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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

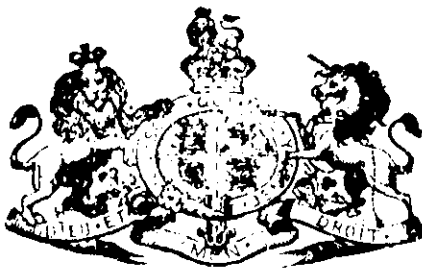
No. 152.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1894-5.

(For Report for 1893-94, see Colonial Report [Annual] No. 123.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1896.



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1896.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
117	Trinidad and Tobago	1893
118	Falkland Islands	"
119	Rodrigues	"
120	Mauritius	"
121	Straits Settlements	"
122	Labuan	"
123	Basutoland	1893-4
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	"
126	Ceylon	"
127	Fiji	"
128	Grenada	"
129	Sierra Leone	"
130	British Bechuanaland	1893-4
131	British New Guinea	1892-3 & 1893-4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893-4
134	Jamaica	"
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	"
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	"
139	Bahamas	"
140	Barbados	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
142	Malta	"
143	Gambia	"
144	Windward Islands	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	"
146	Gibraltar	"
147	Falkland Islands	"
148	Hong Kong	"
149	Straits Settlements	"
150	Lagos	"
151	Seychelles	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

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1894-95.

[For Report for 1893-94, see Colonial Report [Annual] No. 123.]

SIR HERCULES ROBINSON TO MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Cape Town.

August 19, 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, a copy of a Despatch from the Acting Resident Commissioner of Basutoland enclosing the annual reports on the territory for the year to 30th June last.

It is satisfactory to find that the dispute between Lerothodi and his brother Maama, which at one time threatened to be very serious, has been disposed of, and that no other important tribal dispute is now demanding attention. I trust that the land troubles, arising from the growth of the large native population in Basutoland will not become serious, but I fear that there are some grounds for apprehension on this account.

I consider that a fair amount of improvement is shown to have occurred in almost every branch of the Administration.

I have, &c.

HERCULES ROBINSON,
Governor and High Commissioner.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,

June 29, 1895.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency a report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1895, covering copies of a report by the Acting Government Secretary, together with those of Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers.

2. The personality of the Paramount Chief is so great a factor in national affairs, that it is well to glance at his character from year to year, and see how far it appears to adjust itself to the conditions of the tribe and the circumstances of the time.

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Lerothodi's intemperance was a distinctive feature in his previous history. In last year's report, I expressed the belief that he had then made a powerful effort to eschew drink, and it is now with great satisfaction I am able to confirm the impression, and state that the past year has in this respect been marked by so great an improvement as to warrant particular notice of it.

Apart from this, he has displayed grasp of work, a desire to be guided by obligations which now obtain, and a true interest in the welfare of his tribe. He has desired and endeavoured to deserve the support and encouragement of Government, with whom he shows every disposition to co-operate in avoiding foreign complications, in checking and punishing crime, and in reminding his people of their duties and traditions as a law-abiding and industrious tribe.

3. In the past few years allusion has been made to opposition experienced by Lerothodi from a section of younger brothers inspired by Masupha, who sought to undermine the Paramount Chief's authority and grasp at independence.

My last report described the trend of this policy, showing how, in the course of its development, there had been critical moments which might have led to grave confusion through the determined and obstinate attitude of Maama and the injudicious conduct of Lerothodi himself. I then worked for the becoming submission of Maama to his elder brother, but refused to lend myself to what was deemed the Paramount Chief's improper method of procedure.

In August last, the crisis of this intrigue, which had transcended all other affairs for several years, was reached.

The Paramount Chief had, in the lawful exercise of his functions, adjudged a native case affecting a man within his jurisdiction, who, however, courted the Chieftainship of Maama. The judgment of fine was treated for months with contempt.

Maama backed the defaulter, disputed jurisdiction, and defied execution. In due time, Lerothodi sent messengers with instructions to call for and, if necessary, levy the fine. The messengers acted accordingly, but were, on their return journey, set upon by Maama's people, the fine recaptured, and one messenger wounded, who afterwards died from the effects.

The Paramount Chief had up to this time acted in a judicial, patient, and forbearing spirit. He had previously pressed me to take up the matter, which however, I had declined, advising him to first exhaust all proper means to settle their own immediate affairs in council.

The treatment and death of the messenger roused his emotions, the nation, wrung with excitement, was called out under arms, and the two parties arrayed themselves at close quarters for a struggle.

The approaches to Maama's country were fortified with walls and he expressed his resolve to oppose Lerothodi's advance and fight. Masupha and others threw in their lot with Maama.

At this juncture the Paramount Chief appealed to me to take up the burden of the affair, as a combat was imminent which he

could not control. I then intervened, and arriving on the scene as the forces were almost in motion, took command of the situation.

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Masupha, who as an elder and guardian should have been on the side of order, was so implicated as to forbid my securing his aid and advice. Many other Chiefs afforded me help.

Seeing that Lerothodi had acted well within his rights and was not to blame, I formed a court with him and summoned Maama, together with those charged with contempt and violence, who, after some demur ascribed to fear, appeared under escort of an officer sent to give a safe conduct.

The case occupied two days in public Pitso.

Most of the leading Chiefs and councillors of the nation were present and condemned Maama's acts in unmistakeable terms.

He and his people were found culpable and eager to disturb the public peace. Judgment was given that :—

1. Maama pay a fine of 100 cattle. His people pay a fine of 200 cattle. His two chief councillors pay a fine of 5 cattle each.
2. That the man who struck the blow which killed the messenger be delivered up for trial.
3. That some lawless men living on the border line be removed and their villages immediately destroyed.
4. That a young son of Letsie named Borane, who had taken a leading part in the disturbance, be handed over for tutelage.
5. That the people living within the disputed area known as Koro Koro take their orders in future from Lerothodi and not from Maama.

This judgment was carried out effectively and the fines paid the next day. The young Chief Borane fled on horseback, but was soon surrendered and placed in my hands by Lerothodi for custody in prison, where he remained for three months, behaving well, and was then enrolled as an ordinary policeman.

I considered it inexpedient to then define Maama's southern boundary, seeing that feeling against him was very strong and the evidence about it liable to prejudice. Moreover, it was to be hoped that, when antipathies subsided, his and Lerothodi's people would again blend without the necessity for lines, always objectionable in this country if avoidable.

The events which for years led up to this affair and its consummation form an historical landmark, and may be regarded as an upheaval, such as is common to most nations, through which the Basuto steadied themselves in time and became amenable to advice and reason. This is to their credit.

4. There have been other political events and disputes which, though dwarfed in importance by the one above mentioned, gave considerable trouble.

The land question is the great and fertile source of such troubles, requiring continuous attention. They may be expected to recur annually. The country is circumscribed, the population

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is growing, the land suitable for cultivation is all allotted and taken up, and the rising generation of men are no longer able to support themselves upon it. When leading Chiefs die, a scramble ensues over the inheritance amongst the children. We have during the year witnessed a serious stage in the scramble over the late Paramount Chief's inheritance. Others of a similar but less critical nature arose from the same source.

Jonathan claimed a large share of the mountain pastures as having been inherited by him from his father Molapo.

Lerothodi took exception to this as a claim, but awarded him, after much persuasion, a certain proportion which was, however, received with little grace and created a good deal of ill-feeling between the two Chiefs, who are still feinting about it.

The mountains, formerly common pasture, are being largely occupied and cultivated and contain practically no unallotted spheres.

The Paramount Chief has undertaken at a future date to make a personal inspection of the inner mountains, where he has never yet been, and to further consider Jonathan's plea.

Similarly, the clans and children of Ramanella and Matela, unsettled ever since the death of those Chiefs, have quarrelled over the inheritances.

Though both Chiefs lived in Leribe District under the fiscal chieftainship of Jonathan Molapo, they have always owed direct fealty to the Paramount Chief. Lerothodi and Jonathan differed over tribal details and complications ensued. These matters have, however, been provisionally adjusted by the timely mediation of Government and efforts made to reconcile conflicting interests.

Further cases affecting chieftainship and land have been treated at discretion by district officers when necessity arose.

About new year some mischievous rumours were circulated through the medium of an aged sorceress who prophesied invasion, disarmament, and other things. But little serious attention was paid to the rumours, which died a natural death.

5. The general temper of the Basuto may be described as progressive. The characteristics of the Kaffir race predominate, and it would be unwise to attempt vigorous eradication or to graft prematurely upon them European ideas and institutions neither suitable nor sympathetic.

They are naturally suspicious of all innovations and cling affectionately to their country. So long as their customs are not generally repugnant to civilized thought and they are amenable to such laws as are necessary to govern them and their relations with civilized neighbours, there is motive for the exercise of forbearance during their efforts towards development. Though some superstitions may influence them, it is hard to trace in the present day any relics of a national religion. The ethics of Christianity have intervened, and may be said to supply their doctrines of morality. It would be quite incorrect, however, to suppose that the nation was moral in practice.

The industry of the people is proverbial; some 25,384 have again gone abroad to labour during the year. They learn the discipline of labour and appreciate the corresponding value of money, acquiring at the same time probably such vices as are readily pickèd up in their travels, and losing some of the qualities which the primitive native is acknowledged to possess.

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6. In suppressing crime and facilitating the ends of justice the Chiefs, as a rule, behaved well.

One of Masupha's sons, believed to have been accessory to thieving, was brought up for trial, but dismissed for want of sufficient evidence, which no doubt was concealed.

Letsienyana, eldest son of Lerothodi, who has charge of a large ward and receives an allowance, misconducted himself in various ways, interfered with the jurisdiction of his magistrate, and tortured a man on account of alleged witchcraft. He was punished for the latter act and suspended for three months.

Lesala, eldest son of Chopo, a Chief of the Bapushudi, being concerned in cattle-thieving and gun-running, was arrested and tried and is now with eight followers undergoing sentence of imprisonment.

7. A demand has lately sprung up for industrial teaching. The Paramount Chief solicits the building of a school of industry in Central Basatoland. I replied that it would be too big an undertaking for Government, but, should the people really cherish the idea, they should come forward and provide the means for such an institution, in which case Government would surely direct their efforts and control it for them.

They are able to bear the burden of their own advancement in such ways, and, if willing, should be encouraged to help themselves. It is necessary, nevertheless, to bear in mind, that ordinary labour is itself a great industry, desirable of cultivation, that South Africa requires ordinary labour largely, and that a preponderance of natives skilled in technical trades might not be beneficial to themselves or their surroundings.

8. The liquor traffic, though less than formerly, is by no means extinguished. Our police, who patrolled 32,168 miles, have done good work towards suppression, and neighbouring officials co-operated most cordially in putting down border canteens, and deprecating the traffic.

But, so long as a class of persons disposed to pursue covertly an illicit and profitable trade exist on one side of a border, a native race on the other side is easily tempted to gratify its vicious tastes regardless of consequences.

Though Chiefs readily support the law when offenders are caught, some of them are the worst offenders, debauching heavily if they can procure spirits.

