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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

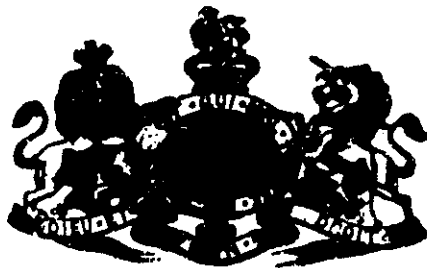
No. 186.

BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 1895-6.

(For Reports for 1894-5, see No. 152 of this Series.)

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



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1896.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
150	Lagos - - - - -	1894
151	Seychelles - - - - -	"
152	Basutoland - - - - -	1894-5
153	Fiji - - - - -	1894
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155	Ceylon - - - - -	"
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176	St. Helena - - - - -	"
177	Bahamas - - - - -	"
178	Hong Kong - - - - -	"
179	Windward Islands - - - - -	"
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MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast - - - - -	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand - - - - -	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone - - - - -	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada - - - - -	Emigration.
5	Bahamas - - - - -	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong - - - - -	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland - - - - -	Mineral Resources.

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(For Reports for 1894-5, see No. 152.)

LORD ROSMEAD to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Cape Town,
September 5, 1896.

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 ended 30th June 1896.

It is satisfactory to record that in spite of the disturbing elements in other parts of South Africa, the Basutos have maintained a thoroughly pacific attitude. The few internal disputes which have occurred during the year have been successfully dealt with by the Acting Resident Commissioner and his officers.

The threatened advent of mineral prospectors has caused some alarm among the natives, but they have doubtless been reassured by the message which you have recently requested to be sent to the Chiefs.

The liquor traffic carried on by people outside the borders of the territory seems to have given more trouble than usual, but I have no doubt that the officials, both of Basutoland and the Orange Free State, are doing their best to combat it.

The collection by the Chief Lerothodi of so large a sum as 3,184*l.* towards the establishment of an institution for the industrial training of Basuto boys is satisfactory.

The trade of the country is in a very satisfactory state, as evidenced by the imports and exports and by the Customs Union revenue, which is increasing annually. This revenue, which during the past year amounted to over 11,000*l.*, is, as you are aware, handed over to the Cape Government in aid of its contribution of 18,000*l.* per annum to the general revenue. It is not, however, certain that it will be possible to retain Basutoland in the Customs Union when a new Convention is concluded.

Much damage has been done to the crops by locusts, but it is satisfactory to find that the scourge of rinderpest has been kept out of Basutoland.

I have, &c.

ROSMEAD,
Governor and High Commissioner.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1896.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency a Report upon British Basutoland for the year ended 30th June 1896, covering reports by the Acting Government Secretary (statistical), Assistant Commissioners and Medical Officers.

2. It would be idle to deny that recent political disquietude in South Africa, commencing with the Transvaal disturbances of January last, and culminating in the Matabele outbreak, caused a wave of restlessness in this territory. The native mind is easily moved, and tardily appeased. False rumours regarding the responsibility and defeat of the British Government in the matter of the raid were freely circulated by designing persons, with the object of lowering British prestige. Thousands of labourers returned in a panic from Johannesburg and other parts, full of misleading reports that war was imminent between English and Dutch.

The Basuto were incautiously approached by a few mischievous people with a view to shake their allegiance to Government. Reports in newspapers as to their warlike attitude, intentions, and possible confederations put evil and ill-timed ideas into their heads, calculated to give them an exalted idea of their own power and importance.

While all this was simmering, those who mostly complained of having a menacing tribe on their borders were, in spite of legal prohibition, unconsciously betrayed by reprobates who carried on illicit traffic in arms and ammunition and inflamed passions by the sale of drink.

Yet, considering the unsettling forces at work, and uneasiness generated in all native tribes when the surrounding atmosphere is disturbed, the Basuto may be given credit for their confidence in the quieting assurances of Government and their steady determination to pursue a pacific course apparently unmoved by foreign complications and alarms. This confidence was severely tested when, upon the Orange Free State arming to assist the Transvaal, rumours rapidly spread that it was intended as a demonstration against Basutoland. A certain section of the tribe were then no doubt urged to assume a watching attitude.

The operations in Matabeleland were regarded rather with interest than sympathy for the rebels, whose brutal murderous acts were universally deplored and condemned by the leading Basuto. The Paramount Chief Lerothodi, though the recipient of innumerable scaring stories, preserved a calm demeanour throughout, declining to get excited or lend himself to other than his responsible advisers. While inheriting the failings common to native humanity he has discharged the duties required of him by Government in a reasonable way, particularly in matters regarding foreign thefts and complications.

Generous in character, he nevertheless is prone to err by severity of fines in adjudicating upon native cases.

His example in the matter of drink has not been so satisfactory, though a vast improvement on earlier years. One or two lamentable outbursts of intemperance led to a suspension of all public work so far as he was concerned, and consequent confusion. I had then to place reliable men at his village and special patrolling camps along the border. In no case, however, did he resist the police in the execution of their duty.

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3. Notwithstanding the paralysing influences militating during the year against any marked progress, efforts, however spasmodic and hard to illustrate, have not been wanting. We must always be careful not to measure natives by European standards. The Basuto much appreciate the form of constitutional government under which their wishes and grievances are allowed free ventilation, but their race characteristics, together with the impatience of Chiefs of any control likely to impair their traditional powers, are deterrent elements of progress, not absolutely to contend with, but with which to work as far as practicable, in extracting and employing what is worth. By endeavouring to suppress customs repugnant to civilised thought, developing industrial habits and respect for such laws as are prescribed, upon obedience to which their existence as a nation must always depend, a quiet reclaiming process is at work, entailing the exercise of patience, forbearance, and the conquest in detail of many difficulties known only to those engaged upon it. The people lack capacity to govern themselves, and though extremely intelligent, are dependent in their childish weakness and art of deception upon firm and generous guidance.

Their greatest enemies are internal convulsions, which are liable to render them conspicuous for turbulence, and, as such, a mark of reproach in the South African Dominion.

They cannot, however, realise the danger of it, and often, I believe, ascribe to us sinister motives in suppressing disturbance lest perhaps they may be led to forfeit their martial spirit.

Sweeping measures of reform often urged and expected are more likely to offend popular sentiments and convictions than to effect the object immediately desired. Loose philanthropy has equally little to recommend it.

4. To illustrate the national industry, I may refer to statistics showing that the large number of 28,000 went abroad to labour during the year, in addition to which the output of grain was considerably increased. High wages offered at Johannesburg are no doubt attractive. It has, however, disadvantages. Natives no longer care to seek work in the country or upon border farms at low rates of wages, when they can earn treble at the mines. The effect also upon some who accumulate considerable wages is to promote laziness, while, on the other hand, many acquire tastes for civilised clothes and furniture, and spend their money accordingly. This is good for trade.

We have yet to learn how far the contact of this annual stream of labour with the outer world, the free thought engendered, and the contracting of vices so easily learnt at mining centres are

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educating them to think for themselves, and creating a tendency to shake off the trammels of Chieftainship.

5. I alluded last year to the demand for industrial training of Basuto boys, and my reply to the effect that if the people really cherished the idea they should show some earnest of it by providing the initial means for building and endowment of an institution—a thing well within their power to do. It is gratifying now to report that, from a collection inaugurated by the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, to whom the sole credit is due, responded to as yet only partially by the tribe, the healthy sum of 3,184*l.* has been received and handed to me for deposit in the bank at interest.

Some important Chiefs inimical to Lerothodi, notably Jonathan and Masupha, have not as yet identified themselves with the movement; and others again have probably misappropriated a portion of their collections. Though errors may creep in, as they do amongst all peoples, it is well to encourage in all reasonable ways the principle of self-help. The movement in this case was spontaneous, the object laudable and beneficial as a means of fostering local industry and interest in native undertakings.

6. It is comforting to chronicle but few serious internal disorders during the year. The very grave situation due to intrigues against the paramountcy alluded to in former years has been somewhat relieved, dangerous opposition having eased, though not entirely subsided.

Lerothodi experiences at times considerable resistance from Jonathan, Molapo, and Masupha who, though desiring to be paramount in their own districts, deny the rights of others.

In preserving, however, a useful balance of power, these defections serve their purpose. Tribal disputes, though endless, and having a serious side, tend to completely localise tribal attention. They all originate in land questions, which offer a prolific source of contention.

In former days boundaries were made for all principal Chiefs. These boundaries were but roughly indicated, extending only to the terminus of their cultivated areas.

As year by year population and civilised tastes grew, a corresponding demand arose for land to cultivate grain, which is the purchasing power. Thus the communal pasturage became gradually absorbed, each annual process of breaking new land leading to disputes and the necessity for re-delimitation of the hinterland.

Many such disputes have latterly arisen, particularly in that part of the country where the late Ramanella's inheritance is wedged in between Jonathan and Masupha. The two latter formed a rather unnatural alliance (for the history of past feuds makes it practically impossible for them to be real friends), the object being to try and divide Ramanella's country between them. The alliance was vigorously opposed by the Paramount Chief and a section of younger Chiefs who viewed with some impatience the prospect of being similarly swallowed up by the elder. On matters reaching an acute stage it became necessary for me to

proceed with the Paramount Chief to the locality and make such boundary adjustments as were necessary to check immediate confusion. This was done successfully and attempts made to reconcile other discordant questions between Jonathan and Peste (Ramanella's successor).

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But for reasons already given there can be no finality in these boundaries until the last limit of arable land has been reached. Meanwhile the pasturage is fast disappearing.

Another serious disturbance affecting land arose among the Makoakoa clan of the late Chief Matela, now ruled by his successor Letsika in Jeribe district. A fight ensued, five men being killed and several wounded. The case, as well as others of the same nature, but unattended with casualties, was well and judiciously dealt with by Mr. Siolay, who acted as Resident Commissioner during my absence in England. Several persons, including Letsika's son and brother, concerned in the affray were committed to prison, and a fine imposed upon the clan for rioting with violence and disturbing the public peace.

In the same way all Assistant Commissioners have been frequently engaged as intermediaries in the successful treatment of district quarrels.

