No. 3.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1889-1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 97, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
January 1891.

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1891.

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No. 3.  

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.  

(In continuation of No. 97, Old Series.)

Sir H. B. Loch to Lord Knutsford.

My Lord,

Government House, Cape Town,
November 29, 1890.

I have the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, in original, an interesting Despatch which I have received from Sir Sidney Shippard, covering the Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 1890.

I enclose also a copy of a letter which I have addressed to Sir Sidney Shippard on this subject.

The Report refers to many subjects of much interest and importance, and it will be satisfactory to your Lordship to observe the progressive improvement that has taken place during the year. The financial position of the territory is still far from being as satisfactory as could be desired, but I am glad to notice a decided improvement, and I believe the large influx of European population, which is sure to result from the extension of the railway from Kimberley to Mafeking, will tend to a steady increase of the revenue of the country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH,  
Governor and  
The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Report of the Administrator for the Year ended 30th September 1890.

Administrator's Office, British Bechuanaland,  
Vryburg, November 22, 1890.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward, for your Excellency's information, the following reports on the progress and condition of British Bechuanaland, and development in and beyond the
Colonial Reports.—Annual.

Protectorate, during the year which ended on the 30th September 1890:

1. The officer commanding the Bechuanaland Border Police in the Protectorate, forwarding a report from the Medical Officer, Makloutsi — 12
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I have much pleasure in stating that the peace of the eastern border of the Crown Colony and Protectorate has remained undisturbed throughout the year, and that there appear to me to be many signs that the firm but conciliatory policy steadily pursued for several years past is at length bearing fruit in better feelings and improved relations among neighbours who, on every account, ought to be united.

I gladly acknowledge the ready assistance afforded to this Administration on every occasion by the courts of justice of the South African Republic, and the impartiality of the juries before which fugitives from the Protectorate have been tried on the continuous charge of theft, but notwithstanding this the need of a convention for the extradition of criminals continues to be severely felt. I have reason to believe that one of the causes of the apparent reluctance of the Government of the South African Republic to conclude such a treaty with this Government, is the want of a superior court and the absence of trial by jury in British Bechuanaland. It is to be hoped that this want may be speedily supplied, and that perfect reciprocity may be established on all the points mentioned in my last annual Report, viz.:

I. Extradition of criminals.
II. Compulsory attendance of witnesses.
III. Recovery of stolen stock.
IV. Recognition of native passes, or passports.
V. Postal and telegraphic communication.
VI. Sale of liquor to natives.
VII. Execution of civil judgments on endorsement of writ.
VIII. Probate and letters of administration.
IX. Free trade in South African produce.

During the past year legislative proclamations have been issued for the following objects:

To provide for the registration of marriages solemnised in Bechuanaland before the 1st October 1885. (No. 71, B. B., 1889.)

To provide for the appointment of a Special Justice of the Peace with jurisdiction over a certain area between the valley of the Dry Hartz and the Transvaal border. (No. 72, B. B., 1889.)

To bring into force in British Bechuanaland certain Acts of the Legislature of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope for the year 1889. (No. 73, B. B., 1890.)

To fix the amount payable by the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, in respect of bank note duty in the territory of British Bechuanaland during the year ending on the 31st day of December 1890, and to amend the Bank Notes Duty Act, No. 6, 1864, of the Cape Colony accordingly. (No. 74, B. B., 1890.)

To amend so much of the law for regulating the duties upon stamps and licences in force in the territory of British Bechuanaland as relates to the amount payable for an annual licence by joint stock banks carrying on business within the said territory. (No. 75, B. B., 1890.)

To provide for the granting of licences to graze stock on certain vacant Crown lands. (No. 76, B. B., 1890.)

To establish a close season for the protection of game in the District of Gordonia. (No. 77, B. B., 1890.)

To remove doubts alleged to have arisen with reference to jurisdiction in insolvency under sections 20, 28, and 29 of the laws and regulations for the Government of British Bechuanaland, and to determine the procedure to be followed in relation to the compulsory filing of the accounts and plan of distribution of the assets of any insolvent estate by the trustee or trustees thereof. (No. 78, B. B., 1890.)

To repeal section 40 of the laws and regulations for the Government of British Bechuanaland as amended by Proclamation No. 66, B. B., 1889, and to prescribe in and by whom the rights, powers, and duties of Master as defined by Cape Statute Law with relation to the Master of the Supreme Court of the Cape of Good Hope shall be vested and performed in the territory of British Bechuanaland. (No. 79, B. B., 1890.)

To provide for the entry of the territory of British Bechuanaland into a South African Customs Union. (No. 80, B. B., 1890.)

To make provision for the maintenance of discipline and good order in the British South Africa Company's police within the territory of British Bechuanaland. (No. 81, B. B., 1890.)
To amend the Transfer Duty Consolidation and Amendment Act, No. 5, 1884, by reducing the rate of transfer duty payable on shares in a company formed within six months of the day of the date of the sale, or in a proposed company, forming an additional valuable consideration other than money, given or promised or agreed to be given by the purchaser to the seller, or to any other person, for, or in respect of, or in connexion with, the alienation of any immovable property in the territory of British Bechuanaland. (No. 82, B. B., 1890.)

To declare a certain area to be an infected district within the meaning of Act, No. 2 of 1881, entitled "Act for preventing the spread of Contagious and Infectious Diseases among Cattle and other Animals." (No. 83, B. B., 1890.)

To reduce the amount of the annual licence payable by the agent of a foreign firm in the territory of British Bechuanaland, and to amend the Stamp Act Amendment Act, No. 38, 1887, accordingly. (No. 84, B. B., 1890.)

To make better provision and to establish regulations for the general government and management of prisons in the territory of British Bechuanaland. (No. 85, B. B., 1890.)

To amend the law relating to the constitution of the Village Management Board of Mafeking, and to provide that the proceeds of all building plots sold as vacant Crown land in the township of Mafeking from and after the 18th June 1887 shall be paid into general revenue. (No. 86, B. B., 1890.)

Besides the foregoing proclamations certain Government notices of great importance have been issued. The following demand special mention:

To publish the Charter of the British South Africa Company. (7th January 1890.)

To publish the Order in Council of the 13th December 1889, embodying regulations as to the removal and return of prisoners and criminal lunatics under the provisions of the Colonial Prisoners Removal Act, 1884 (47 & 48 Vict. c. 31.). (24th Feb. 1890.)

To provide for the retention and production by carriers of permits for the importation of arms and ammunition. (27th Feb. 1890.)

To establish rules defining the practice to be observed in the Deeds Registry Office with respect to the cancellation of lost mortgage bonds; the issue of copies of transfer deeds; powers of attorney to pass mortgage bonds or deeds of transfer, &c.; and the hours for executing deeds of mortgage or transfer. (3rd July 1890.)

To establish regulations for the native location on the town commonage of Vryburg. (23rd July 1890.)

To publish a Money Order Convention between the Cape Colony and British Bechuanaland: extended to the United Kingdom and foreign countries. (26th August 1890.)

To publish an Order of Her Majesty in Council empowering the Governor of British Bechuanaland to provide by Proclamation
for giving effect to any power or jurisdiction which Her Majesty, her heirs or successors, may at any time before or after the date of the said Order have within the limits therein specified, to wit:—
The parts of South Africa situate north of British Bechuanaland; West of the South African Republic and of Matebeleland; east of the German Protectorate; and south of the River Zambesi; and not within the jurisdiction of any civilised Power. (27th August 1890.)

With reference to the last-mentioned Order in Council I may state that no attempt has been made to put it in force, or to act under it, save in respect of offences committed in the Protectorate by members of a police force; and I may add that, in view of the great and continuous influx of Europeans proceeding through the Protectorate to Mashonaland, and the vast interests now at stake, the time has, in my opinion, arrived for the annexation of at least that portion of the Protectorate lying to the south of Khama’s southern boundary, from the Notwani Junction or thereabouts to the Kalahari. Such annexation should, of course, include all that portion of the British Protectorate bounded on the east by the western boundary of British Bechuanaland, on the south by the Orange River, and on the west by the German Protectorate.

It is necessary to travel through Bechuanaland from the Hartz River to the Notwani and thence down the Limpopo to the camp on the Matlaputa, as your Excellency has recently done, in order to realise the enormous strides that are being made in the opening up and development of this country over since Her Majesty was graciously pleased to grant a Royal Charter to the British South Africa Company. The completion of the railway to Vryburg and the continuation of the line (already surveyed) to Mafeking; the construction of the telegraph with iron poles to the Makloutsi and the Tati, the digging of wells, the making of roads, the building and fortifying of camps at commanding points, and the vastly increased traffic with waggons laden with stores and merchandise of all kinds along the great route to the north and northeast, all testify to the new life which the prospect of untold wealth in the goldfields of Mashonaland has already infused into this country.

The work done by the Bechuanaland Border Police at the new camp at Gaberone’s station in the Southern Protectorate, and more especially at the camp on the Matlaputa, near the Makloutsi, on what is now the direct road to Mashonaland, is worthy of the highest praise.

Major Grey’s carefully prepared and very modest report conveys little or no idea of the magnitude of the work achieved in a remarkably short space of time by him and the officers and men under his command. Where all are entitled to such high credit it might seem invidious to mention names; but I venture to express a hope that the meritorious services of the officers of Her Majesty’s regular forces seconded for duty with the mounted police in this country may be brought in due course to the notice of their official
superiors in England. I trust that the long and valuable services of Major Hamilton Goold-Adams, of the Royal Scots, formerly Commandant on the temporary retirement of Colonel Sir F. Carrington, K.C.M.G., will be borne in mind.

It will be noted that some deaths from fever and dysentery have occurred in the force stationed in the Protectorate. The valley of the Limpopo is regarded in this country as a deadly fever bed at certain seasons, and great care should be taken in selecting the best sites available for camps and townships throughout the Protectorate and countries beyond.

I cannot forbear from referring to the recent death of the Master of Elphinstone at Palla Camp on the Limpopo, although, strictly speaking, this painful subject does not properly fall within the scope of the present report. This gallant and promising young officer, who had endeared himself to all who knew him in this country, fell a martyr to duty in the great work of establishing British power, and thereby extending the blessings of peace and civilisation in Central Africa. No consideration could induce him to swerve from what he regarded as the path of duty; he suffered much in silence, and his name will be remembered among those heroic pioneers who have laid down their lives for England in Africa.

Perhaps the most remarkable event of the year has been the brilliantly successful march of Lieut.-Colonel Pennefather, of the 6th Dragoons, from the Makeutsi Camp to Mount Hampden in Mashonaland. The forces of the British South Africa Company commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Pennefather, including the pioneers under Major Johnson, were guided by the well-known hunter, Mr. F. C. Selous, who was accompanied by Dr. Jameson, of Kimberley. A new road had to be cut as the force advanced; the route lay along the flank of the most powerful native tribe south of the Zambezi. In the not improbable event of a conflict the gallant little band might have been outnumbered at any point on the line of march in the proportion of at least twenty to one; they calmly and deliberately faced the risk of a second Isandhlana; no possible precaution was omitted; nothing was left to chance; and the result was a triumph which deserves to take rank amongst the great achievements of British audacity.

