

The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to cars for the year :—

Particulars.	Number and Type.			Total.
	Bogie.	Six-wheel.	Four-wheel.	
Number passed through shops	1,626	60	10	1,696
Built new	63	63
Converted six-wheel to bogie	6	6
Thoroughly overhauled	33	4	...	37
Heavy repairs	217	12	1	230
Light repairs	1,307	44	9	1,360
Painted and varnished... ..	306	24	5	335
Touched up and revarnished	461	7	1	469

Sixty-three new 47½ ft. Class A bogie-cars are under construction.

Brake-vans.—The number of brake-vans on the 1st April, 1903, was 283 : during year 3 old worn-out four-wheel vans were written off and replaced ; 18 new bogie brake-vans were built and added to stock : the number of brake-vans on the 31st March, 1904, was 301.

The repairs, &c., to brake-vans for the year were as follows :—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Built new.	Thorough Overhaul.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Painted.	Touched up.
Brake-vans	532	21	9	65	437	103	129

Fifteen new bogie brake-vans are under construction.

Wagons.—The wagon-stock on 1st April, 1903, consisted of 12,709 vehicles, and on 31st March, 1904, the number was 13,132 wagons. Towards the end of the year four old wagons were sold and written off ; four new wagons are being built to replace them, but were not completed at the close of the year. Three hundred and seventy new wagons were built and added to stock ; fifty-six new wagons were also built to replace wagons written off and sold to Public Works Department. One of the four-wheeled D cars (written off car-stock) was converted to a sleeping-van, Class K. There were also two new wagons built for the Napier Harbour Board.

The carrying-capacity of wagon-stock has been increased by 3,476 tons, or equal to nearly 4 per cent., being an equivalent of 579 ordinary wagons.

Good progress has been made with renewing old axles, also in fitting extra-coil bearing-springs to still further increase the carrying-capacity of wagon-stock. The fitting of all stock with stronger coupling-pins is on the point of completion.

The following table gives particulars of repairs, &c., to wagon-stock :—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Built new.	Rebuilt.	Converted.	Heavy Repairs.	Light Repairs.	Painted.	Touched up.
Wagons	11,051	428	74	12	1,509	9,028	1,636	3,227

The following new wagons were under construction at the close of the year, viz. : 158 bogie and 338 four-wheeled wagons.

Tarpaulins.—The stock of tarpaulins on 1st April, 1903, consisted of 9,322 sheets ; to this number were added during the year 680 new tarpaulins, making the stock on 31st March, 1904, as 10,002 tarpaulins.

Eight hundred and eighty-three old worn-out tarpaulins were written off the books and replaced by a similar number of new tarpaulins manufactured in the Government railway work-shops, and, in accordance with usual practice, charged to working-expenses.

The following table shows the work on tarpaulins for the year :—

Description.	Number passed through Shops.	Manufactured new.	Condemned and replaced with New Sheets.	Repaired.
Tarpaulins	9,623	680	883	8,060

Two hundred and twenty-five new tarpaulins were under manufacture at close of year.