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No. 89.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

BASUTOLAND.

[For Report for 1891-92, see Colonial Report (Annual) No. 62.]

Sir H. B. LOCH to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 12, 1893.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the Annual Report of the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland.

I enclose also a copy of the reply which I have addressed to Mr. Lagden.

In communicating this report to your Lordship I desire to express my high appreciation of the good work done by Sir Marshall Clarke, Mr. Lagden and the Basutoland officials generally. They have had to contend with great difficulties during the past year, but I am glad to be able to congratulate them on the way in which those difficulties have been surmounted and to have the opportunity of bringing their services to your Lordship's notice.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,

Governor and High Commissioner.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure No. 1.

From ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland, to His Excellency the HIGH COMMISSIONER, South Africa.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,

July 31, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency a report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1893, together with report of the Acting Government Secretary covering Annual Reports of the Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers in duplicate.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

2. I was absent on duty in Swasiland for the greater part of the year, and on my return in March last, was much struck with the loyal, business-like character displayed by the Paramount Chief Lerothodi in dealing with national affairs, marred, however, occasionally by the effects of drink, to which he is apt to give way.

3. Lerothodi has undoubtedly had much opposition to contend with, due to jealousy on the part of some of his younger brothers and the younger sons of other influential chiefs. Many of these juniors had during Letsie's later life a prodigal and favoured time. They hoodwinked the old Chief, whose age and decrepitude made him blind to violence and excesses perpetrated under his name, and were spoiled for discipline.

4. The accession of a strong man like Lerothodi, full of will and purpose to set the house in order and assert his position, naturally provoked enmity between him and the section that had traded on the weakness of his father. Intrigues ensued which were calculated to shake the Paramount Chieftainship and strengthen the position of the younger generation, who viewed with some sense of alarm what appeared to them as the gradual decadence of their power and the apparent substitution of a public opinion, formerly unknown in the country, to which Lerothodi was prone to give ear. They fancied, moreover, that he owed his dynasty and the tenure of it too much to Government support.

5. These feelings, which had been fermenting ever since the death of Letsie, found vent, after various indications during the year under notice, in open defiance exhibited by Maama, who refused to acknowledge with due respect the position of the Paramount Chief or to obey his orders. He coquetted with Masupha and some of the minor Chiefs, giving as the ostensible reason for his behaviour that he was being deprived of rights and dispossessed of certain cattle bestowed upon him by his father. So incensed was Lerothodi at this attitude that he assembled his people under arms and marched towards Maama's village fully intent upon administering summary punishment. Upon the advice of Government, however, he withdrew his forces, returned home, and concurred in submitting the matter to the Resident Commissioner, who, regarding it as a very serious family quarrel, convened a Pitso of all the principal descendants and councillors of Moshesh to discuss and adjudicate upon it.

The proceedings showed beyond doubt that the pretexts advanced were illusory and that a conspiracy of younger against elder sons was really contemplated. It was regarded by the Pitso as an affair affecting the Chieftainship. This was unreservedly admitted by the principal speakers, who at the same time declared themselves bound in fealty to Lerothodi as their supreme chief in succession to Moshesh and Letsie.

There is ground for believing that Maama and his adherents were prompted by a desire to create a disturbance, conducive,

perhaps, to civil war ; but wiser counsels prevailed in the end, and Maama had to submit to a severe admonishment and to be deprived of the guardianship of certain rights and privileges held by the Court to have been granted conditionally by Letšie, subject to reversion at pleasure of his successor in office.

6. Were Lerothodi not so addicted to intemperance he would by his strength of character be well able to cope with the tribal opposition to which he is exposed. His weakness for drink affords opportunities to his opponents and causes discontent in the tribe as well as embarrassment to the Government, for, while protesting against the evils of it, his excessive indulgence offers a fatal example to others which is made the most of.

7. With regard to the latter subject, I much regret to state that it appears from the district reports that brandy smuggling has during the past year much increased along the Caledon river border, where a series of illicit houses continue to be kept by men of bad character on the Orange Free State side. We are much indebted to some of the border Landdrosts who equally condemn the objectionable traffic, and have exerted themselves, under instructions from their Government, to suppress it. I trust that the district officers in Basutoland, who are most assiduous in their efforts to encounter the evil, will be successful. From one of the returns appended to the Government Secretary's report, it will be seen that our police patrols, averaging three men in each, covered an estimated distance of 18,990 miles in search of persons contravening the Liquor and Pass Regulations, of whom 157 were prosecuted for offences under the clauses relating to them.

8. A renewal of the old-standing feuds amongst the Molapo family in Leribe took the form of an open rupture in August last between Joel and Matela, on which occasion two men were killed and some wounded. The case required special treatment, ending in imprisonment of certain men who provoked the disturbance. There were other serious brawls in the territory, resulting in death and injury to several people, but no grave complications occurred, and combined courts dealt with them satisfactorily.

9. These village fights resulting in homicide have latterly been so numerous that it has been found expedient, in accord with the expressed wish of the Paramount Chief, to visit those concerned by imprisonment in lieu of fines in the hope that this form of punishment will act as a deterrent.

10. Trade appears to have been very depressed in the early part of the year, owing to the destruction of crops by locusts, which caused a deal of poverty. A splendid autumn harvest, however, turned the tide and provided the people with abundance of food. The prices of grain consequently now rule exceptionally low, as shown in one of the enclosed returns, which includes also an approximate price list of all produce and stock.

11. In connection with the "hunger" period it is noticeable that the Basuto Chiefs took a new departure by way of adopting

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

"Boycotting." Being ignorant, as they are, of the laws of supply and demand, although Government officers have for years been trying to impress upon them how all nations are governed by such laws, it is hard for them to realize why, when their grain is plentiful and saleable at 5s. a bag only, it should not remain at that price when grain is scarce. In some instances last year a bag of mealies required absolutely for subsistence could only be repurchased from the traders by payment of a fat ox or the value of it. The traders had frequently to import grain at high cost to meet the native craving for food and did not as a rule profit much on their bargains. Still, the Basuto were so overcome by the mysterious change to their disadvantage in selling and purchasing prices that they were forbidden to sell Europeans certain necessaries of life, such as fuel, milk, etc., and when the new wheat crop was harvested the sale of it was forbidden by the chiefs under a value fixed by them. The boycott naturally broke down in time, as the traders were, of course, unable to pay more for wheat than the market warranted. This offered, while it lasted, a great impediment to trade and was injurious to the mercantile community as well as inconvenient to the public. In one case a son of Masupha so far misbehaved himself as to forcibly blockade the whole trade of one shop after the embargo had been removed. Failing to come to reason he was eventually summoned and fined.

12. The trading community have long and loudly complained of the disabilities under which they suffer by being almost entirely excluded from the great Transvaal grain markets on account of the prohibitory tariff imposed on Basutoland produce. This matter was brought to your Excellency's notice in September last by request of the Basutoland Traders' Association.


13. At the Annual Pitso in October last the people were strongly urged to endeavour by concerted action to attack locusts and destroy them. In a number of instances the advice was acted upon with signal effect, whole swarms being nearly exterminated by the following methods:—

- (1.) Tramping the flying insects while torpid by herds of cattle.
- (2.) Driving the voetgangers on to patches of cut grass and then burning.

14. The chiefs and headmen have as a rule behaved uncommonly well in regard to recovering stolen stock and bringing criminals to justice. The Chief Masupha gave considerable trouble by delaying unduly payment of his Hut Tax. The matter entailed a good deal of persuasion and pressure by the Resident Commissioner.

15. Proclamations having legislative effect were issued during the year:—

- (1.) Relating to quarantine in connection with foot and-mouth disease.
- (2.) Amending the pension regulations.

7 

BASUTOLAND
1892-93.

16. The effects of foot-and-mouth disease were not grave, but few cattle appear to have died from it, and no medical treatment was found necessary.

17. Government experienced a calamity in September by the total destruction through fire of the Quartermaster's stores, containing a good reserve of police equipment and other material, valued approximately at 2,500*l*. The principal Government buildings at Maseru are now insured.

18. In view of various representations, and particularly with the object of checking stock stealing, which had been reported from the East Griqualand border of the Cape Colony, it was found expedient to establish, in November last, a new station in the Mountain District at a spot about 20 miles from the town of Matatiele. Mr. C. Griffith, the officer stationed there, has done good initiatory work. His presence has been felt by stock thieves, and the general effect is undoubtedly beneficial. The site is about to be opened up to wagon communication, which may develop a new sphere of trade.

