



This document was created by the  
Digital Content Creation Unit  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
2010

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

---

No. 729.

**BASUTOLAND.**

---

**REPORT FOR 1911-12.**

(For Report for 1910-11, see No. 710.)

---

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty  
*September, 1912.*

---



LONDON:  
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.  
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from  
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, FETTER LANE, E.C., and  
32, ABINGDON STREET, S.W.; or  
OLIVER AND BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or  
E. PONSONBY, LIMITED, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN;  
or from the Agencies in the British Colonies and Dependencies,  
the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of  
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

---

PRINTED BY  
DARLING AND SON, LTD., BACON STREET, E.  
1912.

[Cd. 6007-29.] Price 1d.

## CONTENTS.

---

	PAGE.
<b>FINANCIAL</b> ... ..	4
<b>TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND STOCK-BREEDING</b> ... ..	5
<b>EDUCATION</b> ... ..	7
<b>MEDICAL</b> ... ..	8
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH</b> ... ..	8
<b>LEGISLATION</b> ... ..	9
<b>GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS</b> ... ..	9
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b> ... ..	10
<b>CRIME AND POLICE</b> ... ..	10
<b>GENERAL</b> ... ..	11

---

No. 729.

**BASUTOLAND.**

(For Report for 1910-11, see No. 710.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,  
Pretoria.

August 3rd, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland forwarding the Annual Report and Blue Book on the Territory for the financial year ended March 31st, 1912.

I have, &c.,

REGINALD C. HART,  
High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable  
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,  
&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office,  
Maseru.

July 19th, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward for your information the accompanying general Report on the annual Blue Book for Basutoland for the year ended 31st March, 1912.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,  
Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency,  
Lieutenant-General  
Sir Reginald Hart, V.C., K.C.B., K.C.V.O.,  
High Commissioner for South Africa.

## BASUTOLAND ANNUAL REPORT.—1911-12.

## FINANCIAL.

In order to bring Basutoland into line with the rest of South Africa, the financial year has been altered to end on the 31st of March instead of on the 30th of June as heretofore. The whole of the Report is therefore for the nine months from the 30th of June, 1911, to the 31st of March, 1912.

The revenue of the Territory for the above period amounted to £138,865 and the expenditure to £111,968, which includes the sum of £5,234 as capital expenditure from surplus balances.

## STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS.

*Revenue.*

	1910-11.	1911-12.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Native Tax ... ..	84,175	92,069	7,893	—
Post Office ... ..	3,774	3,634	—	140
Licences (including fines) ... ..	5,851	5,218	—	633
Fees of Court or Office ... ..	343	332	—	11
Miscellaneous receipts ... ..	2,259	1,793	—	466
Customs ... ..	45,029	32,169	—	12,859
Interest ... ..	4,066	3,648	—	418
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>145,500</b>	<b>138,864</b>	<b>7,893</b>	<b>14,529</b>

*Expenditure.*

	1910-11.	1911-12.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Establishments ... ..	18,740	11,165	—	2,574
Police ... ..	18,114	14,521	—	3,592
Post Office ... ..	4,377	3,510	—	867
Allowances to Chiefs and Headmen.	6,376	6,108	—	267
Medical Expenses ... ..	642	761	119	—
Office Contingencies ... ..	1,153	1,396	242	—
Revenue Services ... ..	112	109	—	2
Administration of Justice ... ..	2,821	3,416	594	—
Public Works ... ..	32,400	32,453	52	—
Hospitals ... ..	9,868	8,116	—	1,751
Education ... ..	12,385	9,804	—	2,581
Rewards for Special Services ... ..	64	85	20	—
Audit ... ..	355	225	—	130
Miscellaneous ... ..	7,079	2,931	—	4,147
Agriculture ... ..	10,429	10,099	—	330
National Council ... ..	817	235	—	581
Pensions ... ..	2,025	1,792	—	233
Capital Expenditure from Surplus Balances.	12,124	5,234	—	6,890
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>134,888</b>	<b>111,968</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>23,949</b>

It will be noticed that under the head of "native tax" an increase of £7,894 is shown, which is due to the further operation of the new Native Tax Law which was instituted last year, and also to the registration of taxpayers which was effected during the period under report. Practically the whole of the native tax for the year was collected during this period.

The following is a comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Revenue.</i>	<i>Expenditure.</i>
	£	£
1907-08	116,530	126,604
1908-09	108,638	126,921
1909-10	119,974	127,437
1910-11	145,401	134,888
1911-12	138,864	111,968

The expenditure for the last four years includes capital expenditure from surplus balances, under special authority from the Secretary of State, to the extent of £44,949, which has mostly been spent on the purchase of well-bred stallions and rams, sheep-dipping stations, bridges, and other buildings.

