



PUNJAB FRONTIER

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

9991

FOR THE

YEAR 1895-96.

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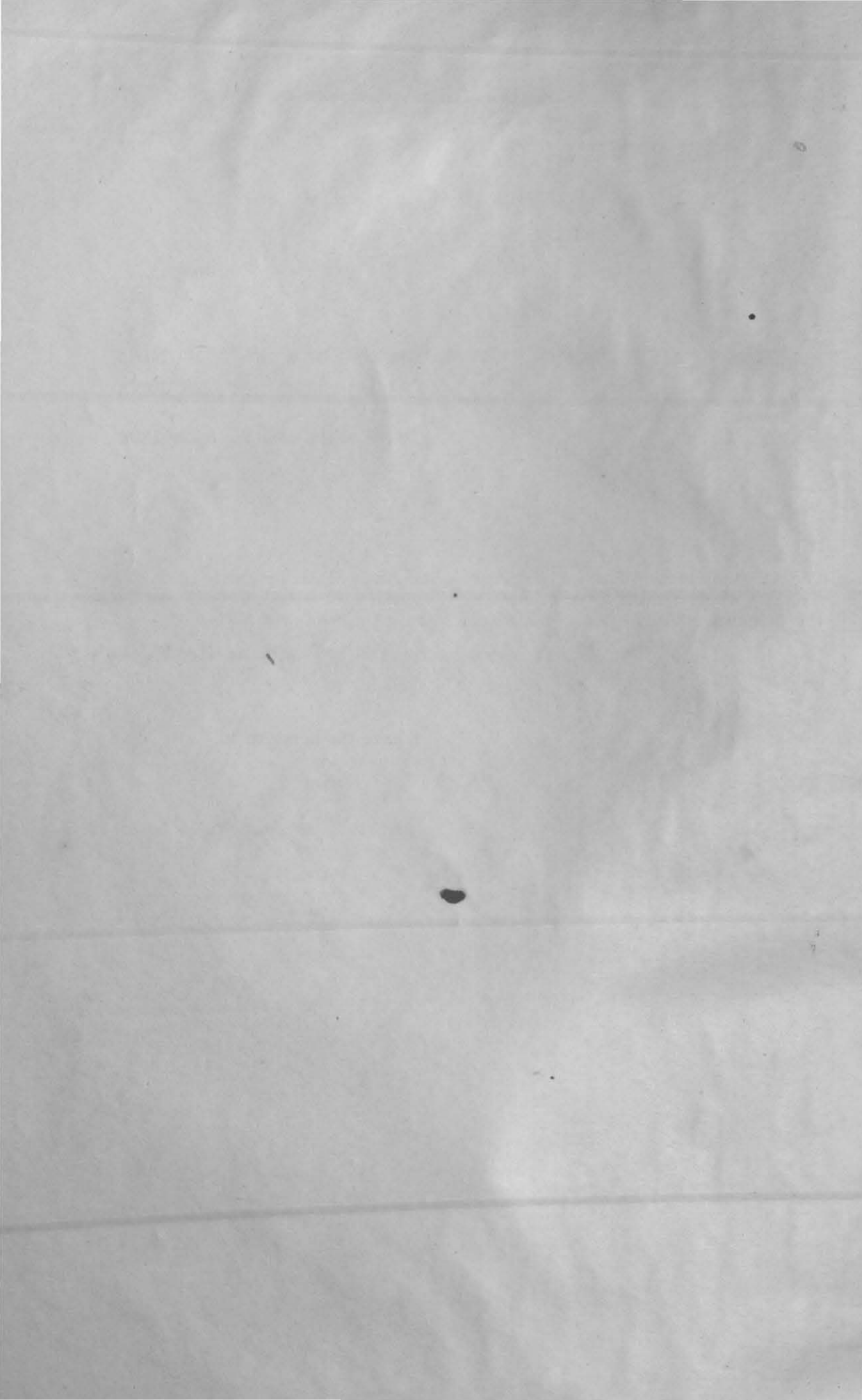
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No. 1178.

FROM

H. C. FANSHAWE, ESQUIRE,
*Chief Secretary to Government,
Punjab and its Dependencies,*

TO .