19. A separate report on education will be sent so soon as the returns are before me.

20. The returns of grain exported from Basutoland for the year ended 31st December 1892, viz., 87,658 bags, show a considerable falling off from the previous year, due to paucity of crops.

21. The figures showing 29,477 attendances at free dispensaries speak for themselves, and clearly illustrate how much the labour of the medical officers and the facilities afforded are appreciated.

22. It is satisfactory to observe from the return of lost stock that almost everything traced to Basutoland was recovered.

23. The missionaries of all denominations continue to pursue earnestly and successfully their valuable civilizing and educational work.

24. I have the honour, in conclusion, to draw attention to the interesting and instructive report of the Acting Government Secretary and to bring to your Excellency's notice the good and effective services of the officers discharging the duties of the Administration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. Y. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency the High Commissioner,
&c. &c. &c.
South Africa.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

SIR, Resident Commissioner's Office,
Basutoland, July 1, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to forward the following reports on Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1893:—

Assistant Commissioner,	Leribe.
Do.	Berea.
Do.	Maseru.
Do.	Mafeteng.
Do.	Mohalies Hoek.
Do.	Quthing.
Medical Officer,	Maseru.
Do.	Mafeteng.
Do.	Mohalies Hoek.
Do.	Leribe.

The general statistics compare very favourably with those of preceding years.

In spite of the severe damages experienced from the ravages of locusts and other enemies of the crops last harvest season, which caused great depression in trade and suffering to the natives, the country continues prosperous, though grave anxiety existed when the Hut Tax became payable, owing to poverty and fears of a renewed bad harvest. The last wheat crops, however, survived, and being followed by abundant crops of mealies, the country is now well stocked with food, which Government officers are endeavouring to impress upon the people to be provident of in future.

In many cases the natives were so pressed for food that they consumed their supply of seed. In some of the worst districts relief works were organised on the public roads, in order that the poorest class might obtain a supply of seed. They were paid for their labour in grain, and these works were much appreciated.

In the spring some large swarms of locusts, which hatched out in the northern districts, were exterminated by the active co-operation of chiefs and people with the district officers. In various other parts of the country also the people were successful in destroying large numbers of the winged insects.

From the appended return it will be seen that the general Revenue has maintained itself, making due allowances for proportional increases. Some unnecessary and wilful delay occurred in certain districts in the payment of Hut Tax, and caused considerable inconvenience to the administration, inasmuch as such delays interfere with the execution of public work. This was most marked in the Berea district. The arrear Hut Tax collected during the year under report is considerably less than that collected the previous year. This points to a more perfected system of collection.

From the tabulated return of Lost Stock reported at the various offices during the year it will be seen that in nearly all cases

where the stock so reported has been actually traced into this territory, it has been recovered. The quantity of stock reported as lost, but which has not been traced into Basutoland, is remarkable, and must be attributed to the custom of the border farmers of reporting all instances of strayed stock as stolen. These people do not even take the trouble to report the recovery of their property, which, in some instances, is found on their own farms.

The statistics of crime display a large percentage of prosecutions for the contravention of the Liquor Regulations. In connection with this, I would refer to the return of patrols, and mileage estimated to have been travelled by Basutoland police, which shows an estimated patrollage of 18,990 miles. Although there is no very material increase in arrests for these offences, it is unfortunately notorious that brandy smuggling has much increased during the past year, chiefly along the central line of the Caledon river. Some of the leading chiefs, who should show a better example, are well known to have encouraged the traffic, and, in some cases, even to have connived at the sale of it in small quantities in the territory.

It appears from the district reports that a considerable number of canteens are carrying on this pernicious traffic along the border of the Orange Free State. The trade does not appear to be carried on on a large scale by the bulk of the illicit sellers, except in the border towns. Several persons have been prosecuted and fined in the Landdrosts' Courts, by the co-operation of our police; but this does not seem to deter them, as any fine is easily paid out of the immense profits made. On the Basutoland side, owing to the broken nature of the country and the sympathy of the population, it is most difficult for our police to discover and arrest the natives who smuggle the liquor across the border in bottles.

The Caledon river is, in the summer season, to some extent an effective barrier when in flood, but at this time of the year it is fordable at any point.

The Medical Officer at Leribe draws attention in his report to the large number of cases of wounds and bruises treated by him which are attributable to this deplorable taste for strong drink of both Native and European manufacture.

During the year 49,901 passes have been issued, of which 19,518 were to persons who left the territory in search of employment at the various mining centres and in the neighbouring territories. These people bring into the country large sums of money, the results of their labour. The balance left the country on visits and for various other purposes.

The strength of the Police is:—

Officers -	-	-	-	-	-	10
European constables	-	-	-	-	-	10
Native non-commissioned officers	-	-	-	-	-	16
Native privates	-	-	-	-	-	197

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

The conduct of the men is good, and their efficiency satisfactory. A new police station has been established at Qacha's Nek, on the border between Basutoland and East Griqualand, under charge of an officer. This has had a very salutary effect in the suppression of stock thefts, the greater part of the population in that vicinity being Tembus, who are notorious thieves.

It is estimated from returns that there are about 189 lepers in the country. Tribal attempts to segregate them have been unsatisfactory, owing probably to the fact that the people do not fully realise the contagious nature of the disease.

It appears from the District Reports that the schools receiving Government grants have been visited during the year by Government officers, who report that they are in a satisfactory condition. The number of scholars on the books is 7,140, and the amount granted towards education is 3,708*l.* In the autumn months the daily attendance fluctuates very much, owing to the employment of the children in aiding to harvest.

The following useful and necessary Public Works have been carried out :—

- Erection of Officers' quarters, Qacha's Nek.
- „ Gaoler's quarters, Maseru.
- „ Quartermaster's store, Maseru.
- „ Public offices, Berea.
- „ Stabling at officers' mess, Maseru.

Maintenance and fair repair of the principal roads and various repairs and alterations to existing buildings.

The repair of the roads is a difficult and costly undertaking, owing to the mountainous character of the country and the heavy annual rainfall.

Half the cost of about two miles of wire fencing on the Basutoland-Orange Free State border has been met.

The Quartermaster's store has been built to replace that which was unfortunately destroyed by fire in September last by accident, with all its contents — a full new equipment of uniform and saddlery for the police estimated at 2,500*l.*

The trade of the country, in spite of great depression during the early part of the year, has not been altogether bad. Great stocks of wheat and mealies are held by the traders awaiting a rise in value; in view of the probable visitation of locusts next year, and of the fact that a great deal of the Free State early wheat crop has already been demolished by these insects, cereals may realize very high prices next year.

The weed known as *Xanthium Spinosum*, or Burr weed, is rapidly increasing and spreading over the whole country, to the great detriment of the wool, and unless decisive steps are taken to eradicate it, that product will be of no commercial value.

The Customs Returns of Imports, were naturally affected in the first half of the year by the Basuto having no grain to trade, this being the purchasing power of the country.

93

The average local prices rule as follows for Basutoland BASUTOLAND,
1892-93.
produce:—

Wheat, 11s. per muid.
Mealies, 5s. per muid.
Kaffir corn, 10s. per muid.
Oats, 8s. per muid.
Forage, 20s. per 100 bundles.
Ponies, 100s. each.
Tobacco, 1s. per lb.
Cattle, 60s. each.
Sheep, 12s. each.
Goats, 6s. each.
Wool, 2d. to 4d. per lb.
Mohair, 6½d. per lb.
Hides, 3½d. per lb.

The Customs work, which was decentralised as a part of the district system, has been grafted on the general system of administration under the supervision of this office quietly and effectively, has been admirably worked, and is well looked after.

Foot-and-mouth disease having appeared among the cattle in the Free State, quarantine was proclaimed and traffic suspended. However the disease was introduced into Basutoland by a team of oxen which crossed the border a few days before the proclamation was issued. Attempts to isolate it were futile and it was then considered best to allow the disease to run its course through the country while it was still summer and pasturage good and cattle fat. The quarantine was suspended, and this proves to have been a wise step, for the disease, which attacked the cattle in a mild form, has nearly died out without having caused any serious loss.

It will be noticed from the medical officers' reports how enormously the work has grown at the free dispensaries. This shows conclusively how fully the work is appreciated by the Basuto who are learning to prefer European methods to their own superstitious and primitive treatment.

All the district establishments are conducted on a uniform system, which works smoothly and effectively.