For cool daring, perfect discipline, and steady determination the little force under Lieut.-Colonel Pennefather could hardly be surpassed.

The prevalence of horse sickness and the consequent heavy losses in the Protectorate last season must occasion much anxiety as to the question of maintaining a mounted force in the north-east of Bechuanaland. For all purposes of transport oxen are the cheapest, hardest, and most reliable animals for this country, when time is not a paramount object. When time is all important, as in sending despatches in the event of a sudden outbreak of hostilities beyond the line of telegraph, or where the telegraph has been cut, there could not of course be two opinions
as to the advantage of employing the "ship of the desert." Those acquainted with use of camels elsewhere appear to think that these animals might be successfully introduced into the northern part of Bechuanaland and also into Mashonaland. The climate would probably present the chief difficulty. Throughout Bechuanaland the cold in the winter nights is intense, and the variations of temperature are sudden and extreme.

Before quitting the subject of the Bechuanaland Border Police I desire to place on record my opinion that the present force ought to be increased by at least fifty men and officers for the Crown Colony, and fifty men, with six additional Maxim guns, for the Protectorate, as soon as possible. Into all the reasons for this opinion I need not now enter. It may suffice to say that we are threatened with serious trouble on the western border of Gordonia; that the chiefs in the Southern Protectorate are all more or less disaffected; and that to my mind there appear to be symptoms of restlessness among the natives in the Protectorate which demand consideration on our part. We are holding vast territories with a very small force, and as a necessary consequence our native policy is far less firm than it ought to be. A sudden rising would find us unprepared; we trust too much to our justice and gentleness, forgetting that the potentiality of force must be ever present in order to secure the respect and loyalty of uncivilised natives.

The report of the Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General exhibits a marked improvement in the revenue for the first half of the present financial year as compared with that of the first half of the last financial year; and there appear to be good grounds for hoping that this increase of prosperity may be maintained and that the revenue in the next financial year will far exceed that of the current year. It is gratifying to observe that both farming and mercantile interests are deriving substantial benefits from the introduction of capital by the British South Africa Company with a view to northern development.

The report of the Crown Prosecutor shows a great increase in the number of crimes and offences of minor kind in consequence of the influx of railway labourers; but this may be regarded as temporary. There can, however, be no doubt that with the advent of a much larger European population, in consequence of the opening of the railway, provision will have to be made for a better administration of justice by means of a Recorder's Court with trial by jury. A suitable court room for the Resident Magistrate of Vryburg, and a substantial gaol at Upington, are among the most urgent needs of the territory at present.

It will be seen from the report of the Surveyor-General that the extent of land sold, and the amount received for it, compare favourably with the returns of former years. The farm surveys have been extended westward as far as the eastern limit of Gordonia. The township of Vryburg has been surveyed. The survey of the police farms in the division of Mafeking has been completed. Native reserves have been marked out at Boteetelets,
Maneering, and Koning, while other reserves have been partially surveyed at Motito, Lower Kuruman, and the Langberg. Besides large tracts of land sold, a block of 12,000 square miles has been set apart for the British South Africa Company in consideration of railway construction. On the whole the work and progress of the Survey Department during the past year may be regarded as highly satisfactory. Mr. Duncan's services merit special recognition.

The report of the Registrar of Deeds shows a considerable increase in the revenue of his department during the past year. Land is now being sold in this territory at remarkably advanced prices in comparison with former years, and appears to be eagerly sought after by farmers from the Cape Colony, Transvaal, and Orange Free State.

The work in the Deeds Registry Office has been admirably done by Mr. Genis hitherto; but is now increased so much as to render it indispensably necessary that efficient clerical assistance should be afforded to this meritorious officer without delay.

The report of the Postmaster-General and Superintendent of Telegraphs exhibits a steady growth in the work and revenue of these departments. Fresh tenders have been called for in consequence of the construction of the railway and the desirability of altering the postal route in the Protectorate. Increased expenditure is inevitable; but, on the other hand, considerable increase of revenue may now be confidently expected.

The Inspector of Native Reserves and Collector of Hut-tax reports that the natives have done their best to meet the demands of the law. With regard to native reserves Mr. St. Quintin states that in his opinion they will be overstocked and prove too small; and on this account, he says that sufficient attention has not been paid to the requirements of the natives. Mr. St. Quintin adds that at the time of the Land Court (in 1886) numbers of natives had fled the country with their stock, but that they have since returned and that their stock has been annually increasing. He might go further and say with perfect truth that considerable numbers of natives who have no right whatever to occupy land in this territory have crept into it from time to time in order to enjoy the benefits of British rule. I note with satisfaction Mr. St. Quintin's zeal or behalf of the natives; but I cannot admit the force of his arguments on the correctness of his inferences. The land settlement of 1886 was by far the most liberal ever made in South Africa as regarded the natives; and the only persons who then complained of it were the white claimants disappointed by the awards made in favour of natives. That in course of time, under a system of Government so favourable to the increase of unemployed native population, the reserves should become, so to speak, congested is only what might be expected. The remedy is not to deprive Europeans of their land but rather to induce the young native men, who now lounge about and live on female labour, to go forth and earn wages for themselves. The farmers
in this territory universally complain that they cannot obtain labourers on any terms; while hundreds of idle young natives grumble because they have not sufficient of the arable land out of which they expect their women to maintain them. It is a humiliating spectacle to see, throughout the territory, women, with babies tied behind them, vigorously hoeing the ground while their lord and master is reclining at ease or, perhaps, exerting himself sufficiently to smoke. Doubtless this state of things represents the normal relations of the sexes in all savage countries; but I fail to see that the man who will not spontaneously work for himself has any claim to sympathy when driven to labour by want. The fact is that the Bechuana is among the feeblest and least energetic of the South African types; he expects to be fed, clothed, and maintained in comfort all his life without any exertion on his own part; and in order to secure this exemption from toil he demands perfect liberty to roam all over the country, selecting the best springs and land, and changing his place of residence as often as the fancy seizes him. European men who are without means have to work hard in order to maintain themselves and their families, and the sooner our pampered natives are taught the same lesson the better it will be both for them and for us.

The Government Storekeeper in his report lays stress on the desirability of appointing an ordnance and commissariat officer at Mafeking. I concur in the view that such an appointment is now necessary; but as regards purchases and contracts, I consider that all payments should be under the immediate control of the Receiver-General, of whose department the office of Government Storekeeper might virtually form a branch.

The report of the Master of the Chief Magistrate's Court, who is also Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Vryburg and Superintendent of the Central Prison, shows the difficulty of performing so many different duties in a really satisfactory manner. The work of the Master's office is confessedly in an unsatisfactory state, and I see no remedy for it, save in the establishment of a High Court of Justice with a specially appointed Master and Registrar.

The reports from the Civil Commissioners and Resident Magistrates of the five districts into which British Bechuanaland is divided are, generally speaking, very satisfactory and do not appear to call for special remarks.

District Surgeons have recently been appointed for Taungs and Gordonia, and it is hoped that a District Surgeon may also be found for Kuruman, where the Rev. A. J. Wookey, of the London Missionary Society, has, for some time past, given the inhabitants the benefit of his medical skill.

The inhabitants of Vryburg and of the territory generally are most grateful for the grant promised for the purpose of building a hospital. I am in correspondence with Dr. Fitzgerald, the
esteemed Superintendent of the Native Hospital at Kingwilliamtown, as to the most advantageous way of expending the grant in question.

A Superintendent of Public Buildings competent to make architectural designs and act as Clerk of Works is now much needed here, and I trust that it may be possible to secure the services of an officer competent to perform these duties, provided the necessary provision be made in next year's estimates.

I am happy on this occasion to be able to submit to your Excellency a report showing greater prosperity and reasonable grounds for brighter hopes as to the future of this territory than in any previous year since its annexation to Her Majesty's Dominions. I have much pleasure in recording my appreciation of the excellent work done by all members of the Civil Service here in every branch of the Administration, and my deep and lasting obligations to these gentlemen. It has, I know, afforded them great satisfaction to have had the honour and pleasure of meeting your Excellency in the course of your late arduous journey through Bechuanaland.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SIDNEY SHIPPARD,
Administrator and Deputy Commissioner.

His Excellency
The Governor and
High Commissioner, Cape Town.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE, 1889-90.

The Annual Report of the Bechuanaland Border Police for 1888-89 was compiled to the 14th August 1889, on which date the head-quarters of the regiment were stationed at Elebe.

I.—Strength last Report.

The strength of the regiment on the 14th August 1889 was as follows, viz.:—4 troops, consisting of 18 officers, 29 non commissioned officers, and 288 troopers; total, all ranks, 335. One troop, consisting of 3 officers, 6 non-commissioned officers, and 63 troopers, being stationed in Bechuanaland, and the remaining three troops, with the exception of a few men at out-stations (on the postal route), at Elebe.
II.—Increase of Strength.

An increase of the force by one troop was sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government in the early part of the year 1890 (for which purpose a special vote of 25,000L has been granted) to be stationed in the Southern Protectorate.

The number of officers has increased by four, necessitated by the augmentation of the force by one troop, and by the sanction by Her Majesty's Government of a quartermaster.

The following appointments, promotions, &c. have taken place during the year:

Lieutenant R. E. Benson, 1st E. York Regiment, appointed Lieutenant, 11th July 1889.
Lieutenant E. C. O. Turner, transferred to B.S.A.C.P., 21st February 1890.
Sub-Lieutenant W. F. Bruce, promoted to Lieutenant, 22nd February 1890.
Lieutenant W. F. Bruce, transferred to the B.S.A.C.P., 1st March 1890.
Sub-Lieutenant G. P. L. Pemberton, promoted Lieutenant, 1st March 1890.
Quartermaster-Sergeant C. A. L. Ricketts, B.B.P., appointed Lieutenant and Quartermaster, 16th May 1890.
The Hon. the Master of Elphinstone, appointed Sub-Lieutenant, 26th May 1890.
Sergeant A. V. Gosling, B.B.P., promoted Sub-Lieutenant, 13th June 1890.
Corporal R. C. Dobson, B.S.A.C.P., appointed Sub-Lieutenant, 13th June 1890.
Arthur Snow, Esq., appointed Sub-Lieutenant, 2nd June 1890.
Captain C. F. M. McGregor reverts to Lieutenant, 15th April 1890.
Lieutenant Fuller, promoted Captain, 16th April 1890.
Sub-Lieutenant Allan Wight, promoted Lieutenant, 15th May 1890.
Lieutenant R. E. Benson, resigns on account of ill-health, 16th May 1890.
Sub-Lieutenant the Master of Elphinstone, promoted Lieutenant, 18th June 1890.
Captain and Adjutant A. Bates, appointed Captain "K" Troop, 1st July 1890.
Captain W. F. Coleman, appointed Adjutant, 1st July 1890.
Sub-Lieutenant W. G. Holt's services dispensed with, 20th May 1890.
Dr. A. P. Green, resigns, 22nd July 1890.
Harold Crichton-Browne, Esq., appointed Sub-Lieutenant, 18th June 1890.
The Rev. Mr. Trusted, appointed Chaplain with relative rank of Captain, 1st June 1890.
Dr. Veitch, appointed Medical Officer, 23 July 1890.
A. E. Walsh, Esq., appointed Sub-Lieutenant, 3rd August 1890.
III.—Present Strength.

