

PUNJAB FRONTIER



ADMINISTRATION REPORT

9492

FOR THE

YEAR 1896-97.

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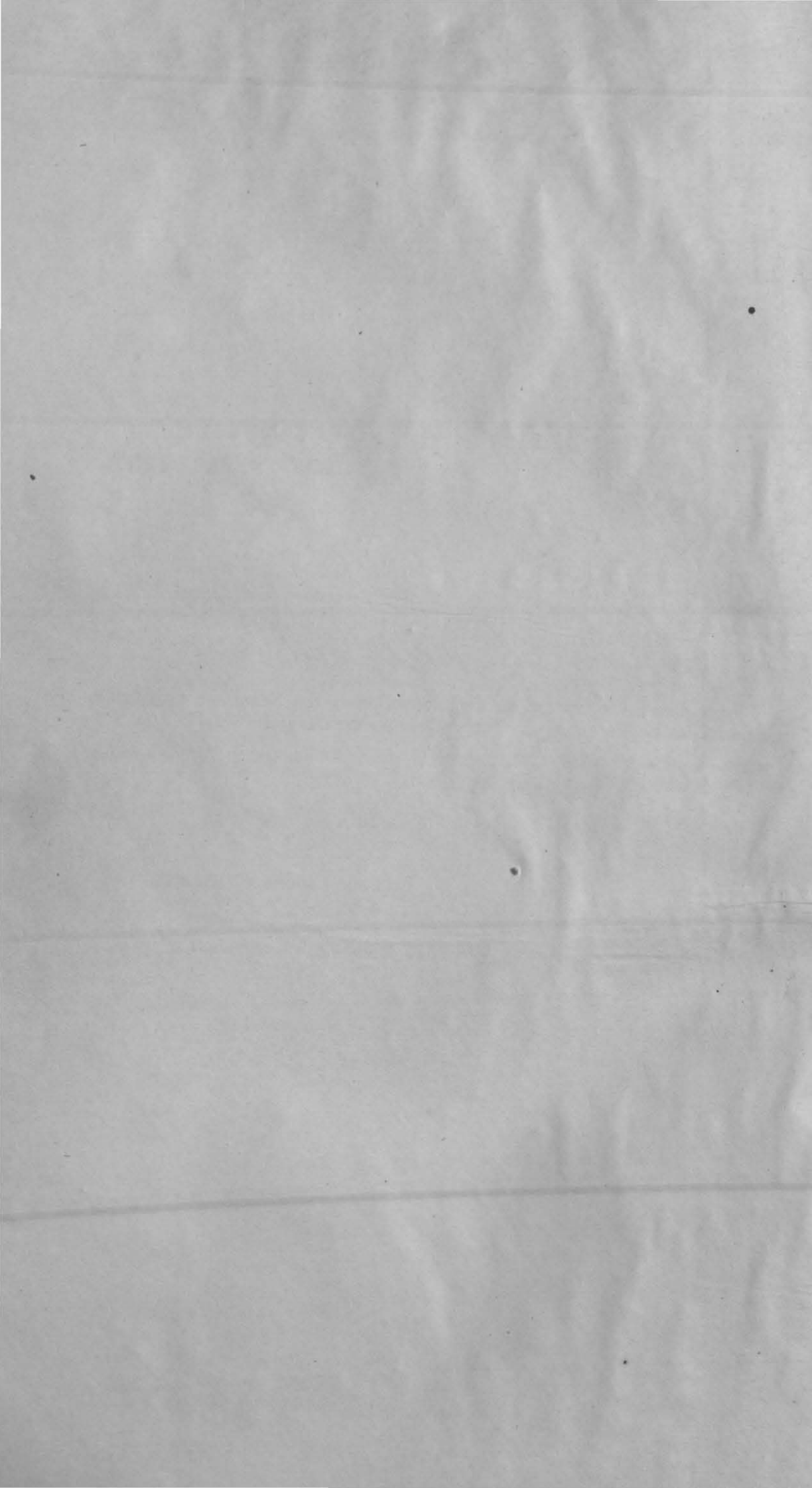


SIMLA :

PUNJAB GOVERNMENT BRANCH PRESS,

1897.

