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No. 62.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

BASUTOLAND.

[For Report for 1890-91, see Colonial Report (Annual) No. 20.]

Sir H. B. LOCH to LORD KNUTSFORD.

Government House, Cape Town,
August 24, 1892.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from the Resident Commissioner, reporting on the affairs of Basutoland during the past year.

I enclose also a copy of the reply which I have addressed to Sir M. Clarke.

It gives me much pleasure to again call attention to the able and efficient administration of Sir M. Clarke, and to the excellent service rendered by the officers of the Basutoland Administration generally.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,

Governor and High Commissioner.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

Resident Commissioner's Office, Basutoland,

SIR, August 8, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report on British Basutoland for the year ending the 30th June 1892, together with reports from—

The Acting Assistant Commissioner, Berea.
Do. Maseru.

The Assistant Commissioner, Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Mohalies Hoek.
Do. Quthing.

The Medical Officer, Maseru.
Do. Leribe.
Do. Mafeteng.
Do. Mohalies Hoek.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

(2.) Early in the year under report it was plain that the health of Letsie, the Paramount Chief, was failing, and certain individuals took advantage of his weakness to perpetrate, in his name, acts of oppression and injustice. In October, I had the opportunity of representing this and attendant circumstances to the High Commissioner, whom I met by appointment at Kokstadt, on his visit to Griqualand East, and, with his Excellency's sanction, I pointed out at the annual Pitso, held early in November, that it was unfair to hold a Chief in Letsie's state of health responsible for acts which might endanger the well-being of the community, and called on Lerothodi, the eldest son of Letsie, to relieve his father from burdens he was no longer fit to bear. At this time I received an assurance from the elder sons of Letsie, and from the Chiefs Jonathan Molapo and Masupha, that, in the event of Letsie's death, Lerothodi's claim to the succession would be undisputed.

On the 20th November Letsie died, and shortly afterwards I received a letter, signed by the 24 principal Chiefs in Basutoland, stating that, according to his position by birth, to Basuto custom, and to the implied wish of Letsie, Lerothodi ought to succeed his father, and requesting me to submit these views, through the High Commissioner, to the Queen. On the 6th January I received a telegram informing me that Her Majesty was graciously pleased to accede to the representation of the Basuto, and that Lerothodi was to be acknowledged as Paramount Chief in place of his father.

This decision was communicated to the Basuto at a National Pitso held at Maseru, on the 5th February, at which all the principal Chiefs in the country were present or represented.

(3.) In February a long outstanding dispute as to the right of ploughing on commonage in the mountains led to a collision between the people of Bereng and Maama Letsie; four men were killed, and a number of cattle captured. I directed Lerothodi, who had promptly stopped the fighting, to cause the cattle captured to be restored to their owners. He succeeded in doing this, in spite of much opposition and the luke-warm support of his following, and on the 6th April I, with Lerothodi and Masupha, tried Bereng and Maama for breach of the peace, found them both guilty, and fined the former 200 head of cattle, and the latter 100 head.

(4.) While this case was being tried, a disturbance, which threatened serious complication, broke out in the Berea district, between Lebese, a son of Masupha, and Peeta Ramanella. In compliance with orders sent by me in conjunction with the Paramount Chief, fighting stopped, and on the 4th June I and Lerothodi heard the case, and fined Lebese for breaking the peace.

Though some of the Chiefs continue on bad terms with their neighbours, no further fighting of any consequence has taken place.

(5.) The illness and subsequent death of Letsie and the opposition of some of the leading Chiefs seem to have for the present damped the aspirations of the Basuto for a consultative council.

(6.) The Chiefs continue to render valuable services in the detection and checking of crime and in the maintenance of order.

(7.) The mounted Basuto Police do their work satisfactorily. They are constantly employed patrolling the border, their principal duty being to check liquor smuggling, which is in some places, I regret to say, still prevalent. At Mafeteng the Assistant Commissioner during the past year convicted 84 persons charged with smuggling brandy into his district. The authorities of the Orange Free State have, I am informed, now taken stringent measures to stop the irregularities on their side, and I trust that by the cordial co-operation of the Basutoland and Orange Free State officials, a check will be given to a trade which induces crime and affects the security of property on both sides of the border.

(8.) On the 1st July 1891, Basutoland entered the Customs Union.

Owing to the credits for Custom dues being brought to account in the quarter following that during which they accrue, but three quarters of the Customs dues of the past financial year, amounting to 7,328*l.*, have been brought to account. The amount of Customs is below what was anticipated. This is due:—(1) To the large stocks in the hands of traders on the 1st July 1891; (2) To depression of trade, partly caused by a bad harvest consequent on the plague of locusts; (3) To the wide difference made between local and import values; (4) To non-recognition of the value of material in articles claimed as colonial manufactures.

(9.) Returns made by regular traders show as exports from Basutoland in the year 1891: 95,132 sacks of wheat, 66,327 sacks of mealies, 1,345 sacks of Kaffir corn, and 350 sacks of oats. The actual exports exceed these figures, as the quantity of grain removed from the country by hawkers has not been ascertained.

(10.) On the 1st June 1892 telegraphic communication was established between Maseru and Ladybrand, the Orange Free State and Basutoland sharing the cost. In addition to this, several useful public works have been provided for, including sub-inspector's quarters at Butha-Butha, medical officer's quarters at Leribe, portion of border fence, &c.

(11.) The number of patients treated shows how much the valuable services rendered by the medical officers are appreciated; the hospital accommodation has been increased during the year to meet urgent requirements.

(12.) The work of the missionaries of all denominations appears to be increasing satisfactorily; all the schools receiving aid (which are, with two exceptions, missionary schools) have been inspected by Government officers, whose reports are generally favourable.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

In compliance with a wish expressed by the Secretary of State, the Cape Colonial Government kindly lent the services for five weeks, from the 1st January, of a school inspector, the Reverend Canon Woodroffe, who visited as many Basutoland schools as his time allowed. Canon Woodroffe's letter submitting his detailed report accompanies this.

(13.) I have much pleasure in reporting favourably on the officers serving under me. The satisfactory state of the country and its finances is in a great measure due to the zeal and care with which they perform their several duties.

(14.) I append a summary of general statistics.

I have, &c.

(Signed) MARSHAL CLARKE,
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency
the High Commissioner for
South Africa.

Local Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax - - - -	19,067	12	0
Licenses, fines, and ferry tolls - - - -	2,545	3	8
Fees of Court - - - -	70	6	1
Postal revenue - - - -	757	3	6
Miscellaneous - - - -	313	13	4
	<u>22,753</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>7</u>

Licenses.

General traders - - - -	-	-	120
Hawkers - - - -	-	-	263
Amount expended on education - - - -	-	-	3,955l.

SIR, Mohalies Hoek, February 9, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to send herewith my Report of school inspections in Basutoland.

The standards under which the scholars are classified are those which have been adopted in the Cape Colony. For convenience' sake a summary of them is given:—

STANDARD I.—Reading and writing monosyllables; simple addition and the multiplication table to 6 times 12.

STANDARD II.—Easy reading and dictation; the simple rules of arithmetic.