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

Dated Simla, 18th September 1896.

Foreign.

Frontier.

SIR,

I AM directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Administration Report of the Punjab Frontier for the year 1895-96.

2. Copies of the Report have been separately submitted to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

H. C. FANSHAWE,

Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab.

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ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE PUNJAB FRONTIER FOR THE
YEAR 1895-96.

I.—HAZARA.

THE year under report has been one of tranquillity along the whole Hazara frontier. The operations of the Chitral Relief Expedition at first excited some unrest in independent territory bordering on the district, but the rapid and unchecked march to Chitral of British troops, through difficult country, hitherto untrodden by Europeans and supposed by the clans to be inaccessible and secure from invasion, soon produced here, as everywhere else along the border of the Division, a profound impression on the inhabitants of the hills which will doubtless conduce much to the future peace of our frontier.

Chilas and Kohistan.—Political relations with Chilas have been in charge of the Gilgit Agency. The Kohistanis have behaved well.

2. *Allai.*—The residents of this valley have given no trouble as a body. Their domestic feuds still continue.

3. *Tilari, Deshi, Nindehar.*—This portion of the border has remained perfectly quiet. The local factions are not yet reconciled. A leading Syad of Pharari, who had steadily held aloof, visited the Deputy Commissioner for the first time this year.

4. *Isazais.*—The Hassanzai clan, with the help of contingents from neighbouring tribes, gained some success in their feud with the Madda Khels, which was mentioned last year, burning the Madda Khel village of Karor. So far, the Madda Khel have not retaliated. Hashim Ali Khan is still at Jabbo, in Chigharzai limits. Two murders in Agror are attributed to his retainers, and one of these has been brought home to them since the close of the year. In neither case were the victims British subjects.

5. *Amazai and Nawab of Amb.*—The struggle between the Amazai and the Nawab over the village of Betgali is still carried on in a desultory fashion, the Nawab being successful on the whole and retaining possession of Betgali.

6. *Hindustanis.*—The Hindustani colony is still in Amazai territory. Its strength is said to be considerably reduced.

7. *Utmanzai.*—There is nothing to record regarding this clan, whose behaviour has been exemplary.

II.—PESHAWAR.

8. *Gaduns, Khudu Khel, Chamla.*—The conduct of these clans and of the people of Chamla has been excellent throughout the year.

9. *Buner.*—The behaviour of the Bunerwals has, in the main, been very good. They soon recovered from the excitement, instigated by Mullahs and interested intriguers, which was felt at the commencement of the Chitral Relief Expedition. The peculiar, self-contained position of Buner and the reserved character of its residents renders the settlement of border disputes of the usual type more troublesome here than on other sections of the Peshawar frontier. During the year some men from the Buner village of Barkilli committed a murder in British territory, but in the prosecution of a private quarrel and not as a tribal demonstration against Government.

10. *Swat.*—Is in charge of the Political Officer, Dir and Swat. The Swat border has been perfectly tranquil. A new Border Military Police post has been placed at Shergarhi on the Ranizai frontier and will be of use in controlling and capturing outlaws.

11. *Utman Khel.*—There is nothing to record regarding the Utman Khel, whose conduct has been excellent.

12. *Mohmands.*—The various clans of this large tribe marching with the Peshawar border, *viz.*, the Isa Khel and Burhan Khel on the Swat river, next the Halimzai, and after them the Tarakzai on the Kabul river, have throughout the year behaved well. For a murder in British territory due to private motives the Burhan Khel have paid compensation.

13. *Aka Khel.*—The Aka Khel Afridis have as a tribe been well conducted. Offences committed by individual tribesmen have been settled by payment of fines and compensation.

14. In February 1896 it was settled that the political control over the tribes north of the Peshawar border should be divided between the Deputy Commissioner, Peshawar, and the Political Officer, Dir and Swat, as follows:—The Political Officer, Dir and Swat, is to deal with the Swatis and Ranizais and those sections of the Utman Khels which are not noted below as under the Deputy Commissioner, Peshawar. The Deputy Commissioner, Peshawar, is to control the Mohmands, the Umar Khel section of the Utman Khels living on the south slope of the Salalu Hill, the Khudu Khels, Gaduns, Bunerwals and other tribes.