I append the following statistical Returns:—

Return of revenue in detail.

„ lost stock.

„ licenses.

„ passes.

„ civil and criminal cases.

Educational return.

Return of patrols.

„ exports.

„ patients treated in free dispensaries.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

Return of Revenues in detail for the year ended June 30, 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - -	18,983 0 4
Post Office - - - - -	939 13 6
Licences - - - - -	2,850 12 9
Fees of Court or Office - - - - -	79 11 8
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	191 15 1
	£ 23,044 13 6

(Signed) **F. ENRAGHT MOONY,**
Acting Government Secretary.

Schedule of Lost Stock reported at the various district offices in Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1893.

Description.	Reported lost.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Remarks.
Horses* - - - - -	91	27	64	28	*Two were reported to have been recovered by owner on a neighbouring farm.
Cattle - - - - -	189	66	123	52	
Sheep - - - - -	700	28	672	46	

(Signed) **F. ENRAGHT MOONY,**
Acting Government Secretary.

Schedule of Number of Licences issued in the various districts of Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1893.

General Traders.	Hawkers.	Free Hawkera.	Mill dam Licences.
128	82	76	2

(Signed) **F. ENRAGHT MOONY,**
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Number of Passes issued to Natives leaving Basutoland during the year ended June 30, 1893. **BASUTOLAND. 1892-93.**

Number of Natives who obtained Passes to seek work.	Number of Natives who obtained Passes for other purposes.	Total number of Natives who obtained Passes.
19,640	30,261	49,901

(Signed) **F. ENRAGHT MOONY,**
Acting Government Secretary.

Educational Return for the year ended June 30, 1893.

Total number of scholars on school registers	-	7,140
Total number of schools	-	122
Total amount expended on education during the year 1892-93	-	£3,708

(Signed) **F. ENRAGHT MOONY,**
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Patrols performed by Basutoland Police during the year ended June 30, 1893.

Number of Patrols performed.	Number of Men engaged.	Estimated distance patrolled by collective patrols.	Number of arrests for contravention of Liquor and Pass Regulations.
633	1,773	18,997	157

(Signed) **F. ENRAGHT MOONY,**
Acting Government Secretary.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

Return of Civil and Criminal Cases heard in the various Assistant Commissioners' Courts in Basutoland during year ended June 30, 1893.

	No. of cases.
Theft - - - - -	77
Assault - - - - -	14
Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm -	1
Culpable homicide - - - - -	8
Murder - - - - -	1
Rape - - - - -	1
Contravention of liquor regulations -	120
Contravention of pass regulations -	37
Contravention of quarantine regulations foot- and-mouth disease - - - - -	5
Resisting and assaulting police -	15
Obstructing police - - - - -	1
Creating a disturbance - - - - -	1
Obstructing trade - - - - -	1
Contravention trading regulations, section 8 -	5
Contravention Customs regulations -	4
Offences against gaol discipline -	4
Attempt to corrupt public officer -	1
Escaping from custody - - - - -	2
Contravention of firearm regulations -	6
Forgery - - - - -	1
Housebreaking - - - - -	2
Embezzlement - - - - -	1
Contravention of reserve regulations -	2
Destroying public works - - - - -	1
Fraud - - - - -	1
Breaking prison - - - - -	1
Total - - - - -	<u>313</u>
Civil suits - - - - -	14

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Grain Exported from and imported into Basutoland for the year 1892.

(Grain exported from Basutoland.)

During year 1891.				During year 1892.		
Wheat.	Mealies.	Kaffir Corn.	Oats and Barley.	Wheat.	Mealies.	Kaffir Corn.
95,152	66,527	1,948	351	66,280	20,186	1,192

Grain imported into Basutoland, 1892.

	Wheat.	Meal.	Kaffir Corn.
	849	8,446	2,747

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

Return of Attendances by Patients for treatment at the Government Dispensaries, Basutoland, for the year ended June 30, 1893.

Outdoor attendances.		In patients.	
1891-92.	1892-93.	1891-92.	1892-93.
21,807	29,387	135	140

(Signed) F. ENRAGHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended June 30, 1893.

I entered upon the duties of Assistant Commissioner in this district on the 18th March 1893.

The fighting between the people of the Chiefs Joel and Matela, which took place in August 1892, and which is more fully alluded to in Mr. Boxwell's report, has not since been renewed.

The removal of a few of Joel's people from Matela's ground and the fines and imprisonment inflicted on those who took a prominent part in the disturbance, appear to have had a satisfactory effect in keeping the peace.

A dispute between the Chiefs Jonathan and Peete Lisavana as to ploughing rights in the neighbourhood of Dipeteng, has been reported to me, but it has not so far appeared to be necessary

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

to take action beyond advising the Chiefs to come to an agreement based upon the delimitation of their rights as defined several years ago by the officers of the Colonial Government. I forward a report upon the schools receiving Government aid.*

I have not been able during the past quarter to make a very satisfactory inspection of the Schools, as during the harvest months the services of many of the children are required by their parents for reaping, and the attendance on the days of inspection has been below the average.

During the past season the Chiefs have to a great extent prohibited the sale of produce by the people to traders and others Europeans. They have probably been influenced partly by a feeling of resentment for the high prices charged at some stores for food stuffs during the period of scarcity before the wheat harvest, and partly by a desire to prevent their people from parting with necessary supplies of food for the coming months. Since the cold season commenced and supplies of blankets and clothing have been required by the Basuto, this restriction has apparently been removed. Wheat has been sold for about 15s. a muid, mealies for 5s. per muid, and small quantities of Katfir corn at about 10s. As the people were at all times allowed to sell sufficient produce to enable them to pay their taxes, very little stock and grain has been received in payment of hut tax.

While the restriction on the grain trade was in force, I have not considered it well to recommend the issue of new trading licences.

Notwithstanding quarantine regulations foot-and mouth disease made its appearance in the country in the summer, but occasioned little loss.

The damage to crops caused by locusts was trifling, and a quantity of these insects were destroyed in the early stages of their existence by the people co-operating under the direction of Government officers.

The crops have been above the average and the food supply is abundant.

An unfortunate result of the abundance of grain and consequent manufacture and consumption of native beer has been a number of drunken brawls at feasts and dances.

The medical officer in his report draws attention to the number of wounds and bruises inflicted at these beer drinks.

Four cases of culpable homicide arising from the fatal results of drunken fights with sticks have been dealt with by combined courts.

It has not been brought to my notice that any considerable amount of brandy is smuggled into the district.

The officers and police of the Orange Free State are active in suppressing any illicit liquor traffic and generally in co-operation with me in maintenance of law and order on the border.

* Not printed.

94

The Chief Jonathan Molapo and other chiefs have given me the necessary assistance in the collection of Revenue and detection of crime.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

The usual annual returns are attached.

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Revenue collected in Leribe District for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - -	4,841 18 0
Licences - - - - -	388 12 6
Fines - - - - -	189 14 0
Ferry tolls - - - - -	23 3 6
Fees of Court or Office - - - - -	4 6 6
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	13 17 0
	5,411 11 6

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - - -	18	1	11	8	8
Cattle - - -	13	8	7	6	7
Sheep - - -	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

Schedule of Number of Passes issued, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment	-	3,044
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	-	6,544
Total	-	9,588

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Number of Licences granted, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June, 1893.

General traders	-	24
Hawkers' licences	-	29
Hawkers' licences (free)	-	16

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Civil and Criminal Cases, Leribe District, for the Year ended 30th June, 1893.

Civil cases	-	8
Assault	-	6
Contravention liquor regulations	-	9
Contravention Pass Laws	-	14
Resisting or assaulting police	-	7
Theft	-	21
Rape	-	1
Trading without licence	-	2
Contravention Customs Regulations	-	3
Contravention High Commissioner's Proclamation, re cattle quarantine	-	2
Offences against gaol discipline	-	4
Attempt to corrupt a public officer	-	1
Culpable homicide (tried by combined court)	-	4

(Signed) H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT, Sub-district BUTHA BUTHE, LERIBE DISTRICT, BASUTOLAND.
for Year ended 30th June 1893. 1892-93.

General.

The year I regret to say, has not passed without disturbance. During July and the early part of August relations were very strained between the people of Matela and those of Joel who were still living in Matela's ward. On August 11th and 12th fighting took place between Mabine's men and Ntsoana, and three or four people were killed. Leboca also was attacked and ran away to the Free State. On August the 25th the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief arrived in Thlotsi to try Leboca and Ntsoana, and others who had taken part in the fighting. Leboca and Ntsoana were fined and ordered to remove from Matela's ward. This order they at once obeyed, and thus one source of trouble in this district has been done away with.