STANDARD III.—Reading ordinary narrative and dictation; the compound rules of arithmetic (money); the definitions of geography and the map of Africa.

STANDARD IV.—Reading ordinary narrative fluently, and dictation; reduction and elementary vulgar fractions; geography of the world generally and of S. Africa specially; easy English grammar.

STANDARD V.—Vulgar and decimal fractions, practice, and proportion; outlines of history (England and the Cape Colony); geography, political and physical; English composition; handwriting. At the inspections in Standards I. and II., the Sesuto language has been accepted; in the other Standards the English language has been insisted on.

Previous to this inspection, the standards in use in the Cape Colony had not been adopted in any of these schools; they were therefore placed at some disadvantage, and they are not fully credited with the actual work that is going on. A large number of scholars who did not obtain any standard can read their own language fairly, and have some knowledge of writing it, but they have not learnt the arithmetic required.

In Standards IV. and V. passes of merit have been notified as "good."

The school buildings are as a rule satisfactory; the exceptions are so few, and so likely to be remedied, that they need not be taken into account.

The furniture is not in quality equal to the buildings; this is mainly owing to the high price of timber. If the Government were in a position to grant some aid in this direction, a great boon would be conferred.

The supply of school material is adequate.

The discipline and classification are fairly good. A not uncommon fault of teachers is their tendency to multiply classes, especially in the lower portion of their schools. This waste of time and power must be avoided.

The teachers themselves appear to be diligent in the performance of their duties. Some of them are well qualified for their posts; others are of very doubtful competency; but they are the best that can be obtained. In time we may reasonably expect to find a more ample supply of qualified men.

My report makes no special mention of singing. At nearly every inspection pieces were sung correctly which had been learnt on the tonic sol-fa system.

Of the schools inspected half are situated at centres where European missionaries reside, the other half are at out-stations; from some of these the scholars came to be examined at a school within travelling distance where an inspection was being held. Owing to the limited time at my disposal, this course appeared to

Basutoland.
1891-92.

be a wise one. It enabled me to examine a much larger number of children than I could otherwise have inspected.

It was impossible for me to visit even every central station in the country; this would have been done, had the allotted time been sufficient.

According to the latest published returns the number of schools in Basutoland is 113, with an enrolment of 6,982 scholars. I have visited or inspected 37 schools, having a total of 2,906 scholars. Thus one-third of the schools and very nearly three-sevenths of the scholars have come under my observation.

The schools inspected are rather above the average of those in this territory, owing to the number of schools at central stations; those at out-stations being generally inferior; but among the latter I did not find one with which I was dissatisfied.

I have had some years of inspection experience in the Cape Colony, and have examined a large number of native schools annually, and my opinion of the Basutoland schools is favourable. If the adverse circumstances of late years be taken into consideration, the condition of these schools is more hopeful than would have been anticipated. At present they are somewhat below the average of those in other native territories, but they will advance; and it is highly probable that they will surpass the others, just as the Basuto race itself outstrips the other races in energy and intelligence. The great want is a supply of good teachers.

As regards the amount of the money grant given by Government, I consider it to be moderate. As nearly as I can calculate, it is less by about one-fourth than the sum which could be claimed under the system of the Cape Colony.

In conclusion I have to express my cordial appreciation of the warm hospitality and thorough kindness which I have met with everywhere during my five weeks in Basutoland.

I have, &c.

HENRY R. WOODROFFE, M.A.

To the Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

ANNUAL REPORT upon the DISTRICT of BEREA for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

The past year has been rather a disturbed one in this district.

In August 1891, Patso Mota had a quarrel with the Chief Mamathe about ploughing of lands, and some fighting took place, but it eventually ended in Patso leaving the district.

About the same time a quarrel broke out at Masalomane, between Peeta and Masupha's son Lebese, who was placed at Masalomane by his father. This quarrel also related to ploughing

of lands; the necessary steps were taken for preserving peace, and in a short while it quieted down, but was not satisfactorily settled, as was soon evident by the quarrel again breaking out in April 1892. A meeting was then held at Masalomane by the Resident Commissioner and the Paramount Chief, the Chief Masupha being also present, when the whole matter was gone into, and Peeta was ordered to withdraw that part of his people who had been living at Masalomane, Lebese being fined 50 head of cattle.

The meeting was held on the 4th June 1892, and since that time there has been no further disturbance.

The quarrel between Masupha and Leshaboro is not a very serious one, though it is not satisfactorily settled, which is evident by its breaking out nearly every year, generally about ploughing time, being with reference to ploughing of lands on top of the Berea mountain.

In dealing with thefts and tracing of thieves and stock, I have received the necessary assistance from the Chiefs; also in the collection of revenue, though the Chiefs Peeta and Leshaboro have been rather backward in enforcing the payment of tax on their people; many of Peeta's people having lost stock and other things in the disturbance at Masalomane, prevented them from paying.

The officers of the Free State have co-operated with me in all cases in which their assistance has been necessary. In spite of frequent patrols along the border, small quantities of brandy are occasionally brought into the district.

The crops in this district during the year have not been good, in some parts being almost entirely eaten up by the swarms of locusts which visited Basutoland, though in others fair crops of wheat, mealies, and Kaffir corn have been reaped.

Wheat has sold at 20*s.* per muid, mealies at 12*s.*, and Kaffir corn, which has been more plentiful than last year, at 14*s.*

The trade of the district has been fair. The Arab traders have entirely ceased to trade in this district.

A deputy-inspector of schools from the Cape Colony visited some of the larger schools during the year, and spoke very favourably of them.

The roads have required to be continually repaired, though it is difficult to get men as overseers who understand the work. Native labour has been plentiful.

There is no medical officer in this district. Dr. Savage, the medical officer at Maseru, has visited this district, and has looked up several cases of leprosy. It has been suggested that the Chiefs should co-operate, and place all the lepers in their different wards in isolation, but this has not yet been done.

The report of school inspections has already been sent in.

BABUTOLAND.
1891-92.

The following returns are attached.

Annual return of revenue.

„ hut tax.
„ hut tax arrears.
„ trading licenses, nominal list.
„ hawkers' licenses.
„ passes issued.
„ civil and criminal cases.
„ lost stock.

(Signed) C. G. BRABANT,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.
Berea, 1st July 1892.

Annual Return of Revenue collected in Berea District during the year ended 30th June 1892.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	<i>£ s. d.</i>
Hut tax - - - - -	2,812 10 0
Licenses - - - - -	287 0 0
Fees for transfer of licenses - - - - -	0 10 0
Passes to remove grain - - - - -	0 7 6
Fees - - - - -	5 17 6
Judicial fines - - - - -	42 17 6
Miscellaneous receipts - - - - -	4 15 0
	3,103 17 6

Return Hawkers' Licences.

Monthly hawkers' licences - - - - -	17
Free - - - - -	14
	31

(Signed) C. G. BRABANT,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.
Berea, 1st July 1892.

Return of Traders.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

	No of Traders.	No. of Stations.
	15	21

Return Passes.

Passes issued to persons in search of work	- 2,648
Passes issued to persons for other purposes	3,973
	<u>6,621</u>

Return of Civil and Criminal Cases heard in the Assistant Commissioner's Court, Berea.