7. In suppressing crime and facilitating the ends of justice the great majority of Chiefs have behaved well.

There are of course at times unruly outbursts on the part of young and irresponsible Chiefs, who attempt to revive shadows of uncontrolled power to which they believe themselves born. These young men require much guiding. One bad case occurred in which a son of Leduma, Chief of the Ba-Pushudi, on being arrested for contravention of Liquor Laws by smuggling brandy, resisted the police, and escaped to the mountains, where he defied capture. He eventually sought refuge at the village of Griffith, a young and restive son of Lerothodi, where temporary harbour was afforded. I directed Lerothodi to apprehend the fugitive, which he did personally, and, upon being handed over, the offender was tried by the District Magistrate and committed to prison.

The Chief Masupha becomes, in his old age, more and more troublesome. He exhibits puerile fancies and is a great drag upon the wheels of progress.

By his coalition with Jonathan afore-mentioned, he vainly contemplated returning to the original land disposition of 30 years ago, thus abrogating all constituted boundaries since made, recorded, and confirmed.

I much regret that he has just made a deliberate attempt to revive the horrible custom of witchcraft by "eating up" the entire property of a man designedly accused of it. The practice is now moribund and condemned generally by national opinion. The matter is occupying my attention, but I anticipate trouble on account of Masupha's jaundiced obstinacy and of the fact that cattle once seized are hard to recover.

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8. I regret to say that liquor traffic during the past year was probably worse than usual. At times of political disturbance such as South Africa, has passed through, weaker minds are most apt to be captured by demoralizing influences. Our police patrolled over 36,000 miles and have done their best towards suppression. But we have to contend with an unprincipled class beyond our borders who are willing to risk the law in a trade admitting of handsome profits.

The Orange Free State Government, to whose officials we are indebted for co-operation, emphatically expresses the desire to suppress canteens in that State, where liquor is sold to natives, and whenever we can produce evidence of such sales to our people the law is put in motion; but as a rule buyers and sellers combine to defeat conviction.

9. Trade returns show a material increase of imports, exports, and productions. The volume of imports exceeds any other year since Basutoland joined the Customs Union, our share of duties amounting to 11,146*l*. This sum is taken as a set-off to the Cape contribution of 18,000*l*., which is further reduced by a payment of 1,301*l*. from our working balance.

10. Crops, apparently destroyed in early summer by drought and locust, revived remarkably, and eventually proved to be of fair average. Countless numbers of locusts covered the face of the country, committing great ravages. They were attacked occasionally by the natives, trapped and burnt, and in co-operation with the Cape Government specific efforts were made by the Assistant Commissioner, Quthing, with success, to attack them wholesale along East Griqualand border. Though prolific crops may appear gratifying, it is not so. Experience shows that in such seasons the value of grain is inordinately low, trade is inferior, and abundance of food begets laziness.

11. The threatened spread of rinderpest compelled me reluctantly to forbid the holding of any winter agricultural shows.

It was unfortunate to suffer a break in these enterprising meetings, but we feared assembly of cattle might, if the disease reached our territory, have given rise to a superstition that shows were the cause of it. Upon the epidemic being reported at Harrismith in the Orange Free State immediate action was taken to prohibit all cattle intercourse along our northern border and subsequently, by proclamation, necessary powers were conferred on me to take all precautionary measures for the future.

12. Statistics in crime show a decrease in convictions, but an increase of culpable homicide due to plentifulness of Kaffir corn, beer, and village brawls.

Considering the small amount of police supervision to which the people, but recently emerged from barbarism, are subjected, the general deference to law is noticeable.

I regret that a deplorable murder occurred amongst the Molop clan in Leribe, where a man was killed for medicine, at the instigation, probably, of native doctors. Every effort to trace and

Convict the real culprits failed, in consequence of suppression of evidence, but several persons, including two sons of the Chief, were committed to prison for conspiring to defeat justice.

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Molopi himself was deposed from his position as Chief, and a fine inflicted on the whole clan.

The police are drawn entirely from the country, where intense loyalty exists between Chiefs and people. It is remarkable, as a rule, how well and efficiently they work when their duties and sympathies come in conflict.

A force of 50 Basuto were enrolled, equipped, and despatched for service in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, under command of Captain Mooney, who has had 12 years' experience in Basutoland. It is hoped that if the men have a fair chance of learning the customs and country, the experiment will be a success.

A further demand for 250 men for service under the Chartered Company as permanent police in Matabeleland was not readily responded to. I attribute this to a fear that they were required for fighting purposes, and a dread of being tribally involved in the deadly struggle known to be going on.

13. Hospitals and medical work continue to be usefully maintained. They are now partially self-supporting. No serious epidemics prevailed, with the exception of a mild type of small-pox, now seemingly chronic in all parts where natives congregate in South Africa.

It yields readily to treatment, and is attended with trifling mortality. Extensive vaccination, the superstitious objection to which is now practically overcome, may prove of great public benefit.

From medical reports it appears that syphilitic and kindred diseases are diminishing in severity under persistent treatment.

14. Collection of native hut-tax is now, except in Berea district, reduced to such a system that within two months of calling for it the bulk is paid.

Masupha is, amongst Chiefs, alone distinguished for apathy in discharging his duties in this respect. The gross tax in the territory annually shows an increase proportionate to growth of population.

15. Education proceeds as well as may reasonably be expected of a native territory where progress is slow in movement.

The mission societies whose efforts are directed towards it afford readily all facilities for inspection by Government Officers, and appropriate their grants judiciously. The phenomenal success of 20 Basuto lads sent up by the Paris Evangelical Mission for Cape public examinations, of whom 10 passed in honours, and 10 in high classes, is a fact worthy of tribute to their intelligence, as well as to the capacity of the Society.

Their religious work is surrounded by all the difficulties and counteraction inseparable from labour in aboriginal fields. If the fruits are not readily seen, they are felt in various ways. The advantages of labour and industry, a respect for law and order and domestic discipline, are, I believe, prominent features in all religious teaching.

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16. In closing this report I beg your Excellency will be pleased to represent to Her Majesty's Government the good and faithful services rendered by the officers of this Administration, to whom, as a body, much credit is due for zeal, discretion, and success.

I have, &c.

G. Y. LAGDEN,

Acting Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

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

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTING GOVERNMENT SECRETARY,
1895-1896.

Finance.

The Basutoland revenue for the year ended 30th June 1896 is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Colonial contribution	18,000	0	0
Hut tax	22,966	6	4
Post Office	1,210	5	0
Licenses	1,420	5	0
Fines	652	17	0
Ferry tolls	295	1	0
Fees	50	1	2
Miscellaneous	1,059	2	7
Total	45,653	18	1

The hut tax includes arrears paid, principally by men absent from their homes during last collection, amounting to 1,216*l.*, leaving an amount of hut tax paid for the current year of 21,750*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.* This exceeds the amount of hut tax of last year by 1,060*l.*, a satisfactory increase.

This has admitted of a refund to the Cape Colonial Government of the sum of 1,300*l.* in reduction of the amount contributed towards the expenses of the administration of Basutoland.

Trade.

The dutiable goods imported into Basutoland of which returns are procurable amount, for the 12 months ended 31st March 1896, to a gross value of 104,858*l.*

	£
From the Cape Colony	4,090
„ „ Orange Free State	55,768
Total	104,858

The traffic returns rendered show, as the gross weight of imports into Basutoland 2,775 tons, of 2,000 lbs., or about 850

waggon loads. This represents a considerable increase in imports and a corresponding increase in the amount of customs dues earned and remitted to the Cape Government as a set off against the amount of the Cape contribution towards Basutoland expenses. These customs earnings amounted for the same period to 11,146*l.* The Customs returns upon which these figures are computed do not include an amount of cash trade with the Basuto, approximately estimated at 30,000*l.* per annum, done by the numerous and large stores within the Orange Free State upon the Basutoland border. The increase in the amount of imports is due to the high prices which the Basuto have realised for their produce during the past year.

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The exports of produce are as follows, the return showing the figures for the past two calendar years :—

Articles.	1894.			1895.		
		£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Wheat - - bags	129,821	44,426	8 0	151,077	74,475	4 0
Mealies - - "	68,100	16,265	9 0	82,429	33,857	9 8
Kaffir corn - - "	6,526	2,528	15 2	3,681	1,675	14 6
Meal - - "	921	644	0 0	4,037	4,529	0 0
Mealie meal - - "	—	—	—	1,861	832	14 0
Wool - - lbs.	903,791	12,411	0 3	1,116,999	15,988	0 2
Mohair - - "	68,449	2,151	8 0	83,657	8,499	7 2
Cattle - - No.	639	2,072	5 9	427	1,348	5 6
Horses - - "	519	2,157	4 0	409	1,964	19 6
Miscellaneous - - "	—	751	0 2	—	1,325	1 5
		83,407	10 4		189,495	15 11

The above exports were thus distributed :—

	£	s.	d.
To Cape Colony - - -	56,978	12	0
To Orange Free State - - -	82,517	3	11
Total - - -	139,495	15	11

There is also a considerable amount of produce taken out of Basutoland by natives and hawkers ; this is not included in the above returns.

The following licenses were issued :—

To general traders (shops) - - -	132
To paid hawkers - - -	107
To free hawkers - - -	180
Dam licences - - -	2

Agricultural and Meteorological.

The officers in charge of districts have reported on the conditions of agriculture during the past year.

No agricultural shows were held, on account of a report, fortunately since proved to have been unfounded, of the existence of rinderpest within the Orange Free State.

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The following are some of the results of observations taken at seven different stations throughout the country :—

Average rainfall, 35·625 inches.

Daily range of temperature, 50° approximately.

Maximum registered in Stevenson's screen, 100°.

Minimum registered in Stevenson's screen, 17°.

Labour and Passes.

The following is a comparative return of passes issued during the past three years :—

1893-94.			1894-95.			1895-96.		
Labour.	Other Purposes.	Total.	Labour.	Other Purposes.	Total.	Labour.	Other Purposes.	Total.
20,000	32,207	52,207	25,364	37,495	62,879	28,115	41,280	69,401

Police and Crime.