9. Trade generally during the year has been very bad, owing in a great measure to almost entire failure of the mealie crop, which is a primary purchasing power. The amended railway rates afforded facilities for clearance of previously accumulated

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stocks, mortgaged to Colonial and Free State merchants who feed Basutoland with merchandize.

As railways close in, the business of riding transport is becoming more and more more limited, and the traffic to and from Basutoland offers a useful field for this enterprise to a large class of Free State Burghers, who pursue it with lucrative results.

10. The crops of cereals promise one of the most prolific yields of recent years. Kaffir corn especially is abundant, so much so that it is feared the manufacture of "beer" may yield an abundant crop of disputes and broken heads as the outcome of festive gatherings. Prolific seasons are also conducive to laziness.

11. A remarkable development of the year may be indicated in the success of agricultural shows. These have been held at most of the magisterial stations. Their institution and success are due to the inspiration and labour of Assistant Commissioners, aided materially by committees of established traders, who have cordially supported the movement, to which also the Basutoland Chamber of Commerce has lent an impetus. The results have been to show the natives what kind of grain to grow with profit, to enlighten them upon the subject of agriculture and the advantage of improving class of cereals and quality of stock. The manufacture of pottery, carosses, reims, marketable wire-work the rearing of poultry, and the commercial value of better and cleaner wool have, amongst other things, formed part of what may be termed this educational scheme, which we are led to think may be of great advantage.

These shows have received every practicable encouragement from the Government, and the people are being taught to support them by contributions towards the expenses, hitherto borne largely and voluntarily by the white community.

12. Statistics show a slight increase in serious crime as well as in minor offences. This may be the results of increased police activity and a greater tendency to refer certain cases to our courts.

13. The volume of export in grain, in spite of the mealie failure, is in excess of last year. This is due to accumulated stocks. Imports for the calendar year ended 31st December 1894 show a heavy falling off; but in the subsequent half year there was considerable improvement.

14. Hospital work here has, in the opinion of medical officers, been satisfactorily maintained.

Though the return of ordinary attendances was lessened, the experiment of small charges to cover partial cost of medicines proved successful and had the effect of keeping off many cases of a trifling and vexatious nature.

Though the general health has been good, epidemics of small-pox prevailed in two districts. Vaccination was largely carried on; some 32,234 were vaccinated.

All possible efforts were made to check spread of the disease by isolation and other preventive measures.

Medical opinion is to the effect that syphilis continues to yield gradually to the treatment afforded. The medical officers have for many months been employed upon an exhaustive inquiry upon the subject of leprosy, a separate report* on which is transmitted.

The supply of good water to certain magistracies, where there are locations and the want is badly felt, is calculated to do much good from a health point of view.

15. The successful efforts reported last year in limiting the period of hut-tax collection have been repeated, and the system is now fairly established. Berea district again forms a notable exception in consequence of the inertness of Masupha who, whether from old age or ineptitude, fails to lead his people to keep pace with useful movements of a progressive nature.

16. Education continues to be carried on effectively by the various mission societies, whose efforts and devotion merit every praise and encouragement. Their work is at times very uphill, and there is probably little reward to be found in the gratitude of their pupils; but the results of their unobtrusive labours may be seen in a variety of ways. Manual labour forms part of the curriculum at all training schools, and the honour of labour is being generally preached.

A separate educational report is forwarded.*

17. In drawing attention to the reports of the Acting Government Secretary, dealing more fully with statistics, and other officers of the administration, I beg leave to express appreciation of their good and effective services as a body.

I have, &c.

His Excellency
The High Commissioner,
Cape Town.

G. V. LAGDEN,
Acting Resident Commissioner.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1894-95.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The general revenue of the territory has been well maintained and is slightly in excess of that of the previous year. Increases are shown under the heads Hut Tax, Post Office, and Miscellaneous.

The total receipts amounted to 44,627*l.* made up as follows:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Colonial contribution	18,000	0	0
Hut tax	21,905	9	6
Post Office	1,071	18	9
Licences	1,392	5	0
Fines	381	3	9
Ferry tolls	521	15	9
Fees	48	14	3
Miscellaneous receipts	1,305	18	10
Total	44,627	5	10

* Not printed.

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Arrear Tax received amounted to 1,109*l.* as against 1,882*l.* last year. Tax was paid on 44,677 huts, compared with 40,629 in 1893-4.

The expenditure for the above period totalled 43,064*l.*, being 1,072*l.* less than estimated.

Trade and Commerce.

The dutiable goods imported into Basutoland during the year ended 31 December 1894 amounted to a gross value of 68,674*l.* being 29,32*l.* less than in 1893.

The serious decline in the volume of imports compared with the previous year is no doubt due to the severe depression in trade from which the country has been suffering, and the consequent fall in the prices of all agricultural produce.

The principal articles of import are woollen and cotton goods haberdashery, saddlery, tinware, agricultural implements, and groceries. The three first items represent respectively 45, 8·50 and 9·50 per cent. of the whole imports. The bulk of the merchandize is supplied by the United Kingdom.

Exports for the year 1894, while exceeding those of 1893 to a considerable extent in volume, show, however, a large falling off in the declared value.

The chief articles of export consisting, as they do, of agricultural products (food stuffs) subject to the fluctuations of uncertain markets, falls in prices realised must necessarily affect, to a considerable extent, the purchasing power of the people whose medium of exchange it is.

The decline in the value of exports amounts to 20,550*l.*

Below is a statement of exports, which is exclusive of produce taken out of Basutoland by hawkers and natives, of which it is impossible to get a return.

Article.	1893.			1894.				
	Quantity.	Value.		Quantity.	Value.			
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Wheat - - - Bags	128,740	63,416	11	0	129,821	44,426	8	0
Mentlies - - - "	65,779	17,452	9	0	68,101	16,265	9	0
Kaffir corn - - - "	1,764	1,942	19	2	6,526	2,528	15	2
Meal - - - - "	2,843	2,038	2	6	921	644	0	0
Wool - - - - Lbs.	972,595	14,355	11	0	903,791	12,411	0	3
Mohair - - - - "	30,460	792	8	6	68,449	2,151	8	0
Cattle - - - - No.	715	2,061	11	0	639	2,072	5	9
Horses - - - - "	220	972	19	0	519	2,157	4	0
Miscellaneous - - -	---	575	18	4	---	751	0	2
Total - - - -	---	103,608	0	6	---	83,407	10	4

There were issued the following licences :—

General traders - - - -	-	-	-	-	132
Hawkers (paid) - - - -	-	-	-	-	75
Hawkers (free) - - - -	-	-	-	-	69
Dam licences - - - -	-	-	-	-	2

*Agricultural and Meteorological.*BASUTOLAND,
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The harvest now being reaped is an abundant one; maize and Kaffir corn are exceptionally so.

Agricultural shows, a new feature in the annals of this country, have been held with considerable success at the various magistracies. These have been initiated, liberally supported, and carried out by the European residents, the Government contributing in each case.

It is hoped by the aid of these shows to bring home to the Basuto the necessity, if they wish to compete in the foreign markets, of producing cereals of a higher quality, both by planting better seed as well as by adopting a more enlightened system of cultivation.

Some of them are already showing an advancement in their methods, and several steam-threshing machines were brought into the country and used to a considerable extent last year. A mill has been erected near Maseru and is freely used by the natives, I am told.

No epidemics have been reported among stock, which is now increasing to such an extent as to present a serious problem in regard to the provision of pasturage.

This overstocking, together with neglect in the matter of sires, is leading to deterioration, which is now very noticeable in the ponies; stock, cattle especially, being the native standard of wealth, all animals are jealously accumulated and seldom is a beast disposed of. It is impossible to form an estimate of the live stock now in Basutoland.

The average rainfall for the year was 34·23 inches. The daily range of temperature is at times great, being as much as 50°. The maximum registered was 100° and minimum 18°.

Population.

Population is increasing steadily both by natural increase and immigration. According to the Census of 1891 there was a total of 211,524 souls; it is now estimated at 250,000.

It has become a difficult matter to provide ground for the rising generation. This is strikingly illustrated by the manner in which every available acre of space in the mountains, hitherto reserved as pasture land, is being greedily taken up and cultivated.

Labour and Taxes.

Labour is both plentiful and cheap in the territory.

Numbers of men go annually to the mining centres and adjoining States to work, bringing back with them considerable sums of money. Of late years, owing to the more extended use of labour-

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saving machinery in the agricultural districts of the Free State, a very lucrative field has been much diminished. During the past year the following passes were issued:—

Labour.		Other purposes.		Totals.	
1893-4.	1894-5.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1893-4.	1894-5.
20,000	25,384	32,207	37,495	52,207	62,879

Police and Crime.

The police force of the country consists of—

- 11 European Officers.
- 12 European Constables.
- 17 Native N. C. Officers.
- 205 Native Privates.

The efficiency and conduct of the men are good.

The force is broken up into small detachments stationed at the various Magistracies. The duties the men are called upon to perform are varied and arduous, among the most important of which may be mentioned patrolling of the border in suppression of brandy smuggling and the tracing of stolen stock.

Although it may appear at first sight that the results of the patrols set forth below are poor in comparison with the work done, it must be borne in mind that with a large population living along the boundary, who are in sympathy with smugglers, and never fail to seize an opportunity of frustrating the police, the difficulties of the duty are greatly increased.

The following is a return of patrols:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Approximate Distance travelled.	Arrests.
751	1,563	32,168 miles	Contravention of liquor laws 54 Do. of pass laws - - - 155 Other offences - - - 44 <hr/> Total - - - 253

In nearly every instance where lost or stolen stock has been traced into Basutoland from the neighbouring states, the animals

have been recovered and restored. Subjoined is a return of such stock :—

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Stock.	Reported lost.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	102	38	64	35	67	2 recovered in Orange Free State. 2 traced out of Basutoland again.
Cattle -	134	48	86	47	87	14 recovered and found dead by owners.
Sheep -	155	20	135	19	136	1 killed. 33 found by owners.
Goats -	20	18	2	—	20	2 goats found by owners.

The returns of crime show an increase of 158 cases in excess of reports for 1893-4, chiefly, however, in minor charges and contraventions of the pass laws. Small increases occur in convictions for theft (principally of stock) and breaches of the liquor laws. On the other hand, there is a decrease in the number of homicide charges.

Below is a list of convictions during the year :—

Assault	-	-	-	-	-	20
Birth, concealment of	-	-	-	-	-	2
Customs Regulations, breach of	-	-	-	-	-	4
Contempt of Court	-	-	-	-	-	1
Drunk and creating disturbance	-	-	-	-	-	3
Firearms, breach of laws regarding	-	-	-	-	-	1
Forger	-	-	-	-	-	1
Fraud	-	-	-	-	-	3
Homicide, culpable	-	-	-	-	-	7
Liquor laws, breach of	-	-	-	-	-	60
Murder	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pass laws, breach of	-	-	-	-	-	165
Rape	-	-	-	-	-	2
Resisting Police	-	-	-	-	-	9
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	77
Unspecified minor charges	-	-	-	-	-	61
Total	-	-	-	-	-	417

Civil suits adjudicated upon numbered 23.

