista river and to reach Mogalhut again by rail, thence to Cooch Behar. The Cooch Behar station is 324 miles distant from the Sealdah (Calcutta) railway station. Bhutan is 30 miles off from Cooch Behar, the means of communication being horses or elephants.

Although communication to Bhutan is difficult and troublesome, yet it is a place where business can be profitably conducted. Silk-cloth, endi-cloth, musk, ghee, wax, blanket, tails of bison, oranges, lac, timber, honey, rubber, ivory &c. are largely available here on market-days. The *hat* here lasts for 3 to 4 months like the *melas* and thus they are quite different from the Bengal hats, which are held either daily or bi-weekly. Two to three thousand Bhutias come to this hat for mercantile transactions. In exchange of this goods, they receive foreign cloths, sugar, hardware, betelnuts, cloths, salt, paddy, tobacco, dried fish, copper and brass wares, articles of stationery and miscellaneous goods. It will not be convenient for a trader only to make purchase in this hat.



He should bring with him such goods as are easily saleable here and take in exchange the goods brought there by the local merchants and export them to this part of the country. This sort of business will give him good profit. There are large number of rubber plantations in Bhutan. The rubber trees are called here Bangsi-bat. It is said that, when the English first scratched the trees to extract rubber from them, Bhutias objected, as they thought they would be killed by Demons, as soon as the rubber trees were scratched. Now they are free from such ideas through the medium of the English. They are making large plantations of rubber, the business having proved lucrative. A duty has been imposed by the local administration on the goods sold and purchased there.

My Bengali brethren ! If instead of taking services on Rs. 30/- or 40/- a month in the distant Province of Assam, you too carry on business here for 3 to 4 months with a capital of Rs. 1000/-, you will surely understand what profit you will derive in these 4 months. In spite of these means, it is not understood why the Bengalis like service and thereby lose their independence and future prospects. Educated young men are requested to carry on business for one season at least.

Blankets, cotton cloths, poney cattle, sheeps, buffalo, yaks and their hairy tails (chamars), musk, ghee, silk, tea, wax, honey, hides, lac, rubber, ivory, valuable skins of various animals &c., are imported here. Among these Bhutia thick blankets of very good quality are available here. The blankets though thick are made of pure wool ; hence they are very useful during winter and last for many years— say 10 to 15 years. These blankets are very useful in cold climate. Musk can be had here at a very cheap price. It is a very profitable business to purchase ivory at this place, at a convenient rate and export it to Murshidabad and Cuttack. Sandal woods can also be had from the jungle of Bhutan.



Knives, swords, spears, daggers, kukris, axes, sickles, javelins, arrows, spades, plough-shares and other cuttaries of steel and iron are manufactured here, which are available at a very cheap price. Besides these various kinds of articles made of brass, bell-metal, copper and silver are prepared here.

Purnea—From Howrah to Katihar *via* loop line.

(District)

Thence to Purnea—282 miles ; or from

Sealdah to Purnea *via* Parbatipur junction—278 miles. The bazer is two miles off from the Ry. station. Jute, tobacco, mustard-seed and flax are considerably imported in many parts of this district. In short this district is famous for tobacco, jute and mustard-seed. Matihar *gach* tobacco of good quality are produced here.

Large quantities of rice are imported here, which are purchased by Rice merchants and exported to different parts of the country. The Purnea district is famous for its jute production. Jute is imported in large quantities to Sonali, Barsoi, Kissenganj, Forbesganj, Kasba, Dulorganj and other well-known places in the district. This jute is generally known as "Uttare Pat" i. e. northern jute. A road runs straight from this place up to Nepal. The Nepali merchants bring down their local goods by carts to the markets of Purnea where they sell them and purchase foreign cloths, Salt, Kerosine-oil, spices &c. Large quantities of rice, paddy, jute, gunny-bags, musk, timber, honey, wax, hide, &c. are imported from Nepal. Kajlamustard-seeds can be had in large quantities in this district.

Purnea is famous for indigo factory and hides. Fourteen Factories are working still. Hides and bones are in the hands of Mohamedan merchants, who despatch them to Calcutta in abundance.

Commission Agents :—Balgovinda Saha, Chunilal Saha of Khuksibag, Harechand Golap Chand, Burmachand Lall and Dhanpat Singh.



Katni—676 miles distant from the Howrah railway station; weight 80 tolas a seer. The bazar (Dist. Jubbulpur.) is close to the railway station. Grains and seeds, such as, linseed, mustard seed, wheat, gram, rahar, masuri, khesari, castor seed, ghee, and lime &c. but Katni is noted for soft ghee and lime. Sufficient quantities of lime are exported to different parts of India. Ghee can be had in large quantities, but it is of inferior quality; being adulterated with oil it brings the least price in the market. Masuri which is of good quality can be had in sufficient quantities. In addition to the above, large quantities of cement is manufactured here, and red sandstone are found in the village in abundance.

Commission Agents :—Sewlal Johar Mal, Bhuramol Ramdoyal, Sarju Prosad Ram Sahai.

Lime, Stone & Cement :—Ghatak Bros. & Co.'s Lime Works, Katni Cement & Industrial Co., Dyers Stone & Lime Co., Central Provinces Lime and Stone Works.

Pottery Works :—Katni Pottery works. H. F. Cook & Son's Pottery Works.

Sitapur—Change at Cawnpur, 696 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station, for Lucknow on the Oudh and Rohilkhand railway; again change at Lucknow for Sitapur which is on the Lucknow, Bareilly State Ry. Weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is not far off from the station. Sufficient quantities of grains and seeds such as gram, rahar, wheat, castor-seed, linseed, mustard-seed, poppy-seed, masuri, khesari, biri-kalai, lentil, ghee, chaki-gur, oil-cake, barley &c. can be had here. Among these biri-kalai, poppy-seed, ghee and *bagar seti mustard* are the articles for which Sitapur is chiefly noted. The latter articles are exported to Lower Bengal in large quantities. When there is a great demand for kalai in lower Bengal, Sitapur biri-kalai keeps the market.



Very fine poppy-seeds can be had here and seti-mustard gives oil up-to 15 seers a maund.

Commission Agents :—Ramniranjan Maliram, Ramjidas Jagannath, Chedilal Ramdayal.

Jhansi—Change at Delhi for Jhansi on the G. I. P.

(District) Railway. Jhansi is 748 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station.

Weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. All sorts of grains and seeds are imported here. Besides these, cotton, ghee, blanket, ropes, sataranchi, galichas &c. are the things for which Jhansi is noted. Various kinds of sataranchis and daries are manufactured here in a large scale and exported to various places of India. Formerly valuable embroidery works were produced and exported from here to Europe in large quantities. This is one of the fine arts in this district and it has a great reputation still.

Commission Agents :—Chitormal Narayan Das, Radhakissen Mukutroy, and Joykissendas Nimuchand.

Koch—Change at the Cawnpur junction (E. I. R.)

(Dist. Cawnpur.) for the Ait junction. From there Koch can be reached. The bazar

is close to the railway station. Weight is 102 tolas a seer. This is the centre of trade for soft ghee which can be had in enormous quantities. It is not convenient to bring goods through the Commission Agents. It is better to depute a person to Koch who can personally inspect, and then purchase ghee himself. The business on grains and seeds is not paying. Many ghee-merchants of Calcutta make their purchase here.

Commission Agents :—Gangaprosad Pasari, Khiribox Daud Prosad and Brojalal Brindaban.



Kanauj—Change at Cawnpur for Kanauj on the O. & R. Railway. Kanauj is 733 (Dist. Fatehgarh) miles distant from the Howrah Railway station. Weight is 108 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the railway station. All sorts of grains and seeds are imported here. Various kinds of flowers are grown here in large quantities. Kanauj is noted for rose-water, otto, *rue*, various scented oils, pickle, jellies, *gulkond* &c. The finest otto, rose-water, scented oils of India are produced here. These articles are much better and cheaper than those of Gazipur and Jaunpur. There is a considerable quantity of calico-cloth for quilt, bedding and balapose purposes and are exported to various places of India. This cloth has a good name in the market and the printing colour is very nice, and durable. This is one of the profitable business here. Further information may be had from the following merchants :—

Commission Agents :—Beniram Mulchand, 32 Fulkuti.

Perfumers—M. Afaq & Co., Ajodha Prosad Srikrishna Lall, Oriental Perfumers Co.,—Pandit Prayag Dutt and Sunder Lall.

Sekoabad—769 miles off from the Howrah railway station. The standard weight is 80 tolas (Dist. Mainpuri.) a seer. The bazar is close to the railway station. All sorts of grains and seeds are imported here. Potatoes, *chaki gur*, cotton and *ghee* can be had in sufficient quantities. The *ghee* of Sekoabad is of very good quality and is available in large quantities.

Commission Agents :—Bhabani Ram Rekhabdas.

Banda—Change at Allahabad from Howrah for Manikpur on the G. I. P. Ry. ; change again at (District) Manikpur for Banda which is 630 miles distant from the Howrah railway station. The current weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the



railway station. All kinds of grains and seeds are available here ; specially ghee and cotton are worthy of mention. The local ghee is of good quality and is sold at a moderate rate in the market. It is preferable for sweet-meat-makers (Halwai). It can be obtained in large quantities and exported to various places of India. Small trinkets of various shapes, such as paper-knives, buttons, paper-weights, knife-handles, toys, chess etc., are made from fragments of granite, which are washed down by the river Ken.

Commission Agents :—Moolchand Ramprosad.

Bhatinda—Change at Allahabad from Howrah for Rajpur Junction ; change again for (Dist. Firozpur.) Bhatinda which is 1044 miles distant from the Howrah railway station. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is at a short distance from the railway station. Sufficient quantities of grains and seeds, such as gram, wheat, linseed, mustard-seed, castor-seed, rahar, masuri, khesari, and ghee, oil-cakes etc., are imported here in abundance. Among these man-sarjsa (mustard) is of very good quality, available all round the year in abundance and exported to down countries of Bengal. The ghee of Bhatinda is of yellowish colour, hard-boiled and soft, well suited to sweet-meat dealers of Calcutta. But the ordinary householders do not like this class of ghee. Many Bengali and Marwari merchants of Calcutta have purchasing centres here. It is exported throughout the year. All goods are despatched by railway. Here is no noteworthy art manufacture worthy of mention. There is no import of goods during rainy season. Further information required may be had from the following merchants and commission agents :—

Commission Agents :—Rudrakissen Fatehchand, Tansook Das.



Manauri—525 miles distant from the Howrah railway station. The local weight is 96 tolas. (Dist. Allahabad.) The bazar is close to the Ry. station.

Various sorts of grains and seeds are imported here of which castor-cake and oil are worthy of mention which are of excellent quality and can be had in large quantities. The Railway Co. have got an oil-mill here.

Commission Agents :—Din Dial Surajdin, Hanuman Prosad Nathu Lall, Sardhaprasad Ramadhin and Ramratan Kamtaprosad.

Kalka—1065 miles distant from the Howrah railway station (E. I. R.). Local weights are 80 and 100 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the Ry. station. The local production of grains and seeds is comparatively small, and is supplied only to the surrounding parts of the locality. There is little supply towards Calcutta-side. The local bamboo is of very good quality. It makes strong *lathis*. Many merchants carry on business on bamboo here. Ginger also can be had here in large quantities ; such thick and knotty gingers can nowhere else be found. The export of this ginger is a profitable concern. Potatois the chief article of trade. Hilly potatoes are grown here in large quantities and daily exported towards Calcutta side during the rainy season. Many Bengali merchants come here at that time to purchase potatoes. The export begins from the beginning of the month of Bhadra (September) and ends when new potatoes are imported from our local markets to this Province, and it does not pay to bring them from such a distance. From Kalka to Simla and Solan, Kandaghat, Ketrighat and other intermediate stations, potatoes are available. The potatoes from Solan and Kandaghat are of good large size and those from Simla do not rot soon. There is a considerable manufacture of querries of mildstone from which various kinds of utensils and household requisites are made.



Commission Agents :—Balloomal and Maunilal, Manni-Lal Ramjidas.

Simla Commission Agents :—Ram Chandra, Nedhamal Puranmal.

PUNJAB.

Now we shall give a description of the Punjab Province, which extends over a large area of land on the North-west of India. There are good many Bengali merchants, who carry on business in this part of the country. A detailed description of the various parts of the Punjab will require a voluminous book and is beyond the scope of this handbook. Moreover, it is troublesome to come to such a distant part of the country and stay there. We have therefore given a rough account of the Punjab concerning its trade. Persons willing to import goods from this Province would do well if they can collect information by means of correspondence with local merchants.

Indian Bradshaw by Messrs. W. Newman & Co. (price one rupee only), available at the book-stalls of important railway stations will be a helpful guide to one willing to go to the Punjab. Large quantities of grains and seeds are grown in this Province. The grains and seeds are of big size, with good colour. They are free from dust, twigs, and other impurities. Gram, wheat, linseed, mustard-seed, lentil, masuri, khesari, rahar, mung, peas, kalai, cotton, cotton-seeds, castor-seeds, barley, oats, good rice, &c. are imported in abundance. The sale and purchase of these goods are conducted by wagons at the Howrah railway good-shades. Wheat and mustard seeds are chiefly exported to Howrah from the Punjab. Some wagons are also despatched to Raniganj, Burdwan, Naihati, Bhadreswear, and other places of Lower Bengal. Special rates are granted to many goods despatched by rail direct to Howrah. The standard weight of 80 tolas a seer is prevalent in many parts of the province. Names and addresses of some of the leading commission agents and



merchants are given below for the information of the public. Useful information may be collected from them, if they are written to, in English or Urdu.

1. Siva Prosad Sagar Mal, Lekhabari—Mondi Post, Punjab.
2. Joyramdas Radhakissen, Chagga Muja—Mondi Post, Punjab.
3. Kaluram Ramkumar, Rama—Mondi Post, Punjab.
4. Shankar Das Kedarnath, Kul—Mondi Post, Punjab.
5. Saudi Lal Balmukund, Manasi—Mondi Post, Punjab.
6. Ramchandra Kandi Lal,—Gidhasda Post, Firozpur, Punjab.
7. Mahatap Sing Dewan Sing, Tok-Tek Sing Post, Layalpur, Punjab.

Auraiya—Change at Cawnpur for Aruaiya via Phaphand junction. The bazar is 14 miles distant from the railway station. Local weight is 102 tolas a seer. The distance by rail from Howrah is 699 miles. The mart is well-known for soft ghee usually known as Uria-ghee. The ghee is adulterated with mowah-oil ; its price is very cheap and is convenient for sweet-meat makers. This ghee does not possess either colour or crystals. Many big ghee-merchants of Calcutta make their purchase here throughout the year, with the help of their agents. Goods cannot be purchased here by means of correspondence.

Inspite of this, grains and seeds, such as gram, rahar, masur, khesari, kalai, castor-seed, mustard-seed, rape-seed, wheat, linseed, cotton-seed etc., are exported here in abundance. All these goods are despatched by railway. There is no notable art manufacture here. The following are the dealers :—

Merchant & Commission Agent :—Santosh Kumar Sett,

**Sirsa Road**—Change at Delhi Junction for Rewari

(Dist. Hissar.) Junction, thence to Sirsa Road station,—
1035 miles distant from Howrah. Local

weight of ordinary grains and seeds is 101 tolas and that of oil and ghee is 80 tolas a seer. The market is close to the railway station. Grains and seeds are considerably imported here. Gram, maize, wheat, linseed, mustard-seed, kalai, masuri, khesari, cotton, rahar, castor seed, oil, ghee, sugar etc. are available in large quantities. Big Marwari merchants make their purchases here, but the Bengali merchants do not do so, as this place is far off from Calcutta or perhaps it is unknown to most of them. Such a large quantity of goods are imported here during the season time that money can hardly buy them. Ghee is of a soft nature although available in large quantities.

Commission Agents :—Vakat Ram Gobindram, Jowala-Prosad Kanhaialall.

Behea—Behea is 382 miles distant from the Howrah

(Dist. Arrah.) station on the E. I. Railway. The bazar
is close to the railway station on the river

Ganges. The local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The chief productions are gram, wheat, linseed, castor-seed, peas, khesari, masuri, khari-masurdal, tobacco, chillies, rahar, gram, Bheli-gur, mustard seed etc., out of which masurdal, masuri, khesari and gram are exported to East Bengal by boats during the rainy season when the river is navigable. Bheli-gur is of good quality and is largely exported to the up-country, up to Punjab. No notable art manufacture is worthy of mention. Black and white blankets of rough use are exported here moderately and thence exported to Calcutta and to the Tea Districts. Further information required may be obtained from the following merchants :—

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Naga Vakam Ram-vajan Sing.



Bihta—Bihta is 355 miles from Howrah railway station on the E. I. Ry. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The river Ganges is close (Dist. Arrah.)

to the Bazar and is navigable. Grains and seeds such as gram, wheat, linseed, mustard seed, castor seed, Masur dal, chillies, khesari, masuri, tobacco, peas, chaki-gur (Bheli-gur) are imported here. Out of these Bheli-gur of good quality can be had here, which is exported to the up-country up to the Punjab. During season time 500 to 700 wagons of Bheli-gur are despatched from this station. Two hats are held every Tuesday and Friday of the week. No notable art-manufacture is worthy of mention. Goods are despatched by railway to up-country and to Calcutta side and by steamer to East Bengal. For further particulars refer to the following.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Rambrith Sha, Keshwar Lall Chatto lall, Gokul Sha Motiram, Dhanoo Choudhury.

Arrah—Arrah is 364 miles distant from the Howrah railway station on the E. I. Ry. Local (Dist. Sahabad.) weight is 80 tolas a seer. The Bazar is 2 miles off from the railway station. Arrah is the Headquarters of Sahabad district and it is a civil station. The place is healthy and many Bengalies have settled here.