The strength of the Basutoland police is—

European officers	-	-	-	11
European constables	-	-	-	12
Native officers	-	-	-	4
Native non-commissioned officers	-	-	-	22
Native privates	-	-	-	198

who have performed the following patrols :—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
751	1,738	Miles. 36,671	57	114	85

The Chiefs and headmen have rendered on almost every occasion willing and efficient help in recovering lost and stolen stock from the Orange Free State and other neighbouring territories with the following results :—

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	89	18	71	25	64	49 recovered in Cape Colony.
Cattle	163	56	108	68	95	
Sheep and goats	149	25	124	25	124	

It will thus be seen that all lost stock definitely traced into Basutoland has been recovered. BASUTOLAND.
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There has been a decrease in the number of criminal convictions during the year, chiefly in the number of charges under the Pass Law.

The following is a list of convictions :—

Assault	-	-	-	21
Customs Laws (breach of)	-	-	-	3
Birth (concealment of)	-	-	-	2
Contempt of court	-	-	-	1
Drunkenness	-	-	-	2
Fire arms (breach of law of)	-	-	-	1
Fraud	-	-	-	1
Homicide (culpable)	-	-	-	13
Liquor laws (breach of)	-	-	-	65
Murder	-	-	-	1
Pass laws (breach of)	-	-	-	124
Resisting police	-	-	-	20
Theft	-	-	-	54
Trading laws (breach of)	-	-	-	8
Other offences	-	-	-	40
Total	-	-	-	<u>356</u>

Civil cases adjudicated upon, 16.

Gaols.

The number of prisoners received into gaol was 248. The total number in prison on 30th June was 79.

Postal and Telegraphic.

The work done by these departments is increasing and a corresponding increase of both revenue and expenditure under these heads occurs. There is an increase of 23,000 in the number of letters, &c., posted in Basutoland during the past year, and an increase of 40,000 in the number of letters, &c., received in the country. There are increases also in the number of money orders issued and paid and also in the number of savings bank deposits and withdrawals.

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

Assistant Commissioner,	Leribe.
”	Berea.
”	Maseru.
”	Mafeteng.
”	Mohale's Hoek.
”	Quthing.

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Officer in charge, Qacha's Nek.
Principal Medical Officer, Maseru.
Medical Officer, Leribe.

” Mafeteng
” Mohale's Hoek.
” Quthing.

H. C. STOLEY,
Acting Government Secretary.

LERIBE.

Annual Report, 1895-96.

Since I assumed office here in June last year there has been no great change in the political situation.

Letsika Matela, who, as stated by my predecessor in his report for last year, was entrusted with the settlement of matters in Matela's ward and instructed to provide for his younger brothers, failed to do so and in September the Chief Jonathan did it for him. The settlement was not, I think, the best possible, inasmuch as it left several discordant elements in juxtaposition to each other. Two of these, Tlakametsa and Thakabanna, Letsika's eldest son, soon fell out, and in October Thakabanna, no doubt incited thereto by his father, attacked Tlakametsa with guns. Several men were killed, and there was a considerable amount of looting. I happened to be at Butha Buthe at the time and was able to stop the disturbance by despatching Lefi, Jonathan's representative at that end of the district, with some police to the spot. The rioters were tried before the Acting Resident Commissioner and sentences of imprisonment were passed on the more prominent of them, and a heavy fine imposed on Letsika and his people.

Matters are still unsatisfactory at Queneng among Ramanella's sons. Peete has never adjusted matters between his son Mitchel, who was placed last year, and his brother Seshope. Possibly Seshope may be in some degree responsible for this, as his attitude to Peete has not been all that it should be; but there can be no doubt that, if persisted in, this neglect of Peete to fulfil his promise, and also to exercise a restraining influence on his son Mitchel, is very reprehensible and may sooner or later result in disaster. I understand, however, that the Paramount Chief is at present at Peete's and, in conjunction with other Chiefs, is urging him to settle this matter.

For years past Ramanella's people have been in dispute with Molapo's people about a certain boundary between them at Dipetung. This matter has now been settled by the Resident Commissioner, apparently to the satisfaction of all parties, and a well-defined natural boundary has been proclaimed.

The question of the mountain grazing rights for the Leribe people, alluded to by my predecessor in last year's report, is still unsettled, and Jonathan and his clan are consequently dissatisfied. Possibly this may account for a want of co-operation on Jonathan's

part with the Paramount Chief in national matters and a corresponding want of support by Lerothodi of Jonathan's authority as Chief of this district.

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

The relations between Jonathan and Joel are probably not quite so cordial as they were lately.

Joel has asked that the Chieftainship over Matela's tribe, which in 1890 was taken from him and vested in Jonathan, should be returned to him: and Tlasoa, a younger brother of Jonathan and Joel, who during the gun war deserted Jonathan for Joel, now shows signs of a desire to return to his old allegiance; these, together with other little matters, point to a certain amount of friction existing between the two brothers, but still I think they would be found standing together in any case in which the interests of the Molapo clan were involved.

It is satisfactory to report that notwithstanding the existence of causes of disagreement between Chiefs, and the provocation offered to Jonathan by subordinates, notably in the attack upon Tlakametsa mentioned above, his attitude and that of the principal Chiefs has invariably been one of moderation and self-control.

The revenue for the year under report is as follows, collected here and at my substation at Butha Buthe:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	5,351	10	0
Licenses - - - -	385	2	6
Fines - - - -	151	4	0
Fees - - - -	3	18	6
Miscellaneous - - -	173	10	0
	<u>6,065</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>

Arrear tax amounted to 305*l.*; 10*s.*: tax was paid on 10,182 huts.

The licenses issued during the year were:—

General traders - - - -	-	-	35
Paid hawkers - - - -	-	-	46
Free hawkers - - - -	-	-	41

Crops have been poor and prices of grain are high still, though they have fallen lately.

Vast swarms of locusts (voetgangers) appeared in the autumn and did great damage to the crops, but not sufficient to cause anything approaching to a famine. These locusts were caught by the frost before they were full grown, and it is hoped that they have all succumbed to it without having had time to lay eggs.

The current prices for produce at present are approximately:—

- Wheat, 20*s.* per muid.
- Mealies, 14*s.* „
- Kaffir corn, 14*s.* „
- Forage, 2*l.* per 100 bundles.
- Cattle, about 4*l.* each according to size, age, &c.
- Sheep, 12*s.* each.

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

The following is a return of patrols performed:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Law.	Other Offences.
210	420	6,841	5	58	9

I have received willing co-operation from the Free State authorities in all border matters. No doubt a certain quantity of brandy finds its way into the country, but smuggling is not carried on to any very great extent. Prompt action has always been taken by the Landdrost of Ficksburg whenever a supposed case of smuggling has been brought to his notice by me.

The cases adjudicated upon in my courts are:—

Civil cases	-	-	-	-	6
Theft	-	-	-	-	11
Contravention Liquor Laws	-	-	-	-	9
" Pass "	-	-	-	-	62
" Customs "	-	-	-	-	3
" Reserve "	-	-	-	-	4
" Law relating to firearms	-	-	-	-	1
Culpable homicide	-	-	-	-	7
Murder	-	-	-	-	1
Creating a disturbance	-	-	-	-	6
Resisting police	-	-	-	-	13
Assault	-	-	-	-	6
Maliciously wounding cattle	-	-	-	-	1

The following is a return showing the results of action taken in the matter of tracing lost stock:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - - -	15	4	11	4	11
Cattl - - -	23	10	12	10	13
Sheep - - -	16	10	—	16	—

Two head of cattle and one horse reported as not having been recovered last year have since been heard of. The horse has been recovered and returned to its owner; the cattle, which were stolen by the same thief, who is now in gaol, are said to have passed through Basutoland, and re-entered the Free State near Kemi in the Maseru district.

Passes have been issued here as follows :—

For seeking employment -	-	-	6,076
For other purposes	-	-	15,795
Total	-	-	<u>21,871</u>

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

Several cases of small-pox have broken out from time to time, but as they were promptly isolated the disease did not spread.

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

BEREA.

Annual Report, 1896.

During the past year the district has been quiet as far as any actual fighting is concerned.

There are, however, one or two long standing disputes which have caused a good deal of anxiety.

The most important is that between Peete and Lebese Masupha as to the ploughing rights of the latter.

In April Mr. Sloley was deputed by the Resident Commissioner to come out to Masalomane, and to again point out the line he had before made, and amplify any obscure points in it. This was done, but Peete still complained that Lebese was encroaching on his rights in various ways.

In June the Resident Commissioner, accompanied by Mr. Sloley, came to Masalomane, the Paramount Chief being present and Masupha.

The Resident Commissioner viewed the entire line, but declined to entertain the idea of making any alterations in it. Masupha said that he had given orders to Lebese to discontinue the encroachments.

At one time there was great danger of hostilities occurring in connexion with this matter, when, on June 2nd, Mitchell (Peete's son) came from the Leribe district with a body of armed men, presumably to help his father in case Masupha tried to alter the line shown as Lebese's boundary.

Masupha, however, did not then go to Masalomane as he was expected to do, and Mitchell went home.

The matter of Phatso is of less moment, but it unfortunately led to the death of a man.

Phatso, the eldest son of Mota, left his father's ward some years ago and took up his residence in the Leribe district. After his father's death he returned and naturally expected to assume his father's rights.

In this he was disappointed, and there was a good deal of friction in consequence.

The Chief Masupha promised to settle the matter, but so far has failed to do so. At the time of writing, however, it is reported that Masupha is engaged in this matter.

In June a dispute arose as to grazing rights between Mainathe's people and Phatso's, and in a fight which ensued one man of Phatso's was very badly wounded and has since died.

BABUTOLAND.
1895-96.

Great trouble was caused by the chief Martinus in November and December last, in the matter of two horses which strayed from the Free State to his village, and which horses he refused to give up when called on to do so. It was only after long delay and on the interference of the Resident Commissioner that the horses were handed over.

Few passes were issued to natives seeking employment at Johannesburg during the months of January and February. Several batches, it was said, were refused permission to cross the Vaal river.