Gaols.

Prison accommodation has been now provided at each station throughout the territory. The gaols are in good repair, and are carefully kept in sanitary condition. The health of prisoners has been good; no serious illness or deaths have occurred.

The number of prisoners received into gaol was 338. The total number in prison on 30th June was 79.

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Education.

With the exception of two undenominational schools, all the schools in Basutoland are conducted by the Paris Evangelical Mission Society, English Church, and Roman Catholic missions. Those schools which receive Government grants-in-aid have been inspected by officers who report, on the whole, fair progress.

Industrial training is afforded by the Paris Evangelical Society and Roman Catholic Mission for both boys and girls. The former are being instructed in stone-cutting, building, blacksmithing, and other useful handicrafts. Many who have passed out of the institutes may be found carrying on their trades in various parts.

The girls are taught useful domestic work.

A number of lads have been placed at Lovedale by the Government for the purpose of being taught trades. Latest reports of their progress are gratifying.

The total number of schools in the territory is 144, with 7,543 scholars on the books, having a mean average attendance of 5,131. Grants on account of education aggregated 3,799*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*

Public Works.

During the past year new quarters have been provided for a medical officer at Quthing, a gaol at Berea, and quarters for the Government Secretary at Maseru. This last was necessary, that officer having hitherto occupied a dwelling-house held on lease, which it was desirable to discontinue.

Waterworks have been carried out at Mafeteng, Quthing, and a supplementary line of piping laid at Maseru. All of these works were urgently required for health reasons, the supplies of water at those stations being both inadequate and impure.

Other useful works in the way of maintenance of public buildings, piers, ferry-boats, and bye roads have been carried out.

In July last contracts were entered into for the repair and maintenance of the main roads throughout the country by a private contractor. Now, after a twelvemonth trial of the experiment, I think I may say that, from reports furnished me, it has been on the whole successful. The work has been carried out satisfactorily at a saving to the department of expense, and of the time of officers, which has been devoted to other duties.

Post Office and Telegraphs.

The Basutoland postal system has been affiliated to that of the Cape Colony since the present Administration took over the country in 1884, and is administered by the Postmaster General, Cape Town. Postal revenue for the year ended 30th June 1895, was 1,071*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*, of which 896*l.* 1*s.* was earned by the Post Office, and 175*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* by the telegraphs.

The total expenditure for the year has been 193*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, distributed as follow :—

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Expenditure.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Salaries - - - - -	375 12 7
Conveyance of mails - - - - -	1,486 12 1
Offices requisites and cost of administration - - - - -	71 17 8
Total - - - - -	1,934 2 4

Mail services are regularly maintained in connection with the Cape Colony and Orange Free State by both cart and horse-post.

The numbers of the different mail matter posted in Basutoland during the 12 months to 31st March are as follows :—

Letters.	No.
Posted for delivery in Basutoland, Cape Colony, and Orange Free State at 1 <i>d.</i>	70,984
For British Protectorate and Mashonaland at 4 <i>d.</i> - - -	312
Beechuanaland, Natal, and South African Republic at 2 <i>d.</i> -	5,824
United Kingdom and Foreign at 2½ <i>d.</i> - - - - -	7,825
Registered letters - - - - -	715
Post-cards - - - - -	2,576
Newspapers - - - - -	14,536
Book packets and samples - - - - -	5,735
Parcels - - - - -	1,326

Official correspondence carried free amounted to 8,852 letters, and 20,604 books, valued at 116*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.* Correspondence received for delivery was as follows :—

Letters - - - - -	122,782
Post-cards - - - - -	1,973
Books - - - - -	13,091
Papers - - - - -	47,320
Parcels - - - - -	8,965

Two stations in Basutoland viz., Maseru and Mafeteng, are in telegraphic communication with the systems of the Cape Colony and Orange Free State. The length of lines open is approximately 13 miles.

BASUTOLAND.
1894-95.

During the year ending 31st March the following messages have been despatched and received:—

	No.	Words.
Paid messages despatched - - -	2,652	32,130
Government messages despatched - - -	454	12,176
Messages received for delivery - - -	2,645	39,423

The value of Government messages despatched was 65*l.*

Money Order and Savings Bank business is conducted at all post offices in Basutoland, and the following figures may be of interest.

Money Orders issued in Basutoland during 12 months to 31st March 1895.

Drawn on	No.	Value
Cape Colony and Basutoland - - -	1,397	£ s. d. 2,882 14 11
United Kingdom, Foreign, and British Colonies.	296	1,198 4 4
South African Republic - - -	212	368 2 8
Orange Free State - - -	240	559 11 9
Total - - -	2,145	5,008 18 8

Money Orders drawn on Basutoland.

Where drawn.	No.	Value.
Cape Colony - - -	295	£ s. d. 642 19 11
United Kingdom, Foreign and British Colonies.	43	156 18 10
South African Republic - - -	147	382 7 7
Orange Free State - - -	167	239 3 10
Total - - -	652	1,421 10 2

During the same period 19 savings bank accounts have been opened and one closed; 84 deposits, aggregating 700*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*, have been made, 16 withdrawals amounting to 314*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*, have taken place.

*Hospitals.*BASUTOLAND.
1894-95.

The reports of the Medical Officers deal fully with the work of this branch.

An epidemic of small-pox of a mild type has been prevalent in the Mohale's Hoek and Mafeteng districts. There were but few deaths. Vaccination has been carried on vigorously by doctors, other Government officers, and missionaries. A fair proportion of the tribe has now been vaccinated. As a precautionary measure no native is granted a pass to leave Basutoland unless he produces a vaccination certificate.

General.

I have pleasure in bringing to your notice the ready assistance rendered by Chiefs to the police in tracing and arresting criminals, and recovering stolen stock. Measures for the eradication of "Burrweed" continue to be carried out.

Brandy smuggling appears to have been carried on to a somewhat less extent than last year.

With the assistance of our police several convictions have been obtained in the Orange Free State Courts against illicit canteen keepers.

The Free State authorities are most cordial in their co-operation with our officers in suppressing this trade, and in other border matters.

The system of curtailing the time occupied in the collection of hut tax, inaugurated last year, was again successfully pursued, though the Chief Masupha was conspicuous for his delay and inertness.

I have the honour to submit the following reports for the year :—

Assistant Commissioner,	Leribe.
Do.	Berea.
Do.	Maseru.
Do.	Mafeteng.
Do.	Mohale's Hoek.
Do.	Quthing.
Officer in charge,	Qacha's Nek.
Do.	Buthabuthe.
Principal Medical Officer.	
Medical Officer,	Leribe.
Do.	Mafeteng.
Do.	Mohale's Hoek.

ENRACHT MOONY,
Acting Government Secretary.

BASUTOLAND,
1894-95.

LERIBE.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1895.

In my last Annual Report I alluded to the claims of Motsoene Joseph Molapo, based upon his descent from the Chief Letsie and Molapo, and to the possibility of future difficulty in adjusting the relationship between him and the Chief Jonathan Molapo, who has, since the insanity of Joseph became apparent, assumed, with the support of the Government, the Paramount Chief, and the majority of Molapo's people, the Chieftainship of the Leribe District. This is evidently resented by Motsoene who has, however, seldom ventured to openly assert his claims to the Chieftainship of Molapo, but who has repeatedly demanded that he should be allotted a portion of the District within which he might exercise a more independent authority.

Jonathan has naturally resisted this, and Motsoene's own character renders it improbable that he will obtain, by his personal influence or popularity, a larger share of chieftainship than he at present enjoys.

The relations between Jonathan and Joel appear to have considerably changed of late, in the direction of a more friendly understanding. The Chiefs have met at several political gatherings, have amicably greeted each other, and have exchanged messages as to their affairs. It is to be hoped that this reconciliation may prove to be permanent and for the good of the District.

During the year some of Joel's people living in the Maloti, in the valley of one of the tributaries of the Orange River, have had a dispute with the Chief Ledingoana, as to ploughing rights. The matter has been in the hands of the Paramount Chief, who has defined the rights of Molapo's people in that neighbourhood.

In the month of February the Paramount Chief, in accordance with promises made by the late Chief Letsie, sent his representatives to allot to Jonathan, as the heir of Molapo, certain lands in the mountains to be used as cattle posts by the Leribe people. Jonathan was not satisfied with the extent of country given him; considering that by virtue of previous occupation by Molapo, a piece of ground at present occupied by Bereng Letsie should have been included in the grant. Lerothodi has promised to reconsider the matter, but nothing further has so far been done, and Jonathan complains of the treatment he has received in the matter.

In March the Paramount Chief arrived at Kueneng, intending to place there Mitchel, the son of Peete Ramanella. Acting under instructions, I, together with the Assistant Commissioner, Berea, attended the meeting. Jonathan did not obey the Paramount Chief's summons to the meeting, and in his absence Lerothodi declined to proceed with the installation of Mitchel. Jonathan in thus neglecting the summons of his Chief, was probably actuated by his feeling of resentment at Lerothodi's action in the matter of the mountain land before referred to. He was also

doubtless irritated at the presence of the Paramount Chief in the Leribe District, and was further inclined to frustrate the placing of Mitchel which he may consider detrimental to his own interests. Jonathan has, for his conduct in this matter, been rebuked both publicly and privately by the Resident Commissioner and myself.

BASUTOLAND.
1894-95.

In May I was directed with the Assistant Commissioner, Maseru, to meet the representatives of the Paramount Chief at Kuening and proceed with the installation of Mitchel. On this occasion Jonathan was present and raised no objection to the placing of the young Chief. The adjustment of matters between Mitchel and Seshope, his uncle, was left in the hands of Peete Ramanella, who promised to deal liberally with his brother Seshope. Seshope has always strenuously opposed the placing of Mitchel as an infringement of what he considers to be his rights.

In May I attended with Mr. Boxwell a meeting in Matela's ward to discuss the quarrels between the sons of the late Chief Matela. Jonathan, whose right and duty it is to deal with Matela's people, left the settlement of various questions for the present in the hands of Letsika Matela, who was instructed to try and provide for his brothers.

It is satisfactory to report that, notwithstanding the existence of several matters of disagreement between the Chiefs, all these questions have so far been dealt with reasonably and peaceably. It is too much to hope that these questions have been finally dealt with, but the moderation and self-control so far exercised by the principal Chiefs encourages the belief that they will continue to bring these disputes to the proper courts for adjustment in a legitimate manner.

It has been reported that guns have on two occasions been taken in hand, but have not been used.

The Revenue for the 12 months ending 30th June 1895 is as follows:—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - -	5,237 19 0
Licences - - - - -	373 5 0
Fines - - - - -	78 10 6
Ferry tolls - - - - -	10 16 0
Fees - - - - -	2 11 0
Miscellaneous - - - - -	197 14 0
Total - - - - -	£5,900 15 6

Arrear tax amounted to 178%. Hut tax was paid upon 12,802 huts.

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The licences issued during the year are :—

General traders	-	-	-	-	-	36
Hawkers	-	-	-	-	-	21
Do. free	-	-	-	-	-	2

All crops have been abundant, the season having been a favourable one. The natives perhaps, have cultivated more wheat and Kaffir corn in proportion than mealie.