The force is now divided into five troops, and the following is the present strength and constitution, exclusive of natives, on the 14th August 1890:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colonel Commandant</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majors</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captains</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenants</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Lieutenants</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartermaster</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paymaster</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Officer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Officers</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total non-commissioned officers of all ranks</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total troopers</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>436</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IV.—Casualties.

The following statement shows in detail all casualties among officers, non-commissioned officers, and troopers, during the year:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Increase and Decrease</th>
<th>Field Officers</th>
<th>Captains</th>
<th>Lieutenants</th>
<th>Sub-Lieutenants</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Corps.</th>
<th>Troop Sergeant-Majors</th>
<th>Corporals</th>
<th>Art. &amp; Stn.</th>
<th>Troopers</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Other and Troopers</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strength on 14th Aug. 1889</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>917</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>338</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointments</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reductions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reversions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recruits</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>642</td>
<td>674</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 436
The promotions during the year have been apportioned as far as practicable by seniority.

VI.—Discharges.

Of the 42 shown as discharged "by request," the majority were men who were unfitted generally for service in a sub-tropical climate, and their vacancies have been filled up by men of a more robust stamp.

Fourteen were men who, in one batch, were specially permitted transfer to the British South Africa Company's police. The remaining five were men who were allowed to avail themselves of the privilege of purchasing their discharges, under authority of his Excellency the High Commissioner dated April 1888.

Of the 44 discharged for misconduct, 39 were recruits, or men with very short service, whom it was found undesirable to retain in the force, and they were discharged when it was proved that they were not to be depended upon for service up country.

Of the remaining five, four were sent down country in the early part of the year as indifferent characters and have since been
discharged there; one man was discharged at the Pakwe for misconduct.

Four men were discharged as medically unfit, which may be attributed to natural causes.

VII.—Desertions.

Of the 17 desertions stated, four men deserted from Ramoutsa (where they were stationed after the troops went up country), but owing to the close proximity of the Transvaal they were not recaptured. These men deserted without horses, but took other Government property with them.

Four men deserted from Elebe in October 1889, taking with them four Government horses. Two non-commissioned officers were immediately sent after them with instructions to proceed into the Transvaal, where it was ascertained they had gone, and endeavour, if possible, to arrest them.

With the assistance of the British Agent and by the friendly co-operation of the Transvaal Government, three of these deserters were captured and afterwards tried at Pretoria, convicted of horse theft, and sentenced to three months' hard labour.

Three of the horses were recovered and brought back to Elebe.

Two recruits, who deserted from Mafeking in October 1889, were recaptured and sentenced by the Resident Magistrate at Mafeking to four months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Two recruits deserted from Mafeking without taking Government property in April and July last, but were not recaptured.

One recruit deserted on the line of march in April last, one day's journey from Mafeking, but took no Government property.

One man deserted whilst a patient in the hospital at Elebe, and it was feared at one time that he had wandered away in a fit of temporary insanity and had lost himself.

Immediate search was made, but without success.

A board of officers was ultimately convened and the opinion was that the man had deserted. This opinion was afterwards confirmed by information received from his friends in the Transvaal.

Three men deserted from head-quarters, Macloutsie, on the 2nd August 1890, taking with them three Government horses.

Up to the present time they have not been recaptured.

I have sent out patrols along the various routes leading to the Transvaal to endeavour to stop them before they cross the border, and I have received information from the officer in charge of one of the said parties that he is following the deserters to Pretoria, where I hope, with the assistance of the British Agent, to have them arrested and punished and to recover the stolen horses. If successful I have no doubt it will effectually put a stop to desertions from the Protectorate.
VIII.—Deaths.

I regret to have to report three deaths during the year, viz.:—
Trooper Jarvis in Elebe, by the accidental discharge of his revolver.
Trooper Shaw at Notwani, from natural causes.
Trooper Smith at Elebe, from natural causes.

IX.—Native Strength.

The native strength of the regiment remains the same as last year, excluding K troop, but a great many changes take place among the natives as they are very reluctant to remain more than two or three months away from their families.

The Chief Khama has given great assistance by sending natives to fill up the vacancies caused by desertions and discharges of the boys originally brought from Elebe.

The number of natives at present on the strength, excluding K troop, is 64.

X.—Transport Waggons, &c.

The transport capacity of the force, excluding "K" troop, also remains the same as last year, and consists of 22 waggons, four Scotch carts, and 10 water carts.

These are in constant repair, and, considering the dry weather and incessant work, are in fair order.

XI.—Horse Strength.

The number of Government horses on the strength of the force on the 14th of August 1889 was 353, since which date 293 horses have been purchased at an average of 17L each, making a total of 646 horses which have been on the strength of the regiment during the year.

With the exception of 29 for "K" troop these purchases were made to replace horses which have died during the year from the following causes.

Two hundred and sixty-one horses have died from horse sickness; 13 have been destroyed suffering from farcy; two were lost and have been paid for, and 50 from other causes; making a total decrease of 326, thus leaving the present strength of horses in the force, on the 14th day of August 1890, 320.

XII.—Horse Sickness.

From the above list of casualties it will be seen that the majority of deaths were caused by horse sickness, as in the preceding year.
On the 14th August 1889 there were 279 horses in the three troops in the Protectorate, and on the 14th June 1890 there were
only 31 horses remaining alive, and, with the exception of a small number, these horses all died from horse sickness.

Horses in Bechuanaland have not suffered in anything like the same proportion from this disease; the deaths there, in most instances, being attributable to farcy and general causes.

I have made it my special care to endeavour to discover a preventive for this disease.

I find that in this part of the country, if horses are allowed to graze during any part of the day, a certain percentage are sure to contract the sickness; rough stables have, therefore, been erected in which the horses are always kept, and since this has been done I find that the number of sick has greatly decreased. To compensate for the loss of grazing, the horses are fed upon a nutritious reed that grows in abundance in the neighbourhood.

No cure has as yet been found, but a certain number have recovered and thus become salted.

XIII.—Transport Animals and Casualties.

The mule strength on the 14th August 1889 was 89, and on the 21st May 1890 6 were purchased at an average of 15l., making a total of 95 mules which have been on the strength of the regiment during the year.

During that period 43 casualties have occurred, leaving the present strength 52.

The casualties were as follows:—Two from farcy, 29 from natural causes, and 11 lent to the postal service, and which died whilst on duty on the line of communication between Mafeking and Elebe in October 1889, when that service was taken over by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company.

These 11 mules were urgently required to prevent delay in the transit of mails.

The bullock strength on the 14th August 1889 was 356. Three oxen were purchased in May 1890 and 76, on the augmentation of the force, for "K" troop; making a total of 435 oxen which have been on the strength of the regiment during the year. Twenty-seven casualties have occurred, leaving the present strength 402.

One only was lost, and the remainder died from lung sickness, poverty, and natural causes.

The transport work in the Protectorate during the current year has been very heavy, and the number of casualties compare very favourably with last year's viz., 27 this year as against 41 the previous year.

XIV.—Equipment.

The new saddles, supplied for the force prior to the 14th August 1889, have answered their purpose well, and are all in good condition and sufficient to keep the field for some time.

The clothing of the men has undergone no alteration since the preceding year, but yellow pigskin leggings have been
suggested to replace the putties at present in use, the latter articles of equipment being found to be unsuitable for the work in the bush country of the Protectorate.

XV.—Forage.

The forage for the regiment is supplied by the Government storekeeper of British Bechuanaland as heretofore.

XVI.—Armament.

The armament of the force on the 14th August 1889 was as follows:

For artillery: six 7-pounder field guns, with the necessary equipment and ammunition.
One Maxim gun and 20,000 rounds of ammunition.
Small arms, exclusive of "K" troop, 437 Martini-Henri rifles, 18 revolvers, and 217 Snider rifles.

The only additions to the armament of the force since my last return are 200 bayonets for the Protectorate (to which allusion was made in the return for 1888-1889), one 7-pounder field gun and 2 Nordenfeldts, with the necessary equipment and ammunition, which were supplied for "K" troop upon its formation.

Two 7-pounder field guns were lent to the British South Africa Company's forces, and are still in their possession.

The amount of small-arm ammunition on charge of the regiment at the present date is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Protectorate</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>291,635</td>
<td>291,635</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bechuanaland</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>222,830</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

XVII.—Special Employment.

On the 14th August 1889 five men were employed in Matebeleland as escort to the Reverend J. S. Moffat, C.M.G., Assistant Commissioner for the Protectorate.

They returned from that country with the Assistant Commissioner in February 1890, and after remaining down country about three months returned to Matebeleland the latter end of May 1890.

XVIII.—Regimental Works.

On the date on which the last annual return terminated the men were busy erecting huts and stores and building a small fort on the top of a stony kopje at Elebe. These works were all completed in due course before the rainy season set in, and the accommodation for the men was all that could be desired.
XIX.—Move of Head-quarters.

In April last orders were received to move the force stationed at Elebe to a position near the junction of the Matlaputa with the Macloutsie rivers.

The whole force left Elebe on the 18th April 1890, and reached the vicinity of the proposed site on the 27th of the same month.

A suitable position on high ground, and commanding excellent water, was decided on, and a strong fort was made and the station placed in a thorough state of defence. Since then large huts have been built for the accommodation of the men, and iron stores erected for the storing of Government property and hospital accommodation.

I have great satisfaction in reporting the cordial assistance that has been rendered me by the Chief Khama, by sending men of his tribe to assist me in clearing the dense bush, and building huts, &c., &c.

XX.—Out-stations, Bechuanaland.

During the year additional out-stations have been formed, viz.:—
At Gordonia, Langberg, and Dry Hartz. At Gordonia this was found necessary on account of the withdrawal of the Cape police from that station, and at the Langberg and Dry Hartz the reported increase of cattle theft rendered it advisable to establish out-stations there.

All the out-stations in Bechuanaland are visited monthly by an officer, and an inspection report furnished to the commanding officer.

The work during the past year has been carried on at all the out-stations, without any exceptions, in a satisfactory manner.