Large quantities of grains, such as wheat, linseed, mustard-seed, *chakigur*, ghee, masuri, rahar khesari, peas, castor-seeds are imported here. Chaki-gur of this locality being of good colour, many merchants send it to the different parts of the country. The majority of merchants who purchase and export grains and seeds from this place are the Marwaries, the Nakodas and the Deswals. In addition to the above, blankets, *asan*, garrah cloth and various other articles are manufactured here. The chowk-bazar is two miles off from the railway station. All the goods are sent by rail. Further information may be had from :—



Commission Agents :—Kalicharan Monsovitram, Gurmukroy Madan Gopal.

Buxar—Buxar is 411 miles distant from the Howrah railway station on the main line of the E. I. Ry. The bazar is close to the station and the river Ganges is one mile distant from the station. The weight is 80 tolas a seer. Large quantities of Linseed, mustard seed, gram, masuri, Khesari, rahar, wheat, oats, chaki-gur, country oil-cakes, ghee, pure sugar, blankets, sataranchi etc., are imported here. Out of these ghee and sugar has a good reputation.

The local ghee is of white colour and is much appreciated by Calcutta people and can also be had here in large quantities. There are many sugar factories at this place. The sugar which is generally known as Kasi sugar is not actually manufactured at Kasi, but comes from the surrounding places specially from Buxar and Gazipur and is imported to various parts of the United Provinces. The chakigur of this place is of good quality and is exported to Calcutta. Big fishes of this locality are exported to Calcutta during winter season. The fish business can go on well. Kharimasur *dal* can be had here in large quantities. This dal is carried down by steamer to Calcutta and various parts of Eastern Bengal. Black and white blankets are produced here in large quantities, but the Jail-made blankets and sataranchis are of good quality and have a good name in the market. Pure mustard oil is available here from the Jail depot. In addition to these potatoes, mangoes, and cauli-flowers are also exported from this place to various stations. Goods are generally despatched by rail and steamer, but most of the goods for Eastern Bengal are despatched by steamer.

Gushkara—87 miles distant from the Howrah railway station on the E. I. Railway, Loop line. (Dist. Burdwan.) Weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the Ry. station. Rice and paddy are imported here



in large quantities. This is "Rahri" rice some particles of stone dust being mixed with it. Most of the merchants are Bengalis. Goods are despatched by rail throughout the year. There is no noted industrial goods worthy of mention. It is noted for its big rice mart in the district. For further information please refer to the following merchants :—

Commission Agents :—Ashutosh Mukerjee, B. K. Mukerjee, Purna Chandra Mondal.

Bolpur—99 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station on the E. I. Railway, Loop line. (Dist. Birbhum.) The Bazar weight is 80 tolas a seer. This is a chief mart of rice and paddy in the district. Large quantities of "Rahri" rice is imported and exported to the down stations of Bengal. Exports of kerosine oil, salt, sugar, grains, seeds, dal, jaggree, molasses, tobacco, ghee, khari salt, atta, maida, hardware, cloths and miscellaneous sundries and stationaries are imported in abundance from Calcutta and various stations of India. Nearly a mile off from the Ry. station, Bandgarah is a place, where rice and paddy are imported in large scale from the surrounding villages.

There are four rice mills conducted by the Bengalis and Marwaries and still more mills are going to be started shortly. The market is flourishing day by day. Goods are despatched by rail. Most of the merchants are Bengalis. There is no noted industrial goods worthy of mention. For further information please write to the following merchants :—

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Tincory Hatty, Rakhal Ch. Chatterjee, Upendra Nath Chatterjee, and Kalachand Chatterjee.

Sainthia—119 miles distant from the Howrah railway station on the E. I. Ry., Loop line. (Dist. Birbhum.) Weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is



close to the Ry. station. It is one of the chief centres of trade in the Birbhum district. Before opening of the Ondal-Sainthia Railway business was prosperous ; but now the market is becoming dull. The principal productions are paddy and rice, of which considerable quantities are exported from this place to various markets in Bengal and up-country. Tobacco, molasses, jaggree, grains, seeds, oil-cake, salt, kerosine, cloth, spices and miscellaneous articles are sold here in enormous quantities. Most of the dealers are Bengalis and Marwaries. Goods are despatched by rail throughout the year. The market is noted for Rahri rice. There are no noted industrial goods worthy of mention. There is two mustard oil-mills in the bazar, conducted by the Marwaries. For further information, please refer to the following merchants :—

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Rekhabchand Duni-
chand, Chouthmal Surajmall, Shersing Tejkaran, Nikunja
Behary Dey, Atal Behary Dutta, Mohendra Nath Gui.

Dubrajpur—138 miles distant from the Howrah Rail-
way station on the E. I. Railway *via*
(Dist. Birbhum.) Ondal—Sainthia Line. The bazar is one
mile off from the Railway station. Weight—80 tolas a seer.
This is a chief mart for paddy and rice in the Birbhum district.
Large quantities of paddy and rice are imported here and ex-
ported to various stations both in the up and down countries.
The business is carried on all round the year. Export trade
of salt, kerosine oil, cloths, grains, seeds, spices, hardwares,
jaggree, tobacco, molasses, sugar &c., are largely carried on
in enormous quantities. Large quantities of mustard seeds
are exported here from the up-country.

There are four oil and rice mills conducted by Marwari
merchants. Most of the dealers are influential Marwaries of
Calcutta. Goods are despatched by rail. There are no



noted industrial goods worthy of mention here. For further informations, please refer to the following merchants.

Merchants & Commission Agents :—Parimal Kumar Dey, Harisankar Dalal, Gourdudd Kedarnath.

Nalhati—145 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station on the E. I. Railway, Loop line. (Dist. Birbhum.) Weight—80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the railway station. Rice and paddy are imported here in large quantities. This is Rahri rice of the district. It is one of the chief centres of trade in the Birbhum District. Large quantities of grains, seeds, tobacco, jaggree, molasses, oil-cake, kerosine, cloth &c., are imported here from Howrah and various stations of the up-country for sale. There are no noted industrial goods worthy of mention. Most of the dealers are Bengali, Marwary & deswals. All goods are despatched by railway.

The hills near the Nalhati station contain large quantities of black stone. This stone is quarried by machines and used for metalling roads and exported to various districts of Bengal. For further information, please refer to the following merchants.

Merchants & Commission Agents :—Jasabanta Dutta, Dasarath Vakati.

Quarries—Maharaja Monindra Chandra Nundy Bahadur.

Baliadanga—Murarai, a station on the Loop line of the E. I. R., is 155 miles distant from the (Dist. Birbhum) Howrah railway station ; Baliadanga is 3 miles off from Murarai. The Santhals and the uncivilised Paharies (mountaineers) bring cotton, buffaloes, goats, tamarind, myrobalans, tea, cocoons, *anantamul* (hemedesmus), honey, wax, and various other things for sale here. It is a very profitable business to purchase these articles at this market and export them to Calcutta. Articles obtained



from the jungle can be had here at a very cheap price. Rabi-crops are grown here to a certain extent. The local weight is 58 $\frac{3}{4}$ tolas a seer. There are fine silk factories possessed by the Europeans in which silk-threads are spun. Arrangements can be made with the local weavers by giving them threads and wages, to get silk cloths woven by them. Ghooting is available here in large quantities and business on this article can well be carried on with a small capital. The place is very healthy. Persons serving abroad on a salary of Rs. 20/- to 30/- a month, will come to know how large profits can be made with a small capital of say Rs. 500/-, if they establish business at this place for a year. In our opinion it would be convenient if two persons jointly start a business here and earn their livelihood independently and with peace of mind. Bengali Babus who generally earn their livelihood by serving as clerks will be able form some idea of business if they come here during holidays. Any one wanting informations relating to business at this place by means of letter, can correspond direct with the agent (Naib) of that locality under the address—Cutchery Naib, Village—Palsa, Post office—Belia, District—Birbhum. The Naib will be pleased to help the Bengalis either by a reply to their letters or welcome the visitors and make arrangements for their business. The place is not far off from Calcutta and yet advantageous to a trader. It is better to carry on business here independently than to accept ill-paid services in Bengal. This place is also advantageous for cultivation. If some educated young men take a few acres of land on rent and get them cultivated on an improved way, they may presumably obtain plenty of harvest. They should make an enquiry into the matter about this place.

Sheikpura—Change at Kiul junction on the main line from Howrah for Sheikpura *via* S. B. line.
(Dist. Monghyr.) Distance from Howrah is 278 miles. Local



weight is 84 tolas a seer. The bazar is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles off from the railway station. All sorts of grains and seeds are imported here. Very good quantities of mustard-seed and linseed are available here. Potatoes, onions, oil-cakes, flax, flax-threds, gargara-pipes, ghee &c., can be had here. Very good gargara-pipes are manufactured here, which are well-known to the public. Barbigha is 12 miles distant from this place where flax and flax-twine are available in considerable quantities. On the whole it is a good mart.

Commission Agents :—Dungarsidas, Sukun Saha, Etwari Sha, Misri Sha, Bhagwandas, Jhantu Lal, and Shambhuram Bakshiram.

Worsleyganj—Change at Kiul junction on the main line from Howrah for Worsleyganj *via* (Dist Gaya) South Behar Ry. The distance is 294 miles. Local weight is 84 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the railway station. Linseed, mustard-seed, ghee, molasses, jaggree, chakigur, flax, flax-twine, *bansmati atap* (sun-dried) rice of good quality, country sugar, castor-seeds, potatoes, onions, oil-cakes &c., are imported here. Oil can be extracted up to 16 seers per maund from the local mustard-seeds. Ghee is of second quality and available in limited quantity. Jaggree can be had here in considerable quantities. This is a good mart for jaggree and large quantities are exported to the southern parts of the districts of Burdwan, Birbhum, Sonthal purganas, Bankura, Hooghly, Singbhum and Midnapur. Good table rice or *bansmati atap* of this place is famous which finds an easy sale. It is a chief mart for country-sugar—there being many sugar factories in the surrounding villages. This sugar is exported to the United Provinces in considerable quantities. Sugar should not be purchased from the Marwaries, who export goods adulterated. It should be taken from the Goladars of the Mahuri classes.



Commission Agents—Baburam Kanai Ram, Dhanoo Ram, Lalchand Luchminaran, Tansook Roy Rameswar Lall, Ram Gopal Tansook Roy.

Nawada—Change at the Kiul junction on the main line from Howrah for Nawada *via* S. B. (Dist. Gaya.) Ry. The distance is 305 miles. Local weight is 84 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the railway station. Wheat, linseed, mustard-seed, molasses, chakigur, jaggree in tins, sugar, castor-seed, potatoes, onions, flax, flax-twine, oil-cakes, &c., are imported here in abundance. Local ghee is of soft nature. Oil can be extracted up to 16 seers per maund from the local mustard seeds. Jaggree is good and has a good name in the down countries.

Commission Agents :—Chetan Ram Beelu Ram, Karu Saha, Tara Chand, Boksiram Golaprai.

Gaya—can be reached direct from Howrah *via* Grand Chord or *via* Kiul junction. Distance is (Dist. head-quarters.) 380 miles. Local weights are 72, 80 and 82 tolas. The bazar is close to the station. Gaya is an important town, consequently marketing on various goods goes on here and both import and export business flourishes in this city. All sorts of grains and seeds are imported here. Molasses, chakigur, country sugar, red-pepper, ghee, potatoes, cauliflowers, tobacco, oil-cakes, stone-wares, white and black blankets, plates &c., are available here in large quantities. Molasses and chakigur of very good quality can be had here, most of which are exported to the U. P. and Bengal. It is considered as an important centre of trade.

There are many sugar-factories here, from which large quantities of sugar are exported. Local ghee is of soft kind, but it can be had in considerable quantities—business on this article alone can be conducted well. The chief mart for ghee is, at Hariharganj, from which ghee is imported to Gaya. It is convenient to send ghee from Hariharganj to



the Palmerganj station. Ghee can not be had here without depositing earnest money. The local weight is 80 tolas a seer. Incidental charges are rather high. For further particulars please communicate with the Aratdar, Babu Surjeepatra Mukherji. Potatoes and cauliflowers can be had at Gaya in large quantities. There are many big workshops where tobacco is prepared. The famous Gaya tobacco is sold in all markets. The price of this tobacco ranges from 7/- to 80/- rupees per maund. Such a fragrant tobacco can not be found anywhere else. Various sorts of articles are made from the black stone of Gaya, which are sent out to other parts of the country. Blankets can be had here in large number at a convenient rate. In short, all sorts of business can well be carried on here.

Aratdars of Molasses, Ghee, Grains and Seeds :—Puran Mal Gobindlal, Chetan Ram Nirmol Ram, Ghanashyam Das Bala Bax, Nakhelal Sitaram, Gobardhan Das Gaya Prosad —of Purana Godam.

Tobacco merchants—Kokil Saha, Chamari Saha, Bundi-lal, Bisenram.

Stone-merchants—Aditram Lachmiram of Gaya.

Blanket merchants—Budhulal, Rajlal.

Bell-metal merchants—Rammol Ram, Uttamram Ajodhya Ram, Chamari Saha.

Behar—Behar is 328 miles from Howrah station on the main line. Change at Buktiaarpur (Dist. Head-quarters.) Junction on E. I. Ry. Local weight is 84 tolas a seer. The bazar is one mile off from the Railway station. This is one of the most important marts. Large quantities of potatoes, jute, flax, flax-twine, jaggree, chaki-gur, molasses, country sugar, ghee, oil-cake, blankets, mustard-seed (Sethi), and other grains and seeds are available here. Besides it is an important place of art manufactures. Soap, twasar cloth, hukka-pipes, fine dhutees,



various kinds of check, chintz and brass utensils etc. can be had here. Business on flax is well conducted here.

Large quantities of flax can be had in Behar, which are exported to Mogra, Seoraphully, Bhadreswar, Burdwan, Calcutta and other parts of Lower Bengal. Potato-seeds are also available here in considerable quantities in Behar. Dealers in these seeds may purchase them in this place. If there be no heavy showers of rain during the month of Aswin, new potatoes can be imported first here, which can be sent down by railway to Calcutta. Potato business can be carried on well here. It is exported to Asansol, Raniganj, Mankar, Burdwan, Guskara, Bolpur, Sainthia, Rampurhat, Mogra, Memari, Chandernagore, Sheoraphuli, Calcutta and other stations of Lower Bengal. When the price of local jaggree runs high, jaggree in tins is exported from this place. This jaggree has a good colour and crystals, but for the smell of kerosine oil it sells at Rs. 2/- to 2/8/- less than local jaggree.

There are many famous sugar factories in the Behar Province, from which sugar is exported to many stations on the Loop line and to the up-country. Table rice (Bansmati) of best quality is available here which is exported to the up-country in large quantities. Good quantities of mustard seed is imported here in abundance and oil can be extracted from Seti-mustard seeds up to 16 seers per maund. These seeds cannot be had throughout the year but only for a few months during the season. Coarse cloths woven by Muhamedam weavers (jollas), locally known as *Mutia garrah* cloths are available here in large number. These cloths are exported to the markets of the colliery districts, as the colliery workmen like them very much. Large number of these cloths are also exported to Patna, where they are coloured red and sold as "Patnai Kherua". The napkins of Behar are famous and they are exported to Calcutta. Besides coaise cloth, fine cloths are manufactured in large



number and exported to Patna, Monghyr, Bhagalpur and other places of India. Government has established a weaving factory at this place, where various sorts of cloth are manufactured. Blankets both black and white and small *Ashans* are imported here and the blanket business is in a flourishing state. Most of the cooly-contractors export blankets from this place. In short, various kinds of mercantile business can well be carried on here throughout the year. Further information required, may be obtained from the following merchants and agents.

Commission Agents :—Fakir Chand Ram, Ram Chandra Lal, Premsookdas Sovachand.

Garhwah—Change at Gaya from the Howrah railway [E. I. R.] for Daltanganj Junction (M. G. (Dist. Palamau.) R.); change again at this junction for Garhwah road—total distance from Howrah 402 miles. Ghee and mustard-seeds are chiefly imported here. These articles bear a good name in Calcutta market. Many Bengali and up-country merchants purchase ghee at this place all the year round. A hat is held here every Saturday for the sale of ghee. Many villagers come here from great distance to sell ghee. Large quantities of ghee is sold at this hat by the milkmen of Sorgunja in the district of Raipur. This place is difficult to reach at, as it is full of jungles and hills. They bring ghee in *moshaks* which are carried by oxen. Although uncivilised, they are good people, but they are getting clever day by day. Formerly they used to bring pure ghee, but now they have learned to adulterate it with mowah-oil. Ghee is prepared from the milk of cows and buffaloes. Some householders keep cows and buffaloes to the extent of 20-50-100. These animals only graze on the fields. If they are fed, as is done in Bengal, they may give milk plentifully. But the people there do not try to do so. The ghee being a mixture of both cow and buffalo ghee is of a reddish tinge. Some milkmen bring only buffalo ghee, which is colourless and is of



medium quality. It is best used by sweet meat vendors. Babu Jogendra Nath Dutta is a well-known merchant of this place. For further particulars about ghee *vide* Mahajan Sakha edited by me.

Commission Agents :—Golabram Shew Prasad, Sonilal Dhanukdhari, Shewprosad, Nankooram Ramprosad.