In October the young locusts appeared in great numbers, and it was feared at one time that widespread damage would be done to the crops. Chiefs Joel, Insua, and Molupi turned out their men and did good work in destroying the locusts, and the damage was confined to a very small area.

On November the 5th the foot-and-mouth disease was reported to have appeared on the Free State farms along the border. All the wagon drifts in this ward were watched and precautions taken as far as possible to prevent the disease from spreading into Basutoland. In spite, however, of all that could be done, the disease appeared among the cattle in this country, but fortunately caused little or no loss.

In March, 1893, Chief Motsoeni reported that some of his rope grass had been stolen, by Joel's people, it was said, and at first it was feared that this might lead to a disturbance between Jonathan and Joel, but it did not do so. The Paramount Chief sent up his brother to inquire into the matter, and as no evidence was found against Joel's people, the case dropped.

The crops have been very good indeed this year. More wheat is grown in this ward year by year. The Kaffir corn, which at one time was likely to be a failure, is, I think, above the average.

Crime.

I regret to have to report three cases of serious crime in this ward during the year. In May a fight took place in a village near this, and one man was killed, and in June another fight took place in Matela's ward, and a man was killed there also. The perpetrators of these crimes have been tried and punished.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

A murder was also committed in Mateia's ward. In June a woman was found dead just outside her hut, her neck having been broken. A man has been arrested on suspicion for this murder; but it is very doubtful if he is the guilty man.

Six minor criminal cases have been tried at Butha Buthe during the year, and five civil cases have also been heard.

I am glad to be able to report that there has been again an increase in the amount of hut tax collected. It has this year reached the sum of 1,219*l.* 3*s.* 0*d.*, or about 100*l.* more than in any previous year. The total Revenue is also in excess of any other year by about 80*l.*, being 1,343*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* General traders' licenses reached 110*l.*, but there has been a great falling off in the number of hawkers' licences.

Roads.

The roads in this ward are now in very good order. During the past year I have had the drift over the Qalo put in thorough repair and the Butha Buthe drift cut down, and the road to Siebu put in order. A short piece of road has been made in the Machachaneng. I have already submitted to you a report on the extension of that road.

Trade.

There are now eleven general traders' stores in this ward. For a considerable portion of the past year trade was very bad, and is still only fair.

Schools.

There are three schools in my ward receiving Government aid, two under the French Protestant Church, and one under the English Church. The total numbers on the books are 80 boys and 21 girls.

My relations with the Free State officials continue friendly, and those magistrates give me all the assistance in their power.

I subjoin list of Annual Returns, which I forward herewith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Revenue collected in Buta Buthe Sub-district, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

Heads of Revenue.						Amount.		
						£	s.	d.
Hut Tax	-	-	-	-	-	1,219	3	0
Licences	-	-	-	-	-	122	0	0
Fines	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
Fees	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	6
Miscellaneous Receipts	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Total	-	-	-	-	-	£1,343	1	6

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Buta Buthe Sub-district, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
Horses	25	10	15	10	15
Cattle	6	—	6	—	6
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Schedule of Number of Passes issued Buta Buthe Sub-district, Leribe District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment	- 1,935
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	- 5,056
Total	- 6,991

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

*Schedule of number of Licences granted, Batha Buthe Sub-district
Leribe District, for the year ended 30th June 1893.*

General traders	-	-	-	-	11
Hawkers' licences	-	-	-	-	7
Hawkers' licences (free)	-	-	-	-	5

(Signed) W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Medical Officer's Report for the year ended 30th June, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that the health in this district has been good throughout the year, no epidemic disease having been observed.

The attendance at the public dispensary and hospital has been 3,851 cases, of which 3,275 were new ones. These numbers show an increase of 219 patients over last year's report, notwithstanding the epidemic influenza then prevalent, 750 cases more than the year ended 30th June 1891, and are a satisfactory proof of the growing confidence natives are gradually getting in Government hospitals. They, however, only apply to Jonathan's district, as Joel's men, for political reasons, refrain from mixing with the former's and are hardly ever seen at consultation hours.

Twenty-six cases have been admitted into the newly erected hospital, 20 for major operations (cataract, extractions, tumours, amputations) 3 for tertiary syphilis, 2 for acute rheumatism, and 1 for acute dysentery.

From the annexed table, showing the relative frequency of diseases, it may be seen that after ordinary digestive troubles, from which natives constantly suffer, rheumatism and bronchial affections are foremost and are doubtlessly caused by the tendency of raw natives to wear European clothing, which makes them less hardy to exposure.

The same cause as well as want of cleanliness applies to skin diseases, the blanket with its wide meshes forming a more suitable nidus for germs than the old smooth-surfaced bullock hide.

Wounds and bruises have been extremely frequent, nor does the number, 229, cover all the cases known. Beer drinking, resulting in free fight, have most to do with these casualties.

It may also be noted that syphilis is decidedly on the decrease, whether because the disease having been very prevalent at one time has lost its virulence, or perhaps natives are more alive to the treatment to follow in each case.

105

The 116 cases recorded do not, however, give a true statistic; many patients, having to walk long distances to get medicines, prefer to buy them in shops or elsewhere than to bring the patient himself to the hospital.

BARUTOLAND.
1892-93.

Gonorrhœa is still prevalent, as well as other uterine ailments, among women.

Several cases of abortions, premature births, and impotence among men may be attributed to venereal diseases and sexual depravity.

Leprosy is more or less stationary; only four cases came to my notice this year.

Tubercular phthisis was detected in three cases, and seemed to have been acquired at the diamond fields.

The health of the mounted police has generally been good; a corporal died in hospital from acute dysentery.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

BEREA DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the year ended 30th June 1893.

On the 10th April I took over the charge of the district from Sub-Inspector F. Enright-Moony, who was Acting Assistant Commissioner.

The past year has been a quiet one in this district, and there is little of political importance to report.

There have been one or two slight disputes between the lesser Chiefs, but these either have been, or are now being, settled by the Chief Masupha.

In the earlier portion of the year the Chief Patse Mota, who was mentioned in last year's report as having left the district, returned to it and has been partially reinstated in his old position. Chief Masupha has informed me that he intends very shortly to go personally to the spot and arrange all disputed points.

Mooketse Masupha, one of Masupha's minor sons, on account of a personal grudge, closed for a time the store of one of the traders in his ward. He was fined in this Court, but refused to pay unless the trader left. However, pressure being brought to bear on him, he paid his fine and the shop was re-opened.

The case attracted considerable notice, both among Europeans and Natives, being apparently regarded as a test case.

Senekal Masupha also a little later declined to restore a watch and 4*l.* sterling which he had seized from two natives of the Orange Free State who were suspected of wishing to abduct one of his women. He, however, eventually complied with the order of the Court.

BASUTOLAND.
1898-99.

With regard to the above question there appears to be much soreness caused among the Basuto by the working of the Free State law with regard to their women. They complain that should the women be seduced from their husbands into the Free State, they (their husbands) can obtain little or no redress according to the law of the Free State. This point the Chief Masupha and other Chiefs of the district continually complain to me of.

I regret to say that in the last few months there has been a serious revival of the brandy trade, although the border is constantly patrolled by police. The trade does not appear to be done by any one person on a large scale, but by numbers of different natives with a stock of a few bottles each.

The police detachment consists of:—

- 1 sub-inspector of police,
 - 2 non-commissioned officers,
 - 23 privates,
- all mounted.

The heavy autumn rains have done some damage to the roads necessitating an extra grant, by aid of which I hope they will soon be in good order.

Dr. Savage, the Medical Officer at Maseru, in the early part of the year paid a few visits here, during which he vaccinated a considerable number of natives. Inquiry has shown that there are 63 lepers in the district.

In the early half of the year there was considerable distress and want owing to failure of last year's crops from ravages of locusts and other causes. The want was relieved on reaping the summer crop of wheat, and the mealie crop this winter is a very heavy one.

Grain prices rule locally as under:—

- Wheat, per muid, 10s. to 12s.
- Mealies, per muid, 4s. to 6s.
- Kaffir corn, per muid, 18s. to 22s.

There has been remarkably little stock reported at this office as lost from the Orange Free State.