XXI.—Out-stations, Protectorate.

When the contract for the conveyance of mails from Mafeking to head-quarters at Elebe was taken up by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company, it was found unnecessary to leave the men at the various out-stations along the line of communication; the following detachments were therefore recalled to head-quarters at Elebe:—

Boulder Pits, Dric Kopjes, Mahalapsie, Limpopo or Crocodile River (or Bath's Station), and 'Nwapa or Selika, and the following stations only are now maintained in the Protectorate:—

Palla Camp (or Notwani Junction), three men; Lenchwe's, two men; Molepolole, two men; and Kanya, two men.
XXII.—Arrests and Convictions.

During the year 116 arrests have been made, and 84 convictions were obtained. Last year 84 convictions were obtained against 156 arrests.

XXIII.—Special Patrols.

Lieutenant the Honourable C. J. Coventry, in command, Sub-Lieut. G. P. L. Pemberton with two non-commissioned officers and six troopers of the Bechuanaland Border Police, proceeded on the 26th August 1889, on patrol into the disputed territory for the purpose of searching that portion of the country lying between the lower portions of the Shashi, Tuli, Limpopo, and Macloutsie Rivers; the object being to ascertain whether there were any white people residing in that district either with the object of shooting or prospecting for minerals.

Instructions were given that the party was not to interfere in any way with any parties of Matebele they might meet.

In November 1889 Lieutenant Fuller was sent, by order of Her Majesty's Government, to interview the Chief Batwen at Kanya, for the purpose of making arrangements with reference to the sinking of wells in his country by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company, for the supply of water to the post-stations.

On January 3rd, 1890, one corporal and four men proceeded to Palapye to form an escort to the envoys sent by Her Majesty's Government to King Lo Bengula, and a letter was received from Captain V. J. Ferguson, Royal Horse Guards, dated 21st February 1890, expressing his satisfaction at the behaviour of the party.

On July 4th, 1890, Captain Fuller visited Sechele at Molepolole to inquire into the alleged taking away of goods from a trooper in the Bechuanaland Border Police by natives at that station.

On July 27th, 1890, Captain Fuller visited Lenchwe at Mochudi to inquire into certain disturbances said to have occurred there on account of the proposed construction of the telegraph line through his country.

XXIV.—Patrols, &c., Distances travelled.

The number of miles travelled on patrol, despatch riding and other duties during the year is as follows:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Miles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British Bechuanaland</td>
<td>82,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the Protectorate</td>
<td>101,130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total miles travelled 183,907

XXV.—Signal Stations.

On the 22nd August 1889 Lieutenant E. C. Chamley Turner proceeded on patrol with one non-commissioned officer and three troopers for the purpose of selecting sites for signal stations to establish communication with Palapye and the Tati.
On the 23rd November 1889 Lieutenant Turner with one non-commissioned officer and 15 men proceeded on patrol to place signallers at the following stations:—Tanopi, Palapye, Manani, and Selebe.

The Selebe station was placed near the Tati Drift on the Macloutsie river, and the duty of the signallers stationed there was to heliograph any news of importance from Tati.

Manani was the intermediate station between Elebe and Selebe.

These two stations were shortly afterwards withdrawn, but the communication with Palapye proved most serviceable, and has continued up to the present date.

On the removal of the troops to the Macloutsie two new signal stations were formed, by which means communication could be kept up with Palapye, and the work has been carried on in a very systematic manner, and has to a great extent supplied the want of a telegraph line to that place.

XXVI.—Postal Service.

A postal service has been established between Palapye and Macloutsie camp, by means of Scotch carts and relays of oxen, for the purpose of conveying the mails of the Bechuanaland Border Police and of the British South Africa Company.

This duty I consider to have been performed in a most satisfactory manner, the distance (120 miles) being covered in an average of 30 hours.

No extra expense is attached to this service.

XXVII.—Medical Officer’s Report.

From the attached report of the medical officer at Macloutsie, it appears that during the year there have been in the Protectorate 783 cases of illness, and out of this number no less than 194 cases were fever patients, two of which were fatal.

The epidemic of fever at Elebe may be attributed to the low elevation of the country, and the proximity of the station to the Crocodile river; and I have every hope that the new station at Macloutsie may be found to be more healthy on account of its higher elevation and more open character.

XXVIII.—Increase of Pay.

Orders were received in August last that Her Majesty’s Government have been pleased to grant 1s. per diem extra pay to non-commissioned officers and men of over two years’ service, to take effect from 1st April 1890.

This grant has given every satisfaction, and will probably have the effect of inducing men who have been trained and become thoroughly efficient to remain in the regiment for a longer period than the two years for which they were originally engaged.
XXIX.—*Inspection.*

In the month of June a minute inspection of the regiment was made by Major-General the Hon. Paul Methuen, O.B., C.M.G., both as to its military efficiency and interior economy.

The inspecting officer, in the course of his remarks, expressed himself thoroughly satisfied with what he had seen, and said that he considered the satisfactory condition of the regiment to be due to the admirable manner in which the captains commanding troops performed their duties. I mention this to your Honour because I consider it due to those officers that their valuable services should be placed on record.

XXX.—*Report on Officers.*

I desire to bring to your Honour's special notice the valuable assistance that has been rendered me by the officers and staff of the regiment.

Their duties have at all times been performed in a highly satisfactory and intelligent manner, and by their energetic example the hard work of the past year has been cheerfully met by all ranks.

R. GREY, Major,
Commanding Bechuanaland Border Police, Protectorate; for Colonel Commandant.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER AT MACLOUTSIE.

The annual sick report for the year ending August 14th, 1890, is as follows:

During the year there have been 783 cases of illness.

Of these, 510 occurred at Elebe Camp between the 14th August 1889, and April 18th, 1890, and 273 cases at Macloutsie Camp from the 18th of April 1890 to August 14th, 1890.

I may point out that a number of the cases at Macloutsie occurred just after the arrival of the men from Elebe.

A classification of the causes of illness I have made on the next page.

Deaths, 3.

Trooper Smith died, March 5th, 1890, from fever followed by phthisis.

Trooper Jarvis died, April 26th, 1889 [1890?], from bullet wound in intestine (accidental).

Trooper Shaw died, April 1890, at the Junction Camp, from fever.
### ELDEBE CAMP

**Total Number of Sick, 510.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Treated in hospital</th>
<th>as out-patients</th>
<th>in hospital</th>
<th>Daily</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dysentery</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary ailments</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>294</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** - 510

### MACLOUTSIE CAMP

**Total Number of Sick, 273.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>Admitted to hospital</th>
<th>Treated as out-patients</th>
<th>Admitted to hospital</th>
<th>Daily</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fever</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dysentery</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary ailments</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** - 273

(Signed) **QUINTEN R. VEITCH**,  
Medical Officer,  
Bechuanaland Border Police.
REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF THE BECHUANALAND BORDER POLICE IN BECHUANALAND.

To the Officer Commanding Bechuanaland Border Police, Macloutsie.

In the absence of a medical officer belonging to the Bechuanaland Border Police, and through the men of the troop being so scattered on out-stations, &c., I have deemed it advisable to report myself on the general health of the troop.

On all the out-stations in British Bechuanaland and at Vryburg and Taungs the health of the men has been very good.

One man had to be relieved from Lenehwe's station suffering from fever, this was the only case in the Protectorate, and the man has now quite recovered and returned to duty.

The health of the men stationed at Mafeking has also been exceedingly good, though a good many show on the sick report; this being accounted for by the fact that a number of men were transferred to this troop from the troops stationed at Elebe, who had to be sent to hospital with fever on, or shortly after, their arrival here.

Only one death occurred in the troop, that of Trooper Shaw, from fever and dysentery on the Crocodile River, whilst on his way down to join this troop to which he had been transferred from E troop.

(Signed) J. W. FULLER, Captain,
Commanding "A" Troop,
13th August 1890,
Mafeking.

REPORT OF THE COLONIAL SECRETARY AND RECEIVER-GENERAL.

Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General's Office,
Vryburg, November 22, 1890.

I have the honour to submit the annual report of this department for the year ending the 30th of September last.
The following is a comparative statement of revenue of the first half of the present financial year as against that of the first half of the last financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>1st April to 30th September 1889</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s.</th>
<th>d.</th>
<th>1st April to 30th September 1890</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s.</th>
<th>d.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hut tax</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,172</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licenses</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue stamps</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer duty</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>885</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>961</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auction duty</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees and fines</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey receipts</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>983</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Office (Colonies)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Office (Protectorate)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraphs</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,114</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quit-rents</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2,097</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other rents</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>88</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of Government property</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday receipts in aid</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals for Colonies</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,542</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11,076</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals for Protectorate</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2,886</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,558</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18,913</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The foregoing figures show a marked increase in every item except that of licenses, which remains at almost the same figure as in the preceding year. It is quite certain, however, that the revenue from licenses in the month of January next, when most of the licenses for this territory are issued, will show a very marked increase on that of last January.

The increase shown under the headings of transfer duty, survey receipts, quit-rent, and land sales are specially satisfactory as indicating an appreciable rise in the value of land, a genuine introduction of working capital for agricultural and pastoral purposes, and a solid accession of producing power to the farmers of the territory.

The advance made in the collection of hut tax is also noticeable, and bears out Mr. St. Quintin's statement, that the natives have been doing their best to meet the requirements of the law.
The figures under the headings of post office and telegraphs show a considerable increase: much of this is no doubt due to the recent extensions of the postal and telegraph system northward; and a still larger revenue under these heads may, on that account, safely be calculated on for the remaining half of the year.

So general and marked an increase of revenue is traceable chiefly to two events in South African history which have occurred in the period under review, viz. :-

The expedition under the auspices of the British South Africa Company through the territories of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, Matebeleland, and Mashonaland, and the extension of the railway from Kimberley to Vryburg.

The former work has been making uninterrupted progress for nearly a year, and the path of the pioneer and the policeman from Kimberley to Mount Hampden is now being closely followed by the prospector. Both the Government and the public of this territory have no doubt largely benefited by the expenditure on these three services.

The construction of the railway through this territory from its southern border to Vryburg has also put in circulation a large sum of money in the territory. It is a matter for regret that of the amount paid as wages by contractors a very small proportion has been earned by natives of this territory, who, of all the natives in South Africa, seem the least disposed to manual labour. Farmers and merchants have, however, benefited greatly by the influx of population, both white and coloured.

A report on the revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the past year would be incomplete without some allusion to the unfortunate accident early in July, whereby the entry of this territory into the Customs Union was announced and then postponed.

The loss of revenue to the Colony under this head from the 1st of July last to the 1st of January next would amount to at least 4,000L. While the intimation conveyed of the approaching entry of the Government into the Union has been utilised to such an extent by merchants, storekeepers, and consumers alike, that unless existing stocks, or a portion of them, are held liable for the full duty comparatively little revenue may be expected from this service for a year or more.