Civil cases	-	-	-	- 10
Criminal cases	-	-	-	- 0
Theft	-	-	-	- 5
Contravening liquor regulations	-	-	-	- 5
Contravening customs regulations	-	-	-	- 4
Contravening pass regulations	-	-	-	- 17
Assault	-	-	-	- 1
Resisting police	-	-	-	- 4
Creating disturbance	-	-	-	- 1

Berea, July 1st, 1892. (Signed) C. G. BRABANT,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock reported at Berea.

Traced to Basuto-land.		Not traced.		Total reported.		Recovered and restored.		Not recovered.	
Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.	Horses.	Cattle.
1	4	17	17	18	21	5	4	13	17

Berea, July 1st, 1892. (Signed) C. G. BRABANT,
Acting Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

MASERU DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

General.

1. I entered upon the duties of Assistant Commissioner, Maseru, on the 27th October 1891.

2. The late Paramount Chief Letsie died on the 21st November 1891, and was succeeded by his eldest son Lerothodi.

Letsie's death did not affect the politics of the district to the extent that it was feared it would, and beyond some slight delay in the payment of hut tax just before and immediately after his death—and that only on the part of his own personal following—the event has not disturbed the existing order of things.

3. On the 12th March a section of the Bathlokoa tribe, located in a remote valley in the north-east corner of the district, represented by their Chief Ledingoana, was tried before the Resident Commissioner for having killed two people who were accused of witchcraft. The case occurred in 1886, when these people were practically in a state of independence, as owing to the remoteness of their abode no control had been exercised over them, and they had not yet come into touch with Government.

Ledingoana and his people were fined 200 head of cattle.

4. A long standing dispute between the Chiefs Bereng and Maama, concerning rights of chieftainship in the neighbourhood of Popa, found vent in February last in a collision between a hunting party of Bereng's and an outlying post of Maama's, which ended in bloodshed.

After some fighting, in which three of Bereng's and one of Maama's people were killed, Bereng's men were beaten off and returned home, and the Paramount Chief arrived in the neighbourhood in time to intercept Bereng, who was proceeding with a large armed following to avenge his defeat.

With the advent of the Paramount Chief peace was restored, and on the 5th March an inquiry was held at Mofokas, in my presence. Both Chiefs attended, and expressed their contrition at what had occurred, and each expressed his surprise at the manner in which the other had acted.

On the 6th April the case was heard by the Resident Commissioner, and heavy cattle fines were imposed.

Population.

The Census taken last year showed a population of 45,402 souls.

Education.

I attach a report on the schools in the district which are in receipt of Government aid.

Commercial.

BASTOLAND.
1891-92.

Trade has been bad this year, and I am sorry to say that I can see no prospect of improvement. Terrible ravages have been committed by locusts among the crops, and it is a question whether a famine like that of 1885 may not have to be faced during the next six months. Many people have reaped nothing, and the exceptional cases are those in which no damage has been sustained.

The following are approximately the average prices paid by traders to natives for produce during the past year:—

Wheat	-	-	-	16s.	per muid.
Mealies	-	-	-	10s.	„
Kaffir corn	-	-	-	15s.	„
Wool	-	-	-	3d.	per lb.
Hides	-	-	-	3d.	„
Mohair	-	-	-	3d.	„
Horned cattle	-	-	-	4l.	per head.
Sheep and goats	-	-	-	10s.	„

Public Works.

The roads in the district are on the whole in good repair. This is due partly to the exertions of the road parties and partly to the dry weather of the last few months.

The pont on the Caledon, in addition to being a great boon to the public, continues to pay well. The ferry tolls last year amounted to 344l. 5s. 9d., and this notwithstanding a long spell of dry weather during which the pont lay idle.

Arrangements have been made for providing Maseru with a water supply.

The water is being led by means of pipes from a spring situated about a mile from the town. The inconvenience arising from the absence of an adequate supply of water has hitherto been much felt, and it is hoped that this will remove it.

Medicine.

I attach the report of the medical officer

Police.

The police detachment attached to my office consist of:—

- 2 Sub-inspectors.
- 3 European constables.
- 1 Native sergeant.
- 3 Corporals.
- 44 Privates.

—
53 of all ranks, all mounted.

—
I attach lost stock return.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

Crime.

Serious crime continues to be rare, although the number of cases tried compares unfavourably with that of last year.

I append a list of cases tried in my court during the year under report.

Murder, 1 case	} tried by combined Court.
Manslaughter, 2 cases	
Housebreaking - - - - -	1 case.
Theft - - - - -	6 "
Fraud - - - - -	1 "
Attempted abduction - - - - -	1 "
Assault - - - - -	3 "
Escapes - - - - -	3 "
Contravening liquor regulations - - - - -	5 "
Contravening Masters and Servants Act - - - - -	2 "

Revenue.

The general revenue falls short of last year by 66*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*

The shortfall is in hut tax, licenses, ferry dues, and fines.

Although the total hut tax collected is 175*l.* less than last year, the normal tax for the year has slightly increased, as will be seen by the following table:—

Years.	Normal Collection for the Year.	Arrears for previous Years.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1890-1 - - -	3,412 0 0	621 0 0	4,033 0 0
1891-2 - - -	3,497 10 0	860 10 0	3,858 0 0

The shortfall in licenses is due to depression in trade; in ferry dues, to a dry autumn and winter; in fines, it is a matter for congratulation.

Passes.

Eight thousand two hundred and fifty-seven passes were granted to natives to leave the district during the year; of these 3,951 went in search of work.

Relations with bordering States.

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

The Landdrost of Ladybrand has always afforded me most cordial and ready assistance whenever it has been in his power to do so, and to the co-operation so afforded I attribute in a great measure the comparative immunity which we in the district enjoy from the evils attendant upon the liquor traffic.

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,

Assistant Commissioner's Office. Acting Assistant Commissioner.
Maseru, July 4, 1892.

Statement of Revenue for Year ending June 30, 1892.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Hut tax - - - - -	3,858 0 0
Licences - - - - -	240 2 6
Fines - - - - -	177 11 5
Fees - - - - -	42 15 0
Special receipts - - - - -	60 10 6
Ferry dues - - - - -	344 5 9
Postal revenue - - - - -	757 3 6
Miscellaneous - - - - -	83 10 10
Grain passes - - - - -	2 6
Transfer of licences - - - - -	2 6
	5,564 4 6

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Maseru, June 30, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Trade Licences issued in Maseru District during the Year ending June 30, 1892.

Nature.	No.
General traders - - - - -	22
Hawkers' licences (free) - - - - -	5
Hawkers' licences (monthly) - - - - -	10
Passes to remove grain - - - - -	1
Total - - - - -	38

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Maseru, June 30, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

Return of Lost Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Recovered but not reported.
Horses . . .	13	—	18	1	—
Cattle . . .	11	—	11	—	—
Sheep . . .	150	—	150	150	30

(Signed) J. C. MACGREGOR,
Maseru, June 30, 1892. Acting Assistant Commissioner.

SIR,

Maseru, July 1, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to report that the health of this district for the past year has been very good. With the exception of influenza there have been no epidemics in this district, and only two cases of zymotic disease were treated at the hospital.