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1897





No. 1002.

FROM

L. W. DANE, ESQUIRE,
*Offg. Chief Secretary to Government,
Punjab and its Dependencies,*

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

Dated Simla, 13th August 1897.

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 1896-97.

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,

L. W. DANE,

Offg. Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE PUNJAB FRONTIER FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

I.—HAZARA.

1. The year 1896-97 has been one of exceptional tranquillity along the whole Hazara frontier, and the number of border offences committed during the year is probably the smallest ever reported.

All the independent tribes have behaved well towards Government, although tribal feuds will always exist among themselves. In the feud between the Hassanzais and Mada Khels, which still continues, the latter attempted to occupy Doha, a village on the Hassanzai border, but failed.

2. *Hashim Ali Khan*, who is still at Jabbo, asked what terms would be allowed him if he came in, and was referred to the previous orders of Government.

3. *Firoz Shah* of the Sitana Saiyid family was permitted by Government to resettle at Mandi and Sitana, provided he could bring the whole of the Utmanzais and Gaduns to acquiesce in his doing so, but this he has not yet been able to effect.

II.—PESHAWAR.

4. There have been no reports against the Gaduns and Khudu Khels, who have been perfectly quiet.

5. *Boner*.—Only two offences of any importance have occurred, which were committed by the Nurizai section of the Bonerwals. These are still under enquiry and have not yet been finally settled. The attitude of the Bonerwals as a whole has been one of passive indifference throughout the year, and there is nothing to record regarding the Hindustani fanatics.

6. A dispute between "talibs" from Chamla and other independent tribes on the Yusafzai border was imported into British territory during the 'Id festival, but was promptly suppressed.

7. The conduct of the Utman Khels and Ranizai has been good. With the exception of the Lower Utman Khels these tribes are under the direct management of the Political Agent, Swat, Dir, and Chitral.

Two outrages were committed on the Mardan-Malakand road, in which it seemed probable that Ranizai badmashes were concerned, but the inquiries made proved nothing definite against them. The road has now been rendered quite secure by the location of a Border Military Police post at Shergarh on the edge of the Peshawar District.

8. *Mohmands*.—The Mohmands as a tribe have behaved well. The jirgas of six of the clans who have fallen on our side of the Durand boundary, and who are known as the assured clans, *viz.*—

- (1) Tarakzai,
- (2) Gandab Halimzai,
- (3) Kamali Halimzai,
- (4) Dawezai,
- (5) Utmanzai,
- (6) The Isa Khel and Burhan Khel Mohmands of Pindiali,

presented themselves before His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor at Shabkadar in November last, and willingly accepted the announcement made to them

that they had come under the sole jurisdiction of the Government of India.

* *Kabul Allowances.*

	Rs.	A.	P.
Utmanzai ...	720	0	0
Kamali ...	2,848	0	0
Gandab Halimzai ...	8,480	0	0
Tarakzai ...	3,600	0	0
Pindiali ...	1,825	0	0
Dawezai ...	1,200	0	0
Total ...	18,173	0	0

Lalpora Allowances.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Utmanzai ...	437	4	0
Kamali ...	791	2	0
Gandab Halimzai ...	1,672	10	0
Tarakzai ...	821	1	0
Pindiali ...	890	0	0
Dawezai ...	852	13	0
Extra grants to Gandab Halimzais ...	830	0	0
Grants to Mullahs, Syads, &c ...	613	0	0
Total ...	6,907	14	0 or

Rs. 7,000 round.

who had succeeded to the share of the allowance formerly drawn by his uncle Abdul Ghanni, and in retaliation the latter with his mother and three brothers was butchered by Ghulam Khan, son of Pirdost Khan.