Statements of expenditure for the two half years have also been prepared. Owing, however, to the alteration in the classification of the services under the new estimates, they cannot be presented in a very intelligible or concise form for the purposes of comparison, nor are they valuable as indicating the normal rate of expenditure in the territory, on account of the exceptionally heavy payments made in the course of equipping, arming, and mounting the increased force of police in the Protectorate.

They will be found as annexures to this report.
The question of the expenditure on forage and grain for the police has this year been the subject of much discussion. The practice of giving out contracts for the different divisions in the Colony and for the whole of the Protectorate has been abandoned, and in its stead large purchases have been made chiefly through an agent.

There can be no doubt that a substantial saving has been effected in this particular year, owing to the extravagantly high prices demanded by the contractors having been declined, and to the favourable opportunities presented since for the purchase of mealies and forage. Now that it is probable that a contract, if submitted for tender, would be the subject of more genuine competition, it will perhaps be considered advisable to revert to the old system.

The disadvantages of the present arrangement, are the difficulty of fixing the responsibility of keeping up the supply on any particular officer, and the general objection entertained to the systematic employment of a commission agent.

Failing a reversion to the contract system, much good might be effected by empowering civil commissioners to purchase locally, at prices to be approved by Government, from farmers in their district.

Such a measure would give the farmers confidence by holding out a certain market to them for the disposal of their crops to a purchaser who would pay a good price promptly and in cash.

Allusion has already been made to the indifference of the natives of this territory to take up work. Many of them have lands to till in their own reserves, but the majority are too lazy, and the difficulty of obtaining labour is the one with which the farmers of this territory have to contend, and drives many of them to the less laborious and at present lucrative occupation of transport riding.

A serious loss to the working capital of the country is annually caused by horse sickness. During this last year the epidemic was exceptionally virulent. In the months of January, February, and March no less than 191 horses of the Bechuanaland Border Police died out of a total of some 300, while in the town and district of Vryburg alone at least three-quarters of the horses died during the summer.

A loss of this magnitude is in itself a serious tax on the inhabitants of the territory, and appears to be an item which must be taken into consideration when considering the general progress being made by the community.

In spite of the two difficulties I have mentioned, the condition of the farmers in the territory appears to be improving and with it the trade of the country increases.

With regard to this no statistics have as yet been obtained: possibly the taking of the census next year may afford an occasion
for arriving at various figures relating to the farming population, both white and coloured, which later on would be extremely valuable.

I have, &c.
His Honour
The Administrator,
Vryburg.

His Honour (Signed) F. J. NEWTON,
Colonial Secretary and
Receiver-General.

Statement of Expenditure during the Six Months, April to September 1889.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of Expenditure</th>
<th>1st April to 30th September 1889.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£ s. d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries, fixed</td>
<td>5,724 9 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pensions</td>
<td>275 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police, Bechuanaland Border</td>
<td>11,651 11 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posts and telegraphs</td>
<td>2,280 10 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaols and constables</td>
<td>301 1 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration of justice</td>
<td>63 7 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public works</td>
<td>1,478 19 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office contingencies</td>
<td>375 1 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>570 9 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising and printing</td>
<td>164 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical expenses</td>
<td>37 11 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue services</td>
<td>38 17 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>170 12 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey expenses</td>
<td>1,830 18 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protectorate</td>
<td>22,416 11 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refunds</td>
<td>0 2 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>47,372 5 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Statement of Expenditure during the Six Months, April to September 1890.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of Expenditure</th>
<th>1st April to the 30th September 1890.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£. s. d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Pensions</td>
<td>658 6 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Administrator’s establishment</td>
<td>1,687 13 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General’s department</td>
<td>880 5 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Store department</td>
<td>399 13 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Native affairs</td>
<td>488 10 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Legal department</td>
<td>1,000 16 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. District administration</td>
<td>2,737 18 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Posts and telegraphs</td>
<td>3,211 19 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Police, Colony</td>
<td>10,389 11 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Protectorate</td>
<td>40,757 18 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Education</td>
<td>58 10 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Transport, unclassified</td>
<td>313 10 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1,045 1 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Colonial Surveyor’s department</td>
<td>4,041 13 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Public works, recurrent</td>
<td>127 9 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. &quot; extraordinary</td>
<td>183 7 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Assistant Commissioner, Protectorate</td>
<td>1,285 17 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; additional</td>
<td>204 2 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Commissioner’s travelling</td>
<td>14 7 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>69,330 13 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## REPORT OF THE CROWN PROSECUTOR.

Crown Prosecutor’s Office, Vryburg.  
October 30, 1890.

Sir,  

In compliance with your request I have the honour to forward, for the information of his Honour the Administrator, the following report for the past year ending September 30th, 1890:—

**District of Vryburg.**

The extension of the railway from Kimberley to Vryburg has naturally been productive of a considerable increase of crime in this district, but I am pleased to inform you that, in spite of the
presence of a large number of Europeans and natives employed on the railway works, very few offences of a serious nature have occurred, the majority of cases tried having been contraventions of the Police Offences Act and assaults. Drunkenness amongst these employees has been frequent. I, however, am bound to state that in the case of the natives, most of whom are Colonial Kaffirs, the liquor was not supplied by licensed persons, but by half-castes, low-classed Europeans, and Indians, several of whom have been convicted for this offence.

The establishment of a police station at the Dry Hartz, and a proper system of patrol along the railway works, have effectually put a stop to trespasses by native railway employee's upon the neighbouring farms, and to disputes regarding the trespass of cattle between the natives residing on the Taungs Reserve and the farmers on the Vryburg and Taungs border.

In consequence of numerous complaints a proclamation authorising the appointment of a special justice of the peace for the Dry Hartz ward was promulgated, but no such official has as yet been appointed, nor do I think that there is now a necessity for such an appointment, in view of the fact that the difficulty of access to the Court at Vryburg on the part of complainants which existed has now entirely been removed by the advent of the railway.

I beg to draw your attention to the room at present used as a court house; it, in my opinion, is totally unsuited to the requirements of the district, and is a source of serious discomfort to the presiding magistrate and practitioners, there being no space for a prisoner's dock or witness-box, and no proper system of ventilation, an absolute necessity in summer, especially when the court, as frequently happens, is crowded with natives.

The central gaol has been filled by prisoners convicted locally, as well as by long-sentenced prisoners removed from other districts. It has been well managed and conducted by the present gaoler, whose valuable services I have much pleasure in bringing to your notice. I would, however, desire to point out that, in my opinion, the present gaol staff, consisting of a gaoler and a turnkey, is inadequate.

**District of Mafeking.**

There has been a slight increase of crime in this district, the number of cases tried being 123. Stock-thefts have decreased. Contraventions of the Liquor Law were fewer than during the preceding year.

A special justice of the peace was appointed for the district of Setlagoli some months ago, but I am not aware of any cases having been adjudicated upon by him. In the event of railway extension to Mafeking taking place, the establishment of a periodical Court at Setlagoli and additions to the Mafeking Gaol will be necessary.
The criminal calendar for this district shows a great increase of stock-thefts during the past year; this was chiefly due to the influx of a large number of natives employed on the railway construction. The Batlapins have again proved themselves to be a quiet and law-abiding people. The friction between the Transvaal farmers and the natives residing on the border has, owing to the influence of Mr. Van Niekerk, Commissioner for the South-western Border of the South African Republic, considerably abated.

District of Kuruman.

The state of this district as far as crime is concerned has been most satisfactory.

District of Gordonia.

Very few cases of crime have occurred. The want of a proper gaol and gaoler's quarters is much felt.

General.

As his Honour the Administrator last year in his report expressed an opinion as to the necessity of the establishment of a Recorder's Court, and as this subject was laid before his Excellency the Governor on his late visit to this territory, it is unnecessary for me to report upon the matter; suffice it for me to say, that, in my opinion, the large influx of a European population, which has lately taken place and which will undoubtedly continue, fully warrants the establishment of such a court.

I beg again to call attention to the absolute necessity of extradition treaties being entered into with the neighbouring Republics, and to the urgent need of reciprocity on the following points:—

1. Compulsory attendance of witnesses.
2. Execution of civil judgments on endorsement of writ.
3. Recognition of probate and letters of administration.

Several legislative proclamations have been issued during the past year, two of which, reducing the amounts payable for the licenses of agents of a foreign firm and insurance companies,” have given great satisfaction to the commercial community.

In conclusion, I have much pleasure in bringing to your notice the valuable services rendered to me by Mr. Boyes, the Assistant Resident Magistrate at Vryburg, in the numerous prosecutions which have lately occurred.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. VINTCENT,

The Secretary.

Crown Prosecutor.

Surveyor-General's Office, Vryburg,
November 22, 1890.

The chief feature of the year has been the extension of the railway from Kimberley to Vryburg, which will be opened for traffic on the 1st December. With the means of rapid communication thus provided it may be hoped that the farmers of the Cape Colony and neighbouring States will see an opening for their industry in this territory, and that the resources of Bechuanaland will before long contribute their share to the general wealth of South Africa.

The influence of railway extension has been already felt in this department in the increased demand for land, principally in the shape of large stock runs and of town lots. It is expected that a still greater demand will be experienced when the construction of the line between Vryburg and Mafeking has been commenced.

Meanwhile the extent of land sold and the amount received under that head of revenue compare favourably, as might have been expected, with the returns of former years.

In addition to the land sold during the year a block of 12,000 square miles has been set apart for the British South Africa Company in terms of the agreement under which the railway is being made.

During the past year the farm surveys have been extended westward as far as the Pile of Andriesfontein, the eastern limit of Gordonia.

Many of the farms laid out have been allotted in terms of the award of the Land Commission of 1886, and the remainder are available for grant or sale.

The township of Vryburg has been surveyed, and a want much felt by persons wishing to build upon their lots has thus been satisfied.

On the commonage of Vryburg a railway yard 40 acres in extent has been marked out by the engineers, and the railway station and other buildings have been erected.

A small township intended to compete with Vryburg was marked out by the proprietor on his farm Bernan, through which runs the direct road from Vryburg to the Transvaal.

The position of the new township with respect to the railway station may offer some advantages, but, as yet, the building sites near the Government offices in the old township seem to be preferred.

The survey of the police farms in the division of Mafeking has been completed, and title issued.
Reserves for the use of natives have been laid out at Boteetilets, Maneering, and Koning.

The Motito and Lower Kuruman Reserves and a reserve for the Batlaros on the Langbergen under Toto have been partly surveyed.

It is satisfactory to be able to record that Her Majesty's Government have authorised the payment of an annuity during his life and good behaviour to the Chief Toto in compensation for the loss which he will sustain by the influx of European settlers.