Nowgachia—From Howrah to Bhagalpur on the E. J. Ry. Loop line ; cross the river *Ganges* and (Dist. Bhagalpur.) thence to Nowgachia station on the B. N. W. Ry. The bazar is close to the railway station and on the right side of the river *Ganges*. Local weight is 101 tolas a seer. It is one of the important grain marts in the Bhagalpur district and is famous for a variety of grains and seeds. The country surrounding Nowgachia is fertile and prosperous. Large quantities of *maghi* and *purabi* mustard seed, gram, kali (black) kalai, *jara* kalai, maize, chillies, rahar, masuri, khesari, linseed, and castor-seed are exported from here. During the season time large quantities of maize (*makai*) are despatched to Behar and to the different colliery districts. Mustard-seed is of very good quality and is exported mostly to the Loop line and other places of Bengal. Many merchants from East Bengal purchase goods here and despatch to their markets. Goods are generally transported by railway, and by boats or steamer during the rainy season. Most of the dealers are Deswals and Bengalis. On the whole, it appears, that Nowgachia is an important place of trade. Further informations may be obtained from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Mangobindo Dutta and Bhusan Chandra Dutta, Kebalram Ganpat Roy and Amrit Vakati Gowri Sankar.

Khagaria—From Howrah to Monghyr *via* Loop line, (Dist. Monghyr.) thence to Khagaria by steamer. It is 297 miles from Howrah. Local weight is 88 tolas a seer. The bazar is situated on the river



Ganges. This is an important mart in the Monghyr district. Considerable quantities of grains and seeds are imported here, rahar and mustard seeds being the chief among them. Chillies ghee, oil-cakes, coriander seeds, maize, turmeric, aniseed, fishes, etc. are also imported here. Very good ghee is imported here and exported in *mutkies* by steamers and have a good name in the Calcutta mart. Such a good ghee cannot be found elsewhere. All sorts of dals are prepared here like Cawnpur. Large number of fishes are available here, both from the rivers Gandok and Ganges and exported during the winter season to the down countries of Bengal, specially to Calcutta. Many fish-dealers come every year for purchasing fishes during the season time. It is one of the most profitable business here. There is an oil mill under the management of Marwaries. Formerly the trade was in the hands of Bengali merchants, now Marwaries and Deswalls' are the principal dealers. Further information required may be had from the following merchants.

Commission Agents :—Tincory Paul, Ram Karan Dass, Bilas Roy, Darbari Lall, Gonesh Dass, Jaggernath Mongal chand, Sewcham Lall.

Tegra—From Howrah to Mokameh Ghat on the E. I. Ry. ; cross the river Ganges and thence
(Dist. Monghyr.) from Semariaghat Station to Tegra. The Ganges is one mile off from the railway station and 6 miles from the Semaria-Ghat. The bazar is close to the station. Goods can be transported by steamer to the Semariaghat Station. The local weight is 84 tolas a seer. The bazar, though small, is one of the important marts in the district. The chief imports are chillies, linseed, *sakarkand* potatoes (white—sweet), rahar (*Baisakhi*), maize, oil-cake, ghee, turmeric, tobacco etc. Of these large quantities of chillies are imported here during the season time and most of



the East Bengal merchants purchase and export them to their respective markets. *Sakarkand* potatoes are imported here in abundance at a very cheap rate. The local ghee is of very good quality and flavour like *Maharah* of Dhubhanga. Matki ghee known as *Monghyr Matki* are exported from this place to Calcutta by boats and steamers. This ghee is of good yellowish colour and crystals and is tasteful. Indigo is the chief industry here produced by local traders and there is also an indigo factory and mill for the purpose. Most of the merchants are Marwaries and Deswals. Further information may be referred to the following merchants.

Merchant and Commission Agents :—Sukan Sha, Jaggernath Ram, Takchand Lall, Tulsiram Bhagandass, Kaniram Bisheswar Lall.

Beguserai—From Howrah railway station to Monghyr *via* Jamalpur on E. I. Ry. (Dist. Monghyr.) Then cross the river Ganges by ferry steamer and thence to Beguserai station on the B. N. W. Ry. line. The local bazar is close to the station. Weight here is 84 tolas a seer. It is one of the sub-divisions of the Monghyr Dist. The trade of Beguserai has undergone considerable changes due to the opening of the B. N. W. Ry. The bazar though small is progressive and is the chief centre of the district. Considerable quantities of maize, gram, masuri, khesari, rahar, peas, linseed, castor-seed, oil-cakes, castor-oil-cakes, chillies, ghee, millet, mustard-seed, wheat, etc. are imported here and exported to east and west Bengal. Best ghee is available here and large quantities of chillies are imported to this place. During season time, many merchants from Dacca, Barisal, Narayanganj, Serajganj, Chandpur, Tippera, Noakhali &c., purchase enormous quantities of these things here and export to their respective markets. Goods are largely imported on Hat-days and despatched by railway. Most of



the merchants are Deswals and Marwaries. There are no manufacturing industries of any importance.

Bakri Bazar is 12 miles off from Beguserai, where considerable quantities of chillies are available—even thousands and thousands of maunds of chillies can be had here, if required, in season time. Merchants desirous to purchase chillies should enquire here. The Bakri station is very close to the bazar. Goods can conveniently be transported from this place. Here are no big Aratdars ; all are petty brokers ; so it is better to send a man and purchase chillies during season time. Villagers of this places do not accept G. C. notes in exchange of goods. Payment is made all in cash.

Merchants and Commission Agents of Beguserai :—
Gobin Sha Lochmon Sha, Baijnath Mannu Lal, Darsan Sha Panna Sha.

Parihara :—From Howrah to Monghyr by rail, then cross the river by steamer ; then change at (Dist. Mooghyr.) Sahebpur Kamal junction from Monghyr-ghat station for Lakmonia station. Parihara is 8 miles from the Lakmonia station. Local weight is 84 tolas. Large quantities of chillies are available here. Other grains and seeds can be had in small quantities. Many Bengali merchants come from both East and West Bengal to purchase goods during season time.

The ghee of this place is the best of its kind in the Monghyr Dist. Formerly considerable quantities of Matki ghee used to be exported from this place, but now only small quantity of it is available. There were many *godies* and *golas* of Bengali merchants in those days, but now they have nearly been closed. Parihara stands on the river Gondak. Goods can be carried by boats.

Bakri is two miles off from this place. There is a good market at Bakri. Large quantities of red peper are import-



ed to this place. During this time over one hundred Bengalis come here from East and West Bengal to purchase red pepper. Goods are despatched through Parihara.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Jhumoklal Saha, Darbarilal.

Motihari :—From Howrah to Mokamehghat on the E. I. Railway; then cross the the river (Dist. Champaran.) Ganges, thence direct to Matihari *via* Baruni and Mozafferpur Junction. The distance is 403 miles from Howrah. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. Motihari is an important commercial and industrial town in the district of Champaran. It receives grains and other products of the country. The principal imports are linseed, mustard-seed, rice, masuri, castor-seed, sugar, chillies, tobacco, jaggree, molasses, bheligur, ghee, khari salt, salt-petre, indigo, oil-cake, garlic, hides, etc. Of these grains and seeds are not yet of much importance.

Motihari is famous for tobacco, indigo, khari-salt, and salt-petre. Among the classes of tobacco, *Hingli* is the best of all; next comes "Motihari tobacco." All these classes of tobaccos, are exported to all parts of India and other foreign countries. During the season time the Aracanese of Burmah purchase considerable quantities of tobacco and export to their country for making cigarettes. Full particulars of "Tobacco" will be given in my "Commercial Products of India", which will be published afterwards.

Formerly the place is said to have been famous for Indigo plantation. At one time the indigo industries was a most profitable business, but owing to the artificial indigo of Germany, the business has been stopped. Large quantities of khari-salt and salt-petre are produced here by the Nunias (a class of people). The salts are chiefly exported to Patna, Gya, Burdwan, Ranigonj, Manbhum, Bankura and all



stations of Loop line and saltpetre is exported direct to Calcutta.

The chief industries carried on are net-making, oil pressing, dari wearing and the manufacture of string money-bags. There are many factories here in which rope work and oil extracting business are carried on. Purses for keeping money and various kinds of large and small fishing nets are manufactured here from cotton threads, which are sold in the neighbouring markets. Fishermen come here from distant countries to purchase nets from this place. There are two buttons factories conducted by the educated young men of Behar. On the whole, it appears that Motihari is an important place of Industries and is flourishing day by day. Goods are transported by railway. The dealers are chiefly Deswals, Marwaries and Nunias. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Badri Prosad Durga Dutt, Kedarnath Baijnath, Giridharilall Kedar Nath.

Button Factories :—Bihar Industrial Button Factory. Tirhoot Moon Button Factory. Post Mehshi.

Sitamari—From Howrah to Mokamehghat, thence to Sitamari *via* Darbhanga and *via* Rairangina—Distance 407 miles. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. All sorts of grains and seeds are imported here. Besides these, red-pepper, ghee, bheli gur, jaggree, poppy-seed, sugar etc., are available in considerable quantities. Local jaggree and bheligur are of very good quality ; ghee is of soft nature, but it can be had in large quantities.

Messrs : Ralli Brothers have established a Sub-agency at Sitamari, owing to the considerable import of linseed, mustard-seed and castor-seed at this place. These goods are exported to Calcutta (Kidderpore Docks) and Bombay. Industrially Sitamari is of some importance and is flourishing



day by day. Saltpetre can also be had in large quantities. The Nunias have many saltpetre factories here. It is packed in gunny bags and sent down to Calcutta.

There is a rice mill here, which is in a flourishing state. A jute mill is also being constructed here. There is also a mustard-oil mill.

On the whole it appears, that Sitamari is an important centre of trade and is flourishing day by day. It has acquired some importance owing to the establishment of some mills. The Marwaris & the local men are the chief merchants of the place. All goods are carried by rail. Cloth, thread, kerosine oil, spices, medicine, hardware and stationery articles &c., are imported here from Calcutta and other places for sale. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Commissions Agents—Sarat Ch. Chatterjee & Co., Doulat Ram Routhmall, Balmukund Nand Lall, Bijraj Rang Lall, Balabux Jankiprosad, Mohadev Sha, Chulai Sha, Joydayal Bharatia (ghee), Joynaran Jamunadass.

Bettiah—From Howrah to Mokameh Ghat, thence cross the river Ganges for Bettiah *via* (Dist. Champaran.) Samastipur and Muzafferpore junction. The total distance is 451 miles. Local weight is 80 totas a seer. It is a big estate in the sub-division of the same name in the Champaran Dist. The bazar is one mile off from the station, The town though small is progressive and is the chief distributing centre of the Dist. The principal productions are linseed, mustard-seed, gram, maize, lentil, poppy-seed, ghee, jaggree, molasses, sugar, tobacco, oil-cake, castor-seed, chillies, termeric, wax, honey, timber, hides &c. of which jaggree, and mollasses are largely exported from this place. The Bettiah jaggree is of rather blackish colour but possesses good crytals ; such crystalised jaggree is produced nowhere else in the district. Ghee, though of soft nature is imported



in considerable quantities. There are no particular manufactures worth mention. Goods are transported by railway. The Marwaries and Deswals are the chief merchants of the place. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchant & Commission Agents :—Chotalal Bhagaban Prosad, Asharam Ghatsiram Sentahal Ram.

Samastipur—From the Howrah railway station (E. I. R.) to Mokameh Ghat ; then from (Dist. Darbhanga.) Samariaghat on the other side of the Ganges to Samastipur is 342 miles. Local weight is 88 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. Seti mustard seeds, linseed, ghee, country sugar, rab-gur, Bheli gur, tumeric, chillies, coriandar seeds, poppy seeds, tobacco, potatoes, mangoes, onions, garlicks, oil-cakes &c., are imported here. Local jaggree, ghee, sugar and chillies are well-known. Formerly large number of *matkis* of ghees used to be transported through the Gandak river but the number had been reduced now. Samastipur ghee had a good name in the Calcutta market. There are machineries for manufacturing sugar scientifically at this place. Large number of mangoes and lichies are exported from this place and large number of graftings of these fruit trees are available. Goods are transported by railway. Most of the dealers are *Deswals* and Marwaries. There are no manufacturing industries of any importance. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Dhanusha Moti Sha, Mahula Jugal Sha, Dumri Ram.

Rosera—From the Howrah Railway Station, E. I. Ry., to Mokameh-Ghat ; cross the river (Dist. Darbhanga) Ganges. From Semaria Ghat to and Samastipur Junction. Local weight is 88 tolas a seer. The

bazar is close to the Ry. station and on the right side of the river Gandak. The bazar though small is progressive, and is the chief centre of trade in the Darbhanga Dist. Considerable quantities of gram, wheat, linseed, *seti* and mustard-seed, castor-seed, chillies, bheli-gur, jaggree, ghee, barley, garlic, fish, castor-cake, oil-cake, tobacco, onions, potatoes, rahar, peas, musuri, khesari, coriander seeds, maize, termeric &c., are imported here. The local *seti* mustard-seed gives up-to 15 seers of oil and *mara seti* gives 16 seers. Of the above articles chillies, garlic, tobacco and linseed are available in large quantities. Local oil and oil-cakes are of good quality. Most of the merchants are Deswals and Marwaries. Goods are generally despatched by railway. During the rainy season goods can conveniently be transported by country-boats to Calcutta and various other places at a very cheap rate. Large fishes of sweet taste are available in the Gandak river at a very cheap price and are exported to Calcutta during the winter season. On the whole, the mart is a profitable one. There is no manufacturing industries of any importance. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants & Commission Agents :—Chulai Mahato, Nathmul Kundah Lal, Ghasiram Chunilall, Sakhi Mahato, Somi Mahato.

Darbhangha—From Howrah Railway Station on the E. I. Ry. to Darbhanga (B. N. W. Ry. (Dist. Head-quarters). 365 miles, *via* Mokameh Ghat. The bazar is close to the station. There are many markets in the town within an area of four miles. The river Bagmati passes by the left side of the town. As it is the head-quarters of the district, various kinds of goods are imported to and exported from this place. It is one of the important commercial and Industrial towns in the Behar Division. Large quantities of grains and seeds such as gram, wheat, linseed, rahar,



masuri, khesari, barley, oat, mustard-seed, poppy-seed, castor-seed, oil-cake, castor oil-cake, chillies, maize, garlic, onions, tobacco, ghee, khari-salt, saltpetre, blankets, jaggree, Bheli-gur, sugar, termeric, coriander seed, anisi-seed, wax, honey, mustard oil, butter, mangoes, lichies, dried juice of mangoes, cauliflowers, timber, ajwan, silajit, chireta, soapnut, resin of pinus, guggul, Indian madder (*manjistha*), *gilay* &c., are imported here from remote villages of Nepal-Terai. Of these, linseed is imported here in large quantities and exported to Calcutta. There is a sub-Agency here of Messrs. Ralli Bros. & Co., for purchasing grains and seeds.

Local jaggree has a gold colour, and is noted for its thick crystals. Large number of tins of jaggree is exported to the up and down countries of India. Bheli-gur is of very nice golden colour and is largely exported to Nagpur, the Central Provinces, Orissa, Manbhum, Calcutta, and Madras.

Ghee of Darbhanga is celebrated far and wide and this Ghee business is conducted on a large scale. There are many Bengalies, Marwaries and Deswals who deal in Ghee of this place. We are giving some more information of ghee below. Ghee is of two kinds, viz : *Banki* and *Mahara*. Banki Ghee is produced from the butter of curds and Mahara is produced from butter of fresh milk. Its colour is yellowish and genuine mahara ghee has a good flavour, which can not be had in the ghee produced in any part of India, except in the Bhagalpur Division. Banki ghee is not pure, it is generally adulterated with ground-nut and mowah-oil. The Arat-dars of this place adulterate poppy-seed oil and other foreign fats with ghee, which is injurious to human health. The ghee of this place is generally imported from the surrounding villages, but some portion is imported from Nepal-Terai, which is not good in colour and taste. This the aratdars mix with the local ghee and sale at reduced price. All these ghees are generally exported to Burdwan, Hooghly, Bankura, Manbham, Singbhum, 24 Purganas and Mursidabad, and some quantity to



Calcutta. There is a little smell of smoke in the *mahara* ghee, which is not liked by the Calcutta people ; hence mahara ghee is sold at a very low rate in the Calcutta market. Further information will be given in my "Commercial Products of India" which will be published afterwards.

Best class country mustard oil, mustard oil-cakes and castor oil-cakes are available here and are exported to down countries in season time.

Bombay, Malda and Kissenhhog mangoes, lichies, cauliflowers and dried mango juice are found here in abundance during season time and are exported to down countries.

There are many orchards and nurseries which supply large quantities of grafts. These are exported to various part of India and Europe.

Large quantities of fish are available at a very cheap rate here from the Bagmati river, and exported to Calcutta during the winter season.

From the Nepal-Terai the Nepalese bring down by carts various kinds of commodities for sale here, such as timber, hides, chamor, cattle, sheep, buffaloes, goats, til (lentil), mustard-seed, blankets, wax, honey &c., and take in exchange cloths, salt, kerosine, spices, brass-utensils, hardwares, and other articles for their use.

Industrial goods of Durbhanga :—The local hand-crafts are cloths, blankets, brass utensils, flour, and rice. There are some oil mills, Tobacco and Sugar factories and Nurseries.

A great deal of coarse cloths and blankets woven in hand-looms are manufactured here. There are certain work-shops in the town as well as at Jhanjharpur, where brass and bell-metal utensils, plates, and dishes are manufactured. Formerly there were many indigo factories at this place ; but the plantation has now been closed, though the old factory buildings



still exist there to a certain extent. There are many sugar factories here, where sugar is manufactured from jaggree and sent in large quantities to the different parts of the country.

Formerly the place was famous for timber imported from Nepal. The timber of Nepal is very good and lasting and is called "*Nepal choker timber*" But the Nepal Government has stopped its export now.

Most of the Dealers are Bengalis, Deswals, Marwaries, Nepalese and Nacoda merchants. Goods are conveniently transported from this place by railway. Persons willing to carry on trade should visit this place. Further information may be had from the following merchants and Commission Agents.