III.—KHAIBAR.

15. The conduct of the tribes connected with the Khaibar Pass has not interfered in any way with the safety of the road which they have guaranteed, and so far as British interests are concerned has been generally good. Among themselves they have been fighting and murdering as usual. In last year's report it was stated that Amin Khan, Kuki Khel, had availed himself of the *locus penitentie* that had been afforded to him, and had made his submission. His arrival at Jamrud coincided with an outrage upon the cavalry detachment in Jamrud Fort. The Fort was fired into at night, with the result that one man was killed and two were wounded. A fine of Rs. 2,000 was imposed upon, and has been paid by, the whole tribe. It is not at all likely that Amin Khan was implicated in the affair. Later in the year, Amin Khan was dangerously wounded by a private enemy. The Kuki Khel and Malikdin Khel have continued to prosecute their inter-tribal feud.

16. The Kambar Khel have behaved excellently. They recently gave up five rifles carried off by deserters belonging to the clan.

17. The Kamrai tribe were guilty of two cases of cutting of telegraph wire, for which they were fined. Two sepoy of the tribe deserted during the year from a regiment on the Chitral Relief Expedition with five rifles. The tribal allowances have been stopped pending restoration of the rifles.

18. The Sipah tribe has behaved remarkably well. Their old feud with the Aka Khel Afridis still drags on.

19. The dispute (to which allusion was made last year) over the succession to the allowance and position enjoyed by the late joint Malik Sarfaraz, Malikdin Khel, has been settled by a division of the deceased's emoluments in equal shares between his son and his nephew. There has been much skirmishing and some bloodshed between their respective followers. The behaviour of the tribe has been good.

20. After various hostile manoeuvres, which resulted in injury to both sides, the quarrel between Maliks Khawas and Wali Muhammad, Zakba Khels, has been patched up by a truce fixed for the period of one year. The Anai and Pakhai sections of this tribe have been well behaved, but members of the Khusrogi, Shan Khel and Zia-ud-din sections continue to commit offences in the Peshawar and Kohat Districts. In Kohat certain Zia-ud-din robbers have caused trouble by murdering a sepoy of the Border Military Police; while in the Peshawar District the Khusrogis among other misdeeds lifted a flock of over 300 sheep and killed the shepherd. The latter case is pending.

21. The Shinwaris, Mullagoris and Shilmanis have been well behaved. A leading Malik, Said Ghulam, of the first-mentioned clan, was killed in the course of a vendetta during the year. Some friction was caused between the Shinwaris and certain Afghan subjects in consequence of the sudden prohibition of the export of grain from Afghan territory. The Amir's officials confiscated some grain purchased by the Shinwaris in Ningrahar for conveyance to the Khaibar. Applications to the Afghan officials for its release or payment of its price to the Shinwaris proved for a time fruitless; so the Shinwaris, losing patience, raided a flock of Afghan sheep. The sheep were, however, subsequently restored at the instance of the Political Officer. The prohibition of the export of grain from the Jalalabad province is much felt by this tribe as well as by the Mohmands of Shilman to whom Ningrahar is nearer than the Peshawar valley as a source of food-supply.

22. The Khaibar tolls amounted to Rs. 51,160-9-0, which is nearly Rs. 3,000 less than last year. The demand for transport on account of the Chitral Relief Force, combined with the fiscal policy of the Amir which aims at a State monopoly of all the most valuable articles of commerce, with heavy customs duties upon the rest, and which has led to a steady decline of trade between Peshawar and Kabul, are the reasons for this decrease. Property belonging to His Highness is passed free of tolls, and this year the exemptions amounted to Rs. 7,479-1-0 as against Rs. 4,733 last year.

23. The Khaibar Rifles continue to work and behave well, and their Commandant, Colonel Muhammad Aslam Khan, has, as usual, rendered excellent service.

IV.—KOHAT.

