

Should any of your readers desire to hear further from me, I, being an enthusiast, shall be delighted to render them any assistance in my power. With kind wishes, and thanks to you, sir.—I am faithfully yours,
R. PATTEN.

N.B.—I shall, indeed, be thankful if any of your readers will forward me a specimen alive, of your indigenous bees, *Apis dorsata*, and *A. indica*.

FROM THE COCONUT REGION, NEGOMBO DISTRICT.

Sept. 29th.—The drought still continues all the way from Colombo to Puttalam and in a North-westerly direction to within about 12 miles round Kurunegala. The palms are suffering much, and every additional day of drought now is felt with increasing severity. I fear that large numbers of trees must in some localities be killed outright. Such an intense and long-protracted drought has not been experienced for many years back. Tanks and wells are dried up and animals suffer from want of water; and human beings are obliged to drink the most vile looking stuff loaded with sediment. The effects upon crops for the coming year will be most disastrous. As for cinnamon the bushes have not had a decent flush of young wood for goodness knows how long; and the sticks are in consequence stunted in growth, thick in the bark and most difficult to peel. Those who are relying upon the Punchy Mosama for any appreciable portion of their crop will I fear have much difficulty in securing it.

PERAK.

Mr. F. O. Jackson, the Taiping Agent of the Chartered Bank, will shortly be relieved by Mr. Greig of Penang.

Mr. C. L. Gibson has applied for 1,000 acres of land at Matang for coffee planting, and Mr. Ogilvie is taking up 640 acres for a similar purpose in the same district.

A project is on foot to organise a Planters' Association for the whole of the Native States, and a meeting of Perak residents concerned in planting, numbering about twenty-six will shortly be held in Taiping to ascertain the views of those interested in the question.

Mr. G. L. Baily of Kinta has been up-country on a visit to the Oherakoh gold fields, which are situated near the Ulu Perak boundary, and intends to try his luck in that district (Kwala Kangsar). Gold has in times gone by been worked by the natives in a rough and ready fashion and judging by the amount obtained in this manner, the venture if properly worked by Europeans should prove extremely lucrative.—*Penang Gazette*.

INTRODUCING INDIAN TEA.

It gives us (*American Grocer*) pleasure to make prominent the following communication from Mr. R. Blechynden, resident representative of the Indian Tea Association, a branch of the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, whose sole mission is to create a demand for India tea, and not to trade in the article. We learn that the demonstrations in Brooklyn have resulted in making a very satisfactory demand for India tea. The intelligent and equitable policy pursued by Mr. Blechynden is calculated to open many avenues of introduction. Grocers desiring demonstrations would do well to open correspondence with him.

INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION,
Brooklyn, N. Y., Aug. 28, 1894

Editor *American Grocer*:

My attention has been called to the article in your issue of the 8th inst. on "Ceylon Tea in America."

have read it with great interest, and have risen from its perusal with a feeling of considerable satisfaction, for reasons I will set forth.

On examining the plans you advocate for introducing Ceylon tea into America, I find they coincide very closely with those adopted by the Indian Tea Association for introducing India tea into this country, and as I am entrusted with the carrying out of the scheme it is very encouraging to me to have for it the approval of such an authority as the *AMERICAN GROCER*.

After the experience gained at the World's Fair of the attraction and interest aroused by the natives who served India tea in our building there, it was determined to continue our advertising on the lines we followed there, and I had the honour to be commissioned to return to this country with a staff of natives.

It was proposed to attend the food shows and fairs held in different parts of the country, and as these take place only at a certain season, to take place the men in grocery stores in the interim.

I arrived in New York on the 20th of June, and have since then given demonstrations in twenty different stores, giving a clear week to each. The great majority of these demonstrations have been given in Brooklyn.

The results have been satisfactory both to myself and to the grocers, for they have not only sold a good deal of India tea, but have found that the presence of the natives in their stores has given a good increase to their general sales. Numbers of people drawn into the store by curiosity to see the natives, have, while taking the tea provided, made other purchases.