Grain, Seeds & Ghee Dealers—Durbhanga Trading Co., Sarada Prosad Banerjee, Bhupati Charan Banerjee, Kalidas Sabwi, Tarachand Nag, Kedar Nath Dass, Balu Sha, Khanmull Chunilall, Anant Pajiar, Srigopal Jugal Kishore.

Orchards and Nurseries :—Royal Gardening Society, Langra Mango Supply Co., Amalgamated Fruit and Cannary Co., Aryan Nursery, Darbhanga Nursery, N. Banerjee's Nursery, Darbhanga Garden, Great Union Nursery, New Darbhanga Nursery, Victoria Nursery, Tirhoot Fresh Fruit Supplying Co., Union Nursery, Premier Nursery and Popular Nursery.

Flour Mill :—Durbhanga Oil and Flour Mill Co.

Sugar Factory—Durbhanga Sugar Co., Ltd., Ryam Sugar Factory at Pandul.

Tobacco Factory :—Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Co.'s Works.

Rice and Oil Mills :—Durbhanga Oil and Rice Mill Co., Sree Mohabirjee Rice and Oil Mills, Mahabir Rice and Oil Mill.



Sakri—From Howrah to Dhurbhanga, thence to Sakri Station on the B. N. W. Ry. The total distance is 377 miles from Howrah. (Dist Dharbhanga).

Local weight is 88 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. The principal products are linseed, mustard-seed, castor-seed, chillies, oil-cakes, Jaggree, bheli-gur, molasses, ghee, butter, mangoes, lichies, dried mango juice, hides, tobacco, termeric, garlic, potatoes, maize &c. ; but Sakri is famous for its jaggree, ghee and mangoes. Large number of tins of Jaggree is exported to Monghyr, Burdwan, Birbhum, Bankura, Hooghly, Manbhum, 24 Purganas, and some places of Eastern Bengal. The colour of the jaggree is like gold and it is well crystalised ; the only defect is a little smell of Kerosine oil imbibed from Kerosine oil tins in which it is packed. Bheli-gur of golden colour and of good quality are exported to down and up countries of India. Molasses are produced here in abundance and are exported to the tobacco manufacturing places. There are many sugar factories here in which sugar is manufactured in a scientific way, by the help of machinery, without the use of any impure articles for refining it. Ghee is also imported here as to Dharbhanga.

During the month of May and June large quantities of mangoes and lichies are available here.

Fruit-dealers may do well at Sakri. Large number of mangoes (Bombay, Langra, Maldah, Kissenbhog &c.) are sent down to Calcutta. Amsatwa (dried mango juice) and Amchoor (dried mango slices) can be had here in large quantities. The export business of these articles goes on well during the season time. Many persons come here from Calcutta, and, taking lease of gardens, carry on profitable business in fruits. Persons who wish to make large profits with a small capital may carry on business here. On the whole, it appears that the place, though small, is a profitable mart in the district. Bengalis are the chief dealers of this place. Goods



are transported by railway. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Kedar Nath Dass, Tara Chand Nag.

Gorakpur.—Gorakpur is on the B. N. W. Ry. and is 506 miles from the Howrah Railway Station (Dist. Head-quarters). tion on the E. I. Ry., *via* Mokamehghat.

It is the headquarters of the district, and is situated on the left bank of the river Rapti and at the junction of the road to Ghazipur and Fyzabad. Weights are 80 and 105 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. Grains and seeds are imported here as to Chapra.

Gorakpur has very little trade as its inhabitants are mostly agriculturists. Soft quality of ghee is imported here from the Nepal—Terai. This ghee is obtained from the milk of various animals ; hence its colour and quality is not so good.

There are many *dahwallas*, here, who prepare excellent rahardal, masurdal, gramdal and Khesaridal as in Cawnpur. These *dals* are exported to Calcutta. There is an internal trade with the Nepalese, who bring down by carts various kinds of goods for sale here such as timber, hides, chamor, cattle, sheep, buffaloes, lentil, blankets, wax, and honey and take with them salt, kerosine, hardwares, sundries, spices, brass utensils and other articles for their own use, which are not available in their own country. The chief noted industry of the town is carpentry and turnery works. The town boasts of many Tannaries, Saw-mills and Cabinet-makers. Most of the merchants are Deswals and Marwaries. Goods are transported by rail. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Harolall Chunilal, Debidin Bhagabanprasad, Srinibas Rameswar, Kasipur Kalan.



Cabinet Makers—Amarnath & Bros. at Multipur,
Radha Kissen and Sons, and Bharat Timber Trading Co.
Tannery—Gorakpur Tanning Factory.

Mozafferpore.—375 miles from the Howrah Railway Station on the B. N. W. Ry. *via* Mokamh-Ghat. Weight is 80 tolas a seer. (Dist. Head-quarters.) The bazar is close to the station. It is one of the principal commercial and industrial towns in the Behar Section. Large quantities of rice, paddy, gram, masuri, khesari, barley, linseed, poppy-seed, mustard-seed, castor-seed, castor-oil, oil-cakes, cotton-cakes, chillies, tobacco, garlic, onions, saltpetre, hides, opium, Khari-salt, ghee, blankets, bheli-gur, sugar, turmeric, butter, mangoes, lichies, cauliflowers, and dried juice of mangoes are imported here from the surrounding villages.

The ghee of this place is not bad ; it has a good flavour and sweet taste and its colour is liltte yellowish. The ghee obtained in this district is known as Mahara ghee, which is of smoky smell, for which it is not appreciated in the Calcutta market. Its price is cheap and hence very convenient for household use. This ghee is despatched to East Bengal, Burdwan, Raniganj, Loop line stations, Hooghly District and some parts of the 24 Purganahs.

During the *hat*-days the Nepalese from Nepal-Terai bring down by carts various goods for sale here, such as, timber, hides of cattle, chamors, sheep, buffaloes, goats, saltpetre, lentil, mustard-seed, blankets, wax and honey, and in exchange take with them salt, kerosine oil, foreign cloths, spices, utensils, hardwares, tea and other articles for their use.

Among industrial goods and works of Mozafferpore, cloths coarser than napkins and towels are locally manufactured. Wooden palankins and cart wheels are made here in large number and exported to various parts of the country.



Formerly the business of the indigo factories was in a flourishing state. There were altogether 60 to 70 indigo factories here which chiefly belonged to the European Planters, but now owing to the import of artificial indigo their number has been much reduced. The sites of many old factories can still be seen here and there in this district. The indigo business is now going on on a small scale though in the early eighties this concern was in a flourishing state in Motihari, Bettiah, Mozafferpore and Behar.

There is a sugar factory in which sugar is manufactured and refined from jaggree by scientific and by local processes. These sugars are exported to the various parts of Bengal, the United Provinces and the Central Provinces of India in a large scale. Large number of tins of country molasses are exported from this place to Gya, Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Bishnupur, Patna, Benaras and other places for the preparation of tobacco.

Mangoes and lichies are obtained here in abundance. First class lichies of rosy flavour can be had here and are known throughout India. There are many fruit gardens and orchards where Bombay, Langra, Maldah, and Kissenbhog mangoes, and various kinds of lichies are produced. From the beginning of the fruit season all these are sent to Calcutta, Darjeeling and various places in East and West Bengal and in the up-country. Dealers of these can make a good profit in the season time. Many persons come here from Calcutta side to carry on trade on these fruits. When the fruit season is over, the business of *Amsatwa* (dried mango juice), and *Amchur* (dried mango slices) may go on well. Lately the Bengal Preserving Co., Ltd. have started a business at this place, in which mangoes and lichies are preserved in tins by scientific process. These tins are exported to various parts of India and Europe.

Various kinds of coarse blankets can be had here in considerable number at a very convenient rate. Cooly Contract-



Tea gardens purchase large number of blankets here and despatch to different gardens. This is also profitable business of this place.

The town also boasts of iron works, sugar works, orchards, and rice and oil mills. Most of the dealers are Marwaries and Deswals. Goods can easily be transported by railway. Further information may be had from the following merchants and Commission Agents.

Grain-dealers :—Chatterjee and Co., Bhartia Bros., Khub Lall Sha, and Shamal Das.

Salt-petre Merchants :—R. M Achambitlal at Puranibazar.

Orchards and Nurseries :—Bengal Preserving Co., Krishna Nursery, Muzafferpore Orchards, Nini Nursery, Old Garden Nursery, Old Orchard Nursery.

Iron Works :—Author Butler and Co.

Sugar Works :—Japana Sugar Works.

Ghazipur.—Change at Dildarnagar from the Howrah railway station for Tarighat. Then cross the river Ganges for Gazipur by rail. (Dist. head-quarters).

Total distance from Howrah—448 miles. Local weight is 103 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. It being a town various sorts of goods are imported to and exported from this place. Gram, wheat, linseed, mustard-seed, poppy-seed, rahar, jaggree, country sugar, ghee, otto, rose-water, florid-oil, til-oil, castor-oil-cake, oil, blankets, &c. are imported here. Of these, castor-oil-cakes are produced here in abundance and exported to the down countries of Bengal at a considerable scale.

Among industrial goods, Gahzipur is famous throughout India for its scent distilleries, where Rose water, Otto of Roses, florid oil of Chameli, Bela &c., Til-oil, jellies, chatneys of fruits and various other perfumes are produced which have a great reputation. All these articles are exported to various markets of India.



Blankets, both white and black, are woven here, in large numbers and are sold at a very cheap price. Dealers in blankets and contractors of Tea-gardens purchase these goods from here and send them to Calcutta on a considerable scale.

There are many sugar factories here, where pure sugar is manufactured and is known in the market as "Ghazipur sugar". Large quantities are exported from this place to Calcutta, East Bengal, Benares, N. W. Provinces and the Central Provinces of India.

Goods are despatched by railway and steamer to various places. Most of the merchants are Deswals and Marwaries. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchant & Commission Agents :—Gopikisen Kasiprasad, Fakir Ram Mohabir Ram.

Perfumery—J. L. Sinha & Co's Krishna Vilas, Rosewater & Oriental, Banerje & Co., at Nayapura.

Barajbazar—From the Howrah railway station (E. I. R.) to Mokameh-Ghat, then cross the river and change at Bhatinda junction (B. N. W. Ry.) for Barajbazar. Local weight is 52 tolas. Linseed, mustard-seed, molasses, rahar, masuri, rahar-dal, country sugar &c, are imported here. Molasses can be had here in considerable quantities, which is used in manufacturing tobacco. Large consignments of these molasses are despatched by rail to Gaya & Bishnupur. Well prepared rahar-dal of fine quality is despatched to Calcutta from this place as from Cawnpur. There are 150 sugar factories at this place, where considerable quantities of sugar are daily manufactured and exported to various places. This is the chief sugar manufacturing place in the district. Such a considerable quantities of sugar are manufactured nowhere in India. Price is settled on 5 mds. and 2 seers.



Except sugar there are no other goods available in large quantities. Large quantities of salt, kerosine, piece goods, hardwares, and other commodities are accordingly imported from Calcutta and various marts for sale. There is no other manufacturing industry of any importance. All goods are transported by railway. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants & Commission Agents :—Sewnarayan Gajadhur, Ramdin Dilsukram. Manik Chand.

Bellia—There are three or four Belias, for which this place is called zilla Bellia. The communication from the Howrah railway station to Bellia is *via* Mokameh-Ghat and *via* Chapra ; this route is rather troublesome. The convenient way is from Howrah to Buxar station by rail, and from Buxar-ghat (one mile distant from the Buxar station) direct to Bellia by steamer line. The bazar is two miles distant from the Bellia (B. N. W.) railway station and close to the steamer-ghat. The bazar stands on the river Ganges. Local weight is 103 tolas. Linseed, castor-seed, sugar, ghee, molasses, bheli-gur &c. are imported here. Bellia is a noted mart for *matki-ghee*. Very good white and crystalized ghee can be had here, which is transported in matkies by steamers. These matkies are sold in Calcutta as "*Dudela*" matkies. Both large and small matkies are despatched from this place. Sugar is also largely manufactured and considerable quantities of molasses can be had here, which are exported to Gaya, Vishnupur and other places for manufacturing tobacco. Country sugar is manufactured at Hanumanganj, which is four miles off from the Bellia bazar, and is sold in the market as "*Kasi-Sugar*". Most of the sugar is sent to Beneras, N. W. Provinces, Central Provinces, &c.

A grand fair known as the "*Dadri-Mela*" is held here in the month of December every year at a place two miles



distant from Bellia. The Mela lasts for a month, and various kinds of horses, camels, elephants, goats, buffaloes, mules, donkeys, cows, birds &c. are brought for sale. Most of the merchants are Deswals and Mawaries, but the transaction of *Mutki* Ghee is in the hands of Bengali merchants. Goods are generally transported by steamers to all places, and only a few small consignments are despatched by rail. There are no notable industrial goods. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Commission Agents :—Chatradhari Vakrat and Satnaran Ram.

Ghee Purchasers :—Rash Behary Karuri, Mohananda Dutta, Monmotho Nath Bhattacharja, Bejoy Kristo Mukerjee, Probodh Ch. Rokshit.

Sugar factories and Sugar merchants at Hanumanganj :—Latu Vakrat, Jamunaprosad Luchmiprosad, Ramtahal Vakrat, Sewbarat Vakrat, Behary Ram—Post Hanumanganj, Vilkh Patkhauri ; Debnnaran Vakrat, Ramprosod Roy, Sambhu Vakrat, Luchmiram, Mohabir Ram.

Gonda—From Howrah railway station on the E. I. Railway to Mokameh-ghat ; cross the river Ganges, thence direct to Gonda station by the B. N. W. Railway. It is the head-quarters of the district and is at the junction of the several branches of the Bengal and North Western Railway. The distance from Howrah is 506 miles. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. It possesses considerable external trade. The chief products are makai (maize), linseed, mustard-seed, castor-seed, sugar and other edible grains. Of these, makai and mustard-seeds are produced in abundance at Balarampur, Bariach, Nanpara, Tulsipur, Nepalganj Road, Colonelganj in this district. Further particulars of these places have not been given except the names of the Aratdars with their addresses as far as possible. The mustard oil prepared here is exported to Calcutta and other places.



Industrially Gonda is of small importance. The chief manufactures are cotton and woollen fabrics, gold embroidery, brass and copper utensils, woollen toys, and ivory bangles. There is a sugar factory here under the name of Khalay Sugar Factory. The dealers are mostly Deswals and Marwaries. Goods are conveniently carried off by railway. Further information may be had from the following merchants and Agents.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Durgaprasad Massdilall, Gouridutt Tecknaran, Ramdev Onkarmull.

Merchants of Tulsipur :—Bholanath Kissendutt, Motilall Mohabirprosad, Moolchand Jowharmull, Motilall Chogoolall, Bhakat Ram Gobindram.

Merchants of Nanpara—Hanumant Ram Budh Ram, Gangaram Suraj Naran, Mathuraprasad Durga Prosad.

Merchant of Nepalgaj Road—Bisheswar Nath Rajnaran.

Revealganj—Revealganj is on the other side of

(Dist. Chapra).

Mokameh Ghat from the Howrah railway station. Distance is 404 miles. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. Gram, wheat, linseed, mustard-seed, ghee, red-pepper, jaggree, chaki-gur, potatoes, rahar, oil-cakes &c. are imported here in large quantities. Many big merchants make their purchases here.

Commission Agents :—Debi Sing (ghee-aratdar) ; Kali Prosad and Bannu Mohato.

Chapra.—Chapra is on the other side of the Mokameh-

(Dist. Saran).

Ghat Station from the Howrah Station. Distance is 399 miles. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The market is close to the station. It is the head-quarters of the Saran Dist, and is situated on the north of the left bank of the river Gogra, close to its junction with the Ganges. It is one of the important marts in the Saran district. Gram, wheat, linseed, mustard-seed, soft ghee,



Jaggree, bheli-gur, molasses, tobacco, chillies, potatoes, onions, country sugar, turmeric, poppy-seed, rahardal, oil-cake, castor-oil and oil-cake, khari-salt, maize, garlic, butter, blankets and hides &c. are imported here in considerable quantities. But Chapra is famous for salt-petre, khari-salt, ghee, castor oil-cake, potatoes, sugar, and rahardal. Large quantities of salt-petre are produced here. The salt-petre business is a monopoly of a class of people known as "Nunias". Most of the Nunias are engaged in this business and export large quantities of salt-petre to Calcutta. The business is carried on throughout the year, except in the rainy season and is most profitable.

The local ghee is of yellowish colour, bad in quality and of smoky smell like the Dharbhanga Mahara, for which it is sold at a low rate in the markets of Calcutta. There is a castor oil mill at this place, which produces good quality of oil cake which is exported to Burdwan, Memari, Magra, Naihati, Sheoraphuli, Tarakessur and Calcutta. Potatoes are grown here in abundance and are exported chiefly to East Bengal. Rahar-dal is of good quality and is exported to Calcutta and East Bengal. Most of the East Bengal merchants come to purchase here and despatch the goods purchased by boats and steamers to their respective markets. Goods are transported by rail, boats and steamers. Enormous quantities of Khari-salt are produced here and exported to Patna, Burdwan, Raneeganj, coal districts and all stations on the Loop line.

The local handcrafts are cotton cloths woven by the local weavers ; these are exported to Patna and the colliery districts. Blankets are produced here in abundance and are exported to Calcutta, Tea districts and other places. Most of the merchants are Deswals and Marwaries. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Matilal Shaw, Gagan Prosad Janky Prosad, Kishorilall Badri Prosad,



Gokulchand of Bhagaban Bazar (ghee merchant), Dumarshi Dass, Beharilall (jaggree and sugar merchant.)

Pakur—169 miles distant from the Howrah Railway Station on the East Indian Railway, Loop line. The bazar is close to the station.
(Dist. Sonthal Purganas).