24. *Adam Khel Afridis*.—The conduct of this large section of the great Afrid tribe has been satisfactory. The Jowakis and Hassan Khels continue to be at feud. The political management of the latter clan was transferred at the close of the year to the Deputy Commissioner of Peshawar in connection with the transfer of the Khwarra tract from the Kohat to the Peshawar District.

25. *The Orakzai*.—On the whole the conduct of the various clans of this large tribe has been good. There is nothing to note regarding the *Daulatzai* section. The *Shiuh* clans have behaved well. The *Samil* clans have not given so much satisfaction as the other sections, for thirteen cases are recorded against the *Mishtis*, one of which is the still pending case of the murder of a Hindu in British territory, and the *Milla Khel* have had to answer for an equal number of offences, including a murder for which they have paid compensation; while the *Rabia Khel* committed fifteen offences, including three murders for which fines were realized.

The state of affairs, however, as regards the *Samil* clans is infinitely better than it was previous to the *Samana Expedition*. The *Sepuyuh*, *Ali Khel*, *Akkel*, *Sturi Khel*, *Massuzai*, *Ali Sherzai* and *Mammuzai* have been well conducted.

26. *Waziris*.—The position in respect to the *Kabul Khels* is not entirely satisfactory, especially as regards the *Saif Ali* section. There are 31 cases outstanding against the whole tribe, and full reparation has not yet been made by the *Saif Ali*. A posse of *Miamai Kabul Khels* who violated *Kurram* territory in the course of an attack upon *Gailzais*, *Afgian* subjects, were compelled to restore the property they had raided and to pay blood-money for men that had been killed.

Speaking generally, our relations with the independent tribes on the *Kohat* border during the year have been satisfactory.

V.—KURRAM.

27. This valley is fortunate in that there is little to record. Its history for the year has been one of quiet, peaceful and rapid progress. Our relations with the neighbouring tribes have on the whole been excellent. It is stated in the report that a settlement which had been effected with the *Khani Khel Chamkannis* had removed the last remaining difficulty on the *Kurram* frontier, but since that was written the *Para Chamkannis* have again begun to raid, and it seems doubtful whether they can be reduced to order without the employment of force against them. Not a single case has been registered against the *Zaimushts* and *Alisherzai*, and only two are recorded against the *Massuzai*. Relations with the *Afghan* subjects to the west of *Kurram* have been generally good. Owing to the peaceful condition of the valley and the good behaviour of the neighbouring tribesmen, it has been possible to reduce the strength of the escort to its normal number, *i.e.*, 250 rifles, 2 Mountain Battery guns, and a troop of cavalry. The land revenue was collected with ease, there is little crime, and civil litigation is decreasing. Many new hamlets and villages are being founded, irrigation is developing, and an index of the revival of trade is seen in the proceeds of the *Kurram* tolls, which have risen from Rs. 5,000 in 1892 to Rs. 14,500 in the present year. The *Kurram Militia* are in a high state of efficiency and are admirably fulfilling the purposes for which they were raised.

On the whole the administration of the *Kurram Valley* has been eminently successful and the only drawback is the heavy pecuniary charge it entails.

VI.—BANNU.

28. The chief events of the year were the completion of the demarcation of the northern portion of the *Waziri-Afghan* boundary, the settlement with the *Dauris* and *Darwesh Khel Waziris* on the *Tochi* side, the grant of allowances to them, the occupation of the *Tochi Valley* and the arrangements for the location of levy posts and a strong military garrison in the valley.

The demarcation of the boundary from *Charkhil* to *Khwaja Khidar* was carried out during the previous year and that of the portion from *Charkhil* to *Laram* in the year under report. In the demarcation of this portion, the *Maliks* and tribesmen of the sections through whose limits the demarcation party passed assisted in every possible way as they had done in regard to the portion demarcated in the previous year. They accompanied the party, supplied forage, firewood and the other products of their country which were required, and at night furnished pickets which covered the heights round the demarcation camp and contributed generally to the immunity which the party enjoyed from annoyance. The *Madda Khel*, *Tori Khel* and *Mohmit Khel Maliks* were chiefly to the front in rendering assistance.