Now that the residents will be returning to their town homes, I propose making a few demonstrations in New York City, and the length of my stay will be guided to some extent by the demand I find for them among the New York grocers. I do not suppose they are a whit behind their transatlantic brethren in their appreciation of the good solid ad. they get from such a show as we gave.

As regards your suggestion that a general agent should be appointed to New York to sell our product to the trade, wholesale and even retail, the scheme you advocate, and that adopted by the Indian Tea Association, diverge. The association is affiliated to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and represents the entire tea industry of India, but is not formed as a trading corporation. It can open the way for trade, but cannot itself trade. The association, therefore, must confine itself to bringing India tea to the notice of consumer and grocer in various ways, having the latter to obtain his supply through the regular channels. In this way the enterprising merchant who finds a demand for the article has no need to fear any but the ordinary trade rivalry, as no firm or individual will be subsidized by the association and given an undue advantage. The association is here to create a demand for an article which, as its history shows, has only to be known to be appreciated, and it leaves the supply to that spirited body of merchants which has made New York one of the greatest commercial centres of the world.—I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,
R. BLECHYNDEN,

Commissioner for the Indian Tea Association, Calcutta and London.

THE COFFEE TRADE.

In a recent number of the *Statist* there is a second article on Coffee, signed "Anton Hvistendahl," in which the writer deals with consumption and production.

Now, with regard to the consumption for the season 1894-95, it may possibly reach 10½ million bags, if we have a decline of from 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. in present spot values, and the distribution of such estimated consumption would probably be as follows:—

United States	4,200,000 bags.
Europe	5,900,000 bags.
Elsewhere	400,000 bags.

Total ... 10,500,000 bags.

Out of the 400,000 bags allotted elsewhere, I serve 100,000 bags for coffee in Europe, outside

the statistical field. This is ample, because Europ is practically supplied from ports represented in th statistical circular of Messrs. R. Daring and Zoon, of Rotterdam. This firm, however, makes no allowance in their figures for cross imports, but is probably wise in leaving such corrections to individual enterprises. According to this authority, the deliveries of coffee in Europe from July 1, 1893, to July 1, 1894, amounted to 377,380 tons, or say, about 6,400,000 bags; but it is necessary to deduct from this total at least 500,000 bags, in order to arrive at the real deliveries for European purposes inasmuch as no less than 160,000 bags which have been exported to America figure as deliveries in Europe; and, in addition to this, fully 350,000 bags have been counted twice over as arrivals and deliveries, owing to cross shipments. The reduced consumption, to which I now call the attention of the coffee trade, will explain the reason why some writers on the bean—notably one in Antwerp—have fallen into error in forecasting reductions in the visible supply which have not occurred.

I now propose to deal with the production of coffee and the quantities likely to be available for the season 1894-95.

PRODUCTION.

The enormous profits which coffee planters have made during the last five years have given a great impetus to the cultivation of the bean wherever extension was practicable and soil and climatic condition suitable. In Brazil there has been a very large increase in the province of Sao Paulo. In the province of Bahia this has also been the case, and it is stated on excellent authority that in a few years Bahia will export a million bags of coffee. In the province of Rio de Janeiro, however there has been retrogression rather than progress. The political disturbances have of late interfered sadly with coffee cultivation in Brazil. Emigration has not only been arrested, but there has actually been some outflow of labour. Again, coffee seasons vary; there are small crops and there are large crops. Last season they were exceptionally small; this season they will not be bumper crops except in the province of San Paulo, for which Santos is the outlet but still very considerable.

Outside of Brazil there has been a great increase of cultivation in Central America, Mexico, and Africa. How large or how small this increase is no one can say with absolute certainty. I can, however, give some indications of results so far. The bulk of what are termed mild coffees reach consuming countries between January and July, and I now give a table showing the imports of coffee, other than Rio and Santos, in leading European ports and New York from January 1st to June 30th in each of the last five years.