It is to be feared that the quantity of Kaffir corn raised, as it is not very marketable, will lead to excessive beer drinking and brawling.

The current prices of produce are :—

			£	s.	
Wheat	-	-	0	10	per bag.
Mealies	-	-	0	6	„
Kaffir corn	-	-	0	4	„
Forage	-	-	0	15	per 100 bundles.
Cattle	-	-	3	10	each.
Sheep	-	-	0	12	„

The following is a return of patrols performed :—

No. of Patrols.	Number of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Number of Arrests.
227	450	7,374	Liquor Laws - 8 Pass do. - 104 Other offences - 7

The Free State authorities have co-operated willingly with me in all border matters. There is a certain amount of liquor illicitly sold on the Free State Border, but the necessary action has been taken when I have brought any case to the notice of the officials of the State. An inconsiderable amount of brandy is no doubt smuggled into the District in spite of the vigilance of the Basutoland Police and Free State Police.

The cases adjudicated upon in my court (inclusive of the cases tried at Buthabutho) during the year are :—

Civil cases	-	-	-	-	8
Theft	-	-	-	-	32
Contravention of Pass law	-	-	-	-	104
„ „ Liquor „	-	-	-	-	12
Assault	-	-	-	-	9
Culpable homicide	-	-	-	-	3
Drunk and creating disturbance	-	-	-	-	3
Murder	-	-	-	-	1
Contravention customs regulations	-	-	-	-	1
Escaping from lawful custody	-	-	-	-	2
Illegal seizure	-	-	-	-	1
Threatening and annoying	-	-	-	-	1
Minor cases	-	-	-	-	33

The following is a summary of reports of lost stock with results of action taken thereon:—

BASUTOLAND,
1894-95.

Description.	Reported lost or stolen.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	40	17	23	17	23	
Cattle -	46	14	32	14	32	
Sheep -	20	20	—	19	—	1 killed by thief.
Goats -	18	18	—	—	18	120 miles patrolled in search of goats without success.

Passes have been issued to natives leaving the District as follows:—

Passes for men seeking work -	-	-	8,003
Passes for men travelling for other purposes -	-	-	13,065
Total	-	-	21,068

All natives leaving the country are provided with vaccination certificates.

The epidemic of small-pox referred to in my last report was, by a system of quarantine, confined to a few villages, and did not spread. Before the affected villages were released from quarantine the huts and clothing were burned, and proper steps to secure disinfection were taken under supervision of the medical officer.

A system of repairing the main post road by contract instead of by Government road-parties has been on trial for the past few months. It is premature to report as to the results of this experiment.

An agricultural show, assisted by a Government grant and supported by the European traders of the district, was held in May. With the exception of horses the number of exhibits was small. It is to be expected that, in the future, when the object of such a show is better understood by the Basuto, more interest may be exhibited in what cannot fail to be a most useful undertaking.

I enclose a report* on the schools in the District, which have this year been examined in the new standards of the Cape Education Department. I attach also the report on Buthabuthe sub-district.

H. C. SLOLEY,
Assistant Commissioner.

BABUTOLAND.
1894-95.

BEREA.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1895.

With a few exceptions the district has been quiet since my annual report last year.

As previously stated, a dispute was outstanding in connection with the line between Peete and Lebese on 30th June 1894.

The District Chiefs being unable to arrange it, I was desired to enquire into the matter by the Resident Commissioner.

I found, however, that the evidence on both sides was so hopelessly biassed that there was no chance of arriving at the truth. Mr. Sloley, who had originally made the line, was then requested to point it out again, and the question was finally settled by beaconing off the line.

A similar question at Mathlatsa has been settled by Peete and Mamathe themselves, they being the disputing parties.

At the beginning of September, while the Maama-Lerothodi dispute was at its height this District was much disturbed, most of the men being called to Thaba Bosigo under arms by Masupha to watch events. On the collapse of Maama, Masupha sent them all to their homes, and everything settled down quietly.

Throughout the affair Masupha's principal sons were averse to his joining in it.

Early in December an old woman named Maatsopha, who lives in the Orange Free State near Ladybrand, and who is a prophetess of great repute among the Basuto, was called by Masupha to a meeting of important Chiefs at Mamathe's village in the district. While there she prophesied to the effect that before new year Basutoland would be attacked by the Free State farmers, and she advised all Basuto to be ready for war. This prophecy, with other less important ones, naturally upset the people very much, and the uneasiness took a long time to subside.

Mautsopha, however, has saved her reputation by "doctoring" the people to prevent the coming invasion.

In May, Masupha, who begins to find old age bearing heavily on him, introduced two of his grandsons to the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief, and formally declared them his heirs in the following order:—

- 1st. Masuphanyane, son of Lepojo.
- 2nd. Koadi, son of Mosuioa.
- 3rd. Marthinus—Masupha's eldest surviving son.

Masuphanyane and Koadi are boys of 13 and 14 years old.

Peete has reported to me lately that Jonathan Molapo is claiming a large wedge of country from him, near the source of the Phutiatsana River. This appears to be one of those cases which arise from the difficulty of deciding which of two small streams near the source of a river is the actual river and which is the tributary

The strength of the police at this station is at present, 1 European constable, 2 Native corporals, 1 Native lance corporal, 23 Native privates; all mounted, equipped, and efficient. BASUTOLAND
1894-95.

The Sub-Inspector of Police in charge of this Detachment has been temporarily removed to another district for duty.

There has been a good deal of stealing in Bera during the past year, the thieves being chiefly a gang living under the protection of the petty Chief Moiketsi. He, however, has not been legally proved to be an accomplice.

The following are the patrols by this detachment during the past year :—

Number of patrols	-	-	-	-	90
Number of men	-	-	-	-	213
Number of miles	-	-	-	-	4,573

Arrests were as under :—

Contravening Liquor Regulations	-	-	-	-	5
Contravening Pass Regulations	-	-	-	-	4
Other offences	-	-	-	-	8

17

Very little stock has been reported as lost from the Free State or elsewhere. The saddle referred to last year has been recovered and the thief punished.

A return follows showing results in recovery of stock reported here :—

Stock.	Reported.	Not traced.	Traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered	Remarks.
Horses	10	6	4	2	2	These horses were apparently sent to Johannesburg directly they arrived in Basutoland; thief punished.
Cattle	23	13	10	9	1	Thief punished. This beast was killed before his arrest.

The following cases were heard in the Assistant Commissioner's court during the year :—

Theft	-	-	-	-	-	12
Contravening Liquor Laws	-	-	-	-	-	5
Contravening Pass Laws	-	-	-	-	-	6
Assault	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other offences	-	-	-	-	-	8

32

Civil cases	-	-	-	-	-	2
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The health of the District has been very good. There were one or two cases of small-pox, but the natives themselves isolated them so promptly that the disease did not spread. Government employes (other than medical officers) vaccinated 2,674 natives at this office during the year.

BASUTOLAND,
1894-95.

Hut tax has been disappointing. Leshuburu and Peete have paid well and are some 78% in excess of last year while the whole tax of the District has risen 7%, but, on the other hand, Masupha and his sons have made no efforts to get in their tax, and consequently are about 70% behind last year. Masupha has always been known for his dilatoriness in hut-tax matters, but it was hoped that a letter addressed to him by the High Commissioner and his own promises at the National Pitso would effect a change for the better this year.

Whether from old age or carelessness, however, he has made even less effort than usual this year to get in the tax, and the result is the deficit mentioned above.

The following is the revenue for the district for the past year :—

Heads of Revenue.							Amount.		
							£	s.	d.
Hut tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,756	0	0
Licences	-	-	-	-	-	-	979	10	6
Fees of court or office	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	6
Special receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	89	7	3
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,117	0	3

Arrear hut tax collected amounted to 204*l.* 10*s.*

Hut tax was paid on 5,238 huts.

An agricultural show was held at Teyateyaneng on the 8th June with a view of showing the natives that there was great room for improvement in their stock and produce. The prizes were subscribed by the white residents of the District, and Government gave a grant-in-aid. The prizes were open to natives of Basutoland only, and there were large entries for nearly every class of exhibit.

The crops are good this year, and the Kaffir corn especially so, indeed it is to be feared that the beer drinking, which has already commenced throughout the country, will be the cause of much crime and quarrelling.

The approximate prices of grain per muid are :—

Wheat, 8*s.* to 9*s.*

Mealies, 5*s.* to 6*s.*

Kaffir corn, 6*s.* to 7*s.*

Stock of all kinds is scarce.

The following are the passes issued at this office during the year :—

Passes for labour	-	-	-	4,417
Passes for other purposes	-	-	-	4,103
Total	-	-	-	<u>8,520</u>

During the past year the main post road has been in charge of a contractor and inspected by Government. The experiment may be said to have succeeded fairly, but the season has been such a phenomenally wet one that it would be unfair to judge too harshly. Dry weather has now set in and the roads have all been made fit for the traffic they are called on to carry.

BASUTOLAND.
1894-95.

During the year there have been issued at this office:—

- 9 paid hawkers' licences
- 2 free hawkers' licences.

There are 24 trading stations in the District.

During the year I have received every help from the Free State border officials.

L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

MASERU.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1895.

In August last a disturbance arose between the Paramount Chief and his younger brother Maama, which was fraught with danger and very nearly culminated in disaster. The Paramount Chief had sent messages to execute a judgment which he had passed on certain malefactors, and the messengers were driven off by Maama's people, and in the scuffle one of them was killed. The Paramount Chief, naturally much incensed at the death of his messenger and at the contempt of his authority, called certain of his brothers, and was proceeding with a large following to crush Maama once for all, and had he been allowed to proceed there was, I think, no doubt but that he would have accomplished his object, but he would also have created a disturbance of such magnitude as might very well have led to general disaster. He was, however, stopped by the Resident Commissioner, who held a Pitso at Mofokas, and imposed a heavy cattle fine upon Maama and his people, and ordered Lerothodi to step in and occupy a tract of country which was still in dispute between him and Maama.

This disturbance may be said to have constituted a crisis in the affairs of the District. Maama lost greatly in prestige and territory, and many of his people, tired of the repeated cattle fines and call to arms to which he has from time to time subjected them, gladly left him to join Lerothodi. Since then the district has been in a state of profound peace. Disputes, of course, arise from time to time, but they are invariably brought to the courts and adjusted.

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1894-95.

Commercial.

Trade has been bad this year. There is, however, plenty of food. The prices paid for produce are still very low.

Public Works.

The roads are now in good repair.

Police.

The police force attached to my office consists nominally of:—

Sub-inspectors	-	-	-	-	-	2
European constables	-	-	-	-	-	2
Native sergeants	-	-	-	-	-	1
Native corporals	-	-	-	-	-	3
Native privates	-	-	-	-	-	49

Number of Patrols.	Number of Men employed.	Number of Miles patrolled.	Arrests.		
			(a.) Contravening Liquor Regulations.	(b.) Contravening Pass Regulations.	(c.) Other Offences
78	194	3,071	a. 4	b. 5	c. 3

The following table shows result of action taken in the matter of tracing lost stock. In every case where stock has been traced to Basutoland it has been recovered and in some instances before report.