29. The *Dauris* and *Waziris* as noted in last year's report presented a petition praying for the occupation of the *Tochi Valley* by the British Government and offering to pay land revenue on their lands situated in the valley. Government agreed to the proposal of the *Dauris* that they should pay on a cash assessment of Rs. 6,000 per annum for three years until the lands were measured and surveyed and should then be formally assessed at one-tenth of the gross produce of these lands. The revenue for the first year is under realization and most of it has been paid.

30. *Maliki* and service allowances have been distributed amongst the *Dauris* and *Waziris*, and the latter in return have agreed that—

- (1) The allowances shall be conditional on the good conduct of the tribe and the recipients.

- (2) They will prevent the commission of raids and other offences in British territory and in any area which is taken or will be taken hereafter under British protection and across the boundary in the Amir's territory.
- (3) They will surrender for trial and punishment offenders against the Government or against those who are under the Government or who assist in supporting the authority of the Government.
- (4) They will furnish tribal escort for officers who may wish to go to any part of their country under Government orders and will further be responsible for their safety.
- (5) The levies will be employed in any part of the country where the Government considers it may be expedient or necessary to employ them.

31. The construction of 13 levy posts and towers from the mouth of the Tachi Pass to Sheranni has been sanctioned. These, with the exception of four, have all been completed and occupied by the tribal levies entertained.

The military garrison for the Tochi has been fixed at one squadron of cavalry, one mountain battery and two battalions of Native Infantry. The additional strength at first retained there was withdrawn in the beginning of February last. The military head-quarters have within the last few days been moved from Miran Shah to Darpa Khel.

32. The behaviour of the tribes along the Bannu frontier has, on the whole, been good. Nine offences were committed in British territory by men from beyond the border. Of these—

2	were put down against Bizan Khel Waziris ;
1	„ „ „ Muhammad Khels ;
1	„ „ „ Bakka Khels ;
4	„ „ „ Jani Khels ;
1	„ „ „ Bhattannis.

Four of these cases have been disposed of. The remaining five are pending. Of the four cases pending from last year one was completely settled and two partially so ; and one is still under disposal.

33. The Hathi Khels have been very quiet throughout the year except for a family feud between the son and brother-in-law of Malik Nezam Khan which necessitated the taking of security from both parties in May 1895.

34. The Bizan Khels and Umarzais have not given much trouble. Just before the close of the year one Khani, Bizan Khel, came into the district from across the border with four or five companions and killed another Bizan Khel named Momin in prosecution of a blood feud. The murderers on their way back to the hills passed near the Khalboi post, garrisoned by the Border Military Police. The Daffadar and men of the post turned out in pursuit, but the raiders managed to escape. They opened fire on the police and hit one man in the shoulder.

35. In January 1896 an attempt was made by a couple of Umarzais to rush the quarter-guard of the 1st Sikh Infantry Regiment in the middle of the night. One man engaged the sentry while the other got past him and tried to make his way into the guard-room. Both men were wounded, but succeeded in getting away to the hills without, however, having done any injury. One of them died of his wounds a day or two later. The object was probably to steal rifles.

36. There has been some jealousy among the Bakka Khel and Jani Khel sub-sections of the Utmanzais owing to the preference shown by us for the Tochi route over the Shaktu route which lies within the limits of the latter section and the consequent increase of allowances granted to the Bakka Khels, on whom falls the responsibility of the Tochi Pass route. This jealousy is, however, now subsiding.

37. It is satisfactory to note that an old feud, dating from a time previous to the annexation of the Punjab, between the Khan Khel and Masti Khel sub-sections of the Bobak Bhattannis has been at last settled. The number of murders and attempts to murder on each side amounted to no less than 10 or 12, and each attempt to equalize the score by the one party led to retaliation by the other party. The Bhattanni jirga has now decided that the count on each side is equal, and the heads of the two factions have solemnly sworn to abide by this finding. The settlement promises to be a lasting one.

VII.—DERA ISMAIL KHAN.

38. The Mahsud Wazirs having complied with the terms offered them after their punishment by the military expedition of December 1894, the allowances enjoyed by the tribe have been revised and a new settlement has been made with them.