The number of attendances at the hospital was 6,663, of which 5,331 were cases treated for the first time; the numbers last year were 7,530 and 6,430. There were 55 hospital in-patients, who remained in 646 days; 3 died, one being admitted in a moribund condition.

The diminution in the number of attendances may be accounted for by the brighter and dryer season we have had this year compared with last, fewer cases of chest diseases, of ophthalmic, and also of venereal disease. There were 630 cases of mocaula compared with 705 last year, but 34 cases of tertiary syphilis against 22 last year. There were also fewer cases of phthisis. The percentage of venereal compared with other diseases is still very high.

The epidemic of influenza commenced about the beginning and lasted to the end of May. It was mild in type and not so serious among the Basutos as among the Europeans. There were no deaths from it in this neighbourhood, and I only heard of one or two in distant villages.

I consider the climate had a great influence in modifying the more serious aspects of the disease.

With regard to leprosy, 15 cases attended the hospital, of which 12 were fresh cases, showing the disease is still on the increase. No new cases have been reported to me by the police, but the suggestions I made in my report on leprosy in September last do not seem to have been fully carried out, as several known cases of leprosy have not been separated and isolated from their families. If those suggestions, simple as they are, cannot be efficiently and effectually carried out, then more stringent measures will have to be adopted, or lepers, in order to escape

the new regulations in the Free State, will seek a refuge in Basuto-land, as they are already reported to have done. BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

The health of the prisoners in the gaol has been very good.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. RADFORD SAVAGE,
The Assistant Commissioner, Medical Officer.
Maseru.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

General.

There has been no serious disturbance in this district during the past year. Friction exists between Jonathan and several of the minor Chiefs in the district, showing itself from time to time in disputes mostly of a trivial nature from our point of view.

I.—On the 1st July 1891 an attack was made by Jonathan's herdsmen on the followers of Mpaki, a son of Molapo, living near the cattle posts in the mountains. Some huts were burnt and other damage done to the property of the villagers; and although Jonathan disowned the action of his herdsmen at the time, he took no steps to punish them, and on the night of the 8th October a fresh attack was made by them on Mpaki, who was driven from his village, which he has not since re-occupied.

II.—The long standing quarrel between Jonathan and his brother Joel, unfortunately, does not show signs of coming to an end.

Joel made overtures to Jonathan at one time, requesting his assistance in the matter of locating his eldest son, and asking him to use his influence with the Paramount Chief to obtain permission for Joel's cattle to return to their old pasturage in Mechachaneng, but no help was given by Jonathan in either of these matters, and certain native law cases which were referred to him by Joel have never been settled.

III.—The tract of land known as Mechachaneng, above referred to, has never entirely recovered from the state of disorder it was thrown into during the fighting between Joel and Makela in September 1890.

The subsequent inquiry into the case resulted in the Mechachaneng being awarded to Makela, and there have been numerous complaints of the steps since taken by him to evict the followers of Joel, many of whom have lived there for years, and wish to remain there. One case of the kind, in which fire-arms were used, is now under investigation.

IV.—As anticipated in my last year's report Motsoene made an attempt in July 1891, to take possession of his father's old village at Butha Buthe, sending his brother Masupha, with some armed

BABUTOLAND.
1891-92.

men, to occupy it. These men were dispersed by a party of Joel's followers under Matlatsa; and some guns and a horse were taken from them, which Joel has lately surrendered to the Paramount Chief. The originators of this disturbance have not been punished.

V. The ward of the late Chief Lesaoana is not in a satisfactory state. Owing to the jealousy existing between his sons, considerable difficulty is experienced in enforcing payment of hut tax, and native law cases, instead of being promptly settled by the Chiefs, are allowed to drift until the disputants are driven to take the law into their own hands, and resort to violence.

Generally speaking, the sons of Lesaoana show a disinclination to follow the advice of their officers, and, although professedly loyal to the Government, they evade doing what is required of them, as far as they consider it safe to do so.

VI.—The question of the Government right to the Reserve at Thlotse Heights was re-opened by the Headman Makotoko during the past year. This Headman has from time to time, since the Gun War, taken possession of Government lands on the Reserve, and given them out to his followers, and no more such lands being available, he this year commenced ploughing up part of the pasturages.

This was put a stop to by the Resident Commissioner, but no steps have been taken to compel him to restore the lands previously seized by him. This is a question affecting police discipline, as the men see that if they do their duty in such a way as to displease the Chiefs, they are liable to be deprived of their lands, and the Government Service suffers accordingly.

VII.—Hut tax has not come in so well this year as could be wished. This is largely owing to the neglect of the Chief Jonathan, who has failed to put the requisite pressure on his people, and has rather encouraged them by his example to delay payment.

Attention has been drawn to this from time to time.

VII.—This Chief has also sometimes shown reluctance to assist in the re-capture of criminals who have escaped from the Free State.

One such case was reported on the 31st March last, and is now the subject of correspondence with the Free State authorities.

VIII.—Details of events in the sub-district of Butha-Buthe will be found in the attached report of sub-inspector Boxwell.

Population.

The population of the district as shown by the Census returns is about 48,000.

Education.

The Cape Government Inspector of Schools, Canon Woodrooffe, visited some of the schools in the district in January last, but was

unable, through shortness of time and bad weather, to inspect them all.

A report was sent in, on the 26th instant, on the schools which receive Government aid.

Commercial.

Trade appears to be brisk, and grain is fetching high prices. Most of the Arab or Coolie traders formerly in the district have left, and Europeans have taken their places. As the Coolies occasionally tried to make trouble between the Chiefs and the Government their departure is not to be regretted.

Public Works.

The new public offices at this station were completed in August 1891, and the hospital in October.

Additions are being made to the gaol at Thlotse Heights, and officers' quarters have been commenced at Butha Buthe to replace the temporary buildings hitherto occupied.

The roads in this district are in fair order, and compare favourably with those in adjacent parts of the Free State.

It is proposed to commence a new section of road on the Upper Caledon, to connect with the waggon road recently made, to cross the mountains from Witzies-Hoek to the Caledon, near Kennan's Cave. The road, if constructed, would give access to several Free State farms on the Upper Caledon, at present unoccupied on account of difficulties of route.

Medical.

The report of the medical officer for the district is attached. A report by the same officer on the spread of leprosy was sent in on the 20th August 1891.

Police.

The police have had additional work thrown on them during the past year, owing to the inspection of waggons, &c., called for by the Customs Convention.

The force is in a fair state of discipline, and, considering the difficulties under which the men labour, their duties are well performed.

Crime.

The criminal cases tried during the year are as follows:—

Theft	-	-	-	-	15 cases.
Contravention of liquor law	-	-	-	-	9 "
Contravention of pass law	-	-	-	-	5 "

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

Contravention of customs law -	-	-	2 cases.
Contravention of trading regulations -	-	-	3 „
Assault -	-	-	2 „
Resisting police -	-	-	2 „
Breach of prison discipline -	-	-	1 „
Rescue of impounded stock -	-	-	1 „

Relations with bordering States.