Description.	No. reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not re-covered.	Remarks.
Horses	23	9	14	9	14	2 recovered in Orange Free State.
Cattle	31	10	21	10	21	3 recovered in Orange Free State.

Serious crime continues to be rare. The following cases were tried in my court:—

Contravening Liquor Regulations	-	4
Contravening Pass Regulations	-	5
Contravening Customs Regulations	-	1
Contravening Reserve Regulations	-	1
Theft	-	11
Fraud	-	1
Concealment of birth	-	1
Homicide	-	1
Assault	-	2
Resisting police	-	1

There were four civil actions, two of them actions for divorce.

*Revenue.*BASUTOLAND.
1894-95.

The following statement shows the amount of revenue collected by me. The hut tax shows an increase of some 80% on last year.

Heads of Revenue.							Amount.		
							£	s.	d.
Hut tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,756	0	0
Licences	-	-	-	-	-	-	234	0	0
Fines	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	5	6
Ferry tolls	-	-	-	-	-	-	271	8	6
Fees of court	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	19	3
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	181	10	5
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	£4,486	3	8

29% of arrear hut tax was collected. Tax was paid on 6,924 huts.

Passes.

Passes were issued to 6,217 persons, 3,318 of these were going in search of work.

Licences.

There are 20 licensed trading stations in the district. 34 paid hawkers' licences were taken out and 22 free hawkers' licences.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State Officials continues to be of a friendly nature.

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
Maseru, June 30, 1895.

MAFETENG.*Annual Report for Year ended 30th June 1895.*

June 30, 1895.

1. I would refer to the principal incidents of political importance which affected this District during the past year.

2. Chief Letsie, eldest son of the Paramount Chief, had been placed at his father's old village as mentioned in my report

BASUTOLAND.
1894-95.

1892-93, and soon afterwards he began to ignore his proper councillors and abuse his position.

For two years I endeavoured to exercise a good influence over him by various methods, but ultimately his behaviour became so unbearable towards Government officers and the general public that I found it necessary to report his conduct to the Acting Resident Commissioner. On receipt of my report the Acting Resident Commissioner suspended Chief Letsie, from his position as Native Officer of Police, pending inquiry into the case. Subsequently the Acting Resident Commissioner held an inquiry at Mafeteng, and the Paramount Chief, Letsie, and other Chiefs and councillors were present. Chief Letsie acknowledged the justice of the charges I had brought against him, comparing himself to the Prodigal Son, which parable he recited, then apologising to the Government Officers, Chiefs and people present, he promised to amend his conduct.

The Acting Resident Commissioner severely reprimanded Letsie, and fined him three months' pay for general misconduct, and also ordered him to pay a cattle fine for treating a native prisoner with undue severity. I have not since had special occasion to complain of Letsie, though, I regret to say, his general character is unsatisfactory.

3. The gradual encroachment by natives on the land regarded as commonage for this station made it necessary for me to bring the matter to the notice of the Government. Year after year new ground was ploughed and pasturage destroyed by natives living at this Magistracy and outside, there being no recognised limit to the reserve. Many difficulties presented themselves in dealing with this matter, and it was not until July 1894 that the Acting Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief came to view the ground and definitely fix the Government reserve, securing within its limits the lands and pasturage appertaining to the village of Mafeteng. Beacons are erected and there is now no difficulty in protecting the village commonage.

4. Last year the Paramount Chief gave the people of Kolo Ward, formerly directly under Matsieng, into the caretaking of Chief Bereng Letsie, an arrangement which has caused some local dissatisfaction.

5. A wire fence has been erected during the last few years as a western boundary between Basutoland and the Orange Free State, the cost being shared by Basutoland Government and the Free State farmers immediately on that part of the border. The proprietor of the farm Flodden had delayed in putting up his fence, and as the veldt was open between the beacons Basuto cattle and herds occasionally trespassed on to his farm. No complaint was ever brought to this office, the farmer always obtaining trespass fees from the Basuto before releasing their cattle. However, in February 1895, the son of the proprietor saw three Basuto children, herd boys, gathering wild berries on his ground, and he fetched a gun from the farmhouse, and fired a shot with ball cartridge in their direction. The boys

fled and reported the matter to their parents, and the circumstance caused a good deal of indignation and unrest at the time. When the case came to my knowledge I communicated with the Landdrost of Wepener, and subsequently met that gentleman and some local Basuto Chiefs on the border near the farm Flodden, and we reviewed the ground. The Landdrost directed the farmer, Mr. Strohmenger, to build his section of the fence without delay, and he promised to do so. We afterwards rode along the completed fence as far as it extends along Mafeteng District, and mutually agreed concerning certain repairs and improvements as a safeguard against smuggling from the Orange Free State.

6. Brandy smuggling from the Orange Free State continues to be kept down by the action of the officials of the Orange Free State, and constant patrolling of Basutoland police.

Several Boers who sell brandy on their farms to Basutoland natives have been convicted in the Landdrosts' Court, Wepener, but as these people make handsome profits they still carry on the trade by stealth, and will probably continue to do so as long as they can find customers to purchase the adulterated and poisonous spirits they retail.

7. I attach a return of patrols performed by the detachment of police at this station. The estimated distance travelled is less than that of last year, owing to the men having been employed on frequent forelay duty —

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled by collective Patrols.	Arrests.		
			(a.) Contravening Regulations.	(b.) Do. Pass	(c.) Other Offences.
91	449	4,575	a. 29	b. 10	c. 10

6. During the year the district Chiefs have rendered all necessary aid to the police in tracing stray and stolen property, and in arresting persons accused of crimes. I append a return of lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	Reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	7	5	2	5	2	—
Cattle -	3	2	1	2	1	—
Sheep -	14	—	14	—	14	—

Stock stolen from the Orange Free State, and traced into this District was again, as last year, all recovered and returned to the owners, and the thieves punished. None was traced from the Cape Colony.

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1894-95.

9. The civil and criminal cases adjudicated upon in Assistant Commissioner's Court were :—

Civil suits	-	-	-	-	-	5
Homicide	-	-	-	-	-	1
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	10
Fraud	-	-	-	-	-	2
Resisting and assaulting police	-	-	-	-	-	2
Contravening Liquor Regulations	-	-	-	-	-	30
" Pass	-	-	-	-	-	10
" Customs	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cases dismissed	-	-	-	-	-	3

10. The Mafeteng detachment of police continues to perform excellent services and the men are daily employed on various duties throughout the District. The men are efficient, well mounted and equipped, and the present strength is :—

- 1 sub-inspector.
- 2 European constables.
- 1 native constable.
- 1 " officer.
- 1 " sergeant.
- 1 " corporal.
- 31 " privates.

11. Encouraged by the success of an agricultural show in 1894 another was held in Mafeteng last May. Government gave a grant towards the funds at the disposal of the committee, so a substantial sum of money was awarded for prizes in the different classes of exhibits. The show was well supported by the public and some excellent samples of Basutoland produce and stock were shown, together with articles of native manufacture.

The rains were seasonable and an abundant harvest has been reaped, and the food supply for the ensuing year is assured.

The rainfall for the 12 months ended 30th June 1895 at Mafeteng was 35·3 inches.

The following were the ruling prices for produce and stock :—

- Wheat, 8s. 6d. per bag of 200 lbs.
- Mealies, 5s. per bag of 200 lbs.
- Oats, 6s. per bag of 150 lbs.
- Barley, 5s. per bag of 150lbs.
- Kaffir corn, 10s. per bag of 200 lbs.
- Oat hay, 15s. per bag 100 bundles.
- Wool, 3½d. per lb.
- Mohair, 9d. per lb.
- Basuto tobacco, 6d. per lb.
- Hides, 3d. per lb.
- Horned cattle (slaughter) 3l. to 6l.
- Sheep, 8s.
- Goats, 5s.
- Basuto ponies, 2l. to 10l.

There was an improvement in the commerce of the District last year. BASUTOLAND.
1894-95.

I attach a return of the number of licences granted:—

General traders -	-	-	-	-	-	26
Hawkers' licences (paid)	-	-	-	-	-	12
Hawkers' licences (free)	-	-	-	-	-	32

12. The Medical Officer has furnished a report on the health of the District. A mild form of small-pox has been rife during the past year, and at my request the Chiefs gave ready assistance in enforcing quarantine regulations under the direction of the medical officer.

Vaccination was freely carried out in the District, and passes to leave the territory were only granted to natives who had provided themselves with vaccination certificates.

13. The waggon roads have been maintained in fair order, and Government buildings requiring repair have received attention.

The village fountain being inadequate to the requirements of the community, and having become contaminated from various causes, a scheme for supplying the village with pure water from an adjacent spring was laid before Government, and the acting Resident Commissioner, after due consideration, approved of the suggestion and authorised a water-service for Mafeteng. The work was, successfully carried out by a qualified engineer. The water has been conveyed from the base of Likodi mountain into the village of Mafeteng by means of iron piping $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles in length.

There are three taps in convenient positions for public use, leadings have been carried to all Government quarters and also to most European dwellings at the owners' private cost. This pure water supply is necessary for health purposes, and its advantages are already felt and more beneficial results are anticipated, facilitating, as it will, the irrigation of gardens and production of vegetables.

14. I have inspected and furnished a separate report on twenty-six (26) Government-aided schools, and I am pleased to state that educational work in the District is making fair progress.

16. Natives have gone freely into adjacent territories in search of work and for other purposes. The number of persons who obtained passes at this office were:—

Seeking employment	-	-	-	-	4,345
Other purposes	-	-	-	-	9,226

16. Hut tax was exceptionally well paid, and is 74% in excess of the amount gathered during the previous year. This is due to a slight increase of persons liable, and to a careful supervision and check of hut tax receipts from house to house.

Miscellaneous receipts were considerably increased owing to hospital fees being paid under this head.

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1894-95.

The revenue collected amounts to:—

Heads of Revenue.							Amount.		
							£	s.	d.
Hut tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,670	10	0
Licences	-	-	-	-	-	-	212	0	0
Fines	-	-	-	-	-	-	75	0	0
Fees of court or office	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	12	6
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	207	9	6
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	£4,170	12	0
No. of huts on which tax was paid							-	-	7,163
Arrear hut tax collected							-	-	£163

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

MOHALE'S HOEK.

Annual Report for the Year ended June 30, 1895.

General.

Nothing of any material importance has occurred during the past twelve months. The political aspect is unchanged. In August last I was informed by Malebanye, the head of the Bamohale, that he had been summoned by the Paramount Chief to bring armed assistance against Maama.

Malebanye went as far as Mafeteng. From there he returned by permission of the Paramount Chief.

In October, Chaboni, a petty Chief of the Bataung, died and was succeeded by his son Thurlo.

In December small-pox broke out in this district. Immediate steps were taken for a general vaccination and for quarantine. I went personally into the Maloti and ordered isolation of all villages infected with the disease.