This action no doubt deterred others from going. Confidence was, however, restored and passes were once more freely demanded.

It was reported that some border farmers, to avoid leaving their farms when ordered to proceed to the Vaal river at the time of the inroad of Dr. Jameson into the Transvaal, circulated a rumour that the Basuto were preparing to invade the Free State.

There was no foundation for this rumour, as the natives were in no way disturbed and were carrying on their ordinary pursuits.

Liquor is, I regret to report, being smuggled into the district, principally by Chiefs, which makes it the harder to catch those concerned.

Of late, information has been obtained as to a man living on a border farm in the Orange Free State, which it is hoped may lead to a stop being put to this traffic to a great extent. This man is said to get his supplies from a bottle store in Lady Brand.

Of serious crime there have been six cases during the year, viz., five of homicide* and one of child murder. Only four serious cases of theft have occurred during the year.

In May a case of small-pox occurred in Peete's ward. The man attacked, and his village, were ordered to be quarantined.

There has again been great delay on the part of Chief Masupha and his sons in co-operating in the collection of hut tax, which came in very slowly. There is, however, an increase of 94% over the amount of last year.

The strength of the police at this station is at present—

Sub-Inspector	-	-	-	-	1
European constable	-	-	-	-	1
Native sergeant	-	-	-	-	1
„ corporal	-	-	-	-	1
„ lance-corporal	-	-	-	-	1
„ privates	-	-	-	-	23

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

Number of patrols	-	-	-	-	81
„ „ men	-	-	-	-	200
„ „ miles	-	-	-	-	3,489

* One by a lunatic.

The arrests made were as under :—

Contravening liquor regulations	-	-	5
" pass "	-	-	3
Other offences	-	-	12

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

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

Stock.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not recovered.	Total reported.	Remarks.
Horses	6	2	6	2	8	
Cattle	10	1	10	1	11	

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

Homicide	-	-	-	-	3
Theft	-	-	-	-	5
Contravening Liquor Laws	-	-	-	-	9
" Pass "	-	-	-	-	5
Other offences	-	-	-	-	10
Civil case	-	-	-	-	1
					<u>33</u>

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

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	2,850	10	0
Licenses, 262l. 2s. 6d.	310	17	6
Fines, 48l. 15s.			
Fees of court or office	4	2	6
Miscellaneous	73	12	6
	<u>3,239</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

Of the above sum of 2,850l. 10s. for hut tax, the sum of 270l. 10s. was arrears.

During the year the following licenses have been issued :—

General traders	-	-	-	23
Hawkers (paid)	-	-	-	32
" (free)	-	-	-	34

The following are the passes issued during the year :—

Number of passes for work	-	4,715
" " " " other business	-	4,289

Total - 9,004

Grain, though cheaper than it has been of late, is still very dear, viz., mealies, 15s. to 18s.; Kaffir corn the same; oats not to be had.

W. BOXWELL,
Acting Assistant Commissioner,
Berea.

BABUTOLAND.
1895-96.

MASERU.

Annual Report for Year ended 30th June 1896.

Assistant Commissioner's Office,
June 30, 1896.

During the year under report the district has been in a state of profound peace.

In connexion with the disturbance between the Paramount Chief and Maama reported last year several minor disputes have arisen, but have invariably been brought to the courts and settled without any trouble.

The Chiefs Motseki and Sekhobe being dissatisfied with the treatment they received at the hands of the Paramount Chief removed from the Matsieng Ward and took up their abode with Maama, with whom they had identified themselves in the disturbance referred to above.

During the recent troublous times in the Transvaal some persons, to suit their own purposes, rumoured that the natives were preparing to raid the Orange Free State. It goes without saying that this was entirely false.

Commercial.

Trade has been exceptionally good this year. Good prices have been paid for all produce.

Public Works.

The roads are in good repair throughout the district.

Police.

The district detachment consists of—

Sub-Inspector	-	-	-	1
European constables	-	-	-	3
Native sergeants	-	-	-	1
„ corporals	-	-	-	2
„ privates	-	-	-	44

The following is a return of patrols :—

No. of Patrols.	Number of Men engaged.	Approximate Distance travelled.	Arrests.
74	275	Miles. 4,412	Contravening Liquor Laws - 6 Contravening Pass Laws - 3 Other offences - 11 <hr/> Total - 20

The liquor traffic, though less than formerly, is by no means suppressed. The police have done good work towards suppression and border officials express a desire to co-operate in putting down border canteens.

The following table shows action taken in the matter of tracing lost and stolen stock :—

BASUTOLAND.
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Description.	No. reported.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	86	3	83	5	81	2 recovered on Lady Brand Reserve.
Cattle	89	23	16	86	8	14 traced to Aliwal and restored to owner; 1 sold to a person unknown.
Sheep	10	—	10	—	10	

Serious crime continues to be rare.

The following cases were tried in my court :—

Contravening liquor regulations	-	-	6
" pass regulations	-	-	3
" reserve regulations	-	-	2
" trading regulations	-	-	2
" Masters and Servants Act	-	-	3
Theft	-	-	13
Assault	-	-	3
Fraud	-	-	1
Breach of peace	-	-	1
Concealment of birth	-	-	2
Bestiality	-	-	1
Resisting police	-	-	2
Goal breaking	-	-	1

There was one civil action.

Revenue.

The revenue for the 12 months is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,944	10	0
Licenses	242	0	0
Fines	45	0	0
Ferry tolls	115	11	3
Fees	16	19	8
Miscellaneous	184	17	10
Total	4,548	18	9

The hut tax shows an increase of 188*l.* 10*s.* on last year's collection. Tax was paid on 7,329 huts. Arrear hut tax amounts to 280*l.*

Passes.

Passes were issued to 9,160 persons; of these 5,308 were in search of employment.

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

Licenses.

General traders licenses issued	-	-	23
Paid hawkers licenses issued	-	-	12
Free hawkers licenses issued	-	-	57

Intercourse with the border officials continues to be of a friendly nature.

The Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

C. GRIFFITH,
A.A.C.

MAFETENG.

Annual Report, 1895-1896.

1. The political events which occurred in South Africa made the Basuto suspicious and uneasy, and European agitators having found their way into Basutoland circulated reports calculated to disturb the people and cause them to receive with caution the assurances of Government officers that no change in the present system of administration was contemplated in Basutoland.

A rumour drifted into the country to the effect that Basutoland was to be thrown open to prospectors and the commandeering and arming of Free State burghers, in connexion with the Transvaal troubles, gave credence to the report and caused the Chiefs to watch with keen interest the progress of political matters in South Africa. It is worthy of note that during this period of uneasiness the Basuto of this district made no demonstration of any kind, but followed their ordinary agricultural and peaceful pursuits, and nothing of an extraordinary nature occurred to disturb the district during the past year.

2. Chief Molomo Solomone Mohale died on 30th January 1896 and he was buried at Thaba Bosin.

3. Although the neighbouring Free State officials do their best to stop the illicit sale of liquor to natives, the canteen trade still goes on along the border and in the town of Wepener; several of the vendors have been heavily fined by the Landdrost of the district, but this does not deter them from a trade that brings them handsome profits.

Wepener, being situated close to Basutoland, derives considerable commercial support from the Basuto who reside on the western border of this district. The traders in Basutoland keep a similar class of goods and also pay about the same price for produce and stock as the shopkeepers of Wepener, yet thousands of Basuto go there yearly to buy and to sell, and I regret to state that it is brandy that in most cases attracts our natives to the town. Basuto who go from Basutoland to Wepener are not under the usual police supervision after they enter the Free State, as the Pass Law of the Orange Free State has been in abeyance for

some years in order to encourage trade, and thus the Basuto have great opportunities to obtain brandy and also guns and ammunition from illicit sellers. I have, with the consent of Government, stationed a European pass issuer on the Basutoland border near Wepener, and police are also stationed at the border fence gates on the main roads. Patrols constantly pass along the line, but notwithstanding these precautions our native smugglers elude the police and get through the fence at convenient places with their illicit wares. As an instance of the trouble caused by liquor smuggling in this district I would mention that in February last Maphuma, a minor son of Chief Leduma, was arrested by police on a charge of brandy smuggling from Wepener. On leaving the Mafeteng court house in custody he escaped from his escort, sprang on a horse, and galloped out of the village. He reached his home, possessed himself of guns and ammunition and, accompanied by a few lads, eventually sought protection from Griffith Lerothodi, near the Orange River, some 60 miles distant. Several mounted policemen were engaged in following up this youth, and when he was traced to Griffith Lerothodi's, difficulties arose about his arrest, and it became necessary for the Resident Commissioner to direct the Paramount Chief to personally capture Maphuma and those with him. This was done, and Maphuma and five others are now in the Mafeteng gaol undergoing sentences of hard labour for their misdeeds. Griffith Lerothodi was also fined thirty (30) head of cattle for harbouring Maphuma.

4. I attach a return of patrols performed by the Mafeteng detachment of police during the past 12 months.

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
93	896	Miles. 5,254	34	18	16

The district Chiefs have rendered all necessary assistance in arresting accused persons, tracing lost and stolen stock and generally carrying out Government instructions and regulations. I append a return of lost and stolen stock:

Description.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Reported.	Remarks.
Horses	—	5	3*	2	5	* Found by owners in Orange Free State.
Cattle	2	6	2	5	7	
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—	

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

Considering the population of this district, which in 1891 was estimated at 40,000, there was a remarkable absence of serious crime, the following being a return of civil and criminal cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's court.

Civil suits	-	-	-	-	3
Culpable homicide	-	-	-	-	2
Contravening liquor laws	-	-	-	-	34
" pass laws	-	-	-	-	14
" trading laws	-	-	-	-	2
Theft	-	-	-	-	3
Escaping from lawful custody	-	-	-	-	1
Assault	-	-	-	-	11
Infanticide	-	-	-	-	1
Neglect of duty and drunkenness (police)	-	-	-	-	2

5. The detachment of Basutoland Mounted Police at this station is efficient, well mounted and equipped, and the men are constantly employed on useful and varied duties. The horses are serviceable. The strength of the detachment under my command is:—

Sub-Inspector	-	-	-	-	1
European constables	-	-	-	-	3
Native officer	-	-	-	-	1
Sergeant	-	-	-	-	1
Corporal	-	-	-	-	1
Privates	-	-	-	-	31

6. There was a prolonged drought during the summer, and swarms of locusts abounded in neighbouring districts and the greatest anxiety was felt for growing crops. Fortunately, however, late rains assisted to mature the crops, and frosts did not come as early as usual, and therefore fair average crops, of cereals were reaped. Locusts did not do much damage to this district.