Intercourse with the Orange Free State continues on a friendly footing. The Extradition Treaty works well, and several escaped criminals have been arrested in this district and surrendered during the past year.

The question of the boundary between the Orange Free State and this territory on the Upper Caledon was settled early in the year, in favour of Basutoland, and the disputed tract was beacons off by a joint commission from the Free State and Basutoland.

Several of the cases of theft tried in this court during the year have arisen out of disputes about wages between masters and servants in the Free State.

The servants, feeling aggrieved, have taken property of their masters and brought it into Basutoland. While condemning this practice, it is well to recollect that the fault, originally, in many cases, lies with the masters, who, when the servants' terms of service have nearly expired, quarrel with them on frivolous grounds with the object of finding an excuse for withholding their wages.

Instances still occasionally occur of Free State burghers taking cases of theft, &c. to the native Chiefs for settlement, and ignoring the officers of the Government. Their excuse for this appears to be that the Chiefs award them more liberal compensation out of the defendant's property than Government officers feel justified in doing.

The following returns are attached:—

- I.—Revenue collected from 1st July 1891 to 30th June 1892, amounting to 4,822*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*
- II.—*Arrear hut tax collected during the same period, amounting to 679*l.* 10*s.*
- III.—*Nominal list of licensed traders.
- IV.—Return of number of hawker licenses issued.
- V.—Annual return of hut tax collected, inclusive of stock and grain.
- VI.—Return of passes issued.
- VII.—Return of lost stock reported, and action taken thereon.

(Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock reported, and Action taken thereon.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.
Horses - -	*28	4	17	4
Cattle - -	77	8	74	8
Sheep - -	24	24	—	24

* The case of two of these horses is still under investigation.

Leribe, June 30, 1892. (Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

List of General Traders' Licences in Leribe District.

	Europeans.	Arabs or Coolies.	Shops.
	13	1	28

Leribe, June 30, 1892. (Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

LERIBE DISTRICT.

Return showing Number of Hawkers' Licences issued during Year ended June 30th, 1892.

Period.	No. of Licences for which ll. was paid.	No. of Licences free.	Total.
12 months ended 30th June 1892.	63	21	84

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

*Return of Passes issued in Leribe District during Year ended
June 30th, 1892.*

No. of Passes issued.	No. of Persons to whom Passes were issued.	No. of Persons obtaining Passes to seek Employment.
7,729	12,864	2,682

Leribe, June 30, 1892. (Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

*Return showing Amount of Revenue collected in Leribe District
during Year ended June 30th, 1892.*

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
Hut tax - - - - -	£ 4,159 12 0
Licences - - - - -	454 15 0
Fines - - - - -	60 10 0
Ferry tolls - - - - -	16 6 6
Fees of Court or Office - - - - -	1 1 0
Fees for transfer of licences - - - - -	0 2 6
Fees for registering marriages - - - - -	1 12 6
Special receipts - - - - -	128 15 1
	<hr/> 4,822 14 7 <hr/>
Arrears, hut tax, Thlotse Heights - - - - -	416 0 0
" " Butha Buthe - - - - -	263 10 0
	<hr/> 679 10 0 <hr/>

Leribe, June 30, 1892. (Signed) S. BARRETT,
Assistant Commissioner.

*Medical Report for the Year ending June 30th, 1892.*BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that the public health in this district has been good throughout the year. The number of cases having attended the public dispensary and hospital has been 3,632, showing an increase of 531 cases over last year's report.

This increase in the attendance is partly due to the epidemic of influenza, prevalent in the Leribe district during the months of April and May.

The influenza was generally of a mild character, proving mortal for only four cases in camp.

Syphilis or mocaola is less prevalent in the district than formerly, the dispensary books showing only an average of five per cent. of mocaola cases.

Leprosy has also been apparently stationary; it is, however, difficult to know the exact progress of the malady, as the Chiefs have given orders to lepers not to appear in public, the result being that lepers are rarely seen among other patients, but mix all the same with their neighbours and relations at home.

Gonorrhœa and other venereal and uterine diseases are, on the contrary, on the increase. This is owing to the general prostitution practised by married women and girls among the Basutos.

Several cases of goitre have come to my notice of late. The disease seems prevalent among the people living in the closed valleys of the Malutas. It attacks specially young women, and may be connected with malarial or other influences causing the so called camp fever.

No case of cretinism has been noted among them.

Nervous diseases seem also on the increase; mental derangement is frequent, and epilepsy frequent, to the extent of 2½ per cent.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CASALIS,
Medical Officer.The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

BUTHA BUTHE.

SIR,

Butha Buthe, July 1st, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to submit to you the Annual Report of that part of the Leribe District under my more immediate charge for the past year.

General.

There has not been any very serious disturbance in this ward during the past year; but relations between Joel and Jonathan, and Joel and Matela, have not in any way improved.

BASUTOLAND,
1891-92.

There are constant disputes between Matela's people and the men living in his country who call themselves Joel's. These people for a long time failed to carry out the judgment given by Mr. Lagden, that they should either acknowledge Matela as their Chief, or come out from his country.

Some of them have left, but many are still there, and are a constant source of trouble, Leboea and Mtsuana in particular.

Joel is still very reluctant to send any cases to Jonathan, or to refer to him in any matter.

Early in July 1891, Letsika, Matela's eldest son, was reinstated in his father's country. He is the cause of a good deal of trouble between Matela and his other sons.

On July the 21st some cattle of Motsoene's were reported to have been sent over the boundary stream into Joel Ward.

This occurred again a day or two afterwards, and on the 27th, when the cattle were again over, some of Joel's men came up armed, and drove away Motsoene's men and the cattle. Some few shots were fired, but no one was injured.

During the latter end of May 1892, the people in Joel Ward were very uneasy, owing to rumours that Jonathan intended to go up with an armed party to Matela's, ostensibly to attend a feast, but really to drive Leboea away from Machachaneng. Nothing, however, came of this, as Jonathan did not go up.

On the 9th June it was reported that, a few days before, a fight had taken place between Letsika's people and Lekopa's, two of Matela's sons, in which some 16 or 17 men had been injured. This was not reported by Matela, who said, when asked about it, that it was only a fight with sticks between a few herd boys.

On the same day Joel reported that he was placing his eldest son, Mopedi, at Butha Buthe. Mopedi came to Butha Buthe mountain, and is at present living in a cave over Letaka's village. No site has as yet been pointed out for Mopedi's village.

On June 26th news reached me of another disturbance between Matela's people and Mtsuana. Shots were fired, and I was at first afraid that the Chiefs would join in and bring on a serious fight.

I, however, now am in hopes that the matter may be settled without further fighting.

Two cases only of serious crime occurred during the year; one was a case of manslaughter, the other of attempted rape.

The prisoner in the latter case is still awaiting trial, and there may be other charges of the same nature against him.

The locusts came in great numbers over this ward during the months of March and April, but have not done any widespread damage, though a few men have suffered considerable loss.

Revenue.

I am glad to be able to report that, year by year, there is a steady increase in the hut tax paid in this ward. The amount paid during the past year exceeded that of the previous year by 717. 10s., the people of Joel and Malupi paying particularly well.

The total Revenue of the ward is also higher than during any previous twelve months. BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

Trade.