(Signed) A. H. F. Duncan,
Vryburg, November 22nd, 1890. Surveyor-General.

ANNUAL REPORT UPON THE DEEDS REGISTRY OFFICE OF BRITISH BECHUANALAND FOR THE YEAR 1890.

The figures in the comparative statement hereunto annexed show a considerable increase in the revenue of this department, which is undoubtedly due to the rising tendency in the market value of landed property, and now that the railway has reached Vryburg, and the native territories to our immediate north are under occupation of the British South Africa Company, British Bechuanaland thereby becoming an important trading centre, we may confidently look forward for continuous progress and prosperity; and although the views expressed in former reports regarding the probable gold discoveries in this territory have not yet been fully realised, the fact remains that gold and other minerals do exist, and with the influx of population and capital, the mineral wealth of this country will now soon be proved. The intrinsic value and superior farming qualities of this country is apparent from the fact that farmers from the Cape Colony, Transvaal, and Orange Free State buy up land here at remarkably advanced prices in comparison with former years. With these facts before me, I have no hesitation to state that this country has entered upon a favourable financial change, with a future before it capable of rapid progress and development in all the branches of industry, trade, and mining operations.

With the improvement of the revenue in this department, it naturally follows that the work is also increasing, and, I need hardly state, requires clerical assistance. I would further beg to point out that the strong room attached to this office is inefficient as far as safety of the public deeds and registers are concerned. In all other countries the whole of the deeds offices are made fire-proof, and, taking into consideration the irreparable loss that might be sustained from fire, will justify the little expenditure caused in preventing such loss.
The following is a comparative statement of the value of property transferred; number and amount of bonds registered during this year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1889</th>
<th>1890</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of transfers</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bonds registered</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bonds cancelled</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of property</td>
<td>£23,981 19 6</td>
<td>£58,785 19 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>transferred</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bonds passed</td>
<td>2,427 7 9</td>
<td>27,749 1 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bonds cancelled</td>
<td>12,784 2 0</td>
<td>20,739 10 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The departmental revenue is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount received</th>
<th>1889</th>
<th>1890</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in revenue stamps on</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>value of properties</td>
<td>90 11 0</td>
<td>239 8 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>transferred</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of bonds passed</td>
<td>11 17 6</td>
<td>119 4 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in revenue stamps on</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>registration fee on</td>
<td>194 0 0</td>
<td>281 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>281 transfers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of bonds passed</td>
<td>13 0 0</td>
<td>52 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in revenue stamps on</td>
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(Signed) M. C. GENIS,
Deeds Registry Office, Vryburg,
Registrar of Deeds.
4th October 1890.

SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF MR. J. E. MIDDLETON,
POSTMASTER-GENERAL AND SUPERINTENDENT OF TELEGRAPHS.

In consequence of increased business improved accommodation is being provided at Vryburg and Mufeking, and a postal agency has been opened at Bloemfontein in Gordonia.

The mails between Kimberley and Palachwe have been conveyed weekly under contract by the Bechuanaland Exploration Company.
Owing to large losses by horse sickness from January to April this service was not satisfactorily performed north of Mafeking.

The railway was utilised between Kimberley and Fourteen Streams from 4th August 1890, and from the 1st of December there will be a daily mail service by rail between Kimberley and Vryburg, with a bi-weekly service by road between Vryburg and Mafeking. Kuruman is still served from Taungs, and Bloemfontein from Upington by native runners.

In the Protectorate there are five postal agencies (Kanye, Molepolole, Palachwe, Tati, and Buluwayo), with a sub-agency at Macloutsie. The three first-named are served by weekly mail-cart from Mafeking, Macloutsie by weekly cart from Palachwe, and the others by weekly runners from the same place.

Macloutsie is the station through which passes all correspondence for Mashonaland, and will become the exchange station under the probable postal convention with the British South Africa Company.

The total weight of mail matter received into the territory from Kimberley during the year was 19½ tons, and the amount despatched to Kimberley was 9½ tons.

The number of letters, &c., parcels, money orders, and postal drafts dealt with shows a large increase during the year. The gross receipts for postal business for the territory amounted to 1,812£, showing an increase of 260£; and those for the Protectorate to 883£, showing an increase of 545£.

The telegraphs have worked very satisfactorily during the year since the completion of the new No. 8 wire. The instruments will need to be replaced at an early date, owing to the heavy work.

The extension of the line from Mafeking to Palachwe (290 miles), constructed and worked by the British South Africa Company, was completed during the year. Offices have been opened at Ramoutsa, Palla, and Palachwe. The line is now being pushed forward to Macloutsie and Tuli.

The total revenue of the government line was 1,901£, being a decrease of 18£. Government messages dealt with represented a value of 1,797£, being an increase of 483£.

The work, both of the postal and of the telegraph staff, has been exceptionally heavy during the year, and has been very satisfactorily performed.


Sir,

Setlagoli, 1st October 1890.

I have the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, as follows:

That from 1st October 1889 to 30th September 1890 I have collected the amount of one thousand six hundred and two pounds five shillings sterling (1,602£. 5s.) on account of hut-tax.
Collections were made at Moroko's farm, Ganyesa, and Klein Choin Reserves during early part of October; the latter end of October and in November collections were made in the eastern portion of the Kuruman District and in the Lower Kuruman Reserve. Morokwen Reserve was visited by me in December, and Honing Vley, Madebo, and the Moshauen River in the following month.

I applied for, and was granted, one month's leave of absence in February 1890.

In March, whilst in Vryburg, lung sickness broke out amongst the oxen in my possession; two of the oxen were affected and recovered, the others were kept in quarantine for 40 days by order of the Village Management Board.

Early in April I was supplied with a new ox-waggon, and then left Vryburg for Morokwen, and from thence travelled to Kuruman via Honing Vley and Tseni, thence to Langberg and Korannaberg District, returning to Vryburg in June.

In July I was informed that the duty of collecting the hut tax for the whole province would be in my hands, and that Mr. J. P. McCarthy was appointed to assist me.

I proceeded to Taungs, and after interviewing "Mankoroane," instructed Mr. McCarthy to register all the occupied huts in the Taungs Division, and after completing this work to meet me at Mafeking on the 1st September.

During August I collected the tax at Ganyesa and Mosita Reserves and in the western portion of the Molopo Reserve.

Mr. McCarthy reported himself to me at Mafeking on the 1st September, and after our interviewing "Montshioa," we commenced the registration of the huts in his reserve, and at the same time the collection of the tax.

Leaving Mafeking on the 15th September, we arrived at Phoi's Station, Setlagoli Reserve, and after registering the huts and collecting the tax arrived at Police Camp, Setlagoli, this morning.

There has been again a failure in the crops, I may say, throughout the territory, owing to the want of rain during the early part of the season—the rain fell too late to do any good. At Taungs and in the Langberg the crops were only fairly good, but in the Barolong territory they failed entirely.

There is a current of dissatisfaction throughout the Batlaro territory, owing to the rumours circulated to the effect that the greater portion of Toto's country has been given away by the Government, and no steps been taken to secure the rights of the natives in occupation.

In June last, when in Langberg, Toto told me that he was troubled by these rumours, and that Government had ignored him altogether.

I was at the time unable to give him any information, and am still officially ignorant of the Government's intentions regarding the natives under this Chief.

With regard to the native reserves generally, I do not consider that sufficient attention has been paid to the requirements of the natives,
At the time of the Land Court numbers of natives had fled the country with their stock, and it was difficult to arrive at the extent of ground required for them; since that time numbers have returned to this country, and they and their stock have been annually increasing.

It will be found that in a few years the reserves will be cramped and overstocked.

Re the tax I can only say that I consider the natives have done their best to meet the demands of the law.

In conclusion, I may state that up to the present time my assistant, Mr. J. P. McCarthy, has given me every satisfaction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. St. Quintin,

To the Secretary, Inspector of Native Reserves,
His Honour the Administrator, and Collector of Hut Tax,
British Bechuanaland.

SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF CAPTAIN GOODYEAR, GOVERNMENT STOREKEEPER.

Owing to the increase in the police and the general development of the territory, there has been during the year a large increase in the work of this department.

Nordenfeldt guns and Martini-Henry rifles have been obtained from the War Office, and many supplies of stores and clothing from the Ordnance Store Department at Capetown.

An inquiry was held during the year into the relative cost of the clothing and saddlery obtained for the police forces of Bechuanaland and Basutoland respectively. In order to test quality a complete set of Basutoland outfit has been put into use as an experiment.

Owing to the drought the price of forage rose enormously in April last, and the purchase of supplies was postponed through the consumption of the mealies stored at Elebe. During part of the year the contract system was abandoned, and supplies were purchased in the Kimberley market through a commission agent. This system appears to result in a saving.


During the past year 44 death notices have been filed. Most of the estates are small, and some are of persons who died in previous years. As this office is worked in conjunction with the Resident Magistrate's, in which there has been a very great pressure
of work lately, it has been impossible to pay as much attention as could be desired to the work of the Master's Office. To carry on the work of the department properly a separate clerk is required. Constant attention is wanted to see that executors file their accounts in the proper time, to check them when received, and carry out the details of the office; at the same time I am bound to say that the revenue derived would not cover the expenditure. The principal difficulty in getting estates settled is that so many executors leave the territory and go to reside in the Transvaal, where they are beyond the jurisdiction of the Court. In some cases there are assets both in this territory and the Transvaal, and it would greatly facilitate the settlement of estates if arrangements could be made for each State to recognise letters of administration granted by the other.

There have been no insolvencies in the territory during the past year.

(Signed) R. Tillard,
Vryburg, 13th October 1890.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER OF VRYBURG FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1890.

The past year has been an important one for this district, the railway from Kimberley having been commenced and very nearly completed.

The Standard Bank has opened a branch here. The Dutch Reformed Church has been completed, a public garden has been started and a number of trees planted, and a considerable amount of building is now going on in the town. The railway, which it is expected will be open early in December, has, of course, attracted a considerable number of persons of all classes. Several new stores have been opened; new hotels are being built. The place is generally prosperous, and the value of property in town and country has considerably increased. The opening up of the country to the North under the auspices of the Charter Company has increased the traffic, which has lately been very large, and will probably increase; so long, therefore, as Vryburg remains the terminus the present prosperity will, I imagine, certainly be maintained and probably increased. I fear, however, that the entry of British Bechuanaland into the Customs Union will have a tendency to divert trade.

It is hoped that a very considerable amount of forwarding trade to the Transvaal will be secured, and this will, of course, be a great advantage both to the town and district. The influx of population, however, is not without its drawbacks. It has been shown in the Cape Colony that a railway is a great advantage to a town in a business point of view so long as it is a terminus, but
that when it is carried on, although it may benefit the district and even make the town a more advantageous place of residence; it does not increase business; the consequence of this experience is that people hesitate in investing money in building, the result being great increase in rents and immense difficulty in getting accommodation. The farming community have undoubtedly done well during the last five years. At the time the present Government was established most of them were poor and had little stock, now, in a short time, many of them are prosperous and, comparatively speaking, well to do; the principal means of the improvement in their position are cattle breeding and transport riding. As I mentioned in my last annual report, I consider this a first-class district for cattle farming, and there has been during the past year a good demand for transport, which I consider will be at least fully maintained during the ensuing year.