9. Everything has been quiet on the Mullagori border.

10. The *Aka Khel* and *Bassi Khel* Afridis committed several cattle thefts in British territory, but all the cases were satisfactorily settled and fines realized. They have also paid up a fine of Rs. 100 which was imposed upon them for allowing raiders of the *Zakha Khel* Afridi clan to pass through their country for the commission of offences on our border.

The *Hassan Khel* section of the *Adam Khel* Afridis who inhabit the hills adjoining the *Cherat* sanitarium had been since annexation under the political control of the Deputy Commissioner, Kohat, but were transferred during the year to the jurisdiction of the Deputy Commissioner, Peshawar, owing to the transfer of the *Khwarra* tract from Kohat to Peshawar. As usual they have been very well behaved.

11. The frontier of the Peshawar District generally has been absolutely tranquil throughout the year, and numerous civil claims brought against British subjects by men of independent territory have been disposed of under the Frontier Crimes Regulation to the satisfaction of all parties and with a markedly good effect on the peace of the border.

The Border Military Police are in a high state of efficiency, and reflect much credit on their Commandant Mr. S. S. Waterfield of the Punjab Police, who is a most useful assistant to the Deputy Commissioner in all matters connected with border politics.

III.—KHAIBAR.

12. *Kuki Khels.*—Some 100 families of the *Kathia Khel* and other sections of the *Kuki Khel* Afridis, while returning to their summer quarters in *Tirah* by way of *Ningrahar* (Kabul territory) in order to avoid passing through the limits of other sections at enmity with them, were seized by the Afghan officials at *Kahi* and detained there, but were subsequently released by order of *Sipah Salar Ghulam Haidar Khan*.

The *Zohra* and *Shahmir Kor* Kuki Khels of Kaddam have been constantly fighting among themselves ; but the dispute does not affect the arrangements for the road through the Khaibar Pass.

The Kuki Khel and Malikdin Khel Afridis have continued to prosecute their inter-tribal feud. The latter sent a jirga to the former proposing a permanent peace, but the proposal was rejected.

There have been seven cases against the Kuki Khels during the year, but in settling these the elders of the clan have rendered every assistance to the authorities. In one case indeed where one of their tribesmen had kidnapped a woman from British territory whom he refused to give up they went so far as to attack him in order to compel him to restore her.

13. *Kambar Khel Afridis*.—The conduct of the *Kambar Khels* has been satisfactory, and we have had no case against them, except a theft of a rifle which was carried away by a *Kambar Khel* deserter from the 20th Punjab Infantry and still remains to be recovered. For this however the tribe at large cannot fairly be held responsible.

14. *Kamarai Afridis*.—The conduct of this tribe has been better than in last year, and there is not a single case against them.

15. The *Sepah* and *Aka Khel Afridis* are still at feud with each other, and the latter are making a claim upon the former for a share in their portion of the Khaibar allowances, although their claim is not recognized by us. The *Aka Khel Mulla*, *Saiyid Akbar Akhundzada*, who used to be a man of some note, is reported to be losing his influence.

16. *Malikdin Khel Afridis*.—There has been but one case against the clan and this has been satisfactorily settled.

The old-standing dispute over the Maliki allowance between *Maliks Feroz Khan* and his cousin *Darya Khan* has been disposed of by order of Government, the allowance being divided half and half between the two claimants. Several other disputes over land, &c., exist between individual Maliks, but the attitude of the tribe towards Government has been uniformly good, and there are no cases pending against them.

Mir Bashar, *Malikdin Khel*, is still in the Amir's service and often visits Afghan officials, but has no longer any influence.

17. *Zakha Khel Afridis*.—Internecine feuds and dissensions continue among the different sections of this tribe, but they have done nothing during the year to disturb the peace of the Khaibar Pass.

Malik Khawas Khan is reported to be in correspondence with the Amir, and another of his sons named *Inayat Khan* has now entered the Afghan service. His rival and enemy *Malik Wali Muhammad Khan* is also anxious to secure some employment for his son *Abdul Jabbar Khan* in Afghanistan.

