

The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to wagons for the year ending the 31st March, 1898:—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Erected new.	Rebuilt.	Converted.	Thoroughly overhauled.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Painted.	Touched-up.	Fitted with Standard Draw-gear.
Wagons	4,079	361	32	61	59	1,471	2,095	1,355	1,042	155

The following new work is in hand: Two hundred and ninety-one four-wheel wagons, and seventy-three bogie wagons.

The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to tarpaulins for the year ending the 31st March, 1898:—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	New.	Condemned and replaced.	Repaired.
Tarpaulins	5,100	595	538	3,967

Five hundred and twenty-two new tarpaulins are in hand.

Stationary Engines and Cranes.—The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to stationary engines and cranes for the year ending the 31st March, 1898:—

Type.	Number passed through Shops.	Thoroughly overhauled.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Painted.	Boiler Repairs.					
						New Tubes.	Tubes pieced.	Boiler patched.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	New Boiler.
Hand-cranes ...	19	1	4	14	5	...	...	...	...	...	..
Steam-cranes ...	29	...	3	26	2	...	...	...	...	1	...
Stationary engines	16	2	...	14	1	1	...	4	3	4	...
Hoisting-engines...	5	1	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hydraulic engines	3	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	72	4	7	61	9	1	...	4	3	5	...

The following cars, brake-vans, wagons, and tarpaulins were completed and added to stock during the year:—

	Cars.	Brake-vans.	Wagons.		Tarpaulins.
			4-wheel.	Bogie.	
To replace stock sold to Western Australia	...	...	21	24	...
Additions to open lines	15	11*	231	53	478
Working-expenses	...	...	3	...	117
Westport Harbour Board	...	1	25	...	...
	15	12	280	77	595

* One-third cost of eight charged to "Additions to open lines" (converted from old four-wheeled stock).

In addition to the above, four four-wheeled wagons have been built to replace four wagons disposed of.

Conversion of Rolling-stock.—Two four-wheel and six six-wheel cars were converted to seven bogie, Class A, cars. Of the ten four-wheel brake-vans converted to bogie vans, two were charged to "Working-expenses," and one-third the cost of eight vans was charged to "Additions to open lines," and the balance to "Working-expenses."

Six cars, three brake-vans, and 155 wagons were fitted with standard draw-gear.

The following additions to plant have been made during the year: Two 8in.-centre hollow spindle-lathes, one 14½in.-centre gap-lathe, two standard chain-saw mortisers, one 12in.-centre sliding- and surfacing-lathe, one 7-cwt. steam-hammer, one lever punching- and shearing-machine, two Brown's patent screwing-machines, two 8in.-centre double-gear capstan-lathes, two American mechanical stokers, four Stowe's flexible shafts, and one Babcock and Wilcox boiler, 96-h.p.