There has, however, been more disease amongst cattle this year than usual, some sicknesses previously almost unknown having made their appearance. Horse sickness was unusually severe last autumn, both in Bechuanaland and other parts of South Africa; this terrible scourge entirely precludes the possibility of making horse-breeding, which would otherwise be a profitable pursuit, pay, and it is a very serious difficulty in advancing northwards, as it is more virulent in the upper country.

It appears to me highly desirable that a thorough investigation should be made into the origin and cause of this disease with a view of ascertaining whether means cannot be found either of prevention or cure. The whole of South Africa is interested in this question, and if the different Governments were to combine the expense would not be heavy. It is generally considered that sheep and goats will do well here when the "veldt" has been eaten off.

The main difficulties the farmers have to contend with are:

1. Want of labour.
2. Want of capital.

I do not add want of water, because I consider it is included in want of capital; there is sufficient rainfall here to give an adequate supply. With regard to the first it is an unfortunate fact that in a country where there are large numbers of aboriginal natives there is a great difficulty in getting servants; the natives have few wants, and what they have are easily supplied; the consequence is that but few of them will work as herds for the farmers. If a native wants some money and has not a waggon and oxen, he goes generally to the Diamond or Gold Fields, where the money he gets for a month or two's work supplies his needs; continuous labour they dislike and rarely practise, and it may be mentioned that the native labour employed on the railway works has been drawn almost entirely from the Cape Colony.

The want of capital prevents many farmers not only from making improvement, but from properly stocking their farms
In the Cape Colony, Government advance money for improving water supply, &c., on very easy terms, and it would be of great benefit if the same thing could be done here. Fencing and tree planting should also, in my opinion, be encouraged and assisted. I look upon fencing as the greatest improvement possible to the country; it checks stock stealing, prevents the spread of diseases, and renders a farmer to a considerable extent independent of servants.

Gold prospecting has to a certain extent collapsed; promising indications have been found in some localities, but up to the present time payable gold has not been found to exist in this district. I have recently been informed that a coal-field has been discovered a few hours from here, but have no positive information on the subject. I think that for ascertaining the geological formation of the country for sinking for water, &c., it would be very advantageous if Government could get out a diamond drill for work in the territory.

A new township was laid out on a farm adjoining the commonage which it was alleged would be nearer the railway station than the present town, but beyond the sale of a number of erven at somewhat high prices, I am not aware that the scheme has been developed. Efforts are being made to establish a public school here, and an amount has been guaranteed by the inhabitants which will enable it to be started provided the expected Government grant is secured.

The work in the Civil Commissioner's and Resident Magistrate's Department has, as might be expected, been greatly increased lately. In the Civil Commissioner's office there has been a substantial augmentation of revenue, and the influx of a large number of railway employees and "loafers" has, naturally, greatly increased the work in the Resident Magistrate's office.

This is sufficiently shown by the fact that in September 1889 there were six cases tried in the Resident Magistrate's Court, and in September 1890 94, and the fines collected in September 1889 amounted to 10s., and in September 1890 to 66l. 1s.

The receipts for licenses also have increased, and the general work has been very heavy. There has not, however, I am glad to say, been any considerable amount of serious crimes, most of the cases being the ordinary petty police cases.

There has, however, been a great increase in the cases arising from supplying natives with liquor; this arises from the fact that there are a large number of Cape Colony natives working on the railway and elsewhere who will do anything to get brandy, and that there are also many low white men and half-castes (who do not come within the prohibited degree) who are willing to run the risk of punishment to make a few shillings. I believe that as far as the aboriginal natives are concerned the law is still effective, and I have no doubt that the evil will be greatly diminished when the railway works are completed. I may mention that it is a crime difficult to detect as the natives themselves will not give information.
I have not been able to get any reliable native constables, owing, no doubt, principally to the small pay they receive, and it is only when a man is caught in the act by a white constable that there is a chance of conviction. The police staff has, however, recently been augmented by the addition of four white policemen, since which time there have been several convictions, and I trust that the crime will be put down.

The Board of Management has, I think, done as much as possible considering the limited means at their disposal, and has lately levied a higher rate than hitherto, which will provide a good deal more money than has been previously available for the many necessary works required in the town.

The Divisional Council has been hampered by want of funds and has been unable to expend money on repair of roads which are much needed; there has been great difficulty in collecting the rates, but I hope there will be a considerable improvement shortly.

The sanitary condition of the town and district has been satisfactory; there was an outbreak of diphtheria in the town lately, but the board took prompt action in the matter, and being liberally assisted by Government have, I trust, stamped out the disease. The want of an hospital has been much felt, and I am pleased to learn that Government intend starting one.

The services of a clergyman of the Church of England have been obtained, and services are regularly held and are well attended. A parsonage is in course of erection, and subscriptions obtained for the building of a church which, it is hoped, will be started shortly.

Condition of Public Buildings.

The gaol is a well-built structure, affording a considerable amount of accommodation; some few repairs and alterations have recently been made, and it is in good order.

It is, however, so far away from the court-house and township that during the past year the old gaol has been repaired and is now used as a lock-up; it is not a very satisfactory building or in a convenient situation, but is a great advantage, having a place to lock prisoners in arrested at night-time.

The Magistrate's and Civil Commissioner's offices are very much out of repair, and the court-room is quite unsuitable for present requirements.

In conclusion, I have much pleasure in expressing my opinion that the state of the district both as regards the Government and the people is satisfactory; the people are advancing in prosperity and loyal to existing institutions, and there will, no doubt, be a considerable increase in revenue during the coming year.

(Signed)   R. TILLARD,
          C. C.
REPORT OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER, MAFEKING.

Civil Commissioner's Office, Mafeking, October 13, 1890.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit my annual report for the year ended the 30th ultimo.

The year has again been marked by an absence of any serious sickness in the district, and the general health may be said to have been fairly good; this may be considered satisfactory, considering the inferiority of the water supply; there have been a few cases of low fever, which, however, have been successfully treated by the district surgeon, whose appointment as such has been one which has greatly pleased the inhabitants. The question of the water in the town has been and still is a very serious one with which the newly-appointed Village Management Board are endeavouring to cope by sinking several wells, but, should the population continue to increase at the same rate as it has done since the beginning of the year, other steps must be taken to augment the supply; two water schemes have been suggested, one to bring it from the Molopo, 15 miles distant, and the other from Rooi Grond, 9 miles away; the cost of either of these projects would, however, be so great that for the present, at any rate, there is little likelihood of their being carried out.

Owing to the opening up of the interior by the Charter and other Companies, traffic has increased to a very great extent. The effect of this has been to cause a number of new stores, hotels, &c. to be erected, and an influx of a great number of people into the town; but I wish to take this opportunity of pointing out that a very exaggerated idea of the present size of Mafeking appears to prevail in the Transvaal and Cape Colony, and consequently people are continually arriving here in numbers fully expecting to get immediate employment, and are disappointed; this appears more especially in the case of clerks, for whom there are no openings; good, steady mechanics might get work, but at present there is no great demand, and I would recommend no one to visit here with a view to employment unless he made arrangements beforehand. As an instance of the increase of local traffic mentioned above, I may quote figures taken from the books kept by the rebate officer, which show that during the year under report 45,000 packages passed through his hands as against 15,000 the previous year.

A large amount of the transport has been supplied by the natives, to whom it has been of great benefit; owing to the largely increased demand, rates of carriage have ruled in excess of the average of former years; hence considerable money has been circulated amongst the native population, enabling them to purchase food supplies of which they were much in need, owing to the almost complete failure of crops through the drought; this want has also been the means of making native labour more plentiful than it was, though I must confess it is not of the most satisfactory nature.
I am glad to be able to report that from a judicial point of view I have little or no trouble with the natives, there being very little crime considering the population; the only matter which causes trouble with them is the pound law, which they do not seem to understand, though its terms have frequently been explained, but I trust with a little patience to overcome this difficulty.

Prospecting for minerals in this district has not been attended with success so far; gold is to be found in certain parts to the south-west of Mafeking, but up to the present it has not been proved to be in payable quantities. I think that an expenditure of a considerable amount of capital would be necessary to test the reefs satisfactorily, and possibly, when the railway is completed, thereby facilitating communication, more attention will be devoted to the matter.

In conclusion, I may say that the past year has been one showing every sign of progress, and the future shows promise of advancement in a marked degree.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. G. HATCHARD,
Civil Commissioner.

REPORT OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER, TAUNGS.

Sir, Taungs, October 18, 1890.

I have the honour to report, for the information of his Honour the Administrator, as to the work performed in this district, and the condition of the district, during the twelve months ending the 30th September 1890, as follows:—

Administration of Justice.

There have been 131 apprehensions, of which 86 have been convicted, 44 have been discharged, and 1 committed, but still waiting for trial. There was one charge of culpable homicide, acquitted; otherwise there were no serious charges; but the number is in excess of the previous year, owing to the influx of strangers working on the railway construction. There were a few cattle thefts from residents in the district, but most of the charges connected with the railway employees were for petty thefts or assaults among themselves. Except the cattle stealing, I had no complaints from natives of the reserve of having been interfered with by the railway employees, who have certainly behaved in this district far better than I anticipated. I attribute this considerably to the energy of Sergeant Taylor and the men under him of the Bechuanaaland Border Police, and the quiet and steady way they conducted their duty with strangers.

I attach a return showing the nature of the charges, number of convictions and discharges. There have only been 13 civil cases.
The Chiefs have settled the disputes among their own tribes satisfactorily; only about one tenth of the charges or convictions have been against Batlapins.

**Revenue.**

I attach a statement* of the receipts of revenue for the twelve months ending the 30th September 1890 for this district, which, including 157l. 12s. collected at Vryburg on account of this district for quit-rents and transfers, amounts to 2,143l. 6s. 7d., being 31l. 13s. 5d. less than I estimated. The deficiency is in the hut tax, which is 20l. less than I expected, which has been chiefly in the Phokwane and Monte parts of the reserve, where Galishwe and Kantlapane are Chiefs. Mankorwane and his brother Rosaco gave me faithful assistance in their portion of the reserve. I am certain by the new arrangements for collection of the hut tax it will realise more than I estimated last year, 1,200l. I therefore estimate it for the ensuing year at 1,250l., which I believe it will exceed.

**Sanitary.**

The health of the district the last year has been good; there has been no epidemic.