The *Khusrogi* and the *Zia-ud-din* sections of the *Zakha Khel* are the most troublesome of the Khaibar tribes and born robbers, but as far as we are concerned only a single case has been reported during the year against the former, while but three offences have been charged to the latter. Considering the notorious character of these tribesmen this is very satisfactory, though the *Zia-ud-din* offences which are explained in paragraph 26 of this Report were serious.

The other sections of the *Zakha Khel*, *viz.*, the *Shan Khel*, *Annai*, *Pakhai* and *Payanda*, have all behaved well.

18. The conduct of the Shinwaris of Loargi has been excellent, and the Shilmanis of the Loe and Kam Shilman valleys have also been perfectly quiet and orderly as usual.

19. The *Mullagoris of Tartara* have behaved well, and there have been no cases against them.

20. Notwithstanding the Durand Convention the Amir's officials continue to intrigue with the Khaibar and Tirah tribes under our political control, and are constantly sending letters, agents, and verbal messages to them, while they have tried to stir up mischief by taking into the Amir's service many Afridi Mullas and elders, *e. g.*, Saiyid Akbar Akhundzada, Aka Khel, Mulla Gulandaz, Kambar Khel (who has been specially active in Tirah in trying to induce the clans to send jirgas to the Amir), Mir Bashar, Malikdin Khel, and others.

21. The receipts from Khaibar tolls have fallen from Rs. 51,161 in 1895-96 to Rs. 46,546 during the year under report as a consequence mainly of the imposition of heavy duties by the Amir on everything imported into or exported from Afghanistan.

All property belonging to His Highness the Amir himself passed free of toll as usual, the exemptions amounting to Rs. 7,302-4-0 this year as compared with Rs. 7,479-1-0 in 1895-96.

22. The Khaibar Rifles, under their able Commandant Lieutenant-Colonel Sardar Muhammad Aslam Khan, *c. i. e.*, have carried out their duties excellently as in past years. Captain Barton of the Guides has been posted to the Khaibar as Assistant to the Political Officer with the object of his eventually succeeding Lieutenant-Colonel Aslam Khan in the command of this Corps.

IV.—KOHAT.

23. *Adam Khels*.—As already noted, the political control of the Hassan Khel section of the Adam Khels has been transferred during the year from Kohat to Peshawar, and the Kandar and Kandau sub-sections of the Ashu Khel Adam Khels, who adjoin the Hassan Khel and live along the southern border of the Peshawar District, have since been similarly transferred.

24. Eight out of the nine cases of offences committed by the Jawakis have been settled, and the conduct of this clan has been on the whole satisfactory.

25. The behaviour of the Adam Khel Afridis in the Kohat Pass has been excellent as usual, and though ten cases were laid to their charge, these were all satisfactorily settled. At the time of the enhancement of the duty on salt at the Kohat mines some slight feeling of disquiet was observed in the Pass, but this has now entirely subsided, and there was never anything like the excitement which followed upon the much smaller enhancement 15 years ago.

26. *Orakzais*.—The numerous clans of the large Orakzai tribe who march with the northern border of the Kohat District from the Kohat Pass westward to the vicinity of Thal have all behaved well. A few of these clans who are Shias have been disturbed beyond the border by the private feuds of their spiritual leaders, the three Tirah Sayads, Mir Askar, Syad Qasim, and Gulbadshah; but the frontier was never violated, and no offences have been committed in British territory. Of the remaining clans who are orthodox Sunnis, the Rabia Khel (of the Samana) and the Mishtis have had the greatest number of offences registered against them, *viz.*, 17 and 7 respectively, but all of these with 5 exceptions have been settled and very few were serious. Two of the other Sunni clans, the Firoz Khel and Mammazais of Darradar, have an absolutely clean sheet, though the Firoz Khel were fined Rs. 100 for allowing certain Zia-ud-din raiders from Tirah to pass

through their limits. These Zia-ud-dins, who are a section of the Zakhā Khel Afridis under the Political Officer of the Khaibar, committed two raids on the Kachai-Marai border of the Kohat District, in which 3 of their own number and 2 British subjects were killed. For these offences they were fined a sum of Rs. 300 by the Khaibar authorities which was paid in blood-money to the relatives of one of the men murdered.