Weight 105 tolas a seer. Rice, paddy, gram, masuri, khesari, rahar, peas, castor-seed, barbati (Hindi *Ghangri*), kalai, moong, dal, chillies, potatoes, onions, oil-cake, turmeric, ghee, linseed Jaggree &c are largely imported here and exported to the various districts of East and West Bengal and Calcutta.

Pakur is an important centre of trade in the Sonthal parganas. Agents of many merchants of Burdwan, Birbhum, Bankura, Manbhum and Eastern Bengal purchase goods from this place. The knowledge and experience which we have acquired while carrying on business at this place are fully described here. Persons willing to carry on business on grains and seeds should keep a man here throughout the year. On the market days the Sonthals bring here for sale myrobolan, honey wax, anantamul (*Hemedesmi*), cocoons, log and fuel wood, bamboo-rods, lentil, mahua-seed &c, which if conveniently purchased in exchange of provisions can bring in large profit. Those who desire to start with a small capital may come here and purchase these things on *hat-days*. The climate is very healthy.

There are also several quarries, from which stone ballast is extracted for metalling roads and exported to the municipalities, district boards and railways. This also forms one of the profitable concern of this place. Most of the merchants are Bengalis, Deswals and Marwaries. The preparation of shellac is the principal industry. Formerly several lac-factories were established here, but now only two exist. Further information may be had from the following merchants.



Merchants and Commission Agents :—Bholaram Vakati, Sitalprasad Vakati, Madhusudani Dass, Kalachand Mondal.

Lac Factories :—Shriram's Lac Factory, Thakurprasad Kalicharan Ram.

Quarries.—Raigaon Stone Co. Ltd.

Rajmehal—202 miles distant from the Howrah Railway Station on the E. I. Railway, Loop line *via* Tinpahari Junction. The bazar is close to the railway station and

(Dist. Sonthal
Purganas).

the river Ganges on the right side. The climate is healthy. Local weight is 92 tolas a seer. Grains, seeds, chillies, rice, paddy, potatoes, fish, mango, onion, oil-cake, ghee &c. are imported here in abundance. Merchants from East Bengal come here and despatch goods by country boats. It is also one of the principal places of trade in the Sonthal Purganas. Sufficient quantities of fish are available here at a very moderate rate and are exported to Calcutta and other places during the winter season. This is one of the profitable concerns here. During the month of May, very sweet Malda mangoes are imported here at a very cheap rate and exported to various places by railway and boats. Most of the dealers are Deswals and Marwaris.

There are also several quarries, from which stone ballast is extracted for metalling roads and are exported to the municipalities, district boards and railways. This is one of the profitable businesses here. Most of the merchants are Deswals Bengalis and Marwaris. Further information may be had from the following merchants and commission agents,

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Khanta Lall Shaw, K. C. Mookerjee, Shibaram Dey, Ram Lal Sitaram.

Sahebganj—219 miles distant from the Howrah Railway Station on the E. I. Railway, Loop line. The bazar is close to the station and the river Ganges is about a mile off. Weight is

(Dist. Bhagalpur).



80 tolas a seer. It is the most important centre of trade in the Bhagalpur District and Loop Line. Enormous quantities of mustard seed, gram, wheat, masuri, khesari, all classes of dal, chillies, tobacco, potatoes, onions, rice, salt, ghee, sugar, castor oil, khari-salt, Liverpool salt, cloth, kalai, moong, atta, maida, &c. are imported here from various parts of India. There are many big and rich Marwari merchants here, who stock those articles all along the year for sale. All the merchants from Loop line, Burdwan, and East Bengal come here and purchase these articles for commercial purposes.

There are three oil mills conducted by Marwaries and produce ample quantities of oil cake and mustard oil. Most of the oil-cakes and oil are despatched to Loop lines, Burdwan, and some quantity to Ludhiana (Punjab) for manuring purposes. The Ludhiana merchants contract for oil-cakes in great quantities. The Railway Co. allow them a special concession for carrying it. Full business transaction goes on all though the year. There are no notable industrial goods worthy of mention. Most of the dealers are big Marwari merchants. Goods are despatched by rail and steamer to East Bengal. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :— Bidhichand Ramdayal Dey, Lakshinaran Sadhu, Gangaram Sagarmull.

Pirpainti—233 miles distant from the Howrah Railway Station on the E. I. Railway, (Dist. Bhagalpur.) Loop Line. Weight is 105 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. This is one of the chief marts of trade. Large quantities of paddy, rice, linseed, gram, castor-seed, mustard-seed, masuri, khesari, peas, kalai, mung, turmeric, potatoes, chillies, oil-cake &c are imported here. All these goods are despatched by railway. Most of the merchants are Deswals, Bengalis and a few Marwaries. There is no noted industrial goods worthy of mention here.



There is a big bazar named *Bara-Hat*, 6 miles off from the Station, which is the principal place of trade. Further information may be had from the following merchants :—

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Musuddiram Ajodha Prasad, Thacoorprasad Mohabirprasad, Ganputroy Onkarmull, Rameswarlal Harilall.

Colgong—245 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station on the E. I. Railway, Loop (Dist. Bhagalpur). Weight is 105 tolas a seer. The river Ganges is very close to the bazar. It is also a principal mart in the district of Bhagalpur. Gram, wheat, linseed, masuri, khesari, kalai, castor-seed, barbatī (Hindi *Ghangri*), rice, paddy, oil-cake, jaggree, turmeric, potatoes, onions, rahar &c. are imported here in abundance. Of these potato is much cultivated here. During the month of October new potato is first exported from this place. In the month of August potato seeds are imported here in abundance from the surrounding villeges and exported to the Districts of Birbhum, Burdwan, Hoogly, 24 Purganas and Calcutta. Many potato dealers come here during season time. It is also a most profitable business of this place.

Fish is available here in large quantities at a very moderate price and is exported to down countries during winter season. Many fish-traders conduct their business here. In the month of May mangoes are imported here in abundance at a very cheap rate. Castor-seed of best quality is imported here and sold at a higher rate in the Calcutta market, and has a good name. Goods are despatched by Railway at all times and by the river Ganges during rainy season to various places.

As for industrial goods tassar, silk and bafta cloths are woven here to some extent. Most of the dealers are Marwaries and deswals. Further information may be had from the following merchants :—



Merchants and Commission Agents :—Kanai Sha Gobindprosad, Laljie Sing, Ramprosad Ram.

Sultanganj—280 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station on the E. I. Railway Loop Line. The bazar is close to the station. Local weight is 101 tolas a seer. The station is situated on the right side of the river Ganges. It is also a collecting centre for better quality of rice, paddy, maize, gram, barley, masuri, khesari, rahar, barbati, castor-seed, linseed, chillies, potatoes, onions, cauliflowers, mangoes, fishes, blankets, oil cakes &c. and also a great mart for commercial business. Many merchants from east and west Bengal come here and purchase their marketable goods. During the month of October new potatoes produced here are exported to Calcutta and other places. Fish, mangoes and cauliflowers can be had here at a convenient price. Many merchants export these goods during season time and make much profit.

Tassar, Bafta and silk cloths are woven in the adjoining villages and exported mostly to Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Patna. Goods are despatched by railway at all times, and by boats during rainy season. Most of the merchants are deswals and marwaries.

There is another *hat* named Asarganj which is 10 miles off from the Sultanganj station. The principal production is rice which is the best quality in the Bhagalpur Division and has a good name. In addition to that, grains and seeds are also produced here on a large scale. The name of the rices are :—Keshar, Kelasar, Gokulsha, Bansful and Bansmati. All these rice are chiefly exported to Monghyr and Bhagalpur for sale. Further information may be had from the following merchants :—



Merchants and Commission Agents :—Hardayalram Ram-Avatar, Dwarka Dass, Balkissendas Surajmull at Sultangaj, Jogi Sha Soukhi Sha at Asarganj,

Bhagalpur—It is 265 miles distant from the Howrah railway station *via* loop line (E. I. R.). (Dist. head quarters). Local weight is 101 tolas a seer. The bazar is one mile off from the railway station. Sujaganj is the chief centre of trade and being a town all sorts of goods are imported into and exported from this place. It is a convenient place for traders, as business can be conducted here with any capital, large or small. Grains such as wheat, linseed, mustard-seed, poppy-seed, molasses, jaggree, ghee, sugar, oil-cakes, rice, paddy, castor-seed, masuri, khesari, rahar, millet, chillies, kalai, moong, potatoes, onions, tobacco, flax, jute, barbati, oat, &c. are largely imported here. Besides these, blankets, tassar, garad, bafta, khesh, cauliflowers, fishes, vegetables, Bombay and other classes of mangoes, honey etc. are available. Considerable quantities of mustard seeds are marketed here. Sufficient quantities are imported here from many centres of trade in the United Provinces and are sold at this place. Local flax of very good quality is available in considerable quantities. In comparison with the goods of other centres, they are sold at a higher price of from Rs. 2 to 2-8 per maund. Various sorts of rice of good quality are imported here. Sufficient quantities of oats, used for feeding horses, are available here. Large number of country-woven blankets, white and black, can be had here, but the blankets manufactured at the jail are far better than those available in the ordinary markets. Variety of blankets of convenient price can be obtained from the jail. Silk cloths and chaddars are manufactured at Nathnagar near Bhagalpur. The bafta, tassar, garad and khesh, and balaposh made from them are famous. Cauliflowers, vegetables, fishes, good Bombay mangoes, Kishen-bhogs and Malda mangoes can be had



here in large numbers and at a cheap price. This trade can well be conducted here. Those who wish to carry on business with a small capital may profit by these articles.

Jaggree of best quality is imported here from Sagrampur village, which is known as "Sagrampur jaggree" in great quantity in tins and is exported to the down countries of Bengal. During the season time, the local merchants and Arat-dars stock large number of tins in their godown; hence jaggree can be available at all times during the year.

There is a market named Pratapganj near Bhagalpur where very good and pure buffalo-ghee in moderate quantity can be had. This ghee has a good flavour and is highly clarified. Purchasers of ghee in moderate quantities would do well to come here. Mustard-seeds are also available, and are of good quality extracting 15 seers of oil in a maund. In the beginning of the season, the business in mustard-seeds can well be carried on season time. For the convenience of merchants we are giving the names of some Aratdars for further information.

Commission Agents :—Madan Mohan Panda, Routhmul Tajmol, Mulchand Surajmal Parakh.

There are four oil mills conducted by Marwari merchants of the locality, which produce large quantities of oil-cake daily which are exported to Loop Line and enormous quantity to Ludhiana in Punjab. The Punjabee merchants buy oil-cake at contract rate for manure purposes. The Railway Company allow them a special rate for indenting these oil-cakes to Ludhiana. Further information may be had from the following merchants & agents :—

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Kedarnath Srimohon, Harmukhroy Lakshiprosad, Bhudhormull Chandiprosad, Janakidas Baijnath, Foolchand Motilall.

Oil Mills :—Victoria Mills Co., Srimohon Jamnalall, Shew Lall, Shewbuxroy Ramjee Lall.



Kharagpur—Bariarpur is 291 miles distant from the

(Dist. Monghyr) Howrah Railway Station on the E. I. Railway, Loop line, and Kharagpur is 12

miles distant from that station. It produces first class rice in the district, and is celebrated for its good name. Bansful, Bansmati and Gokulsha rice are the best. All the above classes of rice are exported to the principal bazar of the Monghyr and Bhagalpur Districts. In addition to rice other commodities of grains and seeds, ghee, jaggree, chillies &c. are produced on a large scale. The climate is very healthy. All these goods are despatched by bullock carts to railway station and thence to various places. The chief dealers are deswals only. There are no industries and manufactures of any goods. Further information may be referred to the following merchants :—

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Vakratram Gangaram.

Monghyr—Change at Jamalpur from the Howrah railway station via Loop line for Monghyr.

(Dist. head quarters). It is 297 miles distant from Howrah.

Local weight is 84 tolas a seer. The station stands on the the river Ganges and the market is one mile off from the station. Formerly this was an important centre of trade in Behar. Considerable quantities of goods were imported here and many Bengali merchants had godies (firms) *i. e.* golas at this place. Now all is over. Formerly all goods were transported by boats ; but now they are carried by rail and steamers. The Marwari merchants have become a prominent figure here. Goods are not imported here now as formerly in large quantities. Gram, linseed, wheat, mustard-seed, peas, masuri, khesari, kherhi marhua kaini, china, bazra, maize, barley, dal, &c. are imported here. Blankets, ebony boxes, sticks, fishes, cauliflowers, cabbages, potatoes, vegetables and various sorts of good mangoes such as Bombay, Kishenbhog, Langra, Maldah, Pearafuli, Gopalbhog &c., Matki-ghee,



lichies, stone slates, tiles, dishes, cups, good rice of Kharagpur and Asarganj, chillies, catechu, onions, &c. are imported here.

Many Bengalies come here every year for carrying on profitable business on potatoes, fish, cauliflowers and mangoes. Messers Ambler & Co. of Dharara manufacture stone slates, tiles, plates, dishes, cups &c. and send them to Monghyr for sale. These things are available on the other side of the railway station at Laldaraja.

Monghyr was once famous for its first class ghee named "Mugera Matki," but now its existence is found only in name. It is a matter of regret that even a chatak of good ghee is not available within the town market. Ghee of bad quality is imported here by the Marwari merchants from Gya, Worsleyganj, Nowada, Behar, Cawnpur, Allahabad, Chapra and other places for local consumption. The inhabitants of Monghyr bring best class ghee from the Dehat (villages) for their use. Formerly this was a lucrative business in the Monghyr District, but now this business is going to be abolished. Formerly the renowned Bengali merchants of Calcutta named Kartic Chandra Dey, Ramdhone Khan, and Chandy Lal Singha had 22 firms in several places in this district for purchasing ghee, grains and seeds. But these firms were closed long ago. Now the ghee business is in the hands of Marwari and Deswal merchants. For the information of our readers we are giving the names of prominent places in the district where ghee is available, viz : Khagaria, Surajgarah. Olipur (3 miles from Kiul Station on the E. I. Ry.), Tegra, Chakore, Khutia, Kishenpur, Jafferpore, Samo, Beguserai, Babur-baghicha, Parihara, Chawk-Bali.

The ghee is of yellowish colour and is very tasteful. Its flavour is good, only a little smell of smoke in it. The best class of ghee in the district is called "*Mahara*."



There are two oil mills in which atta and maida are also produced under the management of Marwaries and a cigarette manufacturing mill named the Peninsula Tobacco Co., conducted by Europeans.

Goods are generally despatched by Railway to up and down stations, and by steamer to the East Bengal Markets. Cargo boats are also available here at a very cheap freight. Most of the East Bengal merchants export large quantities of goods from here by boats to their destination. On the whole Monghyr is a place of profitable business even with a small capital. The place is healthy and a sanatorium. Many Bengalis have domiciled here. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Commission Agents :—Haranarayan Rameswar, Gobindram Ramvakat, Lakshiram Ramsahai, Nathni Lall.

Fish dealers—B. N. Lahari (Belun Bazar), Abdul Sowdagar, Leakat Mea, Jaman Mea at Laldaraja.

Vishnupur—Change at Asansol from the Howrah railway station (E. I. R.) for Vishnupur (Dist. Bankura.) *via* B. N. R.,—207 miles distant. It is 124 miles from Howrah *via* Kharagpur (B. N. R.). Standard weight is 80 tolas. The market is 2 miles off from the station. Here the same goods are imported as to Bankura. Tassar and Matka cloths and chadars are manufactured here. There are many hand-looms belonging to local weavers. The tobacco of Vishnupur is well-known—such sweet tobacco cannot be found elsewhere; but it is not so mild as Gaya tobacco, rather strong. The tobacco business Sripati Kar is in a very flourishing state. There are others, of one but not so prosperous as Sripati's. There are two oil mills here conducted by the Marwaries.

Commission Agents :—Khubchand Lachminarain.

Tobacco Merchant :—Sripati Kar.



Bankura—Bankura can be reached from Howrah on the E. I. Ry. *via* Asansol, and by (Dist. Head-Quarters.) B. N. Ry. *via* Kharagpur junction.

Standard weights are 60 and 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is one mile off from the station and on the north bank of the river Dhalkisar. Bankura is the head-quarters of the district. Paddy and rice are the chief productions and are imported here in abundance. Besides these, mowha, myrobalan, wax, honey, lentil, shellac, silk, cocoon, mustard, ganja, silk-cloths, cow-ghee, &c. are available here.

Among industrial goods, Bankura is noted for silk cloths, coarse cotton cloth, manufacture of bell-metal wares, and the preparation of shellac, pretty embroidered sarrees, fine silk cloth and chaddar, and tassar cloth and chaddar. In addition to these, gold and silver ornaments, shell bangles, lac bangles and beads, iron implements and cutleries are manufactured. The town though small is progressing. The industries are carried on in a large scale and the goods so produced are despatched to Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and various places in the up-country. A large quantity of these goods are turned out annually. Most of the dealers are Bengalis and Marwaries. There are many lac factories here, which produce large quantities of shellac and despatch them to Calcutta. The lac business is one of the most profitable concerns here. All the goods are despatched by railway. There are two oil-mills conducted by Marwari merchants. Further information may be got from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Bishveswar Lal Hargobind, Khubchand Luchminaran, Baikanta Nath Rokshit and Kedar Nath Kundoo.

Purulia—Change at Asansol from the Howrah railway station (E. I. R.) for the Purulia Station (Dist. Manbhum.) (B. N. R.)—183 miles. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. Purulia



being a town, various sorts of goods are imported to and exported from this place. It is also a convenient place for trade. Rice and paddy are the chief articles of trade here. Beside these, lentil, wax, lac, cocoons, honey, myrobalan, rasin, sticks of buffalo horns, mustard-seed &c. are largely imported here. It is a chief mart in the Manbhum district.

Commission Agents :—Sitaram Marwari, Jaynarain Thakurdas, Gopal Roy Rameswar, Tularam Nathuram.