There are now nine stores open in this ward, most of which are doing, I think, fairly well.

The number of hawkers' licences issued here was 45, only 20 being issued the previous year.

The roads in the ward are now in good order. That leading into Tlama's ground has been put into thorough repair, and the part of it which goes over the rocks at Tsime now presents no difficulties to traders. This is an important road, as a large quantity of grain is grown in Tlama's ground.

I have received instructions to make a short piece of road in Machachaneng, and hope soon to get at this work.

Schools.

There are three schools in this ward receiving aid from Government, and one or two smaller ones, branches from the above. One school is under the directions of the Church of England, the other two under the French Protestant Church.

The total number of pupils on the books of the aided schools during the past quarter was 104.

My relations with the Orange Free State officials along the border during the past year have been friendly, and they have given me all the assistance in their power.

I have, &c.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Leribe.

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

*Return of Revenue collected during Twelve months ended
June 30th, 1892.*

Hut Tax.	Licences.	Fines.	Fees.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
1,118l. 10s.	188l.	5l. 15s.	4s.	Nil.	1,362l. 9s.

Return of Passes issued July 1st, 1891, to June 30th, 1892.

No. of Passes issued.	No. of People.	No. of People seeking Work.
3,979	6,564	1,395

(Signed)
Butha Buthe, July 1st, 1892.

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

BASUTOLAND,
1891-92.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock, July 1st, 1891, to June 30th, 1892.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.
Horses - -	6	6	—	6
Cattle - -	3	—	3	—
Sheep - -	35	—	35	—

(Signed)
Butha Buthe, July 1st, 1892.

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

MAFETENG.

Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June 1892.

I.—Few events of political importance occurred during the past year.

The succession of Lerothodi Letsie to the Paramount Chieftainship of the Basuto necessitated the removal of his residence from this district to near Matsieng; when the Chief left Mafeteng district he appointed counsellors to represent him, and these persons have rendered me cordial assistance, whenever I found it necessary to refer native questions to them.

II.—The border adjoining the Orange Free State continues to be vigilantly patrolled by mounted police, whose principal duty has been to check brandy smuggling into Basutoland from the town of Wepener, and from illicit canteens kept by certain Free State farmers near the border.

Patrol work has been comparatively easy along that portion of border enclosed with a wire fence, and three (3) police shelters have been erected, one at each gateway.

About seven (7) miles of the border, extending from Mr. Bergh's farm to the Caledon River, is still unfenced, and at this point police patrols have difficulty in stopping illicit traffic.

Although eighty-four (84) persons were arrested on entering Basutoland with liquor in their possession and punished in the

Assistant Commissioner's Court, Mafeteng, (twenty were arrested within the last quarter), the smuggling still continues.

I am aware that during the last ten days the Landdrost of Wepener has placed great restrictions on the sale of liquor to coloured persons, and I trust his action may have the satisfactory result of suppressing illicit traffic.

The police have also been engaged on Customs duty connected with the importation of merchandize into this territory.

III.—Heavy rains during the summer months did considerable injury to transport roads, and necessitated the constant employment of labour parties, who, under the direction of competent overseers, have repaired all damage, and the roads are now in good order.

A cottage for the medical officer was built, additional hospital accommodation authorised, and necessary repairs have been done to the various Government buildings. The public cemetery has also been enclosed with a stone wall.

IV.—The free dispensary was well attended by natives. I attach a report from the medical officer.

V.—There are nineteen general traders' shops in the district, and six hawkers' licences were issued.

Many persons from the Cape Colony and Free State have obtained free permits to barter produce for Basutoland grain.

Flights of locusts destroyed numerous standing crops, and consequently the price of cereals ruled high, and those who depended on their crops for food are somewhat short of provision. Good seed wheat supplied by Government has been issued.

The following were the average local prices paid for Basutoland produce and stock:—

Mealies	-	-	-	10s. per muid
Kaffir corn	-	-	-	15s. "
Wheat	-	-	-	15s. "
Oats	-	-	-	10s. "
Barley	-	-	-	10s. "
Tobacco	-	-	-	6d. per lb.
Hides	-	-	-	3d. "
Wool	-	-	-	4d. "
Mohair	-	-	-	5d. "
Horned cattle	-	-	-	30s. to 80s. each
Sheep	-	-	-	5s. to 12s. "
Goats	-	-	-	3s. to 7s. "
Basuto ponies averaged	-	-	-	2l. to 8l. "

VI.—A large number of natives obtained passes for the purpose of seeking employment in the Cape Colony, Orange Free State, and Transvaal.

VII.—The various mission schools and undenominational schools in the district continue to do good work, and are well attended.

BASUTOLAND. I attach a separate Report on 25 Government aided schools inspected during last year.
1891-92.

VIII.—The Civil and Criminal Cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court, Mafeteng, were as follows:—

Civil actions	-	-	-	-	5
Wilful murder	-	-	-	-	1
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	3
Perjury	-	-	-	-	1
Theft	-	-	-	-	6
Section 7, Liquor Regulations	-	-	-	-	84
Resisting police	-	-	-	-	8
Assault	-	-	-	-	2
Escaping from custody	-	-	-	-	2
Pass Law	-	-	-	-	2

Stolen stock, when traced into Basutoland and reported at the Assistant Commissioner's Office, has in every case been recovered.

I would mention that out of the above record the following cases arose directly through the sale of brandy on the Free State Border to natives:—Section 7, Liquor Ordinance, 76; Resisting police, 6; Assault, 7. These statistics show that, if the temptation to buy liquor was removed from the Basuto, there would be comparatively little crime in this district, which contains a population of over 40,000 persons.

IX.—I append statistics of revenue, which is improving.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	3,555	0	0
Licenses	199	0	0
Fines	157	0	0
Fees	5	12	1
Miscellaneous	4	9	3
	<u>3,921</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>

I attach the under-mentioned Reports and Returns:—

Medical Officer's Report.

School Inspection.

Lost Stock Return.

Revenue Return.

Traders' Return.

Passes issued.

Hawkers' Return.

Number of huts on which tax has been paid.

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

SIR,

Mafeteng, Basutoland, July 1, 1892.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on the medical work done in the Mafeteng District during the past year.

The health of the village of Mafeteng and of the district generally has been on the whole good. I have, however, to record a very important epidemic of influenza, which made its appearance towards the end of April, and lasted about two months, during which period a very large portion of the population were attacked to a greater or lesser extent. The disease was, in the vast majority of cases, mild in type, and the after-effects were trifling. I am not aware of a single uncomplicated case proving fatal, and complications were quite exceptional. It was particularly noteworthy that the most common and serious complication observed in Europe, pneumonia, was not met with.

A small but very fatal epidemic of diphtheria was reported from a small village near Kalabane mountain. Six children died.

No other infectious disease, and only one case of typhoid fever, came under my notice.

The number of persons treated at the Government dispensary during the year was 3,533, of which 1,271 were males, 1,377 females, and 888 infants and children.

Subsequent attendances numbered 1,634, and hospital attendances amounted to 2,276.

The total number of attendances was thus 7,433. Eleven deaths (two in hospital) occurred amongst those under treatment.