Subjoined is a table showing the Assets and Liabilities of Basutoland on 31st March, 1912.

<i>Assets.</i>		£	s.	d.
Balance at Standard Bank, Maseru	...	14,920	17	6
Balance in hands of Sub-Accountants	...	5,742	12	8
Balance in hands of Crown Agents	...	1,525	13	5
On fixed deposit with Standard Bank	...	60,000	0	0
On loan to Swaziland Administration	...	80,000	0	0
On deposit with Crown Agents	...	1,000	0	0
Remittances in transit	...	4,000	0	0
Advances recoverable from other Administrations	...	86	1	0
<b>Total</b>	...	<b>£167,275</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>

<i>Liabilities.</i>		£	s.	d.
Deposits from Labour Agents	...	1,900	0	0
Deposits from Master of Court (Estate Monies)	...	2,327	15	4
Balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities	...	163,047	9	3
<b>Total</b>	...	<b>£167,275</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>

**TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND STOCK-BREEDING.**

*Trade.*

As stated in last year's Report it is not possible to give any figures to show in detail the exports and imports of the Territory

owing to the arrangement by which Basutoland receives annually a proportionate share of Customs duties from the Union Government.

The wheat crop, which early in the season gave promise of an excellent yield, has, unfortunately, owing to lack of rain in the summer and to a considerable amount of damage done by hail storms, not fulfilled these expectations.

The yield of maize and kafir corn was very far below the average, and it is doubtful whether there will be a sufficient quantity of these crops even for home consumption. The short-fall is undoubtedly due to the prolonged drought in the summer.

With regard to wool and mohair, there has been a steady improvement this year both in quality and quantity, which appears to show that the introduction of better blood into the country has been fully justified.

#### *Agriculture.*

With the approval of His Excellency the High Commissioner, an officer has been appointed to supervise agricultural work in the Territory and to assist the Principal Veterinary Surgeon in that direction.

It is hoped that by making it possible for natives to obtain expert advice on agricultural matters the somewhat primitive methods now generally in vogue will gradually be superseded by more up-to-date and efficient means. The duties of this officer also include work in connection with the prevention of dongas and tree planting. The erosion of the soil, which has been gradually getting worse and worse, is a serious feature in the agricultural development of the country, and the fact that Basutoland is practically devoid of trees and undergrowth renders the soil an easy prey to the torrents of water that pour over its surface in the rainy seasons.

#### *Stock-Breeding.*

With a view to assisting the natives to improve the quality of their wool and mohair, sheep and goat rams selected by the Principal Veterinary Surgeon from first-class Colonial stocks have been from time to time purchased by Government and distributed throughout the districts in Basutoland. In addition to those mentioned in last year's Report, 220 Angora goat rams and 228 Merino sheep rams have been purchased this year, and it is hoped that by these means and with careful treatment the quality of Basutoland wool and mohair will be considerably improved.

The campaign against scab in sheep is still being carried on, and an additional four dipping-tanks have been erected, making a total of 19, at which over 86,500 sheep were dipped during the year under report. The building of these tanks in the mountain areas has been attended with considerable difficulty, and it is to be regretted that native sheep-owners in those parts do not appear at present to have appreciated sufficiently the efforts made on their behalf to rid their flocks of this pest. In other districts, however, the returns of sheep dipped have been most gratifying.

With regard to horse-breeding, it is satisfactory to note that a larger percentage of foals has been obtained this year from the Government stallions than in any previous year, and it is hoped that this advance will be continued in ensuing years. There are now 12 Government stallions in the Territory which every season are distributed throughout the districts for stud purposes and returned to Maseru for the winter.

There has been no serious outbreak of contagious diseases among stock. There have been no cases of glanders, and as two years have now elapsed since the last outbreak it is hoped that the attempts at its eradication have been successful.

The country has again been unvisited by locusts this year.

### EDUCATION.

The following table shows the enrolment of pupils in elementary schools for the last two years:—

*Enrolment of Pupils in Elementary Schools.*

Mission.	No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1910.			No. of Pupils on Roll, December, 1911.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Paris Evangelical Mis- sion Society.	5,285	7,325	12,610	5,650	8,548	14,198
Church of England ...	223	976	1,799	814	1,263	2,077
Roman Catholic ...	179	809	988	207	928	1,135
Total ...	6,287	9,110	15,397	6,671	10,739	17,410

This shows an increase of 2,013 pupils, which is all the more satisfactory as it is accounted for largely by the growth in popularity of the small schools in heathen districts.