The following cases were heard in this court during the year:—

Civil cases	-	-	-	-	-	2
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	11
Contravention section 7 (Liquor)	-	-	-	-	-	9
" Pass Regulations	-	-	-	-	-	6
" section 8 (Trading)	-	-	-	-	-	3
Contravention Customs Regulations	-	-	-	-	-	1
Resisting police	-	-	-	-	-	5
Creating disturbance	-	-	-	-	-	1
Obstructing trade	-	-	-	-	-	1

107

Throughout the year the Orange Free State authorities have uniformly rendered every assistance. BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

The Revenue as regards hut tax compares rather unfavourably with that of last year. The Revenue for the year is as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	2,755	14	0
Licences - - - -	277	0	0
Fines - - - -	127	7	6
Fees of Court - - -	1	9	0
Miscellaneous - - -	1	13	0
	£3,163 3 6		

The buildings on the station are in good repair, and new public offices will shortly be completed.

My report on the Government aided schools has already been sent separately.

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Licences granted in Berea District for Year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders - - - -	24
Hawkers' licences - - - -	27
Hawkers' licences (free) .. - - -	11

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Passes issued, Berea District, for Year ended June 30th, 1893.

Passes issued to persons in search of work -	3,312
Passes issued to persons for other purposes -	4,216
Total - - - -	7,528

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

*Schedule Lost Stock Reports, Berea District, for Year ended
June 30th, 1893.*

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered
Horses . . .	4	3	1	3	2
Cattle . . .	13	—	13	—	13
Sheep . . .	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) **L. WROUGHTON,**
Assistant Commissioner.

MASERU DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

General.

Two matters of political importance arose during the past year, viz., the calling in of his late father's cattle by the Paramount Chief and a dispute as to the chieftainship over a tract of country known as Korokoro.

It had always been feared that the calling in of these cattle would lead to much trouble, if not actual fighting, owing to the reluctance of the younger sons to give up the cattle and their increase, some of which had been for many years in their caretaking, and last January the Chief Maama disregarded the Paramount Chief's order to produce those he was in charge of.

The trouble at Korokoro arose from the fact that during his life Letsie had been in the habit of employing Maama to settle such matters as arose in that neighbourhood and generally to perform on his behalf such acts of chieftainship as from time to time were necessary for the tribal government there. After Letsie's death Maama claimed the district as part of his own ward, alleging that it had been given to him by his father.

Both these matters, which indeed were closely connected with each other, came to a head about the same time, and were settled by the Resident Commissioner on 1st June.

I regret to say that liquor smuggling has increased of late. The liquor is sold at illicit canteens in the Orange Free State. Three persons keeping such canteens have been convicted and punished by the Landdrost's Court at Ladybrand by the co-operation of our police. Meanwhile every effort is being made to arrest persons bringing the liquor into Basutoland, but this can only be imperfectly done with the means at my disposal, owing to the long stretch of open border, some twenty miles in extent, over which brandy is brought in small quantities by horsemen. The Caledon river is sometimes a help in checking smuggling, but for months past it has been fordable anywhere, and so has ceased to be of much use as a barrier.

During the last four months of 1892 great scarcity prevailed in this district owing to the ravages of locusts in the early part of the year, and reported in my last year's report.

The mealie and Kaffir corn crop had been totally destroyed, and the people were reduced to great straits to provide themselves with food. Mealies had to be imported from Bechuanaland and elsewhere, and were sold to the natives at enormous prices. Cattle depreciated in value as the price of grain went up, and fat cattle were bartered for half a muid of mealies per head.

Early in the spring foot-and-mouth disease appeared in the Free State among the cattle, and quarantine was proclaimed.

The quarantine was, however, not successful in keeping the disease out of the country, and as soon as it appeared in Basutoland the quarantine was removed. The disease ran its course through the district, but did little or no damage owing to the time of the year at which it appeared. Had it been kept off until winter, when what little pasturage there is is hard and dry, heavy losses would have been sustained.

Large swarms of locusts appeared late in the autumn, but fortunately too late to damage the crops. There are still a quantity of them in the neighbouring districts of the Orange Free State, and I fear there is reason to apprehend a visitation from them or their descendants in the spring.

Population.

This has probably increased since last Census; it was then 45,402 souls.

Education.

I attach a report* on the schools receiving Government aid.

Commercial.

Trade has been very bad, but recently it has improved a little. This is satisfactory as far as it goes; but I fear there is little cause to hope that the improvement will continue as, in view of a possible visitation of locusts in the spring and summer, the natives will be afraid to part with their grain, and that is mainly the purchasing power of the country.

Public Works.

The roads in the district are in good repair.

Police.

The police force attached to my office consist of:—

- 2 Sub-inspectors.
- 2 European constables.
- 1 Native sergeant.
- 3 „ corporals.
- 46 „ privates and one gaoler.

I attach return of lost stock.

* Not printed.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-3.

Crime.

Serious crime continues to be rare. I append a list of cases tried in my court during the year:—

	Cases.
Theft - - - -	- 16
Housebreaking - - -	- 3
Embezzlement - - -	- 2
Fraud - - - -	- 1
Breaking prison - - -	- 1
Contravening pass regulations - - -	- 9
Contravening liquor regulations - - -	- 13
Contravening firearms regulations - - -	- 3
Assault - - - -	- 1
Manslaughter - - -	- 1
Assaulting police - - -	- 3
Obstructing police - - -	- 1
Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm - - - -	} 1
Contravening reserve regulations - - -	- 1
Contravening foot-and-mouth disease proclamation - - - -	} 1

Revenue.

The revenue shows an increase on that of last year by 456*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* The increase is in the Post Office, hut tax, and fines. The increase in the Postal Revenue, of 182*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*, is mainly due to the establishment of a telegraph office. The increase in hut tax is 106*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* This would point to an increased population, although 43*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* of it is accounted for by profit made on the sale of stock and grain. It is interesting to note that the proportion of arrear hut tax becomes each year less, as, for instance, 621*l.* in 1890-91, 360*l.* 10*s.* last year, and 202*l.* this year.

I attach return of Revenue in detail.

Passes.

I attach return of passes issued.

Relations with bordering States.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State continues to be of a friendly nature, and I have pleasure in testifying to the cordial co-operation invariably afforded by the Landdrost of Ladybrand.

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Maseru, June 30, 1893.

Schedule of Revenue collected, Maseru District, for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
Hut tax - - - - -	£ s. d. 3,904 18 4
Licences - - - - -	251 0 0
Fines - - - - -	402 4 6
Ferry tolls - - - - -	239 9 9
Fees of Court or Office - - - - -	70 1 11
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	153 16 1
Postal revenue - - - - -	939 13 8
	6,021 4 3

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Licences granted, Maseru District, for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders - - - - -	22
Hawker's licences - - - - -	6
Hawkers' licences (free) - - - - -	4

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Passes issued, Maseru District, for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment -	3,813
Passes issued to persons for other purposes - -	3,454
	Total 7,267

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

*Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Maseru District, for Year ended
30th June 1893.*

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basuto- land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - - -	26	4	22	4	*22
Cattle - - -	55	29	26	29	26
Sheep - - -	—	—	—	—	—

* Two recovered on owner's own farm in Orange Free State.

(Signed) **J. C. MACGREGOR,**
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT, 1892-93.

Office of Assistant Commissioner of Maseru,
July 1, 1893.

The health of the district for the last twelve months has been good, notwithstanding the increase of hospital and dispensary work.

There have been no epidemics. Eleven cases of typhoid fever and 11 of dysentery came under my notice, none, however, being fatal, and I heard of no other cases of zymotic disease. Influenza was extremely prevalent during the year, especially in the months of August and September; 290 cases were treated, all mild in type and uncomplicated, though more severe than last year. There were no deaths.

In January, November, and December there were a great many cases of a skin disease called lekhoekhoe by the natives, an eruption of boils or pustules, due to a great extent from poverty of blood, brought on by scarcity of food and restricted diet, though no cases of actual starvation were reported to me.

Ophthalmia was very prevalent in May and April, 337 cases were seen at the Dispensary. There was a marked diminution in the number of cases of moccuala or syphilis treated at the Dispensary, 477 cases compared with 644 during last year. This yearly decrease in the percentage of cases shows that treatment has proved very effectual in checking the spread of the disease; habits contributing more to the spread of the disease than immorality.