At the beginning of the year the newly erected hospital hut was opened to receive surgical and medical cases which could not be properly attended as out-patients at the dispensary. This has proved of the greatest use. The accommodation has, however, been found insufficient for our needs. The new ward now in course of erection will supply a want which has been at times keenly felt, and will, I hope, enable the work to be carried out in a more satisfactory manner than has been possible hitherto.

From the annexed table, showing an analysis of all cases treated during the year, it will be seen that syphilis (called by the natives makaula) is still very prevalent, five hundred and twenty-one cases being recorded, nor does this number, I am afraid, nearly represent the total number in the district, for very many cases are still treated by native doctors and others. The extraordinary prevalence of this disease may, I think, be attributed to want of cleanliness, and ignorance or disregard of its contagious nature, and to lesser extent, perhaps, to immorality.

The native, too, is much more susceptible to this disease than the European.

In 308 instances the disease was acquired, and 203 infants and children hereditary. The great amenability of this disease to medical treatment, coupled with the tendency to natural extinction makes me hopeful that in time it will cease to be so general.

Five hundred and sixty-one persons sought relief for digestive trouble.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

The undue proportion of cases of this nature can only be ascribed to the character of the native diet, principally the use, often in incredibly large quantities, of a thin gruelly fluid made from grain whilst fermentation is still going on.

Twelve cases of leprosy came under treatment. I am not aware that any attempt has been made to isolate, even partially, persons suffering from this disease.

Thirteen deaths by lightning have come to my notice, and sixteen persons have sought relief for shock and other nervous symptoms caused by it.

Two deaths by violence, two by accident, one by drink and exposure, and one suicide have also come to my knowledge in the course of past year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. M. EATON,
Medical Officer.

The Assistant Commissioner,
Mafeteng.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered and restored.	Not recovered.
Cattle - -	13	1	12	1	12
Horses - -	2	—	2	—	2
Sheep - -	79	26	53	24	55
Goats - -	28	—	28	—	28

One horse recovered before reported lost.

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

*Return of Revenue collected in the Mafeteng District between
1st July 1891 and 30th June 1892.*

Head of Revenue.	Amounts.
Hut tax - - - - -	£ 3,555 0 0
Licenses - - - - -	199 0 0
Fines - - - - -	157 0 0
Fees - - - - -	5 12 1
Miscellaneous - - - - -	4 9 8
	3,921 1 4

Return.—Traders.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-02.

No. of Traders.	Stations.
12	19

(Signed) T. P. KENNAN,
Assistant Commissioner

Return.—Hawkers' Licences.

Ordinary licences	-	-	-	9
Free	-	-	-	50
				—
				59
				==

Return of Passes.

In search of work	-	-	-	4,280
Other purposes	-	-	-	4,081
				—
				8,361
				==

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

ANNUAL REPORT.

Cornet Spruit District, June 1892.

I.—The past twelve months may be described as almost uneventful.

From 1st July last the territory was included in the South African Customs Union; this has given rise to the establishing of posts at all main entrances to the district from foreign States for the supervision of goods entering, and the arrangements appear to act satisfactorily.

Unimportant disputes between minor Chiefs have in all cases been settled by the Chief Lerothodi or his representative.

On the 30th July last the Chief Lerothodi with Leduma (Chief of the Baposhuti) were sent by the Paramount Chief Letsie to investigate and settle a long standing dispute between the Chief Sekoati and a Headman named Maphakela; the dispute was over certain gardens used by the latter and claimed by the former.

On the same date one of the minor Bataung Chiefs, Ntsuele, died.

RASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

On the 4th August an old and much respected Chief, Potsane, died.

The funeral was attended by myself, Mr. Boyes, and all the available police, and was conducted according to Christian rites, the burial service being read by the Rev. M. A. Reading; the Chief Potsane is succeeded by his eldest son Malebanye.

On the 18th November the Paramount Chief Letsie died, which event cast a gloom over the district; all natives who were able flocked from the district to pay their last respect over their Chief's grave. Shortly afterwards a National Pitso was held at Maseru, and the Chief Lerothodi appointed to succeed his father as Paramount Chief of the territory.

The above sad event had been for some time anticipated; but has made little or no difference in the political aspect of the district.

II.—Relations between the territory and neighbouring states continue satisfactory.

I regret to have to say that the illicit sale of brandy continues on the Free State border, more especially on the Bataung border. Every effort is being made to put a stop to this nefarious traffic.

III.—The population is increasing yearly, and the district is becoming much crowded, and arable land very scarce.

IV.—In January last the locusts visited the district and remained for some time, doing great damage to standing crops and pasturage generally.

Owing to the early frost in April many of the crops that had escaped the locusts were destroyed. Owing to these two drawbacks grain is scarce and dear in the district.

V.—Education and religion are, I think, making fair progress. During the past year a Cape Colonial school inspector visited the district. School report attached.*

VI.—The traders in the district have, I think, done fairly well during the past year; just at present, owing to the scarcity of grain, business is slack as compared with the early part of the year.

General trading stations	-	-	-	15
Hawkers' licenses	-	-	-	12
Dam licenses	-	-	-	2

VII.—The medical work in the district has considerably increased, and I feel sure is duly appreciated.

An epidemic of influenza was prevalent during the months of May and June, but no fatal cases have been brought to my notice, *vide* Medical Report, from which it will be seen that the hospital work has greatly increased, and in consequence of the increasing demand two extra wards have been added to the dispensary for hospital accommodation.

* Not printed.

VIII.—*Crime.*

The criminal record has been very small; the following is an extract from the records:—

Theft -	-	-	-	-	-	3
Manslaughter -	-	-	-	-	-	1
Contravening regulations	-	-	-	-	-	4
„ Customs regulations	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other irregularities	-	-	-	-	-	2

IX.—Labour has been plentiful during the past year, and a large number of passes have been issued, mostly to persons seeking employment in neighbouring states. *Vide* return of passes issued.

X.—The roads in the district are now in fair order, but have required constant repairing, owing to damage done by the rains last year.

Three road parties have been employed, and the expenditure on the work has been very heavy.

XI.—The pont and ferry-boats are much used during the rainy season, and are of great benefit to traders and travellers.

IX.—*Revenue.*

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax -	3,007	10	0
Licenses -	247	11	9
Fees of Court -	2	15	0
Special Receipts -	9	2	6
Total -	3,266	19	3

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Mohales Hoek, 30 June 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Return of Passes issued at Mohales Hoek during the Year ended 30th June 1892.

Seeking employment -	-	-	-	2,934
Visiting, &c. -	-	-	-	2,278
Total -	-	-	-	5,212

(Signed) J. W. BOWKER,
Mohales Hoek, 30 June 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

Return of Lost and Stolen Stock.

Stock.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.	Restored to owner.
Horses -	24	3	21	3	21	3
Cattle -	84	7	77	3	31	3
Sheep -	247	nil	247	nil	247	nil

(Signed)
Mohaless Hoek, 30 June 1892.

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

Report of the Medical Work in the Mohaless Hoek District for the Year ending 30th June 1892.