The average attendance was as follows:—

1910.			1911.		
Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
4,685	6,497	11,182	5,080	7,797	12,877

It will be noticed that of the total increased attendance of 1,695, the attendance of the girls has increased by 1,300 while that of the boys has increased only by 395, and this disproportionate increase shows that to some extent parents are losing their



fear that school influence will emancipate their daughters from parental control in regard to marriage.

The Central Board of Advice, on which three missions working in the Territory are represented, continues to do much for the improvement of native education in the Territory.

---

### MEDICAL.

The number of patients treated at the Government hospitals and dispensaries during the period under report was as follows:— In-patients 1,674, out-patients 36,264, of whom 8,931 attended at the dispensaries more than once. In October, 1911, the Principal Medical Officer inspected the hospitals and dispensaries throughout the Territory and reports the high standard of work maintained in them. A new dispensary is being built at Qacha's Nek.

A table showing the number of beds in each hospital was given in the Report for 1909-10.

---

### PUBLIC HEALTH.

Small-pox broke out in September, 1911, in the Mohale's Hoek district, but the outbreak was slight and soon stamped out. In January and February, 1912, however, further outbreaks of the disease were reported in the Mafeteng and Mohale's Hoek districts, and at the date of this Report there were 81 cases in the former and 309 cases in the latter district. Most of the cases were of a mild type, and the rapid spread of the disease is due to the difficulties which were experienced in maintaining a strict quarantine over villages where cases were reported and to the indifference to vaccination which at one time was manifested among certain sections of the people in the Mohale's Hoek district. The difficulty of maintaining quarantine was met by invoking the aid of the Paramount Chief, and the indifference to vaccination was overcome by placing in quarantine all villages inhabited by persons who refused vaccination as well as those villages that contained actual cases of small-pox. This temporary refusal of some of the people to submit to vaccination was no doubt largely due to a feeling of security which a prolonged absence of any considerable outbreak of the disease in the Territory had engendered, and when measures were taken, as stated above, the difficulty at once disappeared, and some 41,703 people were vaccinated in the Mohale's Hoek district, which is thought to be now fairly well protected. The total number of people vaccinated and re-vaccinated in the Territory during the period under report was 182,820.

The health of the police and convicts has been excellent.

---

**LEGISLATION.**

The following are among the most important Proclamations issued by His Excellency the High Commissioner during the year under report:—

1. Guardian's Fund Proclamation.
2. A Proclamation making provision to enable the High Commissioner to confer on police officers in Basutoland jurisdiction to try minor offences.
3. Bills of Exchange Proclamation.
4. Public Holidays Proclamation.
5. Obscene Publications Proclamation.
6. Cinematograph Displays Proclamation.

**GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.**

The Post Offices in the country are as stated in last year's Report, and remain unchanged. It is proposed to connect Qacha's Nek with Matatiele, a distance of about 23 miles, by means of a telephone over which telegraph business can be performed, and which will doubtless prove to be a great benefit to the camp at Qacha's Nek and will supply a want that has for some time been felt.

Postage stamps to the value of £3,134 15s. 7d. were sold throughout the Territory during the year, as compared with £2,894 11s. 3d. sold during the previous year, being an increase of £240 4s. 4d. Telegraph and cable collections amount to £1,459 11s. 1d., showing an increase of £15 15s. 5d. Savings bank deposits totalled £4,603 13s. 6d., and withdrawals £3,225 17s. 11d. in 1911-12, as compared with £4,689 3s. 0d. and £2,844 9s. 9d., respectively, in 1910-11.

The following comparative table shows the amount of money orders and postal orders issued and paid during the last two years:—

Year.	Issued.		Paid.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1911-12    ...    ...	20,542	£ 30,014	15,742	£ 33,586
1910-11    ...    ...	17,343	21,441	13,493	23,907

The Government industrial school at Maseru has had a very successful year, being largely due to the proficiency of many of the boys during their last year at school.

*Gaols.*

There are seven gaols and two lock-ups in Basutoland, and during the period under report 558 prisoners passed through them, as compared with 716 in the previous year.

## PUBLIC WORKS.

New head-quarter offices at Maseru were commenced in July, 1911, and will be finished within the twelve months. The building consists of 23 offices and a court room. New offices are also in course of construction at Mohale's Hoek. A small bridge over the Tlametlu River has been completed, and one over the Tsoaing River is nearing completion. Some progress has been made with the scheme for providing new police barracks at the different stations in the Territory, which were much needed, and a large police stable to accommodate 100 horses has been built at Maseru. The sum of £20,000 has been spent on the maintenance and repair of the roads.