Five villages were found by me to be infected. The medical officer and experienced police visited the district for vaccination purposes, and a thorough system of vaccination was kept up at the dispensary. No passes were issued to persons who failed to produce a vaccination certificate.

In March the petty Chief Makuethlane died and was succeeded by his eldest son Pitso.

In May Lesala and eight others were arrested for illicit introduction into Basutoland of guns, pistols, and ammunition. The guns were purchased by Lesala in the Free State, and were paid

for in Basutoland, with cattle stolen by him from Ntabanyane Makhube. BASUTOLAND,
1894-95.

The case was heard before a combined court at this station on May 14; the prisoners were convicted and are now undergoing sentence. The Dutchmen who sold the guns have been committed for trial in the Free State.

Relations between the district and neighbouring States are most satisfactory.

Border fencing is being carried on. The fence is a great assistance in the checking of theft and other border troubles.

Liquor smuggling, though not so frequent as formerly, is still a source of trouble, more so in the northern than in the southern portion of the District.

The following is a return of lost and stolen stock :—

De- scription.	No. reported.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced into Basutoland.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses -	8	1	7	1	7	
Cattle -	11	--	11	--	10	1 recovered in Free State.
Sheep -	108	--	108	--	108	

The following is a return of patrols :—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Approximate Distance travelled.	No. of Arrests.
6-	129	3,058	Liquor Regulations - - Pass laws - - - 2 Other offences - - - 1

The population is decidedly on the increase, and at present there appears to be no sufficient outlet for the surplus. This fact, while presenting no immediate cause for concern, will, I fear, be a source of trouble in the near future.

The following is a return of all passes issued during the year :—

For Labour.	For other Purposes.	Total Number issued.
3,074	1,806	4,880

This year's harvest has been, generally, quite up to the average, cereals of all description grown in Basutoland being plentiful. The mealie crop has been an exceptionally abundant one.

BASUTOLAND,
1894-95.

All schools in the District have been inspected. I cannot say that I have noticed much progress.

An average amount of trade has been done. Owing, however, to the heavy import duty on breadstuffs and stock in the Transvaal, prices of all Basutoland exports are much lower than they otherwise would be.

The following is a return of licences issued :—

General traders	-	-	-	-	15
Hawkers' licences (free)	-	-	-	-	8
Dam licences	-	-	-	-	2

The criminal cases heard in the court of this District during the year are as follows :—

Theft	-	-	-	-	-	4
Forgery	-	-	-	-	-	1
Assault with intent	-	-	-	-	-	3
Contravening Pass Laws	-	-	-	-	-	1
Contravening regulations regarding firearms	-	-	-	-	-	1
Police offences	-	-	-	-	-	2

The number of cases is somewhat in excess of last year's return; but they are for the most part of a trifling nature.

There have been only three civil cases heard during the year.

The Medical Officer's report is forwarded separately.

The following is a return of all Revenue received :—

Heads of Revenue.							Amount.		
							£	s.	d.
Hut tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,242	10	0
Licences	-	-	-	-	-	-	147	9	0
Ferry toils	-	-	-	-	-	-	64	4	3
Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	0
Miscellaneous receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	159	.	0
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,618	10	3

Hut tax has been paid on 6,335 huts, and arrear tax amounted to 98/.

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

QUTHING.

BASUTOLAND.
1894-95.*Annual Report for the Year ending June 30, 1895.**General.*

1. Although disputes have been frequent, there has been no disturbance of the peace in this District during the year.

The friction between the sons of Letsie and other inhabitants of the country still goes on, and unless some other location can be found for the latter, it is difficult to see where it will stop. The decisions given at the public meeting held here in June 1894 by the Acting Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief have to a large extent been evaded by the Chief Nkwebe Letsie. These evasions have been reported on, from time to time, in letters to head-quarters.

The above-named Chief, although apparently well disposed towards Government, has on several occasions shown a spirit of opposition to control, which is to be regretted in view of the example thereby set to the minor Chiefs.

2. Steps have been taken in the course of the year to ascertain how the police duties were performed, and the result was not creditable to certain persons then in the force.

Liquor smuggling had apparently been connived at to some extent, and, as a result of the enquiry, convictions were obtained against two illicit canteens in the neighbouring district of Herschel, Cape Colony.

3. It is currently reported by responsible persons, such as missionaries and traders, that several natives have been tortured and otherwise punished for alleged witchcraft by the Chiefs in the District during the period under review. No complaints of such treatment have been brought to officials by the sufferers, probably owing to their dread of the Chief's vengeance.

Agriculture.

The wheat crop was a light one in comparison with the acreage sown, but the Kaffir corn and maize crops are better than the average. Generally speaking, the live stock in the country is healthy, but in certain parts shows deterioration owing to overstocking and restricted pasturage.

Horses, especially, are not so good as formerly, partly from the above causes and partly from careless breeding. One of the Arab stallions imported by the Government is now stationed in Quthing, and it is hoped that in time good results will be shown. Tree-planting is increasing among the people, although their ideas on this subject are chiefly confined to poplars (for building poles) and a few sorts of fruit trees. The country is now too crowded to allow of the population shifting from place to place as formerly, and one result of this should be to lead them to plant

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trees freely and to build more permanent dwellings than they have hitherto done.

Something has been done towards the destruction of burrweed both by the Government and the people, and if this is persevered in for some years the weed may be extirpated. There is still far too much in the country.

Relations with Bordering States.

Friendly relations continue with the bordering Districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand, and mutual facilities are afforded for the tracing of criminals.

Public Works.

Waterworks for supply of water to the police camp and various public officers are about to be constructed.

Medical officers' quarters are nearly completed, and other building work is in progress.

The main roads on the whole do not compare unfavourably with those in adjacent Districts, but the branch road to Ongeluks Nek is now impassable for vehicles.

Medical.

Medical officer's report is forwarded separately.*

Revenue.

The following is a return of revenue collected—

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - - -	2,186	12	6
Licences - - - - -	156	0	0
Fines - - - - -	62	6	6
Ferry tolls - - - - -	175	13	0
Fees of court or office - - - - -	2	7	6
Miscellaneous - - - - -	77	14	0
Total - - - - -	2,660	13	6

The total number of huts on which tax was paid this year is 4,210; arrear hut tax amounting to 98*l.* was collected.

Licences.

Number of licences issued :—

General traders - - - - -	15
Hawkers' paid - - - - -	6
Hawkers' free - - - - -	3

* Not printed.

Lost Stock Returns.

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Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	2	1	1	1	1	8 cattle have been reported by Colonial officials as having been recovered in the Colony.
Cattle	15	7	8	7	8	
Sheep	58	—	58	—	58	

Civil and Criminal Cases.

Civil and criminal cases tried during the year are as follows:—

Civil cases	-	-	-	-	-	4
Assault	-	-	-	-	-	4
Concealment of birth	-	-	-	-	-	1
Contempt of court	-	-	-	-	-	1
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	7
Rape	-	-	-	-	-	2
Contravening Customs Regulations	-	-	-	-	-	1
Contravening Trading Regulations	-	-	-	-	-	8
Contravening Pass Regulations	-	-	-	-	-	30
Contravening sec. 31, Pound Ordinance	-	-	-	-	-	3
Professing to a knowledge of witchcraft	-	-	-	-	-	2
Resisting police	-	-	-	-	-	6
Escape from custody	-	-	-	-	-	1
Breach of prison discipline	-	-	-	-	-	1
Breach of the peace	-	-	-	-	-	2

Current prices of produce and stock:—

- Mealies, 4s. to 6s. per muid.
- Wheat, 10s. per muid.
- Kaffir corn, 8s. to 10s. per muid.
- Horses, 3*l.* to 8*l.* each.
- Cattle, 3*l.* to 5*l.* each.
- Sheep, 10s. to 15s. each.
- Goats, 6s. to 8s. each.
- Wool, 3*d.* per lb.
- Mohair, 6*d.* per lb.

Passes.

The following is a return of passes issued during the year:—

Seeking work	-	-	-	-	1,679
Other purposes	-	-	-	-	4,139

Patrols.

The following is a return of patrols:—

Number of patrols	-	-	-	-	102
Number of men engaged	-	-	-	-	149
Number of miles patrolled	-	-	-	-	3,839

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Arrests as under :—

Contravening Liquor Regulations	-	-	7
Contravening Pass Regulations	-	-	22
Other offences	-	-	10

S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

QACHA'S NEK.

Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June 1895.

General.

The boundary dispute between the Chiefs Mpiti and Sekake, mentioned by me in my last Annual Report, was settled on the 31st July last by Seta Matete, who was sent by the Paramount Chief to enquire into the matter, and the boundary was then clearly defined, so I do not anticipate any further trouble between these Chiefs on that subject.

I am pleased to report that no disputes as to rights of land, &c. have occurred among Chiefs in the District during the past year, and all the Chiefs appear to bear friendly relations to one another.

I have always received ready assistance from all Chiefs and Headmen in all matters on which I have had occasion to requisition their services.

My relations with the Government Officers of the neighbouring Districts of the Cape Colony continue to be of a friendly nature, and I have received every assistance in tracing of criminals and the recovery of lost or stolen stock.

Efforts have been made, with the assistance of the Paramount Chief, to check the influx of foreign natives into the District, and several of the Chiefs and Headmen have been punished for allowing such persons to settle in their wards without first obtaining the permission of Government.

The introduction of the Glen Grey Act among the natives of East Griqualand, of which I hear there is a possibility, may have the effect of the Basutoland Government receiving many applications from Natives of that territory for permission to remove into Basutoland.

Commercial.

No new trading stations have been opened during the past year. The existing stations appear to be doing a lucrative trade. The

average prices paid by traders for produce and live stock during the year are as follows :—

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- Wheat, 5s. to 8s. per bag.
- Mealies, 3s. to 10s. per bag.
- Kafir corn, 6s. to 10s. per bag.
- Wool, 2½d. to 3d. per lb.
- Mohair, 4d. to 6d. per lb.
- Hides, 2d. per lb.
- Horses, 60s. to 7l.
- Cattle, 20s. to 100s.
- Sheep, 3s. to 10s.
- Goats, 5s. to 6s.

Public Works.

The road from Matatiele to this station is now in fair repair, the old portion of it, mentioned in my last Annual Report as requiring to be repaired, has been put in order by the Resident Magistrate of Matatiele, who employed convict labour.

Application has been made, and permission granted by the Government to Mr. James Cole, to construct a road to his trading station at Mpiti's.

Police.

The police have been doing satisfactory work, and discipline has been well maintained among the members of the detachment here. They have been hard worked in endeavouring to keep patrols out along the border, which is very extensive, and the detachment would require to be considerably strengthened to keep a continual watch on the numerous paths which enter the district.

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.
51	79	5,675	For contravention of Liquor Laws - - - 1 Do. Pass Laws - - - 8 Other offences - - - 5

Crime.

The following criminal cases have been tried during the year ended 30th June 1895 :—

Culpable homicide	-	-	-	2
Theft	-	-	-	1
Contravening Liquor Law	-	-	-	1
" Pass Laws	-	-	-	9
Breach of prison discipline	-	-	-	4
Attempting to administer poison with intent	-	-	-	1
Assault	-	-	-	1

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On account of the stringent measures lately introduced by the Cape Government to check the sale of liquor to natives, very little, if any, liquor smuggling is carried on along the border of this district.