27. The question of transferring the Kabul Khel Wazirs, who are the only tribe on the western border of the Kohat District, to the control of the Political Officer of the Tochi Valley is still under consideration as the road from Idak to Thal has not as yet been constructed. The Political Officer has, however, been directed to take over political control of the tribe in so far as offences within the tribe or across the Durand Line are concerned. During the year under report these Wazirs were responsible for 8 offences of which only 2 were serious. The first was a raid on the Kurram Valley (protected territory) in which 8 men were killed, and the other an affray over a land dispute between the British village of Thal and the closely adjacent trans-border Bangash village of Biland Khel in which the Wazirs came to the assistance of the latter. For the former of these two offences the Kabul Khel were fined Rs. 2,357, which was all realized by the prompt action of Lieutenant Blakeway, the Assistant Commissioner in charge of the Thal sub-division. For the latter the Biland Khel people paid up a fine of Rs. 1,000 and a fine of Rs. 750, which has still to be recovered, was imposed on the Kabul Khel.

On the whole then it may be said that with the exception of individual cases which were not numerous and mostly of a petty character the Kohat border has been perfectly tranquil, and our relations with the tribes along it everywhere friendly. Lieutenant Blakeway and Mr. D. Donald (the Commandant of the Kohat Border Police) have both worked very well and proved themselves efficient Political Assistants to the Deputy Commissioner.

V.—KURRAM.

28. The Administration Report of the Kurram Valley for 1896-97 which was submitted separately two months ago contains a full account of the events of the past year in Kurram. The peace which the valley has enjoyed has only been broken even on the border by a rupture with the independent tribe of Para Chamkannis and by the raid of Kabul Khel Wazirs mentioned in paragraph 27 *supra*. For the latter offence, as has been shown, ample reparation was exacted, and the Para Chamkannis are under a blockade which since the close of the year has led to their submission.

As regards matters of internal administration, the revenue has been collected with ease, and the material prosperity of the valley has received considerable impetus from an excellent harvest, which, coming simultaneously with the scarcity in India, has afforded an opening for a very profitable export trade in corn and rice.

Another feature of the year has been the construction of many new canals and the repairing of many old irrigation channels which had fallen into disuse during the long period of anarchy prior to our occupation. For the promotion of these works, which are greatly appreciated by the people, and which have been carried out by the Turis themselves with the aid of "takkavi" advances and professional supervision, much credit is due to Mr. Hastings, the Officer on Special Duty, who by his energy, tact, and patience has rendered his administration in the Kurram most successful. Captains Maconchy and Roos-Keppel, the successive Commandants, and Lieutenant Carter, the present Adjutant, deserve great praise for their excellent work with the Kurram Militia, which, thanks to their exertions, has been raised in five years from the roughest material into a well-conducted and thoroughly efficient corps.

VI.—THE TOCHI VALLEY.

A.—General.

29. The chief events of the year were :—

(1). The advance in August of a force consisting of one whole regiment of infantry, two companies of another regiment, a battery and 40 sabres from Miran Shah to Datta Khel, in consequence of the inability of the Maliks to exercise a proper control over their tribesmen and in accordance with the general scheme for the final distribution of troops.

(2). Ger China, on the Tsirai plain about a mile from Datta Khel village, was selected for the permanent Military post, and the troops were hutted there before the close of the year.

(3). A post intermediate between Miran Shah and Datta Khel has been established at Boya and garrisoned by a company of infantry and 20 sabres.

(4). In December 1896 the telegraph line was extended from Miran Shah to Datta Khel.

(5). It has been decided to make Miran Shah the Civil and Military headquarters in the valley, with a strong advanced post at Datta Khel.

(6). The construction of the levy posts at Saidgi, Kajuri, Katira, Idak, Lak Ghundi, Isha, Muhammad Khel, and Kanirogha was completed during the year.