Many burghers of the Orange Free State applied for and received free licenses to exchange their products for Basutoland grain. These people bring in stock and waggon loads of salt, poles, &c., and barter these goods to the Basuto for grain.

This privilege, which is allowed to burghers of the Orange Free State in connexion with the Customs Union, is very much in favour with them and the natives, though the system is detrimental to traders in the territory who pay licenses.

Owing to a case of supposed rinderpest in Harrismith district, Orange Free State, the usual agricultural show was not held, Government deeming it inadvisable to bring cattle together.

I attach a return of the number of licenses granted at the Assistant Commissioner's office.

General traders (shops)	-	-	-	-	20
Paid hawkers	-	-	-	-	10
Free hawkers	-	-	-	-	38

The following is a list of local prices of grain and stock :—

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

Wheat, 20s. per 200 lbs.
Mealies, 17s. 6d. per 200 lbs.
Oats, 15s. per 150 lbs.
Barley, 12s. 6d. per 150 lbs.
Kaffir corn, 17s. per 200 lbs.
Oat hay, 20s. per 100 bundles.
Wool, 3½d. per lb.
Mohair, 1s. per lb.
Basuto tobacco, 6d. per lb.
Hides, 3½d. per lb.
Horned cattle (slaughter), 80s. each.
Sheep, 10s. each.
Goats, 6s. each.
Basuto ponies, 6l. each.

The rainfall for the 12 months ended 30th June, according to a rain gauge at Mafeteng, was 29·78 inches.

7. The main roads and trade routes were maintained in fair order.

Provision was made for the repair and improvement of Government buildings.

8. I inspected, and have furnished a separate report on, 25 Government-aided schools in this district. Religious and educational work is going on under the supervision of the various missionaries, who do much good for the people.

9. I attach the Medical Officer's report on the health of the district. Small-pox was rife during the summer months, but strict quarantining of infected areas and vaccination has had the effect of controlling the disease, only a few cases now exist and these are under observation.

10. The following is a return of passes issued to natives to proceed beyond the borders of Basutoland :—

Seeking employment	-	-	-	6,209
Other purposes	-	-	-	9,899
				16,108
Total	-	-	-	16,108

11. I append statistics of revenue, which show an improvement on the amount collected last year, viz. :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,733	0	0
Licenses	210	0	0
Fines	105	6	0
Fees of court and office	7	13	6
Miscellaneous	201	5	3
Total	4,257	4	9

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

Number of huts on which tax was paid 7,350.
Arrear hut tax collected, 108*l*.

T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

MOHALES HOEK.

Annual Report, 1895-96.

Since my last annual report the district has undergone little or no change of importance.

The general aspect has been marked by an entire absence of internal dissension and an apparent desire on the part of the people for peace and quiet.

A good deal of anxiety was shown during the early part of the season owing to the continued absence of rain. Crops that were sown and came up, came to a standstill, and for a time great fear was entertained of a complete failure.

In December the much-needed rain fell and caused the wished-for change; but this temporary relief was followed by the appearance of immense swarms of locusts, which covered a large portion of the district and threatened total destruction to all standing crops. Fortunately they did not extend over the whole district. In the parts where the locusts were most numerous the crops were practically destroyed, the people being compelled to reap before the grain was matured and ripe and then a large portion fell a prey to the pest, and what was reaped was of inferior quality.

In those parts where the locusts were less numerous, fair crops were reaped, but the damage done was soon apparent when the people commenced selling, a large portion of the grain being light and of inferior quality.

In July I proceeded to Rouxville with the witnesses in the Lesala gun smuggling case mentioned in my last annual report. The case was heard by Judge (now President) Steyn, and the two prisoners Dan and William Veerster were found guilty and each sentenced to pay a fine of 30*l*.

In September small-pox again made its appearance. Prompt measures were at once taken to enforce isolation and vaccination. A full report on this subject will be found in the Medical Officer's report.

During the heavy rains in the mountains Malebenye reported the loss of 123 head of cattle and 14 horses, all of which perished in the floods.

In February Maphuma Leduma, who escaped from custody at Mafeteng, fled to Griffith Lerothodi, who persistently sheltered him, when the Paramount Chief, acting upon specific instructions from the Acting Resident Commissioner, personally went and arrested

Maphuma and handed him over as directed to Mr. Lagden, Griffith Lerothodi being severely punished for his disloyal conduct.

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

In March the Acting Resident Commissioner urged the Chiefs to use their endeavours to destroy the young locusts. Many attempts were made and a considerable number killed.

In April Letele and Motsuanakaba informed me that owing to the conduct of Griffith Lerothodi in seizing their lands they intended leaving the district and settling in North Basutoland. I called upon Griffith for an explanation, when he totally denied their statement. Since then I have heard nothing further of the matter, and Letele and Motsuanakaba are still living in their respective wards.

In May, a Tembu, who was charged on a warrant with having committed a murder at Ngamakwe, was arrested by my police, and sent back, under the (Criminal) Fugitive Offenders' Act, to Ngamakwe.

My relations with the Cape Colony and Free State authorities with whom I am officially brought in contact continue to be excellent.

I regret to say that brandy smuggling is still rife, and, owing to the connivance of the Chiefs, it is particularly difficult to effect arrests.

Below will be found a return of patrols performed:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
69	105	Miles. 4,770	1	10	10

As will be seen from the following table, a very small amount of lost or stolen stock was reported from neighbouring States, and all that which was traced into Basutoland was recovered:—

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses - - -	5	3	2	3	2
Cattle - - -	4	—	4	—	4

The following is a return of licenses issued at my office:—

General traders	-	-	-	-	14
Paid hawkers	-	-	-	-	7
Free hawkers	-	-	-	-	10
Dam licenses	-	-	-	-	2

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

The number of criminal cases tried in my court during the year was as follows :—

Theft	-	-	-	-	5
Contravening Liquor Laws	-	-	-	-	1
" Pass "	-	-	-	-	10
Assaulting and resisting police	-	-	-	-	1

There were no civil cases tried.

The following return of passes issued during the year shows an increase of 578 over the previous year :—

Seeking employment	-	-	-	3,431
Other purposes	-	-	-	2,027
Total	-	-	-	<u>5,458</u>

All schools in the district have been inspected and the pupils showed a fair amount of improvement.

The following is a return of revenue collected during the year :—

	£	s.	d.	
Hut tax	-	-	-	3,575 10 0
Licenses	-	-	-	150 0 0
Fines	-	-	-	69 4 0
Ferry tolls	-	-	-	4 17 3
Fees of court or office	-	-	-	4 12 6
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	148 15 4
Total	-	-	-	<u>3,952 19 1</u>

It will be seen from the above table that there was an increase of 333% of hut tax collected over the previous year.

The number of huts on which tax was paid was 7,121.

Amount of arrear tax collected was 136*l.* 10*s.*

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

- Wheat, 25*s.* per bag of 200 lbs.
- Mealies, 18*s.* per bag of 200 lbs.
- Kaffir corn, 18*s.* per bag of 200 lbs.
- Oxen, 90*s.* each.
- Other cattle, 60*s.* each.
- Basuto ponies, from 100*s.* each.
- Sheep, from 7*s.* each.
- Goats, 6*s.* each.
- Fowls, 1*s.* each.

Oats and barley are unobtainable in the district.

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner,

QUTHING.

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.*Annual Report, 1895-6.**General.*

The peace of the district has continued undisturbed during the past year.

The efforts of the authorities to deal with the complaints brought against the Chief Nkwebe Letsie by the Chiefs and headmen located by the Cape Government in Quthing during the years 1882-3, appear to have been attended with beneficial results, and the last few months have shown a marked diminution in the friction referred to in former reports.

2. The bad feeling previously reported between the sons of the Tembu Chief Tyali unfortunately still continues unabated. This is due in a large measure to the neglect of the Chief Nkwebe Letsie to deal with, and settle, complaints taken into his courts by the disputants, and should the non-settlement of these matters lead to any serious breach of the peace he will be principally responsible.

3. Several further instances have come to light during the year of Chiefs appropriating stray stock and converting it to their own use instead of sending it to the pound to be advertised. This practice appears to be common, and, as previously pointed out, it is liable to abuse. Moreover, there is no guarantee that such proceedings may not extend to stock from the adjoining territories.

4. The illicit liquor traffic appears to be on the increase in South Basutoland. This may be attributed in part to the bad example set by minor sons of Letsie and other Chiefs, who have been located near the Orange River during the last few years, and partly to the increased facilities given by the granting of canteen licenses in various small townships near the border in the Cape Colony.

Relations with Bordering States.

Amicable intercourse with the neighbouring districts of the Cape Colony and East Griqualand continues as formerly, and several escaped criminals have been given up to justice from both sides of the border line.

Public Works.

Arrangements have been made for supplying the camp with water from a permanent spring on the reserve, and the laying of the pipes for this purpose is nearly completed.

The district roads are in a passable condition, with the exception of the branch road to Ongeluk's Nek, which is in certain parts in a ruinous state.

Burrweed still exists in some places in large quantities, but the efforts made in other parts for its extirpation have been attended with good results. It is noticeable that Chiefs' villages are apt to be strongholds of this weed all through the territory.

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8. The following is a return of patrols:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
154	244	Miles. 4,849	6	24	23

QACHA'S NEK.

Annual Report, 1895-96.

General.

I am pleased to report that no political difficulties have arisen to disturb the tranquillity of the district during the past year, and a more peaceful state of things could hardly have been desired.

I continue to receive ready assistance from Chiefs and headmen in tracing lost or stolen stock and in the recovering of criminals.