Return of lost and stolen stock :—

Description.	No. reported lost.	Traced into Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Cattle	5	5	—	5	—	
Horses	12	1	11	—	11	Traced to Mafeteng District. 1 horse found dead on owner's farm.
Sheep	63	—	63	—	63	32 sheep recovered by owner on adjoining farms.
Goats	2	—	2	—	2	2 goats recovered by owner on adjoining farm.

Revenue.

The amount of revenue collected compares favourably with last year's collection. The amount of arrear hut tax collected this year is 103% less than that collected last year, so that this shows an increase of current tax collected amounting to 101*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, which I attribute to the increase of population by immigration from other districts of Basutoland, and from the Cape Colony and Nata.

The following is a return of revenue collected during the year ended 30th June 1895 :—

Heads of Revenue.							Amount.		
							£	s.	d.
Hut tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,055	18	0
Licences	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	0	0
Fines	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	10	0
Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	6
Miscellaneous receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	5	6
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,097	16	0

Amount of arrear hut tax collected, 73*l.* 10*s.* Number of huts on which tax has been paid 2,005. Number of licences issued is as follows :—

General traders'	-	-	-	-	-	2
Paid hawkers'	-	-	-	-	-	2

The following is a return of passes issued during the year ended 30th June 1895, and shows an increase over last year of 794:—

BASUTOLAND,
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Number of persons to whom passes were issued				
for work	-	-	-	548
Do.	Do.	for other purposes	-	2,257

				2,805

Medical.

No case of small-pox or other epidemic disease has occurred in the District during the past year, and I have had no occasion to call on the services of a medical man.

Six hundred and eleven persons have been vaccinated and provided with certificates.

JNO. T. GRIFFITH,
Officer in Charge.

BUTHA BUTHE.

Annual Report for the Year ended June 30, 1895.

Though no serious fighting has taken place in this ward during the past year, yet there has been considerable friction between the Chiefs and headmen and much anxiety caused thereby.

In July 1894 Joel and his brother Hlasoa had a dispute as to the latter's rights, and at one time it was feared that this would lead to serious trouble. Nothing much came of it, however, but I do not consider this matter to be by any means finally settled.

In October the differences between the sons of Matela began, and I regret to have to report that up to now matters are still unsettled. The trouble was chiefly with Mohape, Likopa, and Hlakametsa. Various small fights took place, and at last on the 8th May, Chief Jonathan came up to settle matters, accompanied by the Assistant Commissioner of the District, and messengers from the Paramount Chief, to watch proceedings and advise. On the 9th and 10th a Pitsoe was held near Lepera's village and a judgment was given by Chief Jonathan. It remains to be seen how far this judgment will bring peace and quietness.

I am glad to be able to report that the amount of hut tax paid since 1st July 1894 is greater than that of any preceding year.

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The total revenue is also greater. I subjoin a return of revenue under heads :—

Heads of Revenue.							Amount.		
							£	s.	d.
Hut tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,533	0	0
Licences	-	-	-	-	-	-	127	0	0
Fines	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	17	6
Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	16	0
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	53	19	6
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,719	13	0

The number of general traders' licences is the same as for last year. There has been a slight increase in the number of hawkers' licences taken out. I subjoin a return :—

General traders' licences	-	-	-	-	11
Paid hawkers' licences	-	-	-	-	15
Free hawkers' licences	-	-	-	-	2

I regret to have to report that two cases of manslaughter have occurred in this ward during the year. In one case the culprit has been tried and punished; in the other two men have been arrested on suspicion.

I subjoin a return of criminal and civil cases heard in this court during the year :—

Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	1
Stock theft	-	-	-	-	5
Liquor running	-	-	-	-	1
Minor cases	-	-	-	-	31
Total	-	-	-	-	38
Civil cases	-	-	-	-	8

All the lost or stolen stock reported to this office during the year, and which were traced to Basutoland have been recovered. It is very hard to say whether those not so traced have been recovered or not, as none of the border farmers ever report when they find their lost stock. In the few cases in which I could make enquiry, the stock had not been found. The following is a return :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not Recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	15	1	14	1	0	
Cattle	18	8	10	8	10	

Mr. P. de la Harpe also reported that he constantly lost goats in small numbers, but none were actually traced to Basutoland. BASUTOLAND,
1894-95.

I subjoin a return of number of passes issued during the year :—

For the purpose of working	-	-	-	2,823
For other purposes	-	-	-	5,669

The following are approximately the current prices for Basutoland produce at present in this ward :—

Wheat, 10s. per muid.
Mealies, 5s. „
Kaffir corn, 6s. per muid.
Oats, 6s. per muid.
Wool, $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $4d.$ per lb.
Mohair, 6d. per lb.
Forage, 10s. to 12s. per 100 bundles.
Cattle, 2l. 10s. to 4l. each.

The following is a return of patrols by police during the year :—

Number of patrols	-	-	-	65
Number of men engaged	-	-	-	120
Number of miles patrolled	-	-	-	3,074

Number of arrests as under :—

Contravening Liquor Regulations	-	-	-	1
Contravening Pass Regulations	-	-	-	23
Other offences	-	-	-	6

My relations with the Free State authorities continue friendly, and I receive every assistance from them.

W. BOXWELL,
Sub-Inspector, Basutoland Mounted Police.

*Annual Report, Principal Medical Officer, Basutoland, for the
Year ending June 30, 1895.*

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The public health has been affected by several serious epidemics during the last year.

Small-pox.

Early in December small-pox appeared simultaneously in the Mafeteng and Molehales Hock Districts.

In the former 59 cases were reported in four villages, but the stringent quarantine which was enforced prevented any further spread, and by the end of January the outbreak had been stamped out. A fresh outbreak (26 cases in one village), which occurred in March, was confined to the village in which the first case appeared.

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A much more serious epidemic was rife during this period in the Mohale's Hoek Ward, and owing to the fact that most of the infected centres were in the mountainous part of the district and at considerable distances from the camp quarantine was with difficulty enforced, the more especially as, the disease being singularly non-fatal, the element of fear, which in previous epidemics has caused the quarantine to be strictly kept, was absent in this instance. Chicken-pox being epidemic at the same time, there was a natural tendency in the native mind to refuse to recognise in the mild cases of small-pox the more serious of the two diseases. 600 people are computed to have suffered from the disease, and 16 deaths were reported. By the end of March the epidemic had died out.

The rest of Basutoland was practically free from the disease during the year, if one excepts a sporadic case which occurred in the Maseru District. As I anticipated in my last year's report, the disease was effectually stamped out in the Leribe District.

Vaccination.

In connection with the question of small-pox it should be mentioned that vaccination has been vigorously prosecuted throughout the country during the past year. Missionaries and others were provided with lymph, and thanks are due to them for their aid rendered to this section of preventive medicine.

I append a table showing the number of people vaccinated in the various Districts of which records are available. Judging from the amount of lymph distributed to missionaries and others, at least 5,000 should be added to the grand total of cases:—

Station,	Number.
Qachas Nek	442
Quthane	1,782
Mohale's Hoek	7,573
Mafeteng	8,864
Maseru	5,456
Teyateyaneng	2,248
Leribe	3,980
Butha Buthe	1,889
Total	32,234

It is worthy of record that this large number of vaccinations has been accomplished without entailing any extra charge on the revenue, the amount collected for vaccination certificates being more than sufficient to cover the cost of the lymph.

*Measles.*BASUTOLAND.
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—

Measles was prevalent at Mohale's Hoek in November and December, but no deaths were recorded.

Typhoid Fever.

Typhoid, which has been epidemic at Mohale's Hoek for some years, appeared in an epidemic form there in April, and two deaths were reported. It would appear that the want of proper sanitation is responsible for the presence of the disease. It is remarkable that throughout the country the outside villages, which are always built on very healthy sites, are free of the disease, while the converse obtains at the camps, for which, in many cases, very unsuitable positions have been chosen.

Leprosy.

A full report on the leprosy question has been presented embodying the results of the investigation carried out by the medical staff during the past year. Fresh cases coming under observation are duly recorded.

Syphilis.

The per-centage of syphilitic to the total number of cases treated shows no diminution, but this does not indicate any spread of the disease, but is accounted for by the fact that people suffering from this complaint are more willing than others to pay the small charge now made for medicine. A diminution in the number of severe tertiary manifestations has been noticed during the last year, and this alone testifies to the influence exercised by the medical work of the last five years in alleviating a condition which at one time threatened to become almost a national calamity.

Diphtheria.

A severe epidemic of diphtheria occurred in Maseru with sporadic cases in the District during the months of January, February, and March. There were 22 cases (most of whom were Europeans) and one death. The epidemic was undoubtedly due to the insanitary condition of the village and its surroundings, which conditions were emphasised by the unhealthy position and condition of most of the houses in which the disease occurred. It is satisfactory to be able to report that the first mentioned of these causes has been remedied.

The new remedy, antitoxin, was tried in two cases, but the limited amount at the disposal of the medical officer precluded any trustworthy conclusion to be drawn as to its value.

Thanks are due to the director of the Bacteriological Institute at Grahamstown for undertaking the examination of specimens of exudation.

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HEALTH OF THE POLICE FORCE.

Police.

This calls for no comment. It has been generally good.

SANITARY AFFAIRS.

Sanitation.

Improved sanitation is urgently needed at most stations, and I would strongly urge the desirability of making the dry-earth system compulsory with the European residents at all stations.

Water Supply.

Dr. Leicester reports very favourably of the new water supply at Mafeteng. The present supply at other stations, more especially at Maseru, falls lamentably short of the needs of, and is a standing source of danger to, the community.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY WORK.

Out-patient Work.

As was anticipated, there has been a marked falling off in a section of the attendances during the last year, consequent on the nominal charge now made for medicine. The decrease is most marked in those trivial cases which formerly thronged the dispensaries. There is a distinct upward tendency in the numbers during the last half of the year, and the opinion of the medical staff is unanimous as to the benefit accruing from the system. Owing to the very large number of vaccinations the actual attendances are not much below the average of previous years.

I append a table showing the attendances at the different stations:—

	New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.	Total.
Moyeni	50	10	60
Mohales Hoek	1,584	189	1,773
Mafeteng	1,549	598	2,147
Maseru	2,154	499	2,653
Leribe	1,578	496	2,074
Grand totals	6,915	1,792	8,707

Hospital Work.

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Hospital work has been well maintained, but the frequent absence of the medical officers from their stations on duty connected with the leprosy investigation, the small-pox epidemics, and vaccination has interfered with this branch of the work at times. Excellent work has, however, been done in spite of these hindrances, and the relief afforded by the large number of surgical operations performed has been much appreciated. This is a matter for considerable congratulation, seeing that this arduous work is carried out solely by the medical officers without the aid of any nursing staff or skilled assistance whatever, and in hospitals where the furnishing and appliances still leave much to be desired.