(7). In January the Political Officer Mr. Gee accompanied by an escort made a reconnaissance of the route from Idak *via* Spinwan to Thal with a view to opening out the road. This was found to be easy, and proposals for constructing a camel road at a cost of Rs. 8,000 to Thal or at any rate as far as Shiva are now under the consideration of the Government of India. Mr. Gee was met at Spinwan by the Assistant Commissioner, Thal, and the attitude of the tribes, who do not object to the construction of the road, was on the whole satisfactory, though a shot was fired at the Assistant Commissioner's servants near Biland Khel.

(8). In connection with his journey to Kabul, Mullah Powindah sent his followers to the Khaisor Valley to collect alms. He also made an attempt to do this in Daur, but was prevented from doing so. A certain amount of money was collected by him from the Tori Khels in the Khaisara, the Mohmit Khels of Razmak and from sympathisers in Daur; but, on the whole, the Mullah's journey to Kabul awakened little interest amongst either the Darwesh Khels or the Dauris.

B.—Daur.

30. The rabi crop except in Land and Boya has been good, but the kharif has suffered to some extent from deficient irrigation. The revenue agreed to by the Dauris, Rs. 8,000 (minus certain remissions that had to be granted in the above-named villages in consequence of destruction of crops by hail) was collected by the end of July.

The general conduct of the Dauris has been very good throughout the year. The murder of two coolies near Pai Khel is the only fanatical outrage of which they have been guilty. Most of the cases against Government were cases of wire-cutting or of thefts of stores on the road.

Only one serious riot arising out of an irrigation dispute between the Dauris of Zerraki and the Khushali Tori Khels who cultivate land on the south bank of the Tochi has occurred. On this occasion the Cavalry Jamadar at Idak interfered and some shots were fired in the direction of the troops, which were drawn up between the parties. Each party to the riot was fined Rs. 75.

A serious tribal murder also occurred, the victim being Malik Hassan of Musakki, who was killed in open jirga on August 23rd by Kot Khanai and Saingul Dauris. At the request of the jirga sentences of imprisonment were awarded, and the event led to the presentation by all the Dauri Maliks of a general petition for the introduction of the Criminal Law into Daur.

The feud between the Dauris and the Manzar Khels led to an attack by 20 or 30 of the latter on the Muhammad Khel Post while it was under construction. The Dauri Havildar was wounded in the attack. On the 14th June two coolies were murdered while asleep outside this post, and this act too was no doubt the work of the Manzar Khels. Both sides have been put on heavy security to keep the peace, and no tribal offence of any importance has since occurred, though there were still 21 Daur Manzar Khel cases awaiting settlement at the close of the year.

Seventy-seven criminal cases against the Government, British subjects and travellers, and 286 tribal cases were settled during the year. In the former cases fines to the amount of Rs. 1,875 were inflicted, and compensation amounting to Rs. 775 recovered. In the latter the fines imposed aggregated Rs. 797 and the compensation awarded Rs. 1,363.

C.—*Darwesh Khels.*

31. The Darwesh Khels committed a number of offences against Government, some of which were serious, such as the murder in June of the Muharrir of the temporary post at Shiranna by one Waris Khan, Ali Khan Khel, Madda Khel; the murder of two coolies outside the Muhammad Khel Post, for which the Manzar Khels and Dauris were fined; and the shooting of a camel sowar of the 1st Punjab Cavalry of which the Madda Khels are suspected. There were five cases of cutting the telegraph wire and six cases of firing into the camp at Datta Khel.

No progress was made with the settlement of tribal cases with Afghanistan owing to the unwillingness of the Amir to permit a meeting of the British and Afghan officers on the border for the purpose of settling these cases by joint tribal jirgas. Some Khojal Khels were also concerned in two serious raids in the Kharoti country on the Gomal, in one of which three of the Amir's Khasadars were killed and a number of camels and rifles stolen.