The population of the district is very much on the increase, due principally to immigration. Though no foreign natives are now allowed to settle in the district without first obtaining the permission of Government, there are very few instances where permission has not been granted, and the mountain area is being rapidly filled up by immigrants from Natal and the Cape Colony, who naturally occupy the most suitable ground for cultivation, &c. This, I think, is a pity, as the mountain area would present a fair field for the disposal of the surplus population of the surrounding districts of Basutoland.

Nearly all the thieving which takes place in the district is done by the foreign natives, who act in concert with their friends residing in the neighbouring territories, certain parts of which are veritable dens of thieves.

My relations with the officials of the bordering districts of the Cape Colony and Natal continue to be friendly, and we render one another every assistance in endeavouring to suppress stock thieving, though the want of a strong police force in East Griqualand is much felt, as, when thieves have been once able to cross over the mountains from Basutoland, they can, by employing careful tactics, travel long distances without being observed.

Swarms of flying locusts visited the district during the month of January last, and did considerable damage to the crops. The mealie and Kaffir corn crops, however, recovered, as they were not very far advanced. These locusts before departing laid their eggs,

and locusts in the hopping stage made their appearance in March last. Efforts were made for their destruction with fair success. The survivors have lately attained the flying stage, but I am pleased to report they are dying off, being unable to withstand the cold weather.

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Commercial.

No additions have been made to the trading community. The existing trading stations appear to continue to do a good trade. Some of the trading stations in Matatiele district draw a great part of their trade from people living in the district.

The following is a list of average prices paid by traders for produce and live stock during the past year:—

- Wheat, 15s. per bag.
- Mealies, 10s. per bag.
- Kaffir corn, 15s. per bag.
- Wool, 3½d. per lb.
- Mohair, 6d. per lb.
- Hides, 2d. per lb.
- Horses, 3l. each.
- Cattle, 3l. each.
- Sheep, 8s. each.
- Goats, 5s. each.

Public Works.

The road from this station to Mr. James Cole's shop at Mpitis, mentioned in my last annual report, has been completed by the owner of the above shop at his own cost. The road from here to Matatiele will again soon require attention.

Police.

The police force still continues to do its work satisfactorily, and the health of the men has been very good.

The following is a return of patrols done during the past year:—

No. of Patrols.	No. of Men engaged.	Estimated Distance travelled.	Arrests.		
			Liquor Laws.	Pass Laws.	Other Offences.
70	98	Miles. 6,456	—	3	4

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The following is a list of civil and criminal cases tried in my court during the past year :—

Civil cases	-	-	-	-	-	1
Witchcraft	-	-	-	-	-	1
Theft	-	-	-	-	-	5
Contravening Pass Laws	-	-	-	-	-	9
Resisting police	-	-	-	-	-	1

RETURN of LOST and STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Remarks.
Horses	18	1	17	3	15	8 reported recovered in Matatiels.
Cattle	4	1	3	1	3	
Sheep and goats	108	—	108	—	108	4 recovered in Matatiels.

Revenue.

The increase of the population before mentioned is naturally followed by an increase of Revenue collected particularly under the heading of Hut Tax.

The following is a return of revenue collected during the past year :—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	1,215	16	4
Licenses	20	0	0
Fines	16	17	6
Miscellaneous	24	7	0
Total	1,277	0	10

Arrear hut tax collected	-	-	-	54l.
Number of huts on which tax was paid	-	-	-	2,333
Number of licenses issued—				
General traders	-	-	-	2
Hawkers	-	-	-	Nil

Agriculture.

On account of drought in the spring and ravages of locusts the yield of crops is considerably below the average.

Passes.

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

Seeking employment	-	-	-	726
Other purposes	-	-	-	2,422
Total	-	-	-	3,148

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—

The general state of health of the people of the district has been good.

Small-pox broke out in the village of Maphassa attacking 22 persons, who all recovered except four. By promptly quarantining this village and a few of the surrounding ones, the disease was stamped out and has made no headway; 930 persons have been vaccinated and provided with certificates during the past year.

Education.

There are two Government-aided schools in the district, inspection reports upon which have been sent in.

JNO. T. GRIFFITH,
Sub. Insp., B.M.P.,
Officer in Charge.

PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER.

*Annual Report, 1895-1896.**Public Health.*

In this section of my report, before reviewing the epidemics which have occurred in Basutoland during the past year, I would call attention to the proclamation of his Excellency the High Commissioner (132/1896) declaring the disease therein denominated "Amaas" to be an infectious disease within the meaning of the Public Health Act of 1883, and take this opportunity of pointing out that during the last two years the medical staff in Basutoland, while recognising the prevalence of a disease resembling, yet quite distinct from, small-pox, have, during this period, in their official reports dealing with outbreaks of small-pox, made no distinction between the two diseases.

It will therefore be understood that in this and other reports already before the Government the term small-pox includes a very large per-centage of cases of the so-called disease "amaas." The mild nature of, and the extremely low mortality which characterises, "amaas" have made the quarantining of such cases an extremely difficult task, the patients and their friends naturally objecting to the inconvenience of quarantine as applied to a disease which, *per se*, appeared to them a trifling ailment not calling for any efforts for prevention.

For your information I append a short comparison of the salient features of "small-pox" and "amaas," from which it will be noted that while possessing many features in common there are sufficient grounds for considering them as really distinct pathological conditions. At the same time the highly infectious and contagious nature of "amaas" renders it very desirable that the same preventive measures should be observed in dealing

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with either disease. The more so, since, owing to the similarity in the *appearance* of the eruption in both and their occasional co-existence, the former might inadvertently be allowed to spread if quarantine were not enforced for both diseases. The failure to appreciate this led to a severe epidemic in a part of the Orange Free State bordering on Basutoland, to which source several recent outbreaks in the Maseru and Teyateyaneng districts were traced.

COMPARISON between the Prominent Symptoms of
"SMALLPOX" and "AMAAS."

	Small-pox.	Amaas.
Eruption	Three well-marked stages recognised, characterised by the development of papules, vesicles, and pustules. The various stages are reached almost simultaneously by the entire eruption.	Vesicular from the beginning. The contents of the vesicles become semi-purulent about the third day. The eruption appears in successive crops so that fresh vesicles are often seen side by side with old scabs.
Scarring	More or less deep circular pits; great disfigurement in severe cases.	Scarring rare or at most small linear depressions.
Febrile symptoms	Initial fever high, and often accompanied by vomiting and severe pain in the back.	General malaise with slight fever; neither vomiting or backache.
Secondary fever	Generally severe about 10th day.	Convalescence generally established about this period.
Mortality in the unvaccinated.	Invariably high and inversely proportionate to age.	Almost nil and directly proportionate to age, about one per 1,000 in elderly people. Death occurring in young children unknown.
Preventive value of vaccination.	High	Doubtful.

Epidemics.

"Small-pox" was very prevalent in the southern part of Basutoland during the first half of the year, but, with the exception of minor outbreaks in the Quthing district in May, this part of the country has since been practically free of the disease. A few sporadic cases have appeared in the Maseru, Berea, and Gribibe districts during the last six months, and in most cases the source of infection was traced to the Orange Free State.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that, owing to the various preventive measures enforced, the territory is now practically free of the disease.

Although, as stated above, vaccination does not appear to afford protection in all cases, and on that account is obnoxious to certain

sections of the people, this measure has been vigorously enforced whenever possible. In addition to those who were provided with certificates to enable them to leave the territory a large number of free vaccinations have been performed, notably in Maama's Ward, where, owing to the encouragement given by the Chief Maama, nearly every inhabitant has been vaccinated.

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Syphilis.

This disease still figures largely in the annual returns. Bearing in mind, however, that the native mind fails to realise until too late the contagious nature and serious effects of syphilis, any further marked diminution in the number of cases which come for treatment cannot at present be looked for. My own experience, extending now over a considerable period, is to the effect that, owing to the aid so readily sought and obtained against the ravages of this disease, it has no longer the serious import such as obtained some six years ago. As I remarked in my last report, the severe tertiary manifestations are now rarely met with, and I have lately observed a marked diminution in the number of young children suffering from hereditary syphilis, a fact which speaks for itself.

Leprosy.

It is extremely satisfactory to note that leprosy appears at least to be stationary. No new cases have been brought under the notice of any of the medical officers during the past year, so that there is good ground for assuming that the fears entertained two years ago concerning the spread of leprosy have now no foundation in fact.

Whooping Cough.

The whole country suffered severely from this disease during the summer months, and the mortality among young children was high. Apart from the severity of the disease itself, the little care usually bestowed on children, and the total ignorance of hygiene which prevails, are partly accountable for the high death rate.

No other epidemic calls for comment, and to the improved water supply and sanitation at the different camps may be attributed the entire absence during the past year of such diseases as typhoid fever and diphtheria.

Police.

The health of the police during the past year has been uniformly good.

Hospital and Dispensary Work.

The upward tendency in the number of attendances noticed in my last year's report has been maintained, and it will be seen from the following tables that there has been a marked increase at most stations.

In speaking of the hospital, work I would take this opportunity of calling your attention to the fact that, while being the most

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satisfactory and certainly not the least important part of the Medical Officer's duties, it is considerably handicapped by the insufficient accommodation and entire lack of any nursing staff. While recognising the efforts of the Government to provide for the hospitals, so far as in their power lies, I would wish to place on record the fact that "as hospitals" the present establishments are far from being "efficient," nor is it possible with the present means at the disposal of the medical staff to make them such.

In spite of these difficulties 218 in-patients were received and treated, and a large number of surgical operations were performed. There has been an entire absence of cases of surgical fever, which is a matter for congratulation, bearing in mind the adverse conditions under which the many severe surgical operations are performed.

The following tables give the number of attendances, &c., with a comparison with last year's returns, together with a return of the number of people vaccinated:—

TABLE showing NUMBER of PATIENTS treated at the various HOSPITALS and DISPENSARIES.