## CRIME AND POLICE.

The police force in the Territory on the 31st March, 1912, was of the following strength:—

European Inspectors	...	...	...	4
European Sub-Inspectors	...	...	...	11
European Constables	...	...	...	6
Native Officers	...	...	...	3
Native Constables	...	...	...	5
Native Sergeants	...	...	...	9
Native Corporals	...	...	...	15
Native Privates	...	...	...	258
Special Native Police	...	...	...	231

The special native police shown above are employed as border guards in the Quthing and Qacha's Nek districts as a precaution against the introduction of East Coast Fever into the Territory. They are ununiformed with the exception of an arm badge, but, like the regular force, are mounted.

Liquor continues to be smuggled into the country. The police have done good work in combating the traffic considering the apparent ease with which the liquor is obtainable in neighbouring Provinces.

The following table shows the arrests for liquor smuggling during the last five years:—

1907-08	...	...	...	...	67 arrests
1908-09	...	...	...	...	79 „
1909-10	...	...	...	...	90 „
1910-11	...	...	...	...	148 „
1911-12 (9 months ended 31/3/12)	...	...	...	...	100 „

GENERAL.

The period under report has been a quiet and uneventful one with no occurrences of any great importance to record.

The Census of 1911 has now been completed, and the following audited and final figures should be substituted for the unaudited returns given in last year's Report.

Total population, 404,507, of which 1,396 are European or white. Total males, 184,102; total females, 220,405.

It will be noticed that there is a considerable preponderance of females over males as shown by the above figures, but, as stated in last year's Report, the sexes in Basutoland are nearly equal in number, as will appear from the following figures which are taken from the "absentee" return.

Total males absent	...	...	...	21,658
Total females absent	...	...	...	2,972

Of the absent males 11,816 were engaged in work on the mines; the remainder, together with the females, are accounted for as being employed in service other than at mines, visiting, and at school.

The increase of the total population at the Census of 1911 over the total population at the Census of 1904 amounts to 55,659, being an increase of 13.75 per cent.

Some progress has been made in connection with the establishment of a leper settlement near Maseru. A suitable site has been selected and authority for the necessary expenditure will shortly be applied for. It is only natural that an undertaking of such a magnitude takes a considerable time to complete, and this will be more apparent when it is realized that it is intended to provide accommodation for approximately 700 lepers. It is hoped, however, that a year or eighteen months will see the settlement fairly well established. When authority is obtained for the necessary expenditure the buildings will at once be put in hand.

The total number of passes issued to natives during the nine months under review to leave the Territory amounted to 108,654, as compared with 135,700 in the previous twelve months. Of this total, 66,900 were issued to men leaving for purposes of work, and 41,754 for visiting purposes and on their own affairs. Last year's figures were 84,600 for work and 51,100 for visiting.

It should be remembered that the period under report is only of nine months, which will explain the apparent decrease in the figures. There will thus be seen to be proportionately a considerable increase on the number of passes issued last year.

*Basutoland National Council.*

The Council assembled during the month of March, and is still in session at the date of this Report.

CHAS. E. BOYES,  
Acting Government Secretary.

## COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

### ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
704	Northern Nigeria ... ..	1910-1911
705	East Africa Protectorate ... ..	"
706	British Honduras ... ..	1910
707	Tongan Islands Protectorate ... ..	"
708	Uganda ... ..	1910-1911
709	Straits Settlements... ..	1910
710	Basutoland ... ..	1910-1911
711	Leeward Islands ... ..	"
712	St. Vincent ... ..	"
713	St. Lucia ... ..	1910
714	St. Helena ... ..	1911
715	Weihaiwei ... ..	"
716	Ceylon ... ..	1910-1911
717	Gibraltar ... ..	1911
718	Gambia ... ..	"
719	Ashanti ... ..	"
720	Falkland Islands ... ..	"
721	Seybellee ... ..	"
722	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ... ..	"
723	Hong Kong... ..	"
724	Sierra Leone ... ..	"
725	Gold Coast ... ..	"
726	Turks and Caicos Islands ... ..	"
727	Fiji ... ..	"
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate ... ..	1911-1912

### MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute ... ..	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji ... ..	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica ... ..	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon ... ..	Mineral Survey, 1906-7 and 1907-8.
75	West Indies... ..	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria ... ..	Mineral Survey, 1907-8.
77	St. Vincent ... ..	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei ... ..	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria ... ..	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland ... ..	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria ... ..	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute ... ..	Rubber and Gutta-percha.