As far as Tochi is concerned the conduct of the Bakka Khels, Jani Khels, Tori Khels, Mohmit Khels and Khiddar Khels was generally good, especially after the occupation of Datta Khel.

At the beginning of the year the behaviour of the Manzar Khels was not satisfactory. They were concerned in several offences, and after the occupation of Datta Khel the firing into camp and thefts in the Military Bazar were in part the work of this section. The post at Kanirogha was, however, built without any mishap, and this was mainly due to the assistance given by the Maliks.

A number of highway robberies were committed towards the close of the year within Manzar Khel limits; and, though the gangs concerned were generally Madda Khels from the Kazha, the Manzar Khels were a good deal to blame. The infliction and prompt realization of fines in these cases had a good effect.

32. The Madda Khels have been the worst behaved of all the sections, and the Political Officer is unable to explain why this should have been so. After the agitation connected with the Sheranni post in March 1896, for which a fine of Rs. 1,000 was imposed on the tribe, the Maliks petitioned Government that the Upper Tochi might be occupied by a military force, as they were unable to control the tribesmen. In June Honda Ram, the Muharrir of the Sheranni Post was murdered as noted above, and in August at the request of the Maliks a force moved up to Datta Khel, when things became outwardly more settled, but the agitation for increased allowances continued, and Malik Sadda Khan's control over all the sub-sections of the tribe weakened.

During the 'Id festival there was a hostile gathering in the Kazha at Inzar Kach, due to the preaching of a Kharoti Mullah, in which some of the Maliks joined. The history of the Maizar outbreak on 10th June 1897 belongs to the following year, but the constant recurrence of offences committed by this section during the year under report shows that the discontent, which commenced soon after the distribution of the allowances in November 1895, had been gradually coming to a head and the attempts made by Sadda Khan to stifle it only rendered the ultimate outbreak more sudden and disastrous.

33. Altogether 58 criminal cases were settled during the year. Of these 32 were against Government, British subjects, and travellers, resulting in the infliction of fines to the amount of Rs. 1,498 and the award of compensation amounting to Rs. 1,772. Twenty-six were tribal cases, in which the compensation awarded amounted to Rs. 3,326, but no fines were inflicted.

VII.—BANNU.

34. A number of dacoities and other offences were committed by large armed gangs of Waziris and others, chiefly Jani Khel and Bakka Khel Darwesh Khels and Shabi Khel Mahsuds. The Jani Khel lands have very much fallen out of cultivation during the drought of the last year and the failure of the crops, together with the high prices of grain, are no doubt the chief reason of the increase of this class of crime.

The conduct of the tribes along the border has on the whole been good.

Twenty offences were committed by members of the trans-border tribes.

Of these 7 are shown against Jani Khels.

2	”	”	Muhammad Khels.
1 is	”	”	Bizan Khels.
1	”	”	Khojal Khels.
1	”	”	Umarzais.
1	”	”	Mahsuds.
7 are	”	”	Bhittannis.

Sixteen of these cases have been satisfactorily disposed of, and the remaining four are pending.

The cases of previous years outstanding against the trans-border tribes at the commencement of 1896-97 were all settled during the year.

35. *Hathi Khels.*—The Hathi Khels are the quietest and best behaved tribe on the Bannu frontier. With the exception of the feud between Khair Muhammad Khan, son of Malik Nazar Khan, and his brother-in-law Hakim Khan, which ended in the death of Hakim Khan in March 1896, the conduct of this section has been good, and Malik Nezam Khan has given much assistance in tribal matters.

Bizan Khels.—The Bizan Khels are a small and not very important section. Since the case which occurred in March 1896, in which a party of men, who had come down from the hills, committed a murder (in prosecution of an old feud) the section has given no trouble.

Umarzais—The Umarzais did not give much trouble as a tribe. Just after the close of the year they shot a Bannuchi, but not fatally.

Isparkas.—The Isparkas gave no trouble, except in connection with the outlaws in the Isparka village of Gomatti about four miles beyond the border. The last case against them, in which five men came down from Gomatti, stole a buffalo from village Hassanni, and shot its owner dead, occurred after the close of the year.