	Europe. bags.	New York. bags.	Total. bags.
1890 ...	1,632,500	466,316	2,148,816
1891 ...	1,426,837	569,198	1,996,071
1892 ...	1,509,452	590,842	2,100,294
1893 ...	2,159,938	465,730	2,625,668
1894 ...	1,858,986	618,142	2,477,128

It will be observed that there was a large increase in 1893, and but for the failure of the last Java crop, there would have been a further increase this year. We have to remember now that, with every year that passes, the recent new plantations will yield more and more under normal conditions, and that it is not too much to expect an increase of coffee outside of Rio and Santos this season of fully one million bags compared with 1891. Next week I shall continue this subject and give a detailed estimate of the production for this season, a production which cannot fail to enforce a materially lower range of prices for coffee.

TO ENCOURAGE CACAO PLANTING.

The bureau of the American Republics has received official information that by an Act of Congress approved July 28, 1894, the Government of Costa Rica offers to pay a premium of 25 cents per tree to every one who shall engage in the cultivation of the cacao, and who shall plant not less than 500 trees.

The law takes effect from date of promulgation, July 29th. The premium shall be paid on evidence that the tree is three years old, and has been properly cultivated. No premium shall be paid under this law to any one commencing the cultivation of the cacao tree subsequent to 1900. Companies and individuals in whose favour other premiums may have been already allowed shall not be entitled to the benefits of the law.—*American Grocer.*

INDIAN PATENTS.

Applications in respect of the unpermentioned inventions have been filed during the week ending 15th September 1894:—

Punkha-pulling Apparatus.—No. 266 of 1894.—Rev. Fr. Phillip, o.c. R. C. Chaplain, Meerut for an improvement in punkha-pulling apparatus.

Machine for Extracting Fibres from Plants.—No. 268 of 1894.—Noorbhoy Ismailjee, Merchant residing at Masjid Bunder, Bombay for an improved machine for extracting fibres from plants.

Tanning Skins and Hides.—No. 270 of 1894.—Thomas Henry Lee Bake, of 7, Coburg Place, Bayswater, Gentleman, and Henry Alfred Leverett, of 16 Tokenhouse Yard, in the City of London, Engineer, for improvements in tanning skins and hides.

Specifications of the undermentioned inventions have been filed under the provisions of Act V of 1888:—

Roller Cotton Gin.—No. 144 of 1893.—Frederick L. Montgomery, Machinst, of 390-11th Avenue, in the City, Co. and State of New York, United States of America, for roller cotton gin. (Filed 10th September 1894.)

The fees prescribed in Schedule 4 of Act V of 1883 have been paid for the continuance of exclusive privilege in respect of the undermentioned inventions:—

Tea Cutting Shears, etc.—No. 246 of 1889.—John Ashington Thompson, Tea Planter, at present of 3, Mission Row, Calcutta for cutting and gathering tea leaves from off the tea bushes by means of specially constructed shears, scissors, knives, hooks or sickles. (From 3rd November 1894 to 2nd November 1895.)

Apparatus for Cleaning Cotton Seeds.—No. 278 of 1889.—Edward Sheardown and John Charles Barker, of No. 44 High Street, Hull, in the Co. of Hull, England, Seed Crushers, for a method of and apparatus for cleaning cotton seed. (From 26th September 1894 to 25th September 1895.)—*Indian Engineer.*

THE WYNAAD TEA COMPANY, LIMITED. AN OLD COFFEE COMPANY RECON- STRUCTED.

TEA, ARABIAN AND LIBERIAN COFFEE.

The first ordinary general meeting of this Company was held on Wednesday last at 23, College Hill, E.C., under the presidency of Mr. James Labouchere who said:—When we met last, in the month of January, it was at a confirmatory meeting, to liquidate and reconstruct the old Tambracherry Company. Well that reconstruction got so far advanced in the spring as to enable us to send out letters of allotment; and I am very thankful to say that since that time everything has gone on smoothly, and that the accounts we have received of the past season and of the present season are such as to give us the greatest amount of confidence in the future. I have here a rough balance-sheet made up to the 30th of Apri