**Roads.**

The railway about to be opened will relieve the main roads from the Colony of the interior traffic; therefore they will answer for the present for the local travelling, but with a station on the railway near here, should the South African Republic establish a port of entry from this district, it would be necessary to establish and put in order a road from the station to the border. The easiest to make and most convenient for forwarding goods would be by Mode Mory. The direct road from here to Kuruman, which is taken by the post, is very bad for about 40 miles, that is to about Flockfontein. The country it passes through is so rocky I could not estimate the expense, which, to be of any service, would be heavy, and it would require a practical road-maker to examine the road to decide the work that would be required and to estimate the expense of executing it.

**State of Natives.**

The state of the natives is most prosperous, and I believe with the exception of the Chiefs and their immediate families, who do not like finding their power and influence lessening every year, the rest of the people are contented and happy; for through our protection, not only from their enemies, but from themselves by the restrictive laws on liquor, they cannot poison themselves with brandy or waste their flocks and herds to purchase it. Thus their

* Not printed.
flocks and herds are yearly increasing, so much so that they are fairly outgrowing the reserves allotted to them; consequently the veldt in the reserve is overstocked, the cattle are generally very poor, and the young stock is becoming stunted in their growth. Last year the mealie crop was a failure owing to the late rains, but they had a very good crop of Kafir corn, which is their chief food; but there is not such a sale for it as for mealies. It is marvellous how changed the natives are for the better since the establishment of our Government. When I came here six years and a half ago they were thoroughly demoralised from excessive drinking, stealing, and associating with the low class of white men living among them; they would sell anything they had for liquor; no cattle in the neighbourhood were safe from stealing; they were starving, and were a tribe of paupers; now a pauper is not to be seen among them.

**Divisional Council and Farms.**

There has been no divisional council formed. There are few of the farms in the district occupied, and those are mostly by men who cannot afford time to attend meetings and who do not wish to incur the expense of rates. There has been little or no improvement made on the farms; the bulk of them are owned by speculators, who are holding them merely for the purposes of sale, and those that have changed hands during the year are to people who have purchased for a rise in prices, not for occupation. This may temporarily increase the revenue by transfers, but no doubt the occupation of the farms would more greatly benefit the country for the future. Perhaps, if it were possible to reduce the quit-rents of farms _bona fide_ occupied by registered owners it might induce occupation.

**Transvaal Border.**

There have been a few complaints on both sides; our natives of what they considered harsh treatment when, by going into the Transvaal they have come under the severer laws of that country, and in a few instances of not having been paid wages they had earned by farmers, but on their taking a letter from me to Mr. Niekerk, he has invariably procured them whatever they were entitled to. The Transvaal farmers have complained of so many natives going into the Transvaal on trivial excuses, as they believe, to steal cattle; but I attribute our natives going into the Transvaal on trivial excuses is to purchase liquor, which they can do at a store and some small shops in the Transvaal near the border. There are also a lot of Colonial Kafirs who pass through the narrow portion of Bechuanaland between the Colony and the Transvaal with false passes, and, if they can steal any horses or cattle, they take them smartly through our country. I am in hopes the re-establishing of a police station at Sweeting’s Pass
will check it, as having a station there previously did; for if a theft is reported quickly to our police they can follow up any spoor, and should it go into the Colony they can at once communicate with the Cape Police stationed near our border. By this means, when the previous detachment was at Sweeting’s Pass, several lots of stolen cattle were recovered in the Colony where the thieves were tried.

Buildings.

The main building of the gaol, which is three good cells, is built of stone and is in very good repair. The gaoler’s quarters, built of raw bricks, is very much cracked and is liable to come down during any very heavy and continuous rains. Tenders have been called for to add some buildings to the gaol, namely, a guard room, store-room, kitchen, and latrine, which are much required. The court-house, built of raw brick, is in fair repair, but requires a few things looked to, to stop some leaks and repair the doors. I shall be very thankful if a boarded floor and ceiling could be put into the Magistrate’s and clerk’s offices, which are very uncomfortable in their present state. There are some old buildings at the back of the court-house, as purchased from Mr. Connelly, which are in indifferent repair; a portion—namely, a kitchen, stable and small store-room—has fallen down; the remainder, which I occupy, I asked a builder what it would cost to put into repair. After an examination he answered more than the buildings, which are badly built and of bad material, are worth, and then it would be unsatisfactory. Such as they are they may stand for some time, although liable to fall down, like the other portion, any wet season.

October 25.

Having this morning received orders from the Receiver-General to include the survey reimbursements (expenses and fees) in my revenue return, which makes a difference of 383l. 19s. 4d. to my return already made out, which is the actual income of revenue for the district, and is referred to in my remarks on revenue, I also forward a copy of my return to the Receiver-General in addition, which shows the survey reimbursement added to actual revenue.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY LOWE,
Civil Commissioner and Resident

The Secretary, Vryburg. Magistrate.
Return of Criminal Cases adjudicated on by the Resident Magistrate for the District of Taungs during the Year ending September 30th, 1890.

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<td>Paragraph 14, Schedule of Offences, Act 9 of 1878</td>
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<td>Paragraph 6</td>
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<td>Section 9, Part 2, Act 27 of 1882</td>
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<td>Section 10</td>
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<td>Section 61, Proc. No. 2, B. B., of 1885</td>
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<td>Section 25, Proc. No. 85, B. B., of 1890</td>
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<td>Contempt of court</td>
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<td>Culpable homicide</td>
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<td>Desertion from B.S.A.C.P.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obtaining goods under false pretences</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obstructing natives from ploughing</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm</td>
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<td>Theft</td>
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<td>&quot; cattle</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>&quot; horses</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; goats</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vagrancy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>131</td>
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Stanley Lowe,
Resident Magistrate.

Report of the Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Kuruman.

Since my last annual report very little change has taken place in this district.

The natives are quiet and peaceful, although they appear somewhat unsettled lately on account of the demarcation of their locations; they cannot understand what the surveying means, and do not like to see beacons put up. However, I trust they will get used to it when they find out it does them no harm.

Lung sickness is, I regret to say, very prevalent this year, in fact, it seems the surrounding districts are all in the same state. The natives are continually warned to isolate the infected cattle, but until they get punished they will not listen, although it has been strongly impressed on them that it is for their own good to do so.
Crime.

I am pleased to say, is hardly known in this district. During the whole year I had only 14 criminal cases to deal with, and these were all for very minor offences.

Liquor Licenses.

No liquor license has as yet been granted in this district.

Revenue.

The revenue collected compares very favourably with that of the previous years.

Residence, Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.

The residence for the Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate is not completed, and is, I am pleased to say, in every respect a suitable building.

Public Offices and Gaol.

The public offices and gaol will require some necessary repairs this year. Buildings of raw brick ought to be repaired every year to keep them in proper order. Furniture for the court-room is urgently required; it at present consists of one table.

Complaints have been made by storekeepers and natives of the great hardship of having to come a distance of 40 to 50 miles for a gunpowder permit. I shall be glad if some relief could be granted in this direction.

Last year several European and a good many native children died from diphtheria. The Government was good enough to supply me with 25 lbs. of sulphur, which I had distributed amongst the natives to fumigate their huts with. They eagerly availed themselves of this, and I am glad to say since then, for the last six months, not a single case has been heard of.

The two detachments of police, the one stationed at Kuruman and the other at the Langberg, have, I am pleased to say, rendered good service.

(Signed) C. B. Scholtz,
Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate.
1. The past year has been one of prosperity for this district, and although Gordonia is not a district where one may expect to amass a large fortune, yet under our present Government, and with an unusual heavy rainfall and a ready market for slaughter cattle and vee (small stock, sheep and goats), the inhabitants have every reason to be satisfied and thankful. The veld is still very good, and we are looking forward with confidence to another season as favourable as the last.

2. I am glad to state that during the past year our farmers have not had to suffer much from stock thefts; in fact, stock thefts are of very rare occurrence, and from the police reports it appears that the only thefts reported were committed by Bushmen who had been indulging in the much-loved honey beer, which, if mixed with Cape brandy, is frightfully intoxicating.

On the other hand, again, other crimes seem to be increasing. Out of three persons prosecuted for the crime of rape two were convicted.

3. In the absence of a district surgeon, I can supply no reliable information with regard to the general state of health in this district, but, except for the appearance in a mild form of diphtheria in several places and the usual percentage of fever patients, we have not been visited by any serious contagious disease. I have, however, reason to believe that if we had a district surgeon his report upon the venereal disease would be very far from favourable.

4. The last wheat harvest at the places under irrigation was not so good as was expected, a late frost in October 1889 having caused a partial failure of the crop. The approaching season, however, promises to be plentiful. The great enemies of the wheat and fruit growers are the swarms of finches and sparrows, which, unless driven away with all imaginable means, will certainly destroy quite half the crop, and the people are almost powerless against their ever-increasing foes.

For the cattle and vee farmer the past was an exceptionally favourable season. The veld was everything to be desired, the market good and prices firm. The failures of the Union and Cape of Good Hope Banks have been keenly felt also in our district. A little has been done in prospecting for minerals without leading to any definite results.

5. Our relations with our neighbours are friendly, although attempts have been made by outsiders to disturb our peace. Threatened hostilities on our border were averted by the tact of the Chief of the Bondelzwarts, William Christian, for the present, and I trust that also for the future we will be able to maintain the same good terms, without which our district cannot hope to prosper.

(Signed) C. Bam,
Resident Magistrate.

Upington, November 4, 1890.
GOVERNOR to ADMINISTRATOR.

Government House, Cape Town,

November 29, 1890.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your able and interesting Despatch of the 22nd instant covering the annual report of British Bechuanaland for the year ended 30th September 1890.

I notice in the police report that there were 194 cases of fever at Elebe and Macloutsie during the year. As the average strength of the force never reached 200 men at those places, I consider this proportion of fever cases to be excessive, and every effort should be made to improve the health of the men. I have already given orders that seeds of the eucalyptus be supplied to the camp, and I request that you will inform me as to the progress made in planting eucalyptus trees in the neighbourhood.

I think, too, that the men should be encouraged to take up gardening and other amusements likely to prevent the lassitude and depression which predispose to disease.

At the police stations at Ramoutsa and Palla postal agencies should be established, and the revenue might be greatly increased by the sale of stamps at those places, whilst the men at these out-stations could be regularly supplied with letters and papers.

The twenty cases of dysentery reported may be traceable to bad water, and I desire that a special report from the medical officers may be furnished on this subject.

If, as is possible, the water tends to become impure during the dry season, it may be desirable to sink wells to a sufficient depth to provide a constant supply of water during that period of the year, and I shall be glad that either a sufficient number of tanks be provided to collect the ain-water off the iron roofs of the store-houses, which are, I trust, by this time placed within the fort, or that a well should be sunk within the fortifications.

I desire also to receive a report as to the efficiency of the supply of medicines and hospital necessaries.

I have, &c.

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