Only one fresh case of leprosy appeared at the Hospital, but I visited a colony of nine lepers at Hangers Drift, all Bastards; the disease, originally brought from the Colony through the Free

State, had spread from one to another. They were separated from the other people who lived near by. BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

Eleven cases of phthisis were treated at the Dispensary, being very few in proportion to the number of attendances.

The health of the police and prisoners in gaol has been good, though one of the former died suddenly.

Hospital and Dispensary attendances :—

Outdoor new cases	-	-	-	-	6,150
Subsequent attendances	-	-	-	-	1,000
Indoor new cases	-	-	-	-	66
Indoor attendances	-	-	-	-	1,148

There were no deaths in Hospital, most of the cases being surgical.

On receiving the news of an outbreak of small-pox at Johannesburg an arm-to-arm vaccination was commenced at Maseru, and all unvaccinated persons in the village were vaccinated, as well as a great many from the surrounding villages—over 1,500. I also visited Teyateyaning once a week for a month and vaccinated over 600 people there. But no small-pox appearing in Basutoland the people lost interest in the process and ceased to return after being vaccinated; the supply of lymph ran short and the general vaccination stopped. But I think that it would be expedient to recommence vaccination as soon as we can obtain sufficient and reliable lymph; that lymph also be supplied to all the missionaries, who are quite able to propagate the lymph, so that all who are willing may be vaccinated as soon as possible. The Basuto, who have well learnt the benefits conferred by successful vaccination at the last outbreak of small-pox in the country, are quite willing, if not anxious, to be vaccinated in order to avoid the disease.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. RADFORD SAVAGE,
Medical Officer.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

I. On the 9th February 1893 the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief held a meeting at Makeneng to instal Letsie Lerothodi as Chief of Mafeteng District. Suitable counsellors were at the same time appointed to assist the young Chief in dealing with such cases and questions as may be brought before him. Subsequently the Resident Commissioner appointed Letsie a Native officer in the Basutoland Police.

Surrounded as he was by flatterers and persons anxious to gain his favour, Letsie, on first finding himself in a somewhat independent position, showed an inclination to disregard the

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

advice of his officially appointed councillors and to assert himself and, consequently, when dealing with Native questions, he committed several indiscretions.

I availed myself of every opportunity to warn Letsie against listening to bad advisers, and I am now glad to report that I have latterly noticed a marked improvement in his behaviour.

II. In February an old-standing boundary dispute resulted in an affray between some people of Chief Seiso and Leluma; one man died from wounds received in the disturbance and several other men sustained severe injuries.

This case was tried by a combined court, and the combatants, 47 in number, were sentenced to pay fines, compensation being awarded to the relatives of the man who died from injuries received in the affray.

Two other boundary quarrels occurred between Seiso and his neighbours during the past year; one at Ramoetsana's and another at Pitso Mafa's; these latter were of a more trivial nature and were adjusted by the Paramount Chief, who at the same time defined the boundaries.

During March another old dispute, relative to reeds and reserve grass, was renewed between Mojela Letsie and Azariel Mokoehane, and both chiefs sent out armed parties to protect their rights, but collision was averted by timely advice, and the disputed boundary has since been more clearly defined.

III. Towards the end of March the dead body of a Fingoe, formerly residing in Khaba's village, Chief Seiso's ward, was found tied with reims and concealed in a deep hole in the Cornet Spruit. The man had evidently been murdered, and suspicion was directed to two men living in Khaba's village; but before they could be arrested these men absconded, and although diligent inquiries have been made no trace of the fugitives has yet been discovered.

IV. I have much pleasure in acknowledging the efforts of the officers of the Orange Free State Government in endeavouring to stop the illicit sale of brandy in their districts, particularly in the town and District of Wepener. Several illicit brandy sellers have been convicted in the Orange Free State Courts for selling liquor to natives, but as they make large profits the punishment does not appear to deter them, and illicit canteens are still as numerous as they were last year.

I submit that the root of the evil would appear to exist principally in the town of Wepener, where the hotel proprietors not only supply some of the Border canteen-keepers with brandy, but also sell largely to Basutoland natives.

As every facility is offered to the Basuto residing near the Wepener border to buy brandy, it has now become quite a recognised custom to have it at most feasts and dances, when it is mixed with the native beer, and the result is most disastrous to those who drink the liquor.

It is evident that the people residing along the western border of this district are becoming impoverished, and that one-third of them are drunkards. The habitual brandy drinkers use every precaution while smuggling spirits into the country, and although the Basutoland Border was vigilantly patrolled by mounted police, only eighty-seven (87), a small proportion of the smugglers, were arrested in this district during the past year.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

V. The Chiefs in this district have rendered me great assistance in tracing lost or stolen stock and in detecting crimes and offences.

VI. The crops of 1892 were almost entirely eaten up by swarms of locusts; consequently there was great scarcity of food, almost amounting to famine, and the price of mealies rose as high as 35s. a muid.

The people had not much money, and it was estimated that 3,000 head of cattle were received by traders in exchange for grain brought from North Basutoland, Orange Free State, and Cape Colony.

In September, 1892, I was authorised by the Resident Commissioner to establish relief works on the public roads to enable the poorest class of natives to obtain grain for food and seed. The result was most satisfactory, and numbers of natives availed themselves of the opportunity and worked willingly for grain.

VII. The last season's crops were very good, and food is now plentiful in all parts of this district.

The following are the ruling prices for Basutoland produce and stock :—

Wheat, 12s. per muid
Mealies, 6s. 6d. per muid.
Oats, 6s. per muid.
Barley, 7s. per muid.
Kaffir corn, 13s. per muid.
Oat hay, 20s. per 100 bundles.
Goats, 5s. to 7s.
Wool, 4d. per lb.
Mohair, 9d. per lb.
Basuto tobacco, 9d. per lb.
Hides, 3½d. per lb.
Horned cattle, 2l. to 4l
Sheep, 7s. to 12s.
Basuto ponies, 3l. to 6l.

VIII. The Free Dispensary was well attended during the past year; I attach a report from the Medical Officer. A Return of persons supposed to be afflicted with leprosy is being framed, with a view to ameliorating their condition, and when this return

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

is completed it will be submitted to the Medical Officer for his report.

IX. Road parties were constantly employed on the public roads, which are now in fair order.

A new hospital ward was built, and all the Government buildings which required repair have received attention.

X. Government officers have inspected the 26 aided schools in this district, and the work of education is making satisfactory progress.

XI. The civil and criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court, were as follows :—

Cases tried by combined court	-	-	8
Civil actions	-	-	4
Thefts	-	-	20
Assaults	-	-	6
Contravening Proclamation Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Quarantine Regulations	-	-	1
Contravening section 7 Liquor Regulations	-	-	87
Contravening section 6 Pass Regulations	-	-	1
Escaping from custody	-	-	1
Contravening section 19 Basutoland Regulations	-	-	3
Cases dismissed	-	-	4

XII. The total revenue amounted to 3,908*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, which shows a decrease of 12*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* when compared with the collection of 1891-92. There was an increase in all receipts except hut tax, and the falling off in the latter can be accounted for by the fact that less arrear tax was paid in 1892-93 than during the previous year.

XIII. I attach schedules as under :—

Medical Officer's Report.
Return of lost and stolen stock.
Return of revenue.
Return of hawkers' licences.
Return of licensed traders.
Return of passes issued.

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Passes issued, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

Passes issued to persons seeking employment	-	4,130
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	-	4,336
Total	-	<u>8,466</u>

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of number of Licences granted, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

General traders	-	20
Hawkers' licenses	-	9
Hawkers' licenses (free)	-	34

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Schedule of Revenue collected, Mafeteng District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
Hut tax	£ 3,467 9 0
Licences	209 0 0
Fines	218 11 0
Fees	6 18 6
Miscellaneous	11 3 0
	<u>£3,908 1 6</u>

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

*Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Mafeteng District, for Year
ended 30th June 1893.*

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - -	11	8	3	8	3
Cattle - -	20	17	3	13	7
Sheep - -	—	—	—	—	—

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner

Office of the Assistant Commissioner
of Mafeteng, July 1, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following Report of medical work done in this district during the past year.

The number of persons treated in the Government dispensary was 4,640; of these 3,032 were adults, and 1,608 children and infants.

The total number of attendances, including repetitions, was 8,879. Seventy-two patients were admitted into hospital; of these five died. Syphilis still continues to be very prevalent. Five hundred and fifty persons, as against 521 last year, were under treatment for this disease. The large proportion of cases of digestive trouble was also remarkable.