District.	New Cases.		Subsequent Attendances.		In-Patients.		Total.	
	1894-5.	1895-6.	1894-5.	1895-6.	1894-5.	1895-6.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Quthing - - -	50	820	10	354	*	*	60	1,274
Mohale's Hoek - -	1,594	1,576	189	346	44	34	1,817	1,956
Mafeteng - - -	1,549	1,842	598	630	29	35	2,176	2,507
Maseru - - -	2,154	2,642	499	1,175	78	86	2,731	3,903
Leribe - - -	1,578	2,710	496	356	34	63	2,108	3,129
Grand totals -	6,915	9,590	1,792	2,861	185	218	8,892	12,639

* No hospital at this station.

TABLE showing the NUMBER of PEOPLE VACCINATED during the Year ending 30th June 1896.

Qacha's Nek - - -	930
Moyeni - - -	3,364
Mohale's Hoek - -	3,955
Mafeteng - - -	5,586
Maseru - - -	3,079
Berea - - -	3,057
Leribe - - -	6,272
Butha Buthe - -	1,522
Elsewhere, by police and others (estimated)	8,000

Total - - - 35,765

EDW. C. LONG,
Principal Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER, LERIBE,
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1895-96.

The figures given below show the number of attendances at the hospital and dispensary, and the vaccinations performed, during the year ending 30th June 1896:—

New cases	-	-	-	2,710
Subsequent attendances	-	-	-	356
Hospital in-patients	-	-	-	63
Vaccinations	-	-	-	6,272

The work done at the dispensary and hospital shows a considerable increase over that of the previous year. The number of patients attending for the first time almost doubles that of the previous months.

Syphilis is still very prevalent in the district, and is the disease affecting a large number of those attending at the dispensary.

Almost 25 per cent. of the new cases were syphilitic. This is not to be taken as showing that the disease is on the increase, for I believe it is being slowly stamped out. The disease is not so virulent as in some parts, and yields readily to suitable treatment. The natives have found this out and attend the dispensary in increasing numbers. Gastric and pulmonary complaints form a large proportion of the cases.

There is an increasing tendency to gout amongst the better-to-do class of natives. Chiefs and headmen are especially liable to this disease, caused, no doubt, by free living and little exercise.

Severe cases are received into hospital, and as the rooms are small only four can conveniently be accommodated at one time. In the course of the year the place has been several times overcrowded. The in-patients numbered 63.

A kitchen store-room has been added to the hospital buildings and has supplied a long-felt want. Prospective improvements to the two hospital rooms will materially increase the utility of the establishment.

The general health of the district has been fair during the year; a number of epidemics, of which one is still in progress, passed over this part of the country.

In June, July, and August mumps were prevalent in the camp and district. The disease was first noticed amongst the prisoners, from whom it spread to the police, and subsequently over the district.

On August 17, small-pox at Mpherane village; a police guard was placed over the village and strict quarantine enforced. The disease was confined to the inhabitants of two huts, and only eight persons caught the disease.

An epidemic of whooping-cough broke out at the beginning of the year and passed up the district and is still prevalent in some parts at the present time.

Several sporadic cases of chicken-pox were reported from time to time.

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Diarrhoea was very prevalent at Butha Buthe during the summer and autumn. The water supply was examined and found uncontaminated.

The western portion of this camp is badly supplied with water, and dysentery broke out several times, especially after rains. A polluted well is no doubt the cause. The evil has been remedied by the drying of the well.

The health of the police has been good during the year; 10 men suffered from mumps during the epidemic.

The sanitary condition of the camp has improved. The pan and dry earth system has been partially introduced, and it is hoped that ere long the system will be generally adopted.

An efficient water supply is much wanted. At present there is only one spring supplying the large population in this place, and as it is far away many of the natives use water from more convenient but inferior and polluted sources.

Of the vaccinations 2,643 were done at the dispensary, 1,467 at Peka, 1,522 at Butha Buthe, and 640 by private persons in several parts of the district.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

SIR,

Mafeteng, June 30, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to report that I commenced my duties as Medical Officer at this station on April 1st of this year.

The dispensary and hospital have been opened almost daily for attendance and reception of patients with exception of period from November 12th, 1895, to January 10th, 1896, when the late Medical Officer was absent on leave. During this period the dispensary was attended for a few days at intervals by the Principal Medical Officer and the Medical Officer of Mohale's Hoek.

The number of patients shows a marked increase over that of the preceding 12 months, especially so when it is remembered that they had little opportunity of attending for about six weeks out of the year.

The following table shows the attendances compared with that of the previous year :—

Class.	1894-95.	1895-96.	Increase.
New cases - - - -	1,529	1,842	313
Subsequent attendances - -	598	680	32
Hospital - - - -	29	85	6
Total - - - -	2,156	2,507	351

The next table gives the attendance of the sexes according to the division of ages most easily distinguished in a rough way. It will be seen that the female members of the community show the largest attendance on the total number of attendances; the males, however, show a larger number under class of children of 12 years and under, as compared with the opposite sex:—

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Sex.	Adults.	12 Years and under.	Infants.	Total.
Female - - -	643	218	93	954
Male - - -	553	247	88	888
Total - - -	1,196	465	181	1,842

Syphilis (as shown in Table I. annexed) is still the disease which shows largest number of attendants, the total for the year being 340, or more than 100 over the next commonest disease, viz., dyspepsia, which shows a total of 227.

Compared with last year the attendance for this disease has increased by nearly a hundred, the figures for preceding 12 months being 249; but although there has been this large increase in numbers of syphilitic attendances, it does not prove a material increase of the disease, as the per-centage attendance for the two years is almost identical, viz., 17·8 per cent. for year ending June 1895 and 17·97 for the present year.

The disease causes more extensive lesions than in Europeans of the lower class, and this is certainly due to want of treatment in the early stages, as when they do come under treatment they respond readily, as a rule, with the result that very extensive indurations and ulcerations rapidly clear and heal. During the time which I have been at this station I have only seen one case of primary and one, or at most, two cases of the secondary form of the disease, all the others being well-marked tertiary or congenital cases. It will be seen from Table II. that the number of syphilitic subsequent attendances is double that of any other class of case, and the per-centage attendance works out as high as 32·05 per cent. or nearly double that for primary attendance; this in itself is very gratifying, but at the same time, if they could be impressed with the necessity of early attendance, I am sure it would save them a great deal of expense and time, and, what is more to their advantage, make them a healthier, stronger, and happier race.

Dyspepsia is the next commonest disease, and appears to be more prevalent when food is plentiful and harvest is being reaped. It will be seen that the per-centage of dyspeptic repeats falls below that for primary attendance.

Of the 52 cases classed under the heading Pulmonary, the majority are of a trivial nature and chiefly seek relief for slight catarrh of the larger bronchi; there have, however, been one or

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two cases of broncho-pneumonia in young children and some cases of chronic bronchitis in elderly people; about six cases of phthisis have come under my notice, four of which were of a more or less chronic nature, and might be classed as fibroid. One case, which was that of a girl of 14, living in the camp, developed an acute pneumonic phthisis of one lung and died in about three months, and before death the apex of the other was affected; the other case, which is still under notice, is of a more sub-acute nature.

Diseases of the skin are mostly scabies, eczema, impetigo contagiosa, and tinea versicolor. (Syphilitic skin lesions are classed with syphilis.) Diseases of the nervous system, rheumatism, gonorrhœa, ears, tœnia, cardiac, urinary, and female generative organs require no special attention, their prevalence being fairly uniform throughout the year and nothing of interest has attended any of the cases, as far as I am aware.

Epidemics.

On examining Table I. it will be seen that there was a large increase of the number of patients attending for diseases of the eyes during months of February, March, and April. This was due to an outbreak of conjunctivitis, mostly of a catarrhal nature, and which responded fairly rapidly to treatment. Some cases, however, took on a follicular, and in one or two instances a granular, nature and caused some little trouble, but with the exception of one or two cases of the latter variety all have, as far as I know, recovered without any serious defect of vision or other injury to the organ affected.

During summer months diarrhœa became rather frequent, but was chiefly of a lienteric nature, although there were a few cases classed as dysenteric.

Whooping-cough made its appearance in October and still continues, although I think it is lessening in intensity, and as regards numbers attacked it appeared to run hand in hand with ophthalmia as regards the months in which most children were attacked, and some suffered from both diseases at same time.

A few cases of death in weakly children have been brought to my notice as the result of broncho-pneumonia following on or attacking during an attack of whooping-cough, but most of the cases have recovered.

Influenza was present during the spring and early summer, even up to Christmas, since which no cases are recorded in the books.

Hospital.

The hospital attendance numbered 35, or an increase of six over the number of the previous year; of these cases 8 were medical and 27 surgical, and the average number of days in hospital $22\frac{1}{2}$.

The following table gives the sex and ages of the patients admitted into hospital :—

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Sex.	Adults.	12 and under.	Totals.
Females - - -	10	2	12
Males - - -	20	3	23
Total - - -	30	5	35

ANALYSIS of MEDICAL CASES, with RESULT of TREATMENT shown.

Disease.	Females.	Males.	Cured.	Relieved.	Not improved.	Died.	Still in.
Hepatic tumour . . .	—	2	—	—	2	—	—
Enterica . . .	1	1	1	—	—	1	—
Hemiplegia . . .	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Progressive muscular atrophy. Chorea . . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Chorea . . .	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Phthisis . . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	1

ANALYSIS of SURGICAL CASES treated, with RESULTS.

Disease.	Females.	Males.	Cured.	Relieved.	No Relief.	Died.	Still in.
Abscess . . .	1	4	2	1	—	1	1
Accidents . . .	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Syphilis . . .	2	1	1	2	—	—	—
Cysts . . .	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
Eyes . . .	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
Ruptured perinæum . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stricture . . .	—	3	3	—	—	—	—
Otitis media . . .	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Fibromata . . .	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Ranula . . .	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Parotid tumour . . .	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Vesicular dermatitis . . .	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Rheumatoid arthritis . . .	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

In the two previous tables 34 cases are accounted for ; the 35th case, which is not tabulated, is one which it appears was admitted to hospital and refused treatment ; the disease is not detailed.