I append a tabular statement of the in-patients treated at the different stations :—

Station.	No.
Mohale's Hoek - - - - -	44
Mafeteng - - - - -	29
Maseru - - - - -	78
Leribe - - - - -	34
Total - - - - -	185

E. C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

Annual Report, Medical Officer, Leribe, for the Year ending June 30, 1895.

I arrived at this station on the 18th May of this year and assumed my duties as medical officer.

For three weeks previous to this no out-patients were seen, and the dispensary was closed for a month, from March 12th to April 13th, during my predecessor's absence on leave.

Vaccination was carried on as usual during these times by the hospital interpreter under the supervision of the Assistant Commissioner.

Statistics.

The following table shows the number of attendances at the dispensary and a comparison with the previous year :—

	1894-95.	1893-94.
New cases - - - - -	1,531	3,023
Subsequent attendances - - - - -	496	907
Hospital in-patients - - - - -	38	50
Vaccinations - - - - -	6,200	2,614
Total - - - - -	8,315	6,594

BASUTOLAND.
1894-95.
—

It will be seen that there is a considerable decrease in the number of patients attending the dispensary for medicines. This is to be accounted for by the small charge made for the medicines supplied.

1,115 persons paid for medicine and 952 were treated free.

Syphilis is still prevalent in the District, and of those who presented themselves for the first time 34, or 21·4 per cent., were suffering from various forms of disease. These numbers show a considerable increase on last year's; then only 84 were entered on the books as syphilitic.

Epidemics.

Small-pox lingered in various parts of the District until December; it was a continuation of the epidemic of the previous year.

Whooping cough and influenza were prevalent during December, January, and February, and were of a mild nature.

Vaccination.

5,769 persons were vaccinated and received certificates, and 341 were vaccinated free. Of the latter 117 were vaccinated at the dispensary, and 224 by police and others.

Health of Police.

The health of the police force continues good. Gastric and catarrhal disorders are frequent complaints.

The health of the prisoners is good.

The sanitary condition of the camps calls for no comment at the present time.

Leprosy.

All the lepers in the District have been seen and examined, and a report forwarded to the Principal Medical Officer.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

Annual Report of Medical Officer, Mafeteng, for the Year ended June 30, 1895.

The total number of persons treated as out-patients at the dispensary during the period which this report embraces was 2,127.

Of these, 1,529 were new cases and 598 re-attendances. In the hospital 29 persons were treated, the majority being cases requiring surgical procedure for their relief.

These figures show a falling off upon those of last year of 3,475 as regards the new cases at the dispensary. Two causes have chiefly been at work in producing this diminution in the number of those who presented themselves for treatment.

(1.) The system involving the substitution of a nominal money payment for services hitherto rendered as charity was introduced at the beginning of the financial year, and, as was expected, some considerable time must elapse before the natives avail themselves as freely of such services as heretofore. There can, I think, be little doubt that the working of the system has resulted, and will result, in decided benefit to the persons whom it affects.

(2.) The mild winter of 1894 was followed by a prolonged season exceptionally free from epidemics of any kind, and during which the public health maintained a high standard. The one exception, the prevalence of an epidemic of small-pox during the first half of 1895, would tend, and doubtless has tended, in itself to further decrease the numbers of those seen at the public dispensary by cutting off large areas of population in which quarantine regulations were of necessity enforced.

It is worthy of note that the numbers show a distinct tendency upward month by month.

It is, of course, impossible accurately to gauge the number of persons really needing treatment whom the new system deterred from seeking it. Some estimate may perhaps be gathered from the following table, in which the numbers during a month taken at haphazard in 1894 are compared with those of the corresponding month in 1895, the cases having been classified alike in each.

TABLE A.

Month.	Total.		Syphilis.		Dyspepsia.		Skin.		Catarrhs.		Minor Ailments.		Tania.		Gonorrhoea.		Diarrhoea.	
	New Cases.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	
1894.																		
March	381	51	13.3	71	18.6	59	15.1	24	6.3	63	16.5	4	1.1	3	.77	12	3.1	
1895.																		
March	113	21	18.5	16	14.1	9	7.9	7	6.1	16	14.1	4	3.5	3	2.5	3	2.5	

It will be seen from the above that, while the relative number of cases of syphilis was greater than that of last year, and while in most cases the averages very closely assimilate, the greatest falling off was apparent in non-specific skin diseases, dyspepsia, and minor ailments in the order given. It may fairly be inferred from a study of these figures that Cause I has not been the principal agent in producing the decrease in numbers, since, were it so, slight ailments and dyspepsia would have shown a very marked falling off, those in all probability being the cases which would

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have been deterred by pecuniary considerations from seeking relief.

2. Two hundred and forty-nine persons treated for some manifestation of syphilis are comprised in the totals given, a percentage of 17·8, somewhat higher than that of last year. If confined to the treatment of this disease alone, which by its widespread and disastrous effects is little less than a national calamity, the Government dispensaries would justify their existence, since, while there are good grounds for believing that the disease is yearly diminishing, and working less evil among the inhabitants, the number of those affected who present themselves for treatment maintains a high proportion, and the results of treatment are in the highest degree encouraging.

I find that of all the cases 38·7 presented themselves repeatedly for treatment, and many were watched to complete recovery.

3. The first cases of small-pox were reported in November 1894 from a village 10 miles to the N.E. of this camp, the majority of the inhabitants of that and a neighbouring village were attacked and all recovered.

So soon as a personal inspection by the medical officer had placed the existence of the disease beyond doubt the inhabitants were all vaccinated and the infected area quarantined; these measures were successful in preventing the further spread of the disease in that quarter.

Following this, outbreaks were reported from all parts of the District; everywhere the mild character of the epidemic was apparent, and this was particularly the case as regards children and young adults. An epidemic of varicella was in many places concurrent with the variola. So far as I have been able to learn not more than six deaths occurred throughout the District from this cause.

4. In the matter of leprosy I have nothing to add to my report of last year on the subject. Some few of the cases therein mentioned have been intermittently under treatment, and one fresh case has come to my notice at the dispensary.

5. With the exceptions detailed above, the past year has been one in which no epidemics of note have occurred. Public health in the camp has been on the whole excellent, that of the police force and prisoners entirely so. Sporadic cases of typhoid continue to occur from time to time; it is probable that those affected do not receive the poison at their houses, but during the prosecution of a journey or the paying of visits.

During the year the scheme of supplying the camp with water brought in by pipes has been undertaken and carried out. The intake is distant about two miles from the camp and well removed from human habitations. The supply is abundant, and, so far as can be judged, pure; the benefit to the community incalculable.

6. At the beginning of the year certified vaccination was made compulsory on all persons leaving the territory, and up to the end of the year 6,203 certificates have been issued from this centre.

The total number of vaccinations performed at dispensary was 5,387 ; and in order to reach those persons who had not the time or inclination to come to the camp for vaccination, public stations were established in various centres throughout the District where attendance was given weekly, and gratuitous arm-to-arm vaccination performed for all who presented themselves. These stations met with considerable success, a total number of 2,661 persons being vaccinated at 10 stations.

The epidemic of small-pox is practically at an end in this District.

M. E. LEICESTER.

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Annual Report of Medical Officer, Mofales Hoek, for the Year ending June 30, 1895.

I assumed duty as medical officer of this station on the 1st February of this year. My experience of the work therefore only dates from that time.

Public Health.

A serious outbreak of small-pox made its appearance about the end of November, and rapidly spread to a large number of native villages.

Quarantine, as far as was practicable, was strictly enforced, and vaccination carried out extensively both in the infected areas and at the Government dispensary at Mofales Hoek and elsewhere.

Arm-to-arm vaccination with virus from the pocks helped in some degree to spread the disease. The popularity of this method of securing immunity was short lived, owing, perhaps, to the fact that the chief advocate and practitioner of it, a native doctor, himself succumbed to the disease. It was not possible to obtain reliable information as to the number of persons who suffered from the disease during the whole epidemic, but there is every reason to suppose that the number must have been very large. The disease was, however, mild in type and the mortality very low. In all 7,404 persons were vaccinated with calf lymph supplied by the Bacteriological Institute at Graham's Town, at the Government dispensary, and by vaccinators in the infected areas. 4,607 vaccination certificates were issued to persons leaving the territory. If the vaccination carried out by missionaries and others with lymph supplied from this office, and the arm-to-arm vaccination resorted to by the natives themselves be taken into account, I estimate that the number of persons protected by vaccination during the last year is not less than 10,000. I think it is a matter for congratulation that after the disease had taken so firm a hold of the community it has been possible to stamp it out with so little loss of life.

I regret to have to report the occurrence of typhoid fever amongst the natives resident on the Government Reserve. The disease made its appearance early in the year, and was of the so-called "typho-malarial" type and lacking some of the more

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typical features of typhoid fever. During the last four months 16 cases have come under my notice, all children or young adults. Four cases (25 per cent.) ended fatally. After repeated and careful inquiry I am unable to assign any certain cause for the outbreak, though it seems most probable that it was due to drinking polluted water.

A severe epidemic of measles, which attacked many residents on the Reserve, occurred in November, lasting through the following month.

The health of the police detachment and of the prisoners in the gaol has been good.

Sanitation.

I found it necessary some months ago to draw attention to the danger involved in continuing the present objectionable system of cesspits which obtains amongst Europeans resident in the camp.

This mode of disposing of night soil is here the more particularly objectionable, as the fountain from which the Europeans draw their water supply lies at a lower level, and there is thus always a danger of sewage contamination. The question of substituting a pail, or dry-earth, system for the present one is now under consideration by the executive.

I desire also to point out the need which exists for a proper water supply for the camp. Abundant and pure water can be obtained from kloofs close to and overlooking the camp, and if supplied in pipes all danger of contamination would be avoided.

The Public Dispensary and Hospital.

From the 1st July 1894 a sixpenny charge for each attendance for all out-patients, except police and other Government employees, was made. As will be seen by the subjoined table, the attendance has fallen off to less than half that of last year in the new cases, and that in the subsequent attendance the falling off is proportionately even more marked. This last may, I think, be explained by the sixpenny charge preventing patients from persevering in treatment unless marked beneficial results are at once evident. To cases of syphilis this particularly applies. On the whole the charge seems to have weeded out many trivial cases that only attended out of pure love of physic-drinking, and also many deserving cases too poor to afford sixpence for each attendance.

Table showing attendances for this and corresponding period of last year.

1893-94.			1894-95.		
Out-patients.		In-patients.	Out-patients.		In-patients.
New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.		New Cases.	Subsequent Attendances.	
3,229	1,369	51	1,584	189	44

Of the 1,584 new cases, 860 were males, 724 females, and 369 of these were infants and children. 991 paid the sixpenny fee.

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Syphilis still continues to bear an undue proportion to other cases treated. 179, or 12 per cent. of all cases, were syphilitic. Of these 116 were adults with whom it was probably acquired; in 63 cases it was congenital. The preponderance of cases of digestive troubles was again very marked. One fresh case of leprosy has come under my notice since the report on this subject was forwarded to you. It occurred in a young female European resident in this camp.

W. M. EATON,
Medical Officer.