In return for the allowances they receive they have guaranteed to keep open the Shahur route and to prevent the commission of offences and raids in British territory and the area declared by the Government as protected, as well as to surrender for trial and punishment offenders against the Government, their employés and supporters. The behaviour of the tribe has much improved and the number of offences committed by them has fallen.

39. Government have sanctioned the construction of levy posts at Haidari Kach and Sarwekai on the Shahur route, and these are now almost completed.

40. Five Shakaiwals—three Shadakais and two Malikshahis—suspected of the offences noted in the margin were surrendered during the year under report, and convicted after full enquiry and trial by a tribal jirga. They were sentenced each to seven years' rigorous imprisonment. This is the second case of the kind in which hillmen, on this border, on conviction by a tribal jirga, have been recently sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

(1). Murder of four sepoy of 22nd Punjab Infantry near Gwaleri Kotal on 19th February 1894.

(2). Murder of three Zhob levy sepoy near Girdao on 25th July 1894.

(3). Attack on d&k sowars between Khuni Burj and Safi on 4th August 1894.

(4). Murder of three Zhob levies near Gul Kach in 1893.

41. Forty-six cases against the trans-border tribes were awaiting settlement at the commencement of the year. Of these 44 cases were satisfactorily disposed of, leaving 2 still pending at the close of the year. There was a large decrease in the number of offences committed and the value of the property stolen as compared with the previous year; the number of offences being 53 against 83 in 1894-95, and the alleged value of the stolen property Rs. 3,919 against Rs. 6,937. None of the offences committed were of a serious nature.

42. The conduct of the Bhattannis has been good throughout the year. The number of offences committed by the tribe was the same as last year, *i. e.*, 6, but the value of the stolen property fell from Rs. 13,858-8 to Rs. 558.

43. A remarkable decrease is observable both in the number of offences committed by the Mahsud tribe and in the value of the property stolen, there being only 23 cases against 67 in 1894-95, and the value of property stolen amounting to only Rs. 2,322-4 as against Rs. 5,340-4 last year. This is doubtless due to the fresh effect of the expedition over the minds of the people and our stronger hold over the tribe by the establishment of a military cantonment at Wana and of levy posts along the Shahur route with a military post at Sarwekai.

Darwesh Khel of Wana.

44. As last year there was not a single case against this tribe.

45. The behaviour of this tribe has been all along very good. In one case—the abduction of a Bargha Chuhar Khel woman—the Largha Shiranis surrendered both the woman and her abductor. They were imprisoned in accordance with the orders of the Government for 15 and 9 months, respectively.

Largha Shiranis.

46. There were no offences committed by the Ustranas, Kasranis, Mianis and Ghorezais. All raiding into the Zhob District on the part of the Mahsuds and Darwesh Khels has been entirely stopped by the occupation of Wana by a military garrison and by the protection afforded at the Gomal Pass by the opening of the Shahur route. There has been only 1 trivial case as compared with 24 in the previous year.

Zhob.

VIII.—DERA GHAZI KHAN.

47. The conduct of the Kasrani, Bozdar, Lund, Laghari, Gurchani, Drishak and Mazari tribes on this border has been generally satisfactory. There were only two murders in the Bozdar country during the year under report against three in 1894-95 and six in 1893-94.

Conduct of the frontier tribes.

The state of the Khosa tribe continues to be extremely unsatisfactory owing to the ill-feeling which exists between the Tumandar Bahadar Khan and many of his relations headed by his cousin Mubarak Khan.

State of the Khosa tribe.

48. The question of the boundary between the Kasranis and the adjoining tribes of the Zhob District has been settled.

Settlement of boundaries.

The question of the demarcation of the boundary between the Bozdar and Musa Khel countries has been settled, the boundary decided being that laid down by Mr. Younghusband and Captain MacMahon in 1891, which gives Andarpur to the Zhob Agency and leaves Jainwal to the Punjab.

49. The state of the Drishak tribe is improving under their new chief Sardar Drehan Khan who was invested with the powers of a Magistrate and of a Munsif of the second class during the year under report.

State of the Drishak tribe.