Rajagram—Bankura Station is on the B. N. Ry.

(Dist. Bankura.) From Howrah, *via* Kharagpur or *via*

Asansol E. I. Ry., the distance is 226 miles. The bazar is 3 miles from the station, and the river Darakeswar is very close to Rajagram. It is one of the chief commercial as well as industrial marts in the Bankura district. The principal exports are paddy and rice. Most of the rice is exported to the colliery districts for sale. In addition to this, myrobalans, tamarind, cotton, Mahua flowers, seeds and oil, ghee, Mustard-seed &c. are imported here in abundance. All the above goods are imported here from January to April. Medicinal drugs such as solanum jaquianii, belerica myrobalan, nux vomica, anantmul (hemedesmi), asparagus mentorus, basak, emblica officinalis, honey, &c. are imported by the Sonthals during Hat-days. Country ghee of good quality and flavour is found in small quantity; hence it is not suitable for mercantile purpose.

Rajagram is famous for silk cloths, dhuties, chaddars, matka cloths, cocoons and lacs. Formerly there were many lac and silk factories here under the supervision of European merchants. Silk cocoons are largely imported by the Sonthals in Hat-days and exported to Bhagalpur, Mursidabad, Memari and other places. Tassar cloths of Gopinathpur is famous. Cloth merchants from various marts come here for



purchasing these cloths at Gupinathpur. Coarse cotton cloths, napkins, bed-sheets, beads and ghunsi are also available here. Goods are transported by railway. Most of the dealers are Bengalies and Marwaries. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—

*Grains and Seeds :—*Gopeswar Dutta, Bipin Behary Dutta, Ramsaday Dutta.

*Silk Cloths :—*Benode Behary Dutta, Gopeswar Dutta, Kedar Nath Kundu, Sristydhhar Kundu.

Chandil—268 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station on the B. N. Ry. *via* Asansol or (Dist. Manbhum.) *via* Kharagpur. The bazar is close to the station. Weight is 80 tolas a seer. A great deal of paddy, rice, lentil, mowha, and oil-seed, castor-seed, sal wood, honey, cocoons, wax, lac, tamarind, myrobalan, small bamboo &c. are imported here at a very convenient rate. Best quality of Regulation Lathi (rod) from the jungles is available here and exported to all the Police stations of Bengal, Behar and Orissa. Wood for axle of carts can be had at a moderate price and are exported to many places. There are many lac-factories here and the lac business is a profitable one.

Commission Agents :—Jugal Kishore Daripa, Khetaram Rameswar, Ruplal Dasarath.

Jhalda—From Howrah Railway Station on the B. N. Ry. to Jhalda, *via* Kharagpur and (Dist. Manbhum.) Purulia junction, 31 miles distant from Purulia, on the Ranchi—Lohardagga Branch Railway. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the railway station. It is one of the chief centres of trade of industrial goods of the Manbhum District. The chief imports are rice, paddy and shellac. Besides these Mahua, dhuna (rasin), mahua-seed and oil, ganja (*cannabis Indica*), mustard-seed,



lac, cocoons, myrobalans, jute, lentil, wax, honey, &c. are available.

Various kinds of industrial goods are imported and manufactured here. Sticks and Regulation Lathies of best quality are exported from this place to various parts of India. Enormous quantity of Regulation Lathies are supplied to the Government for use in the Police Department. There are many workshops and factories of shellac at this locality. The lac-business is a very profitable concern and it has been going on here for many years. All these lacs are exported to Calcutta. Large quantity of coarse cotton cloths, long cloths, napkins &c. are woven in hand-looms, and are used by the local people, and those of the colliery districts. Brass and bell-metal utensils and many articles of agricultural implements of iron and steel are manufactured here and exported to different parts of the district. Sabai grass for manufacturing paper can be had here in abundance and is exported to the paper mills of Bengal and other Provinces. Local people make ropes from the grass for domestic and other purposes. Sufficient quantities of ropes are also despatched to various places for sale. There are also coal mines at Jhalda, but the quality of coal is not so good as that of jharra. There is another industry of mica works and it is also one of the principal and profitable concerns. Sufficient quantities of mica are exported from this place to Calcutta. Most of the dealers are Bengalis, Marwaries and Europeans. Goods are all transported by railway. On the whole, the place, though small, has a profitable trade of various commercial and industrial articles. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents:—Hardutt Roy, Tularam Nathmull.

Shellac factories—Messrs. M. C. Gregroy, Arathon & Co., B. M. Arathon, A. M. Itowseps.

Oil Mill—Kasmath Bishveswar.



Ranchi—Change at the Asansol Railway junction from Howrah (E. I. Ry.) for the Purulia (Dist. Head-quarters.) station (B. N. Ry.) and from Purulia to Ranchi ; 254 miles distant from Howrah. Formerly communication to Ranchi was very difficult, hence no body would willingly go there for trade. Now it is the seat of Government of Behar and Orissa and also many Bengalies have built houses and made it a place of Sanatorium. The climate is very good and healthy. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The Bazar is close to the station. It is also one of the chief trading centres of agricultural and mineral products of the Chota Nagpur Division. Vegetable productions of this place are comparatively of bigger size. Papaya, cabbage, peas, beans, potato, *jhinga*, *bringel*, *kumra*, &c. are grown here in abundance. Sweet banana may weigh up to 25 seers. Bombay *papaya* of very big size is grown here. Each papya weighs from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 seers. Ranchi papyas are sold in the Calcutta market at a very high price. Nainital and Bombay potatoes may weigh up to $2\frac{1}{2}$ powas each. Peas grow here in abundance. Some articles are imported here from Calcutta. Red pepper also grows here in large quantities. Many products of the Janar hills and forests are sold in the Ranchi market. Many kusum-flower trees are found here. The flowers are exported and the seeds (*sor-guja*) are collected in large number. *Palas* leaves for *biri*, *kund* and *methi* trees and *Sabui* and *Vieh mik* grass for manufacturing paper are available here in large quantities. This grass business can well be conducted here with a small capital provided that arrangements are made with the paper-mill owners of Calcutta beforehand. There are many lac-factories here and the lac business is a profitable concern.

Thick lime-stone can be found in large quantities at the Janar hills. Soft lime can be prepared from this stone at a low cost. White sand is dug out of the bed of the Subarna-rekha river during summer and winter. The business on these



commodities can be conducted well. The Kole and Santhal women sell this white sand at the rate of 2 to 3 as. per basket. Strong, solid, knotty hill-bamboos or sticks are found here in large number. These *lathis* are imported to different parts of the country. Til known as *Sanka-til* can be had here in abundance. But it is mixed with dust and kankar to the proportion of 8 to 12 seers per maund. Local ghee is good, pure and cheap. Business can well be conducted here with large or small capital. If educated young-men take to cultivation or gardening with small capital by leasing some lands on rent and grow papaya, potato, kumra &c., they can make much profit in the very first year. Many Bengalies have settled here owing to the establishment of many Govt. offices at this place. The Marwaries and the Bhatias are the chief traders of this locality. The Bengalies have also established fine shops here. Let them come to this field who cry for business. They will be able to realise profit in a year. Ye Bengalies, why do you spoil your life and prospects by serving others when such fruitful fields of business for earning independent livelihood exist? Exert yourselves and show the world whether business can be carried on with small capital.

Merchants & Commission Agents :—K. N. Roy, Bhooramull Jaggernath, R. K. Pathadar, Jokhiran Mungraj, Anandpur Timber & Trading Co.

Hazaribagh.—Change at Hazaribagh Road on the Grand Chord Line from Howrah for (Dist. Head-quarters.) Hazaribagh. Distance from Howrah 215 miles. It is the head-quarters of the District. The town is 41 miles off from the station. The place is surrounded by hills and is very healthy. There is a motor service now at Hazaribagh, which carries Postal mail as well as passengers. Formerly the road to Hazaribagh was not as good as it is now. Consequently the trade was in the background. The



only conveyance to Hazaribagh was from Giridih by means of *puspus* and it was through Giridih ; but now owing to the opening of the Grand Chord Line communication has been made easy for traffic. The trade of Hazaribagh has undergone considerable changes since the opening of the Grand Chord Line. It is the chief trading centre of the mineral produce and is noted for mica mines, quartz and felspar, which form the bulk of the begmatite and other mineral produces of some interest. The mica business is a profitable concern here. At present many Bengalis, Marwaries and Europeans are making good profit out of the mineral produces of the mines, which they possess at this place. There is also a few lac factories here, which are in a flourishing condition. The lac business has been going on here from a long time. All these goods are sent down to Calcutta.

A few years ago, Messrs. W. Stallcart & Co, Messrs. Badam and Sons, and Hiralall Mukerjee established tea plantations, and they are flourishing day by day, which produce considerable quantities of tea. But the tea of this place is not so palatable as the Assam tea, and hence sold at moderate price at the Calcutta market. In addition to these minerals, Koulin, coal and tin are also found here. Many things which grow in the hills and forests are available here at a very cheap price. During the Hat-days of the week, *seet* mustard-seed, lentil, *ganja* (cannabis indica), myrobolan, honey, wax, mowha seed, oil and flowers, rasin (dhuna), cotton, ghee &c., are available in large quantities. Oil can be extracted up to 16 seers from the mustard-seeds.

Great profit may be derived if these things are obtained in exchange from the *Sonthals*. On the whole, it appears that it is an important place of trade. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants & Commission Agents :—Sevakram Bhathuram, Lushmiram Sewnaran, Baijnath & Co.



Hazaribagh Carrying Co. (carriers),
Hazaribagh Ranchi Motor Co. (carriers),
Indian Motor Co. (carriers).

Poresh Nath Chakravarti—Stone & Coal merchants.

Nagpur—Nagpur is 701 miles from Howrah. Local weight is 80 tolas. The bazar is close to the station. It is a town and an important place of trade. Rice, paddy, lac, honey, myrobalan, cotton, sal timber, fuel, gol, dhuna, til, seti mustard-seeds, hill-sticks, ganja, mowah, orange, wax &c. are imported in considerable quantities. Oranges are largely cultivated here and they are exported to Calcutta, Bombay, Madras &c. Trade in timber is an important business at Nagpur. Owing to the stoppage of export of timbers from Nepal, Nagpur timbers have taken their place. Local til, ganja and mustard-seeds give much oil. In short, various kinds of business can be conducted here.

The majority of Timber merchants of Bengal have taken lease of forests in Nagpur from the Government, and the Bamra Raj have established big timber yards. The big English merchants of Calcutta have also got their timber business here. Of all the timber merchants of this place the Bengal Timbers Co. stand first; then comes B. Barua of Assam who has got a big timber-yard. Railway slippers are supplied from this place. Seti mustard-seeds, mowa and its seeds, kat-til and ganja are exported in large quantities.

Commission Agents:—Morati Narain, Ji Mulchand Ram, Protap Goneshram, Mohon Gokul, Molla Ramprosad.

Raigarh—Raigarh (B. N. R.) is 365 miles distant from the Howrah railway station. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. Seti and kajla mustard seeds, *dhuna*, *til*, cotton, myrobalan, sal wood, wax &c. are largely imported here. The place is very healthy. Rice and paddy are produced in large quantities, mostly coarse



vice. This is a noted mart in the Singbhum district. There are jungles far off from this place with dense rows of sal trees. These sal timbers are sent to different parts of the country. Kat-til is also available in abundance. It is convenient to despatch goods by rail. Business can well be carried on, here all round the year. There being jungles near by, many forest produces obtained there can be had here. They can conveniently be purchased from the Sonthals and sold at a profit afterwards. Business can be conducted here with a small capital but with large profit. It is better to carry on business here with a small capital of two or to three hundred rupees than to take service on Rs. 20/- to 25/- a month.

Commission Agents—Lachman Das Sohanlall.

Uluberia—is 20 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station on the B. N. Ry. The (Dist. Howrah.) bazar is two miles off from the Railway Station and the river Ganges close by. It is the headquarters of a Sub-division of Howrah Dist. The steamer station is one mile from the bazar. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer.

Although the locality is small, large quantities of rice and paddy are imported here. The people who wish to establish a rice-mill here may profitably do so. As cocoanuts are comparatively cheap here, large number of them are exported to the up-country in the month of September for *Chot* ceremony. The up-country merchants come down here for business, but the Bengalis wish to earn money from the secluded corner of their homesteads. It has been ascertained that from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 can be gained from a challan of 10,000 cocoanuts by one wagon. If one can take a little the season trouble to make five or six challans of cocoanuts during time, one can make provision for fooding for one year. Large number of earthen pots such as handis, pitchers &c.,



can be had here which are sent to Calcutta. Fish is also available here in considerable numbers. Fresh fruits and vegetables are very cheap here. Goods can be despatched conveniently by rail, steamer and country boats. *Hogla* grows here which can be had in large number.

One who desires to earn money independently with a small capital may come here and purchase the above articles and despatch them to Calcutta. The place is very near to Calcutta, hence it is very much convenient for traders. There are two cotton and two jute mills conducted by European merchants. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Sudhamoy Porel, Rakhal Chander Dhur.

Chaibassa—From Howrah to Chakradharpur *via* Kharagpur—194 miles ; from Howrah (Dist. Singhbhum.) to Chakradharpur *via* Asansol on B. N. Py. The town is 16 miles from the railway station. There is a convenient conveyance of motor service from the Railway station. Weight is 84 tolas a seer. The place is surrounded by hills, hence it is a healthy place. The chief products are paddy, rice, lac, cocoons, silk, tasar, tamarind, myrobalans, sabai grass, dhuna, honey, wax, lentil, red mustard-seed, castor-seed, gunja, stone utensils &c. Most of the dealers are Marwaries, Nakodas and Bengalis.

Chaibassa is noted for timber and rice. Coarse rice is imported here in considerable quantities throughout the year. Most of the rice is exported to Asansol, Barakar, Raniganj, Jharia and other coal fields. This rice business is a profitable concern. Timber merchants from various places come here to purchase *sal* timber, which can be had from the neighbouring jungles and forests. All these goods are despatched by railway to various places. Further information required may be had from the following merchants,



Merchants and Commission Agents :—Sashi Bhusan Kundu, Chintamani Kundu, Haripada Dutta, Brindaban Dutta.

Timber Merchants :—Bengal Timber Trading Co., ; Raghunath Marwari ; B. Barua & Co., and Haji Shaheb.

Dhulian—Dhulian—Ganges station is 174 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station on the (Dist. Mursidabad.) E. I. Railway *via* Bandel—Barharwa Line. The Bazar is close to the station and the river Ganges is on the right side. Weight 60 tolas a seer. It is one of the important places of trade in the Mursidabad District. Rice, paddy, gram, linseed, mustard-seed, dal, peas, masuri, khesari, jaggree, sugar, chillies, coriander, turmeric, oil-cake, lentil, barley, biri-kalai, moong, potatoes, tobacco, barbati (Hindi *Ghangri*) &c. are imported here in abundance. All these goods are exported to the East and West Bengal marts. There is a convenient way to despatch goods by railway and boats. Most of the dealers are Deswals and Bengalis. Goods are available all round the year. Further information may be had from the following merchants,

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Hemanta Kumar Ghose, Jitan Sing, Mohadeo Ram, Sewsankar Ram.

Maldah—207 miles distant from the Sealdah Railway Station on the E. B. Railway *via*. (District) Ranaghat Junction and at the confluence of Kalindi with the Mahananda river. Local weights are 72 and 80 tolas a seer. The bazar which is known as "English Bazar" is one mile distant from the station. It is one of the renowned and oldest places of trade in the Rajsahi Division. During the administration of the East India Company. Maldah was an important centre of trade and industry, but it is not so now. Jute is one of the principal productions. Large quantities of jute are exported here at the season



time and exported to Calcutta. The renowned Ralli Brothers of Calcutta have a sub-agency and jute press here.

Rice, paddy, gram, wheat, linseed, mustard-seed, peas, kalai, barley, barbati, mung, potatoes, onions, jaggree, red-pepper, oil-cakes, turmeric, silk-goods, cocoons, tasar &c. are available here in abundance. They are chiefly exported to the different parts of Eastern Bengal. Formerly there were many silk-factories at Maldah which produced large quantities of silk-threads, tasar, garad, matka, chadar &c., and were exported to different parts of India and Europe. This trade has dwindled now-a-days owing to its inability to stand competition with cheap artificial silk goods of foreign countries. Cheap, fancy goods find easy sale in the market, but such is not the case with genuine ones. The mangoes of this place are very sweet; such fruits cannot be had in other part of Bengal. The soil is such that no sour mango can grow thereon. "Malda mangoes" are famed all through India. "Amsatta" (dried juice) of this place is very sweet to taste and are sold at a higher price in the Calcutta market than that of any other place. During season time mango dealers despatch fruits by boats to various places of East and West Bengal and Calcutta. This business is profitable. Recently some educated youths have established a Fruit Works under the name of "Hindusthan Fruit Preserving Co.," and within a very short time they have amassed a handsome amount. The above Preservers and Canners Company despatch their articles to Bombay, Madras, Punjab, Central Provinces, Calcutta and Europe.

There is a Bank here under the management of some local educated youths called "Hindusthan Central Co-Operative Bank, Ltd". Most of the dealers are Bengalis, Marwaries, Deswals, and some Europeans. Goods are generally despatched by railway and in boats by the river. Further information may be had from the following dealers.



Merchants & Commission Agents:—Sasanka Mohan Gongopadhyaya, Modhusudan Dey, Sham Lal Shaha, Chandra Mohan Shaha, Murali Mohan Dass, Surjoo Prosad, Baijnath Mongtulall, Harbhusandas, Jhati Sha.