Three hundred and fifty-nine minor and seven major operations were performed.

Though only 13 cases of leprosy have come under my notice, there appears to be some reason to suppose that this does not represent anything like all the cases in the district. A return is being made of all suspected cases. They will then be medically examined.

The health of the police, prisoners in the local gaol, and the community generally has been good.

No epidemic of infectious disease has visited the district.

I have, &c.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

(Signed) W. M. EATON,
Medical Officer.

MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

I.—Since my last annual Report the political attitude of the district has undergone but little change.

Owing to the ravages of the locust pest last year to the grain crop, a great scarcity of food was experienced in the district during the winter months, and starvation was averted by the importation of grain from Bechuanaland, prices for which rated very high on account of the great distance and high rate of carriage.

Few disturbances of importance have taken place during the past year.

On the 15th January last a fight took place between Tsepo Potane and Liboua over disputed Maboella, in which two of Liboua's men were so badly wounded that they both died shortly after. The case was tried by the Resident Commissioner at Potsane's Village on the 13th February last, when Tsepo was fined thirty head of cattle.

I was sent with the native Chiefs Seeiso, Seta, Letsie and others to have the disputed line properly fixed before witnesses. This was done the same day.

A similar case is now under investigation that happened at Mako's recently.

In the early part of this year the district was again visited by locusts, but owing to the abundance of green grass, no material damage was done to the growing crops.

Much difficulty has been experienced in the collection of hut tax, and the usual amount not yet got in.

II.—Relations with the neighbouring States continue satisfactory.

A great desire on the part of the border farmers for fencing the line is evident, and there is no doubt that should this most desirable object be attained it will greatly benefit both States.

The illicit sale of liquor on the border still continues in spite of the efforts made for its suppression.

III.—An increase in the population is apparent. The mountain portion of the district is fast filling.

IV.—The crops throughout the district have been very good. Wheat, mealies, and Kaffir corn are abundant at reasonable prices. In the mountains the natives have had enormous crops of mealies and Kaffir corn.

V.—The school at Potsane's village has been reopened during the year and promises well.

All other schools were inspected.

VI.—I have heard of no complaints from traders.

A considerable amount of business was done in grain imported by the traders owing to the great scarcity last winter; this importation was a great boon to the district as at about that time we

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

were threatened with famine; which was averted by the above means.

A large quantity of grain has been exported since the harvest this season; grain has been exceptionally plentiful.

General trading licences	-	-	-	13
Hawkers' licences	-	-	-	4
Dam licences	-	-	-	2
Free licences	-	-	-	6

VII.—The free dispensary has been much appreciated and many important surgical cases successfully treated. For particulars *see* Medical Officer's Report.

VIII.—The following is an extract from the criminal records and speaks for itself:—

The Chiefs continue to assist in the suppression of crime.

Theft	-	-	-	-	6
Assault	-	-	-	-	1
Contravening regulations	-	-	-	-	7

IX.—Labour has been plentiful, and many passes issued for natives seeking employment:—

Seeking employment	-	-	-	1,989
For the purpose of visiting, &c.	-	-	-	1,984

X.—The roads are in good order; road parties have been kept at work repairing and improving when necessary.

XI.—*Revenue.*

	£	s.	d.	
Hut tax	-	-	-	2,796 0 0
Licences	-	-	-	207 12 9
Fees of Court	-	-	-	2 10 6
Special receipts	-	-	-	7 0 6
Total	-	-	-	3,013 3 9

(Signed) **J. W. BOWKER,**
Assistant Commissioner.

119
 BASUTOLAND
 1892-94.

Schedule Lost Stock Reports, Mofales Hoek District, for Year ended 30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - - -	2	—	2	—	2
Cattle - - -	16	4	12	—	16
Sheep - - -	326	—	326	8	318

(Signed)

J. W. BOWKER,
 Assistant Commissioner.

Mofales Hoek Medical Officer's Report for the Year ended 30th June 1893.

The appended return shows a considerable increase in the number of patients treated during the past year.

	1891-2.	1892-3.
Out-patients. New cases - -	2,858	4,500
" Old cases - -	1,221	2,809
In-patients - - -	50	76
Totals - - -	4,129	7,385

An analysis of the diseases treated shows still a large percentage of syphilitic cases, especially those of a hereditary nature.

An epidemic of chicken-pox broke out during the early part of the year, but although a very large number of people were infected there were no deaths.

The in-patient department, which may be regarded as the most satisfactory part of the work performed by the medical officer, though showing an increased number of patients admitted compared with last year, was, however, much restricted, partly for lack of room and partly owing to the smallness of the grant available for the work in question.

The general health of the station has been satisfactory, and no cases of infectious disease have been noted.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

The subject of leprosy has occupied considerable attention, but only two patients suffering from that disease have presented themselves for treatment.

(Signed) **Edw. C. LONG,**
Medical Officer.

DISTRICT OF QUTHING.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June 1893.

General.

On looking over the records of this office for the past year, the first event of importance appears to have been the establishment of a police station, in permanent charge of an officer, at Qatcha's Nek, on the water divide between this district and East Griqualand, about four hours on horseback from the township of Matatiele.

This was done to ensure effective supervision of the more remote portions of the district, and was an immediate consequence of certain unauthorised acts on the part of the Chief Mpiti Makwai which might have led to complications with the East Griqualand authorities. This arrangement is exercising a salutary check on stock thefts, and facilitates the collection of hut tax in that quarter.

II.—At the end of March last I returned to this district, after upwards of six years absence, during which time I was in charge of the district of Leribe.

Since my return sundry persons who were located by me in this district under orders from the Cape Colonial Government, during the years 1882-3, have brought complaints of having been deprived, by the Chief Nkwebe or his deputies, during the past six years, of various rights of pasturage, use of arable lands, &c., which they were put in possession of under the Cape Government. Several of these complaints have been referred to the Resident Commissioner, and others are in process of investigation.

A son of Letsie has been located on the Mission Station at Masitisi against the wishes of the missionary in charge and the local headman; and even on the Government reserve several villages have been placed, and lands given out for cultivation, by the Chief Nkwebe Letsie, to a number of persons from the Cornet Spruit district.

A protest has recently been lodged by the Tembu Chief, Stock Tyali, against the locating of a son of Letsie, called Tsoeni, in his ward without his consent. Several other inferior sons of Letsie have found their way into the district, where they are trying to obtain recognition as chiefs at the expense of the local headmen.

III.—Considerable friction exists between Nkwebe, who was the late Paramount Chief Letsie's representative in the district, and Nhemish Moshesh, who was located here under the Colonial

Government about the end of the year 1882. Nehemiah complains that Nkwebe ignores his rights in connection with a certain wooded valley in his ward, and that he sends his men to cut down trees there without reference to him; and Nkwebe, on the other hand, asserts that the valley in question is used by Nehemiah as a hiding place for lost or stolen stock.

A recent dispute between these chiefs arose out of Nehemiah's son, Philip, constituting himself custodian of certain stray horses, which he said he had found.

Nkwebe sent an order to another son of Nehemiah's called Maseribane to seize these horses, which he suspected were stolen; and on Maseribane carrying out this order, Philip, after recapturing the horses, seized a number of Maseribane's cattle; and now Philip declines to attend Nkwebe's court when summoned, and Nehemiah refuses to send him.

These appear trivial matters on paper, but similar cases have before now lead to the Basuto taking up arms against one another, and the practice which prevails among the chiefs throughout the country of treating derelict stock as their perquisite, instead of handing it over to the proper authorities, is liable to abuse, and should be put a stop to.

IV.—The strained relations which recently existed between the Paramount Chief and his brother Maama, caused some excitement in this district, where the principal Chief, Nkwebe, who is supposed to favour Maama, was plainly told by some of the old-established headmen, that they would not follow him if he took up arms against the Paramount Chief, who was supported by the Government.

V.—Some doubt exists as to the exact locality of the border line between this district and the Cape Colony, at the source of the Telle River, near New England. The Baphuti Chief Moeletsi Tsakos, whose ward is on the Upper Telle, and who was an important counsellor of Morosi, asserts that a certain kloof, known locally as Maqatsanyane, forms the line at this point; but this can doubtless be settled by reference to the surveyors who set up the border beacons.

Agriculture.

The crops of maize and Kaffir corn are exceptionally good this year, and a considerable quantity of wheat was raised last season. Locusts are present, but not in large numbers. Should they breed here they may give trouble next year.