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The following table will show at a glance the exact result of treatment of cases taken *en bloc* :—

Cured	-	-	-	21, or 59·8 per cent
Improved	-	-	-	4, „ 11·4 „
No relief	-	-	-	4, „ 11·4 „
Died	-	-	-	2, „ 5·7 „
Still in	-	-	-	3, „ 8·5 „
Refused treatment	-	-	-	1 „ 2·8 „

99·6

Taking into consideration the great difficulties under which treatment is carried out with the class of patients under notice, and the hospital and appliances at one's disposal, I think that this result throws great credit on the late Medical Officer, under whose care the majority of the cases were.

The hospital is certainly appreciated by the natives, especially as a house of refuge for minor ailments; in fact, one could have it full of such cases, but they are certainly a bit chary of entering where any serious surgical operation is required.

Sanitary affairs since my arrival here need no comment, there having been no outbreak of disease traceable to an unsanitary condition of the premises of the European population.

Epidemics.

Before my arrival here I believe there was a good deal of small-pox in the early part of the year; this was, however, almost stamped out by the stringent quarantine and vaccination arrangements of yourself and the late Medical Officer, and what few villages were still in quarantine have since been dealt with.

The epidemics of influenza, whooping cough, and ophthalmia are dealt with under dispensary report.

Vaccination Statistics.

The number of vaccination certificates issued during the last 12 months was 5,586, as compared with 6,207 for the year ending June 30th, 1895; there were also 1,877 free vaccinations for the year 1894-1895, but I am unable to give any idea of the amount of free vaccinations which has taken place during this year, as I can find no record, but presumably there must have been a good deal in connexion with the suppression and prevention of the small-pox epidemics.

Police Detachment.

Since my arrival here the health of the police and their families has been good, there having been no more cases of serious illness among them than among the general public in proportion to their strength.

I have, &c.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

W. R. NATTLE, M.O.

TABLE I.

TABLE showing TOTAL NUMBER of PATIENTS for each Month and for the Year, and the commonest Diseases for which they sought relief, with Monthly and Annual Per-centages.

Month.	New Cases.	Syphilis.		Dyspepsia.		Pulmonary.		Skin.		Eyes.		Intestinal.		Whooping Cough.		Rheumatism.		Gonorrhœa.		Neurosis.		Ears.		Female Gen. Organs.		Urinary.		Influenza.		Cardiac.		Minor Ailments.	
		Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.
July	213	59	27.6	21	9.8	23	10.7	16	7.5	4	1.8	4	1.8	-	-	7	3.2	4	1.8	6	2.8	5	2.3	4	1.8	1	4.6	-	-	1	4.6	54	25.3
August	163	53	20.2	23	14.1	13	7.9	17	10.4	4	2.4	1	.6	-	-	3	1.8	5	3.0	1	6.1	4	2.4	2	1.2	1	6.1	3	1.8	1	6.1	47	28.8
September	155	51	19.9	17	10.9	24	15.4	8	5.1	5	3.2	4	2.5	-	-	2	1.2	7	4.5	5	3.2	3	1.9	4	2.5	7	4.5	5	3.2	4	2.5	29	18.7
October	130	25	18.2	17	13.0	17	13.0	12	9.2	2	1.5	6	4.6	4	3.07	4	3.0	5	3.8	1	.7	1	.7	2	1.5	3	2.3	1	.7	2	1.5	28	21.5
November	82	9	10.9	5	6.0	4	4.8	8	9.7	-	-	12	14.6	4	4.8	1	1.2	4	4.8	4	4.8	-	-	-	-	1	1.2	10	12.1	-	-	17	20.7
December	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100	
January	139	23	17.3	20	14.3	9	6.4	7	5.0	13	6.4	15	10.7	9	6.4	1	.7	1	.7	2	1.4	4	2.8	2	2.3	1	.7	-	-	2	1.4	34	23.4
February	173	30	16.5	21	12.1	11	6.3	5	2.8	9	7.9	10	5.7	8	4.6	4	2.3	2	1.1	3	1.7	2	1.1	5	3.5	2	1.1	-	-	-	-	38	21.9
March	198	30	16.8	17	8.5	4	2.0	21	10.6	31	17.9	7	3.5	10	5.0	5	2.5	7	3.5	8	4.0	6	3.0	7	1.7	1	5.0	-	-	2	1.0	58	29.9
April	225	58	18.9	24	10.6	19	8.4	20	8.8	14	7.7	12	5.3	9	3.9	13	5.7	4	1.7	6	2.6	5	2.2	4	2.0	2	3.8	-	-	1	.2	42	18.6
May	148	28	15.8	25	16.8	20	13.5	10	6.7	22	9.7	4	2.7	8	5.4	4	2.7	-	-	3	2.0	4	2.7	3	2.7	2	1.3	-	-	1	.6	26	17.5
June	215	34	18.7	37	17.2	30	13.9	15	6.9	3	5.4	6	2.7	11	5.1	7	3.2	5	2.3	2	.9	5	2.3	6	2.8	2	9.3	-	-	1	.4	39	18.1
Totals	1,842	340	17.9	227	12.1	174	9.5	139	7.5	112	5.61	81	5.61	63	3.5	51	2.5	44	2.5	41	2.2	39	1.9	41	2.18	23	1.3	19	1.6	15	.83	413	22.1

The average per-centage attendance for the year is calculated for eleven months only.

TABLE II.

TABLE showing NUMBER of SUBSEQUENT ATTENDANCES per Month and for whole Year, and the commonest Ailments for which they re-attended, with Monthly and Annual Per-centages.

Month.	Subse-quent Attend-ance.	Syphilis.		Dyspepsia.		Pulmonary.		Skin.		Female Gen. Organs.		Gonorrhoea.		Rheu-matics.		Neurosis.		Eyes.		H.C.		Intestines.		Minor.	
		Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.	Total.	p. c.
July	148	79	53.3	13	8.7	6	4.05	10	6.7	2	1.3	7	4.7	5	3.3	7	4.72	—	—	1	2.56	—	—	19	12.8
August	52	23	44.2	4	7.6	4	7.6	6	11.5	2	3.8	2	3.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	11.5
September	55	25	45.9	3	5.4	11	19.8	3	5.4	—	—	6	10.8	2	3.6	1	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7.2
October	39	10	25.6	3	7.6	9	22.04	1	2.5	—	—	1	2.5	1	2.5	—	—	—	—	1	2.56	—	—	13	33.2
November	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	5.5	1	5.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	11.0	5	27.5
December	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
January	54	27	48.5	4	7.4	2	3.7	—	—	—	—	2	3.7	2	3.7	—	—	4	7.4	2	3.7	3	5.5	6	14.8
February	71	30	42.2	13	18.2	3	4.2	2	2.8	4	5.6	1	1.4	2	2.8	1	1.4	1	1.4	3	4.2	2	2.8	19	26.6
March	66	23	34.8	2	3.02	2	3.02	3	4.5	8	12.08	—	—	2	3.02	4	6.04	2	3.02	2	3.02	1	1.5	12	18.1
April	59	20	33.8	8	13.5	7	11.8	1	1.6	7	11.83	—	—	2	3.38	2	3.38	2	3.38	3	5.07	2	3.3	5	8.4
May	44	8	18.1	17	38.5	3	6.8	—	—	—	—	1	2.2	1	2.2	2	4.5	2	4.5	—	—	—	—	10	22.7
June	24	1	4.16	10	41.6	5	20.8	1	4.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4.16	1	4.16	—	—	5	20.8
Totals	630	245	32.05	77	13.3	52	9.44	37	5.88	24	3.65	20	2.66	17	2.24	17	1.98	12	2.17	13	1.66	10	2.2	103	18.5

The average per-centage attendance for the year is calculated on eleven months only.

Mohales Hoek, July 1, 1896.

MEDICAL REPORT for the Year ending 30th June 1896,
MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT.

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

Public Health.

Small-pox was rife during the early part of the year in various parts of the district. In the Bataang Ward hardly a village escaped. It has been impossible to obtain reliable statistical information as to the number of cases, or the number of deaths, but there is every reason to suppose that the mortality was extremely small. Every facility for vaccination in the infected areas was given, but comparatively few availed themselves of its protection. The people seemed to have little fear of the disease, and to doubt its true nature.

Except a few cases of influenza and measles, no other epidemic disease has come under my notice.

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

The Public Dispensary and Hospital.

The attendance during the past year has been somewhat in excess of the previous 12 months. The total number of attendances (exclusive of vaccinations) was 1,922. Of these 1,576 were new cases and 346 subsequent attendances. 1,253 persons paid a sixpenny fee. 3,955 vaccination certificates were issued to persons leaving the territory. 34 persons were treated as in-patients. Syphilis, as usual, figures more largely than it should, one case in every eight being of a syphilitic nature.

The other cases do not call for any special remark.

I have met with no fresh cases of leprosy.

I have, &c.

W. M. EATON, M.B., M.O.

SIR,

Moyeni, June 30, 1896.

I HAVE the honour of forwarding to you a report of the work done in this district during the past year.

Owing to the numerous changes of the medical officers of this district an accurate report is scarcely possible.

The total number of patients treated at the dispensary is 1,174.

Dyspepsia and other minor ailments of the same order form a large proportion of this number.

Syphilis is very prevalent here and does not seem to be on the decrease.

The total number of vaccinations performed is 3,364. Of this number 1,280 were free.

48

28

58964

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

BASUTOLAND.
1895-96.

There have been outbreaks of small-pox at the following villages:—

Date.	Name of Village.	No. of Cases.	Result.
Sept. 1895	Raukadi	13	1 succumbed.
" "	Damana	8	—
" "	Motoli	2	—
" "	Stokue	3	—
Oct. "	Kabi	1	—
Feb. 1896	Moelatse	63	4 succumbed.
" "	Lejoyane	2	—
April "	Piudo	15	—
" "	Matselatsatsa	1	—
May "	Tungala	1	—
" "	Hlothon	5	1 succumbed.
" "	Mphoto	11	—
June "	Stala	6	1 succumbed.

In each case the village was placed in quarantine and the inhabitants vaccinated.

The health of the police detachment has been good. The sanitary condition of the station is satisfactory and there is now a good supply of water of good quality.

I am, &c.

H. R. FORSTER TOWNE.

To the Assistant Commissioner,
Moyeni.