Chatmohar—Change at Saraghat from Sealdah (E. B. R.); from Saraghat go by steamer to (Dist. Pabna). Sirajganj-ghat (196 miles), then by rail from Sirajganj-ghat to Chatmohar station. Local weight is 60 tolas a seer. The Gour river passes by this place, hence goods are imported by boats and exported by steamers. Chatmohar is an important centre of trade in the Pabna District. Jute and turmeric are imported here in large quantities. This place is chiefly noted for its turmeric which is exported to Calcutta and to many other parts of Bengal. As in Bhairab Bazar, some Europeans have got their offices here. In short, this is the second place of trade in the Pabna district. There is no noted industrial goods. Most of the merchants are Bengalis. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Monindra Nath Kundu, Srish Chander Shaha, Makhan Lal Shaha, Gagan Ch. Shaha, Sarat Ch, Baidynath Shaha, Purna Ch. Shaha.

Bhadrak—Bhadrak is 182 miles distant from the Howrah railway station on B. N. Ry. (Dist. Cuttack). The bazar is 3 miles off from the station, The market is known as *Nutan bazar*. The climate is bracing. Rice and paddy are the chief articles of import at this market. Besides these, buffalo-ghee, kali-kalai, lentil, mustard-seeds &c. are also available here. Rice is very cheap here and business on this can well be carried on with advantage. This rice is generally coarse and is known as *kajla*. There is also a very fine sort of rice called *sona-khali* which can be obtained very cheap in the month of January. Ghee can be had from the two parganas, *Bhera* and *Akura*,



bordering on the sea, about 20 miles off from the Bhadrak station. The local weight is 105 tolas a seer. As ghee is not available in large quantities, it is not convenient to export it to Calcutta. Large quantities of rice are imported to Bandhia market situated about 2 miles off, on the railway side from the Bhadrak station. Many Marwari merchants carry on lucrative business by purchasing rice at this place. The rice purchased here is largely exported to Ramkrishnapore (Howrah). Persons desirous of dealing in rice should come here once and inspect the locality personally.

Commission Agents :—Jogendra Nath Chattopadhyaya, Narain Marwari.

Cuttack.—253 miles distant from the Howrah Railway station on the B. N. Ry. It is the apex (Dist. Head-quarters.) of a triangle formed by the *Katjuri* and *Mahanadi* rivers and is connected by a canal with Chandbali and False Point. Local weight are 105 and 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station. Cuttack is an old and flourishing town. Various sorts of goods are imported to and exported from this place. The chief imports are paddy, rice, timber, salt, cotton yarn and twist, Besides these, dhuna, lentil, kurthi (grains), honey, *chua* (scented liquid like coaltar), wax, lac, ganja, myroballans, timber, various kinds of sticks, combs and toys of buffalo horns, country-made broad-bordered dhuties, chadars and napkins, mats, coconuts, coconut shells (Beng. *Hukkha*), and pipes for hukka, nut-scissors, bill-hook, knives, fish-knives, many kind of brass and bell-metal utensils, wooden kantas and toys etc. are imported and manufactured here. We are giving some short description of the above goods below :—

The *Kajla* rice of cuttack is famous. The Marwaries and Nakodas export the rice throughout the year in considerable quantities to Ramkrishnapur (Howrah), Madras, Mauritius, Ceylon and other places. This rice is also despatched direct



to the Kidderpore Docks for shipment to Europe. Much improvement has been made here on horn-works. The horns are melted to various shapes and sizes such as sticks, knife-blades, pen-holders, combs, hukka-pipes, toys and chess. These industrial goods cannot be found elsewhere in India and are sold at Puri, Balasore, Bhubaneswar and other sacred places.

Shoes and other leather goods are also manufactured here in large quantities. Formerly only slippers called *Cotukey shoes* were manufactured at Cuttack; but now many tanneries have been established, where boots of English style, leather bags, boxes, saddles, laces and other articles are being manufactured and exported to Calcutta.

The timber industry of Cuttack is of great importance. Bengal gets her supply of timber in enormous quantities from Cuttack. Many timber merchants from various parts of India make their purchases here throughout the year. The Cuttack timber is not so lasting and hard as the Nepali timber. This is due to the fact that there are few old trees in the jungle; hence thin sizes of timber deteriorate in a few days. It is better to construct doors, windows, beams and rafters from old beams rather than from new timber of Cuttack. Sufficient quantities of *dhuna* can be had here. Lac *Churies* of various colours and sizes with fine works are manufactured here and exported to Balasore, Midnapur, Calcutta and other places. Various kinds of wooden toys coloured with lack are papared here in large number and exported to various places.

It is a place of important stone quarrying. Sandstone, laterite and rubble stones are quarried from the neighbouring hills and carried by railway and the municipal authorities for road making and metalling purposes. If hills can be taken on lease and business on stones be conducted here, one can earn much money. We can assure from our personal experience that there will be no loss in this business. In up-



countries, such as Rajmohal, Peerpainty, Pakur, Nalhati, Jhajha, Mihijam, Luckeeserai, Sheikpura, Karmatar, Goya, Bankipur etc., traders after taking lease of hills have derived much profit from stone business.

There are many skilful silver-smiths at Cuttack, who can manufacture fine silver ornaments and other articles of silver. Filigree works, plates, dishes etc. of very high finish are worked out here and sent to Calcutta and other places of India. Cuttack is also famous for these articles. There are nice cutlery works here, which manufacture first class scissors, fish-cutters, *katari* (household cutters), axe, small daggers, kurkis etc. On the whole, it appears that it is an old important town of industrial works and is flourishing day by day. Further information may be had from the following merchants :—

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Banchanidhi Shaw, Noopram Ramgopal, Arjundass Kishori-Mull, Debidutt Keanglall, Tansookroy Surajmull.

General merchants—Abdul Rahaman Cooty, Ebrahim Mohamed Suranja, Ghose and Friend, Prusty P. and Sons (Jewellers), Utkal Tannery Works.

Kantarhat—Jajpur Road station is 210 miles distant from the Howrah railway station (B. N. Ry.); Kantarhat is 8 miles off from this station. It is a small village. The hat is held on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Large quantities of coarse rice and paddy are imported here which can conveniently be exported to Calcutta and Cuttack. Sale of rice and paddy is conducted here not by actual weight but by bulk the unit being *kunkia*—the average weight of unit bulk being about 105 tolas. The rice here is like the *Malati* and *Safi* rice of Balasore. Loss of weight due to dryness occurs to the rice of this locality. It is inconvenient and costly to carry goods by carts to the railway station during the rainy-season as the road is un-



metalled. The place is much infested by bears at night. Hard cash is required as currency notes are not accepted here. One has to take shelter in huts in the village or in the hat. The locality is uncomfortable, but a very large profit can be made here with small capital. Capital can be enhanced within a short period if one can transact business patiently disregarding the discomforts of the locality. It is better to start a business here with a small capital obtained on loan than to serve on a small pay. The merchants should keep with them the two commercial hand-books edited by me called the "Mohajan-Sakha" and "Byabasayer Kutatatwa."

Kharagpur.—Kharagpur is 72 miles distant from the Howrah Railway Station on the B. N. Ry. Weight is 80 tolas a seer. The Bazar is close to the station. It is also one of the important places of trade in the District. The export of miscellaneous goods is enormous as it is a large railway settlement.

Many people live at Kharagpur as it has a district office of the B. N. Ry. The well-known *Goalbazar* lies close to the railway line. The old bazar is now not in a flourishing state. The Marawaris and the Bhatias are the principal merchants of the locality. They import various sorts of goods from Calcutta and the up-country. Rice and paddy are the chief articles of trade. Coarse rice (Kajla) is exported in considerable quantities to Ramkrishnapore near the Howrah station. The rice business goes on throughout the year. It is a matter of regret that there are few Bengali merchants here. Most of the merchants in the *Goalbazar* are Marwaries and Madrasees. Industrially Kharagpur is of no importance.

Further information may be had from the following merchants :—

Marchants :—Fakir Dass Kar, Sashi Bhusan Kundu, Mohadeo Lal, Jagannath Marwari, Premraj Gangadhar, Sankarlal Sukdeo Lall.



Chandrakona.—Chandrakona-Road station is 101

(Dist Midnapur.) miles distant from the Howrah Railway station on the B. N. Ry. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. Chandrakona bazar is 8 miles off from the railway station. The principal trades are brass metal utensils and ghee. Cow's ghee of this place is of very sweet taste, good flavour and is celebrated as "Chandrakona Matki" in Bengal. The ghee is filled in Matkies (earthen jars) from about 15 to 35 seers and despatched to Calcutta by boats. The price of this Matki is the highest obtainable in the Calcutta market. In addition to ghee, butter and curd are also imported here and exported to Calcutta in earthen jars. The trade of ghee has undergone changes due to the export of buffalo ghee from the up-countries.

In the suburbs of Chandrakona, there is a village named Kharar, where many bell-metal utensils are manufactured and are exported to Calcutta. All the dealers are Bengalee merchants. Those who wish to deal in these goods ought to go personally and inspect the place instead of working through Aratdars.

Merchants & Commission Agents :—Naran Chandra Santra, Balaram Haldar, Gobindo Chandra Bhuia, (General dealers).

Bell-metal Merchant :—Sashi Bhusan Roy.

Midnapur—Midnapur is 80 miles distant from the Howrah Railway Station on the B. N. Ry., and is situated on the north-east bank of the Kasai river. It is the head-quarters of the district. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is two miles off from the station. It is an important centre of trade of paddy and rice. Six kinds of general rice are imported here, viz., *Aman*, *Ayus*, *Kanchi*, *Bora*, *Jhajhi* and *Nuan*. Most of the rices are of coarse quality. Besides rice, silk, sugar, cocoons, lentil, gunja, cotton, betel, coarse cloth, napkins, mats, and brass utensils



are also imported here. Rice business goes on throughout the year and most of the rice is despatched to Howrah and Madras side.

Midnapur being a town, various kinds of oilman-stores and miscellaneous articles are imported here from Calcutta and other places of India for sale. It has no great industry except brass utensils, coarse cloth, mats, napkins and timber. Coarse quality of mats are manufactured here on a large scale. Goods are despatched by railway. Most of the merchants are Bengalis and Marwaries. There are three rice mills in the town. Further information may be had from the following merchants : —

Merchants & Commission Agents :—Haridas Kundu, Dwijabar Dey, Hari Charan Dey, Manik Chandra Paul.

Rice mills :—Indra Rice mills, Rupnaran Rice mills, Tara Rice mills.

Baleswar—Baleswar or Balasore is 144 miles distant from the Howrah station on the B. N. Ry. and on the right bank of the Burhab, and is about 15 miles off from its mouth, though 6 miles in a direct line from the sea. The local weight is 80 tolas a seer. The principal bazar is on the *Motiganj*. It does a large trade in salt manufacture. Formerly there were many salt factories in this locality and the people earned their livelihood by this work. Now the Government have monopolised the salt trade and manufacture of salt which has all contributed to the decline of trade of the port. The principal exports are rice, stoneware, dry fish, spices and provisions.

The coarse rice of this place is called *kajla* or *kashra*. *Gayabali* is very fine rice. There is another sort of coarse rice which is called *Malati*. The grains of rice of this part of the country are rather broken and bring about loss of weight due to dryness. Hence care should be taken to



fix sale-price to avoid loss. It is essential to watch carefully over the weight at the time of purchase of rice. Excess weight of one seer is allowed to the purchasers up to the month of April and half a seer from the month of May ; yet there is loss of weight due to dryness. Moreover, it is not convenient to purchase rice from the Commission Agents. Purchase should be made from the neighbouring villages. Large quantities of rice can be had at Remnna not far off from Balasore. Here price is settled at the rate of bags of 2 maunds. Matigonj is a big mart of rice, and there are many Commission Agents. Large quantities of rice are exported by rail, boats and steamers to Calcutta, Ramkrishnapur, Ceylon, Mauritius, Maldives and other places. The Marwaries are the chief purchasers of rice. The Madrasees and the Nakodas have also now-a-days established their business at this place. They import from Calcutta salt, foreign cloths, spices, sugar, red-pepper, kerosine oil &c., which they sell at Balasore where again they purchase rice. Local ghee of good quality both of cow and buffalo can be obtained here, but it is now being mixed with cocoanut oil and ground-nut oil as both the oils are much used here. These ghees are exported to Calcutta side. Articles made of stone such as plates, dishes, cups &c. are manufactured at the Nilgiri hills near Balasore. These stone-wares, plates etc. are exported to Puri where the pilgrims purchase them. Among works of industry, coarse cloths manufactured by hand-loom and various kinds of mats are prepared here. Mat-sticks are cultivated to a certain extent throughout the Balasore district. Most of the mats are coarse. There are many brass and bell-metal factories at this place where plates, pots, glasses, cups, and dishes are manufactured ; of these the plates of Balasore are well-known. These articles are chiefly exported to Calcutta and Puri. The factories are getting prosperous day by day.



Various kinds of fine artistic works and ornaments of silver are manufactured here, which is famous throughout India. *Sal* timbers can be had here from the neighbouring jungles. Many timber merchants come here to purchase *sal* timber. Dry fishes are available here in abundance at a very cheap rate and are exported to Calcutta and other places. Spices such as turmeric, corriander, chillies, ajwan etc., are also available here. It is not a manufacturing town. Most of the dealers are Marwaries, Madrasees and Mahomedans. Goods are transported by railway. Further information may be had from the following merchants :—

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Ram Charan Das, Sheik Bazar Ali, Sambhu Nath Day, Nanda Lal Luchmianan, Janoo Hossain, Hossen Casem Dada, Abdul Gunny and Noormohamed.

Berhampur.—Berhampur is 374 miles distant from the Howrah Ry. station on the B. N. Ry. (Dist. Ganjam) This place is surrounded by hills and is healthy. This is the chief city in the Ganjam district. Jute, rice (coarse and fine), cocoanuts, betel, kurthi kalai, red-pepper, turmeric, maize, tamarind, &c. are available here. Business on various articles can well be carried on at this place. The major portion of goods is exported to Calcutta. Milk, fish, meat, vegetable and fresh fruits can be had here at a very cheap price. The place is situated on the sea-side. Rice and kurthi kalai are largely exported to Ramkrishnapur, Howrah. There are many weavers in the locality, who prepare various kinds of cotton and woollen coloured cloths and cheques. There are many factories at Ichapur, Ganjam and Nonpada where country salt is manufactured. This salt is known in the market as "*Ganjan salt*" which, however, is not consumed by local people. Gopalpur is 9 miles off from Berhampur. There is a landing stage at Gopalpur where steamers touch. Goods can be exported to Calcutta



by steamers, but this is rather costly owing to very high cartage. It is better to send goods by rail.

Now we shall deal with weights which are peculiar to this place. A seer is called a *bisa*, i. e., 120 tolas. A *morang* = 12 seers of 80 tolas each. 8 *bisas* = 1 *morang*, 1 porh = $5\frac{1}{2}$ tolas. All the articles are not sold at the same weight. *Gur*, sugar, red-pepper, turmeric &c. are sold by the above mentioned weights. Costly articles such as ghee, black-pepper &c. are sold by the weight of 110 tolas a seer. Again betel-nuts &c. are sold by the weight of 4 *morangs*, 6 *bishas*, 10 porhs. Some goods are also sold by British weight i. e. pound. Local merchants are the chief traders of this place. Business can be conducted here with large or small capital. There are many articles of low price available here which can profitably be exported to other parts of the country. Lodging and boardding charges are very small.

Merchants & Commission Agents:—Haji Jamal Noor Mohamed ; D. S. R. Lall ; H. D. Prosad ; Haji Tar Mohamed, etc.

Backerganj—Khulna is 109 miles distant from the Sealdah Railway station (E.B.R.) and (Dist. Barisal.) Backerganj is 74 miles from Khulna by steamer line. Backerganj bazar is not a centre of trade but it has acquired some importance owing to its being the head-quarters of the district. The district is famous for two things, viz : (1) *Balam rice*, and (2) betel-nuts, which grow in abundance. This rice is considerably exported throughout the year to Calcutta and different parts of Eastern Bengal. The majority of the citizens of Calcutta consume *balam* rice. The rich and the poor, as well as the hotel-keepers use this rice in Calcutta. From this it appears that great quantities of *balam* rice are produced in the Backerganj district. In Calcutta alone the annual supply of *Balam* rice is 2000,000 tons. The merchants who go out for this rice



from this part of the country, purchase it at '*Hular hat*' a steamer-station and not at Backarganj proper. The bazar is close to the station. The Meghna and the Sabazpuri rivers pass by this *hat*. The merchants transport rice in big boats through these rivers. This means of transport is rather economical and rice thus sent out is obtained in good condition ; but there is one difficulty in sending goods by country-boats which is not known to new merchants.

A single loaded cargo boat should not be allowed to pass alone through the rivers, as she may fall a victim to the pirates, who are always on the alert to plunder a vessel when opportunity occurs. The usual practice is to ply a number of loaded cargo boats at one time. Great care should be taken on this point during the transport of loaded boats. A single loaded cargo boat should, on no account, be allowed to ply. Goods are also carried by steamers throughout the year. The big cargo boats and flats of Messrs. MacNeil & Co, of Calcutta carry considerable quantities of rice to various parts of the country with the help of their steamers. In comparison with other marts, there is some difference in the mode of marketing here. It will not do to purchase rice at *Hular hat* alone. Weekly hats are held at Jhalakati, Kalamkati, Sakutia, Bhandaria, Kalimurti, Nalchira, Banaripara, Cowbhata, Nalchiti, Kaliganj, Daulatkhan, Pirojpur, &c. which are well known to rice brokers. On hat-days the rice brokers come to the *aratdars*, take the *beparis* with them and come to one or the other hat. The goods purchased at these hats are sent out by carts or small boats to *Hular hat*, where they are collected and finally exported from that hat. The merchants have to stay at the premises of the *aratdars*. There are many big godowns with corrugated roofs at that place. Currency notes of big sums do not pass current here, but only silver coin and notes of small value are accepted. Money can be had here by postal insurance.



