

317. The number of proof gallons of spirits manufactured in 1888 was 5,514,589, as compared with 5,119,506 gallons in 1887, being an increase of 395,083 gallons, and the quantity taken for consumption was 2,326,327 gallons, being less by 538,608 gallons than the quantity taken in 1887, and was 715,237 gallons less than the average consumption of the four preceding years. The decrease in consumption is said to be partly attributed to the increase in the excise duty from \$1.00 to \$1.30 per gallon.

Quantity
of spirits
manufac-
tured.

318. The increase in the quantity of spirits manufactured is attributed to the new provision of the Inland Revenue Act, which came into force on 1st July, 1887, by which the sale of spirits which have not been manufactured at least twelve months is prohibited, distillers in consequence finding it necessary to increase their stock.

Increase
in manu-
facture of
spirits.

319. In the production of the above mentioned quantity of spirits 94,243,866 lbs. of grain and 90,499 lbs. of molasses were used, making a total quantity of raw material of 94,334,365 lbs.

Materials
used.

320. The quantity of malt manufactured during the year was 54,282,943 lbs., and entered for consumption 48,640,467 lbs., being a decrease and increase, as compared with 1887, of 379,861 lbs. and 6,610,027 lbs., respectively. Distillers used 4,606,544 lbs. of the quantity entered for consumption, and the remainder was employed in the production of 15,944,002 gallons of malt liquor.

Manufac-
ture of
malt.

321. There was an increase of 431,441 lbs. in the quantity of tobacco entered for consumption, as compared with 1887, but the amount was below the average of six years, as shown by the following figures :—

Consump-
tion of
tobacco.