During the twelve months ending 30th June 1892, the attendance in the out-patient department of the Government hospital numbered 4,079. Of these 2,858 were new patients, and included 946 surgical and 1,912 medical cases. 10·9 per cent. of the total number were of a syphilitic nature, 446 being classed under this heading, and of these 106 were cases of hereditary disease. It is satisfactory to note that the Reserve is singularly free of this disease, most, and the worst, of the cases being from the mountain districts. Cases of zymotic diseases have been conspicuous by their absence, two cases of diphtheria being the only ones noted under this heading; two lepers presented themselves for treatment.

There was an outbreak of influenza during the months of May and June, but the cases were mostly of a mild nature, and no deaths are reported from this disease.

The work in the in-patient department has increased greatly since new accommodation was provided in February.

During the year 48 patients were admitted, of which number 37 were admitted between 31st January and 30th June; 30 major operations were performed on these patients, and two deaths occurred among in-patients during the year; a "resumé" * of the cases treated in the two departments is annexed.

(Signed) E. C. LONG,
Medical Officer.

* Not printed.

QUTHING DISTRICT.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.*Annual Report for the Year ending 30th June 1892.*

SIR

I HAVE the honour to submit herein my report on the affairs of this district for the year 1891-1892.

Early in the year Chief Lerothodi paid a visit to Quthing, and remained some weeks. While here a disturbance occurred between some messengers of Chief Letsie and the Chiefs Chopo and L'ele, and it eventually transpired that the refugee Pondomesi Chief, Mhlonhlo, was more or less concerned in the quarrel.

Owing to this a rumour spread throughout the district that it was the intention of the Government to entrap and arrest him.

This rumour caused considerable excitement and anxiety throughout the whole district, which was only gradually allayed by your statement at the Pitso.

At the end of November the district was again disturbed by false reports caused by the death of the Paramount Chief Letsie; these, however, soon died away, on the Chief Lerothodi's instalment in his father's place, and Letsie's death may be said to have made little or no difference to this district.

There have been no disputes or fights worthy of mention during the year.

Within the last few weeks Chief Mooiletsi has revived an old dispute between himself and a colonial headman named Wilhem Schuyt, about the boundary of Basutoland at the Upper Telle River.

I am informed that this question was raised once before, in the time of Mr. J. M. Orpen, Governor's Agent. I am still awaiting further explanations from Mooiletsi before inquiring into the matter.

I am glad to be able to report that the outbreak of red-water, which caused so great a mortality among the horned cattle last year, has not recurred this year, except in a few isolated instances.

In the autumn, this district, in common with others, was visited by large swarms of locusts, which did terrible damage to the grain crops, and more or less ruined the harvest. Grain prices, therefore, are high just now, and growing steadily.

Stock in general is not in as good condition as it usually is at this time of the year.

The new waggon road in course of construction to Ongeluksnek has not been proceeded with since my last report, but the part already made is kept in fair repair.

As usual, a good deal of damage was done to the waggon roads by the heavy summer rains, but with the aid of an extra road party, I am glad to report that this has been made good, and that the roads are now in a fit state to carry the class of transport for which they are required.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

There are at present nine trading stations in the district, and an application for a tenth is still under consideration.

The French Protestant Mission Society has ten schools in the district, and the Government has one night school for men and boys.

My report on them was forwarded to you on the 24th December last.

Since then some two or three of these have been re-examined by the Rev. Canon Woodroffe.

The police detachment stationed here continues effective. It consists of:—

- 1 European sub-inspector.
- 1 „ constable.
- 1 „ „ (temporary).
- 29 non-commissioned officers and men.

The population of the district was found by the Census taken last year to be 19,500 souls.

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

Civil -	-	-	-	-	-	4
Criminal	-	-	-	-	-	—
Contravening Basutoland pass regulations	-	-	-	-	-	2
„ „ trading regulations	-	-	-	-	-	4
„ „ Customs regulations	-	-	-	-	-	2
Theft -	-	-	-	-	-	5
Assault	-	-	-	-	-	1

The Revenue for the current year, which exceeds that of last year by 4*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, was received as under:—

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax -	1,675	0	0
Licenses -	367	13	3
Fees -	3	14	0
Miscellaneous -	6	17	3
Total -	2,053	4	6

I attach hereto schedules as under.

- Revenue in details of heads.
- Arrear hut tax collected.*
- Passes issued (labour).
- „ (ordinary).
- Return of hawkers' licences.
- Nominal list of traders.*

The dispensary at Moyeni, which was re-opened in June last by Dr. Long, and which it was intended should be kept open for two days per fortnight, has been again closed, as it was found

* Not printed.

impossible for the medical officer to attend to it while he was also attending a regular dispensary and hospital at Mchales Hoek, some 35 miles away.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

A good deal of influenza has been about in the district lately, but not so much, it would seem, as in other parts of the country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Assistant Commissioner.

Total Number of Passes issued at Quthing during Year ending June 30th, 1892.

Ordinary passes	-	-	-	-	-	2,218
Work	„	-	-	-	-	1,433
						3,651
						3,651

Number of Hawkers' Licences issued during Year ending June 30th 1892.

						10
						10
Waggons	-	-	-	-	-	9
Horses	-	-	-	-	-	8
						17
						17

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Quthing, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

Revenue, 1891-92.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
Hut Tax	£ 1,675 0 0
Licences	100 7 6
Fines	17 2 6
Ferry tolls	250 3 3
Fees of court	3 14 0
Miscellaneous	6 17 3
	2,053 4 6

(Signed) L. WROUGHTON,
Quthing, June 30, 1892. Assistant Commissioner.

BASUTOLAND.
1891-92.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR and HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Town, to His Honour the RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, Basutoland.

Government House, Cape Town,

August 23, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 8th instant, containing your report on the progress of Basutoland during the past year.

I congratulate you and your officers on the good work accomplished, and the financial results achieved in face of the difficulties created by a bad harvest and the devastation caused by flights of locusts.

In order that measures may be taken to check, as far as possible, the devastation caused by the locust swarms, I have given instructions that you be supplied with the latest Government publications dealing with this question.

I desire also to express my appreciation of the good and loyal service rendered by the Paramount Chief Lerothodi, and I trust he will in the future continue to use every effort for the maintenance of peace and the promotion of prosperity amongst the Basuto people.

I regret, however, to notice that some of the Chiefs have shown a readiness to resort to arms for the settlement of disputes, and that they have been in some cases reluctant to support the authority of the Government. I desire, therefore, that you will inform the Chiefs that I have heard of their conduct with regret, the more so as the Basutoland Constitution places them in the position of Government officers, and I expected to receive from them a more cordial support of the Government of which they form a part.

I trust that in the future the Chiefs, as Government officers, will show a better example to the people.

The number of stolen stock not recovered, as reported in Mr. Bowker's report, is a reflection on the Chiefs and people. I wish for a detailed report on this subject from all the districts.

The spread of leprosy is a serious evil, and I desire that you will explain to the Chiefs the importance of a cordial co-operation for the segregation of lepers, and, if you consider such a course desirable, I will arrange for their removal to Robben Island.

I have, &c.

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

His Honour Sir Marshal Clarke, K.C.M.G.,

&c.

&c.

&c.