There is also a different system of weight prevalent here. In the majority of Indian markets, weights and measures are conducted by hand-gauges or balances, but they are not so here. Goods are sold here by volumes, (*Kathas*). As certain goods are measured by *kathas* in our locality, so goods are measured here by boats. The unit measure by volume weighs 25 seers of 100 tolas a seer. Price is fixed according to this measure. The merchants transact business after reducing boat measures to actual weight. The advantage of boat measure is that by it weighment is conducted more quickly than by balance. New balam rice requires to be imported from the end of the month of January and the import continues in full swing up to the month of April. Persons willing to stock rice should purchase during this time. Paddy can also be had here in considerable quantities but not like rice. Merchants generally purchase rice in large quantities.

Betel-nuts are considerably imported here which are exported to the different parts of Bengal. Besides these, linseed, tamarind, cocoanuts, sugar, hides, Sundri-wood, earthen jugs, cart-wheels, bamboos, bones, ghee, fish &c. are largely imported here and exported to various places. A big *mela* is held at Kalisuri, Kalaskati and Lakhana near Bakerganj. At this *mela* cattle, buffalos, goats and various agricultural products are exhibited and sold. It is a matter of regret, that there are no works of industry worthy of mention at this place. Oysters are found in large numbers in the Backerganj district. If factories are established for oysters the business may prove profitable.

Aratdars—Rajani Kanta Guha, and Srinath Chandra Roy.

Dhaphari—Dhaphari can be reached partly by rail and partly by boat, namely, from Sealdah to Saraghat by E. B. Ry. and from Saraghat to Dhaphari 3 miles by baat. The bazar stands on the

(Dist. Faridpur.)



River Padma. Local weight is 60 tolas a seer. Boats can ply during the rainy season and at other times. Goods are carried by rail. Large quantities of crops are produced on the *chars* of the river. Formerly rice was cultivated here to a large extent, but now-a-days preference has been given to jute cultivation, which is more profitable than rice cultivation. Great quantities of gram, masuri, khesari, sona-mung, coriander, red-pepper, turmeric, ginger, *kalai*, jute &c. are imported here ; but this place is chiefly noted for jute and turmeric. The jute purchased here is sent by boats to Serajganj and Calcutta. During the jute season, large quantities of jute are imported here. The other goods are purchased by the merchants of Dacca, Chandpur, Bikrampur, Calcutta and its suburbs. Although the locality is small, it is healthy and a large quantity of goods is imported here. The business goes on well here only during the season time, but not throughout the year.

Merchants and Commission agents.—Ananda Chandra Saha, Haralal Baishnab.

Darsana—From Sealdah station to Darsana is 75 miles on the Siliguri Line. The bazar (Dist. Mursidabad.) is close to the railway station.

The river Churni is nearly a mile off from the bazar. The local weight is 80 and $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas a seer. It is one of the chief centres of trade in the Mursidabad district. Large quantities of paddy, rice, gram, khesari, masuri, rahar, mustard-seed, linseed, jute and Jaggree are imported here. The edible grains of this place are known as *Deswal* goods in Calcutta. The business of jute is commences from September and lasts up to December. The weight of jute is $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas a seer, paddy 80 tolas and grains are $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas a seer.

There are two hat-days in a week, one on Monday and the other on Friday. Goods are imported from the surrounding villages on these hat-days. Most of the merchants of East and West Bengal purchase goods from this place and



despatch to their respective marts and to Calcutta. All these goods are sold in Calcutta at Hatkhola Arats. Goods are transported by rail throughout the year, but in the rainy season, most of the goods are despatched by boats through the Churni river. There is no noted industrial goods to mention here. Most of the dealers are Bengalis. On the whole, it appears, that it is one of the important places of trade in the East Bengal. Further information may be had from the following merchants.

Merchants and Commission Agents :—Kanai Lal Kundu, Abdul Rahaman Biswas.

Naranganj—Change at Goalando from the Sealdah Ry. station (E. B. R.), thence by steamer (Dist. Dacca.) to Naranganj (490 miles.) It was once a sea-port in East Bengal; now Chittagong has become a sea-port in its place. It is an important centre of trade in the Dacca district, the jute trade taking the first place. Many European jute merchants of Calcutta have established their branch offices here. For the convenience of jute merchants, there is a branch of the Bank of Bengal here. Rice and paddy are also imported here but not so much as jute. All the goods are carried by big steamers and boats to Calcutta. Besides local jute, jute in loose state from distant villages, hats and markets is imported here by rail and boats. This loose jute is baled here and exported to Calcutta. Owing to the considerable jute business at this place various sorts of goods are sold here in large number, for which a big hat has been established. Some of the articles which are brought at this *hat* for sale from distant parts of India are described here in few words.

Sugar manufactured in foreign country is imported from Calcutta, and that produced in this country is imported from Jessore, Tarpur, Buxar and Gazipur. Lime is imported from Sylhet. Honey and oranges come from Assam. Timber is



Imported from Rangpur and Bhowal. Tobacco comes from the Purnea district. Cotton is imported from Mymensing, Chittagong, Tippera and Arracan (Burma). Leather from Mymensing. Kerosine oil, teak-wood, ivory, black-pepper, wax, and rice are imported from Burma. Endi and Muga cloths come from Assam. Potatoes, pulses, onions, garlic, molasses, vegetable, oil-cakes &c. are imported from Patna and its suburbs. *Balam* rice comes from Backerganj. Articles of stationery, hard-ware, Manchester cloths, oil, oil-cakes &c. are imported from Calcutta. As big merchants purchase and export goods themselves, no particular mention has therefore been made here of them.

Commission Agents—Sanatan Pal, Nitaibrindaban Pal, Guruprosad and Chaitanyaprosad Kundu, Harimohan Bankabehary Shaha.

Natore—The distance of the Natore railway station from Sealdah, through the Parbatipur junction (E. B. Ry.) is 163 miles. It is the most important town in the district. Local weight is 80 tolas a seer. Goods are imported and exported by rail. Paddy, jute, tobacco and ganja are largely cultivated here. Betel, mustard seeds, kalai, wheat, barley, gur, sugarcane, maize &c. are also cultivated. Rice is chiefly exported to Trihoot district. Betel is largely imported to the northern province and Calcutta. *Ganja* is much cultivated here especially at Nowgong and Panchupur, and is exported to Bengal, Behar and Orissa and partly to England. Ganja cultivation is conducted under the direct supervision of the Government.

Among works of industry, cotton cloths are imported and dyed at Rampur Boalia. Copper and brass utensils are manufactured at Kalam and Budhpur. Rajsahi was once famous for silk industry. The East India Co. had silk factories here, which used to export raw silk threads to Europe. Now the factories are conducted by Messrs. Watson & Co., who



have purchased them. Local weavers are now manufacturing coarse *tasar* and *matka* dhuties and thans. Many new factories have now been established where fine dhuties, chaddars and thans are woven and exported to Calcutta, Madras and the North Western provinces.

Two famous fairs (*mela*) are held here every year. The first is held at Khetur near Rampur Boalia in the month of October and the second at Mandar near Nowgong in the month of April. People come to these fairs from distant parts of the country, even from Nepal. Goats, cattle, buffaloes, horses, camel and various kinds of live-stock and agricultural implements, cotton-threads, woolen cloths, utensils &c. are marketed here. There is a candle factory at this place which belongs to Messrs. Ashutosh Roy Brothers. This factory is in a flourishing state.

Merchants & Commission Agents :—Srinath Chandra Saha, Ishan Chandra Saha, at Bara bazar, Basanta Kumar Saha, Radhika Lal Saha, Kishori Mohan Pal.

Mekhliganj—Haldibari railway station is 299 miles distant from the Sealdah railway station (Cooch Behar) (E. B. R.) and 36 miles off from the Sadar Cooch Behar. The Mekhliganj bazar stands on a broad high way running from the west. Mekhliganj is a subdivision of Cooch-Bihar. The local weight is 80 tolas a seer. Mekhliganj stands on the *Tista* river, which is navigable throughout the year; It is an important centre of trade in Cooch-Bihar. The chief local productions are :—tobacco, jute, paddy, rice, mustard-seeds and bamboo, which are largely imported here. The local jute is known as *uttora hat*, which is generally moist. The quantity of water mixed with jute increases with the rise of its price in the Calcutta market. Unless jute is purchased here with due care there is every probability of loss in the transaction. This jute is exported to Calcutta and Serajganj. The Marwaries are



the chief jute merchants, who annually purchase jute in large quantities, which are despatched to Calcutta in *pacca* bales. Besides the Marwari merchants, there are agencies at Haldibari and Chaurabab belonging to some English merchants where jute is purchased in large quantities. Large quantities of jute is imported to Mekhliganj during the season time. The Burmese come annually from Burma to purchase tobacco from Mekhliganj and Lalabazar. This is used for manufacturing cigars at Burma. The Cooch-Behar tobacco is much appreciated by the Burmese. The tobacco of this place is famous and is exported throughout India. For further particulars about tobacco, please refer to my book "Commercial Products of India."

Large number of gunny bags are manufactured here which are used for packing tobacco. Formerly coloured carpets, *sataranchies*, noted as *Mahbia Sataranchies* and long cloths for mosquito-curtains used to be woven here from dry jute; but owing to the import of foreign goods into this country this industry is gradually dying out. Ghee and pure mustard oil can be had in large quantities from the south-western part of Cooch-Behar. Paddy and rice, chiefly coarse, are largely produced here. Jute, rice, paddy and tobacco are exported from this place to Europe. It is a matter of regret that there are few Bengali merchants here although this place is an important centre of trade.

Tobacco Merchants & Commission Agents :—Srikanta Dalal, Kasimuddin Dalal, Manik Dalal, Kamini Kumar Saha.

Commission Agents—Bhairab Das Kumar, Jaharlal Dular, Jiohulla Mahammed, Momraj Agarwala.

Bogra.—Change at the Santahar Junction for Bogra from the Sealdah railway station. (E. B. (Dist. head-quarters) R.) Its distance from Sealdah is 218 miles. The bazar is within a mile from the station. The



Karatoya river is close by, Local weight is 80 tolas. Goods are mostly carried on by railway. During rainy season goods are also carried by boats when the river is navigable. Rice, paddy and jute are the chief articles of trade. During jute season considerable quantities of jute are purchased and despatched to Serajganj by boats where they are baled and then sent to Calcutta. Bogra is a famous mart of rice which is imported throughout the year and exported to Assam and Tirhut. Hiti is also a noted mart in the district and it has been separately dealt with. Next to rice, bones and hides are available in large quantities. As the Hindus do not transact business on these commodities, the Muhammedans purchase bones and hides and export them to Calcutta. This is a profitable concern. Large quantities of cane-gur are available at Panchbibi and Shibgunj which are exported to the *Kowra-hat* for sale. Mustard-seeds are largely cultivated on the western side of Kowra, but as they are not sufficient to meet the demands of the locality they are imported from up-countrys. There are some factories here in which valuable *tasar* and *garad* clothes of very good quality are manufactured. Grains and seeds are produced in small quantities ; consequently grams, peas, *rahar*, pulses, onions, garlies, ghee, molasses, sugar, potatoes, cauliflowers, tobacco, and red-pepper are imported from Patna, Gya, Mokameh, Cawnpur, Allahabad, Darbhanga, Chapra, Barh and other marts of the up-country. Bran and husks are much sold here. Those willing to make large profit with a small capital should purchase them from up-countries for sale at this place. This we say from our personal experience.

Aratdars—Gopal Chandra Ghatak, Haridhun Dutta, Gopal Chandra Mukhopadhyaya, Gour Kishan Roy Chowdhuri, Bhim Chandra Das.

Mirkadim—First go to Goalanda a station on the E. B. R. from the Sealdah station, from (District Dacca). Goalanda go by steamer to Mirkadim a



station on the Dacca steamer line. Mirkadim is 487 miles distant (from Sealdah). Rekabi-bazar is about a mile off from Mirkadim. The local weight is $82\frac{5}{8}$ tolas a seer. Large quantities of rice, paddy and jute are imported here from the neighbouring villages. Goods are generally carried here not by carts like other marts but by boats, large and small. Big merchants purchase and transport them by boats and steamers to several parts of the country. In this hat various kinds of goods which are imported from other places are sold in large quantities. Here are sold grains and seeds such as grams, kalai, mung, peas, khesari, mosur, red-pepper, tobacco, rahar-dal, mosurdal, khesari-dal, prepared from grams etc., which are brought here from the up-country. Many rich merchants and Commission Agents of Barisal, Chandpur, Hagiganj, Pabna, Dacca, &c., import these goods from various places, store them at their godowns and sell them. The sale of *gur* is also enormous. Many pitchers of date-gur (khejure gur) are brought here from Kaliganj, Keshabpur, Basandia and Fultala. The Bengali up-country merchants sell here gur which they import from Gya, Beta, Barh, Behar, Jehanabad and other places in the up-country. In short, Rekabi-bazar is a chief mart in the district of Dacca.

Commission Agents—Tukani Prosod Pal, Monmohan Pal, Chachi Ram Pal.

Coomilla—Coomilla is 502 miles from Sealdah.

(Dist. Noakhali). The route lies partly by rail and partly by steamer, *i.e.*, from Sealdah to Goalanda by

E. B. Ry., from Goalanda to Chandpur by steamer line and from Chandpur to Comilla by rail. The small local production of *rabi* crops hardly meets the demand of the locality which is supplemented by import from up-country. The chief imports of this place are jute, betel-nuts and rice, which are available in considerable quantities. Betel-nuts and jute are export to Calcutta during the season time. Bengali and Marwari merchants come here to purchase jute



in enormous quantities which they send down to Calcutta. The local weight is 80 tolas a seer. Goods are sent by rail the station being close to the bazar. Like Chandpur, many up-country merchants bring here for sale potatoes, tobacco, molasses, onions, masur-dal, mung, kalai, ghee &c. The rice purchased here is exported to different parts of the Eastern Bengal. Among industrial works, fine, well-polished *lukka, belun, kharam*, sticks, etc. are available here. Such polish cannot be seen in any other part of India. The local artists do not teach their polishing work to others, hence the business is declining day by day. Many Bengali artisans have thus put an end to various works of industry. It is a peculiar idea among them (which is mainly responsible for the decay of many a valuable work of industry) that if they teach their business to others, their influence will be lessened. It is seen in many places that a good work of industry dies with the death of a good artist.

Merchants & Commission agents—Ramdayal Saha, Ramananda Saha,

Dinajpur—Dinajpur is 139 miles distant from the Sealdah station *via* Parbatipur Junction (Dist. Head-quarters.) (E. B. R). Standard weight is 80 tolas a seer. The bazar is close to the station and the Mahananda river is at a little distant. Goods are carried through this river to various parts of the Eastern Bengal. It is a great mart for rice both coarse and fine. Particulars of various kinds of rice will be found in my book "Sett's Commercial Products of India." During the season time of rice, various merchants come here from West and East Bengal and make their purchases. Rice can be purchased here throughout the year. It is transported to Mauritius and Ceylon and other places from this mart. Jute can also be had here in considerable quantities. With the object of purchasing jute many European merchants have established their sub-agencies here. The jute purchased is baled here and then sent down to



Calcutta. During the season time many Marwari and Bengali merchants come here from various places to purchase jute. Besides jute and rice, mustard-seeds, molasses and gunny bags are imported here. The local weavers manufacture gunny bags of coarse quality. Before the introduction of jute mills in Bengal, these gunny bags were exported from this place in large numbers, but now owing to the competition of jute mills, the use of local gunny bags has been much reduced. Silk and *endi* cloths are woven here to a certain extent. Two famous fair (*melas*) or *hats* are held at Nekmow and Alahwara. Various sorts of live-stocks and agricultural implements are brought here in large number for sale. People come to these hats from long distance for making purchases. *Papri Khaer* (catachu) is available here in large quantities. There is a candle factory at this place called the '*Manoroma Candle Factory*'. Mat is woven in large number with the ticks of a grass of *mutha* class in the Thakurgaon Sub-division and many poor people earn their livelihood by this work.

Merchants and Commission Agents—(Jute) Roy Brothers, (Rice) Jagaram Saha, Paramanand Datta, Janaki Prosad Jogeswari Lal.

Serajganj—Goalando a station is 150 miles from the Sealdah station (E. B. R.) and Serajganj is 62 miles from Goalando by steamer. The bazar is half a mile distant from the station. The Jamuna river passes near by. Local weights are both $84\frac{5}{8}$ and 60 tolas. The chief article of import of this place is jute which has a good name. There is no other better mart for jute in East Bengal. Loose jute imported from Mymensing, Bogra, Rangpur and Pabna are baled here and then sent to Calcutta by railway and steamer. Serajganj jute is well known to Calcutta merchants. Big European merchants of Calcutta have established agencies and offices at this place for purchasing and despatching jute annually



in large quantities. Jute is transported to Calcutta by railway, country-boats and steamer. There is no inconvenience for despatching goods from this place. In the months of Falgun and Chaitra *Kalai*, peas, masuri, khesari, gram, mustard-seed, wheat, mas-kalai etc. are imported and exported largely to various parts of the country. Import of these goods is much diminished from Joista. Import of jute commences from the end of Ashar and marketing goes on till the end of Kartic. There are jute presses here where jute is baled. Among works of industry guernsey and stockings are manufactured with the help of machinery for which there are several factories. These are known in the market as 'Pabna guernsey.' For further particulars about commercial products, please refer to my handbook—"Sett's Commercial Products of India."

Aratdars—Joladhar Saha Chowdhury, Debnath Kalidas Chowdhury, Lalji Mohan Haranath Saha, Upendranath Saha Chawdhuri.

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END OF PART I.

NOTICE.

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