Burrweed has spread enormously in the last few years, and will require strong measures if it is to be eradicated. Foot-and-mouth disease has not been very destructive to stock hitherto. If the cattle attacked are in good condition they seem to get it in a modified form; but as they fall off in condition in the winter, the losses will probably be greater. The increased area under cultivation consequent on the large influx of population from other parts of Basutoland naturally diminishes the pasturage, and affects the general condition of the stock.

BASUTOLAND.
1877-78.

Relations with Bordering States.

Official relations with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand have generally been of a satisfactory nature.

The working of the Quarantine Regulations to prevent the spread of foot-and-mouth disease has caused some inconvenience to individuals, which was in most cases unavoidable.

Public Works.

The public buildings at this station are in bad order and require repair.

The waggon roads, from the mountainous nature of the district, require constant attention, being liable to be washed into gullies in a few hours after rain; and the ledges of rock which crop out everywhere render the making of smooth travelling roads almost impossible. The Basutoland Government has gone to great expense in constructing a waggon road up the valley of the Quthing river, in order to connect with the one commenced some years ago by the Cape Government, to cross the Drakensberg at the pass known as Ongeluk's Nek. In consequence of the stoppage of this work on the East Griqualand side of the mountains our portion of the road has not been carried beyond the foot of the pass on the Basutoland side; and for some time the expenditure on it has been simply to keep the existing portion in passable order.

Trade.

There are fourteen trading stations in the district, and licences have lately been asked for for two others. The transport question is the great drawback to trade, the trying nature of the roads tending to keep carriers away.

Education.

There are ten Government aided schools in this district.

Medical.

There is no resident medical officer in Quthing. A dispensary was started here, under the charge of the medical officer of Mohale's Hoek, but it was found impossible for him to attend satisfactorily to both districts, so his visits have ceased. It is very desirable that a doctor should be provided for Quthing, the nearest medical aid being some 35 miles distant.

Population.

The population of the district is about 20,000.

Passes.

The passes granted at this office during the past year were as under:—

Ordinary passes	-	-	-	-	3,556
For natives seeking work	-	-	-	-	1,295

Police.

The police detachment at this station is in an efficient state, and the various duties are satisfactorily performed.

It may not be out of place here to remark that farmers, and others who send reports of stock lost to these stations, seldom take the trouble to send word if the stock is subsequently found, as occasionally happens, on their own farms. Consequently schedules of lost and stolen stock are apt to show a great preponderance of stock reported lost, over those recovered. It does not follow that stock so reported, always finds its way to this territory.

Police Cases.

The cases tried in the Court of the Assistant Commissioner during the past year are as follows:—

Murder	-	-	-	-	-	1
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	3
Contravention of trading regulations	-	-	-	-	-	1
Escaping from custody	-	-	-	-	-	1
Forgery	-	-	-	-	-	1
Breach of reserve regulations	-	-	-	-	-	1
Destroying Public Works	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pass	-	-	-	-	-	2

Revenue.

The following collections were made during the year, as per schedule annexed:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
Hut Tax { Cash, 1,044l. 10s. Grain, 601l. 0s. }	£ s. d. 1,645 10 0
Licences	154 0 0
Judicial fines	5 12 0
Fees of office	3 7 3
Ferry tolls	187 19 3
Special receipts	2 16 0
	1,999 4 6

The report of the officer in charge at Qacha's Nek is attached.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,

Quthing, June 30, 1893.

Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND. *Schedule of Lost Stock Report, Quthing District, for Year ended 1892-93.*
30th June 1893.

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not Traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.
Horses - .	10	1	9	1	9
Cattle - .	20	—	20	—	20
Sheep - .	34	27	320	27	320

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Sir,
Office of the Officer in Charge,
Qacha's Nek, June 30, 1893.
I HAVE the honour to submit my report for the period 14th November 1892 to the 30th June 1893.

General.

Towards the end of October 1892 the Resident Commissioner decided to establish a permanent station here, and on the 14th of the following month I was placed in charge under command of the Assistant Commissioner, Quthing.

The establishment proves a great boon to the natives living in the mountains, and was much welcomed by the Resident Magistrate of Matatiele.

The chiefs living in the Orange River valley belonging to the Maseru District are allowed to pay their taxes here. This was done in consequence of the great distance they are from Maseru and in, comparatively speaking, easy range from this place.

There are numbers of Zulu families from Natal and Tembu from the Transkeian territories residing in the mountains. These latter people are notorious thieves, and, as tracing of stolen stock, &c. is difficult work in the mountains, it would in my opinion be advisable that they be located elsewhere in Basutoland, and away from the border. Any others desiring to come into the country not allowed.

Several herds of cattle were attacked by the foot-and-mouth disease, but with no fatal results in any instance. No cattle are allowed into East Griqualand from Basutoland, on account of the disease, and small detachments of Cape Mounted Rifles are stationed along the border to enforce the quarantine regulations.

Voetgangers were reported by the Chiefs Ledingoana and Letaba in their wards. They were, I am pleased to say, exterminated by the people before doing any damage to the young crops.

The season's crops of Kaffir corn and mealies are very fair.

BASUTOLAND.
1892-93.

They are never really good, frosts falling so very early.

The wheat crop was good, and does well in these cold regions. The Chiefs Ledingoana, Rafalatsane, and their people depend almost entirely on wheat for subsistence.

In dealing with thefts and tracing of thieves and stolen stock the chiefs have rendered me every assistance.

There have been no differences between the chiefs under my direct supervision, and their relations appear to be friendly.

Commercial.

Trade is very fair. Wheat is fetching an average price, mealies and Kaffir corn next to nothing. Wool is from at 3d. and 2d. a lb.

There is one licensed trading station in the ward, and a second is in course of erection. Our markets are Matatiele and Kokstad.

Public Works.

There are no roads in the ward. It is proposed to construct a waggon road from Strachan's shop, which is on the border in Matatiele, to this station. This is necessary to admit of waggons coming in. The present mode of conveyance is by pack-animals and sledges.

Police.

The small detachment of police stationed here do their work satisfactorily.

Crime.

Serious crime is rare. Two cases of theft and one of culpable homicide have come to my notice. The thefts were committed before the permanent establishment of this station. No cases have occurred since.

Revenue.

A detailed return of Revenue collected during the period under report is attached.

Passes.

Ordinary passes	-	-	-	-	-	1,115
Work	„	-	-	-	-	122

BASUTOLAND,
1892-93.

Relations with Bordering States.

Relations with bordering States are satisfactory. The Resident Magistrate, Matsiela, has always afforded me every assistance when necessary in tracing and recovering thieves and stolen stock.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police,
Officer in Charge.

*Schedule of Revenue collected, Qacha's Nek Sub-district,
Quthing District, for Year ended June 30, 1893.*

Heads of Revenue.							Amount.		
Hut tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	£	s.	d.
							187	10	0
Licences	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
Fines	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	11	0
Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	6
							204	3	6

(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

*Schedule of Lost Stock Returns, Qacha's Nek Sub-district,
Quthing District, for Year ended June 30, 1893.*

Description	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	1	—	1	—	1
Cattle	7	4	3	4	3
Sheep	35	11	24	11	24

(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

127

*Schedule of Number of Licenses granted, Qacha's Nek Sub district,
Quthing District, for Year ended June 30, 1893.*

**BASUTOLAND,
1892-93.**

Hawkers' licenses - - - - - 3

(Signed) C. GRIFFITH,
Sub-Inspector,
Basutoland Mounted Police.

Enclosure No. 2.

From His Excellency the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town,
to His Honour the ACTING RESIDENT COMMISSIONER,
Basutoland.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 11, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 31st July reporting on the progress of Basutoland during the past year.

I consider the report shows satisfactory progress on most subjects, and I desire that my appreciation of the work performed by Sir Marshall Clarke, by yourself, and the officers of Basutoland be generally notified.

I request, however, that the attention of the chiefs and people be drawn to the continued prevalence of crimes of violence due to tribal quarrels, and desire that they be informed in my opinion a chief who takes up arms or allows his people to resort to violence instead of proceeding to the courts shows himself neglectful of the trust reposed in him as an officer of the Government. You will make my opinion on this point generally known at the annual pitso.

I desire also that attention may be called to the increased smuggling of liquor, and that the co-operation of all the chiefs and people be invited to assist in the suppression of an evil which, if not checked, will bring about the moral and physical destruction of the Basuto nation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,
Governor and High Commissioner.

His Honour the Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

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