Muhammad Khels.—As the result of the prompt and judicious measures taken by the Deputy Commissioner, Bannu, in communication with the Deputy Commissioner of Kohat, the Shadakka and Koda Khel sections of the Muhammad Khels came in to have their cases decided by the former officer.

In August 1896 Makhar Khan, the most influential of the Muhammad Khel Maliks, was murdered by three of his own tribesmen. This murder was followed by the murder of his eldest son Tarnat in Shawal. The accused persons are being tried by a jirga.

Bakka Khels.—The Bakka Khels continued to give trouble during the year. The tribe is a great deal divided by internal dissensions and jealousies.

Jani Khels.—The principal cases pending against the outlaws of this tribe were a highway robbery and a dacoity from a village in the Nar. The stolen property having been all restored, moderate fines were imposed on the offenders and security taken from them for good behaviour in the future. Since then we have had no trouble with the tribe as a whole, and a little clemency shown, together with the fact of the most turbulent members of the tribe having been put on security, has had a good effect.

36. *Bhittannis.*—The old feud between the Masti Khel and Khan Khel sub-sections of the Bobak Bhittannis broke out again during the year. In August 1896 a Masti Khel village was attacked by Lewat and 13 other Khan Khels who attacked and killed Jauhar, the Masti Khel Malik, and wounded his brother. Lewat's village was surprised at night, and Lewat himself and most of his companions escaped. All the men found in the village, including one of Jauhar's murderers, were arrested and brought in, together with all the sheep and cattle found in the village. The murderer of Jauhar has been tried and convicted by a jirga. Some of the sheep and cattle, which belonged to Marwats, were released, and the remainder were sold by auction. The Khan Khels have received a severe lesson which has had a good effect on the rest of the Bhittannis.

In December last Mr. Younghusband, Deputy Commissioner, Bannu, met Mr. Grant, Political Officer, Southern Waziristan, at Bagh in the Bhittanni hills, where the two officers in consultation drew up a scheme for the construction of posts in this tract to secure the adequate protection of the country and to complete the Government arrangements with the Bhittanni tribes. The reports have been submitted to the Government of India for orders.

VIII.—SOUTHERN WAZIRISTAN.

37. There were 40 cases pending at the close of 1895-96, 22 offences committed in the Dera Ismail Khan District, and 18 in the Gomal Pass and other protected hill tracts. Of these 9 of the district cases and 6 of the hill cases are still undecided. The delay is due to the difficulty of tracing the offenders, and the special efforts now being made to bring the punishment home to the actual offenders and to avoid the burden being thrown improperly on the Maliks or innocent tribesmen by any slipshod method of settlement.

The subjoined table gives the number of offences committed by the hill tribes of Southern Waziristan during the year under report in the Dera Ismail Khan and Zhob Districts and in the protected hill tracts, the value of property stolen and recovered, or redress obtained, and the amount still outstanding.

AMOUNT STILL OUTSTANDING.

AMOUNT WRITTEN OFF.

VALUE OF PROPERTY RECOVERED OR COMPENSATION ELICITED.

VALUE OF PROPERTY SEIZED.

NUMBER OF OFFENCES COMMITTED.

Towns.	NUMBER OF OFFENCES COMMITTED.						VALUE OF PROPERTY SEIZED.						VALUE OF PROPERTY RECOVERED OR COMPENSATION ELICITED.						AMOUNT WRITTEN OFF.						AMOUNT STILL OUTSTANDING.							
	Gomal Pass	Wana	Shahur	Bhitanni	Zhob	Dera Ismail Khan	Gomal Pass	Wana	Shahur	Bhitanni	Zhob	Dera Ismail Khan	Gomal Pass	Wana	Shahur	Bhitanni	Zhob	Dera Ismail Khan	Gomal Pass	Wana	Shahur	Bhitanni	Zhob	Dera Ismail Khan	Gomal Pass	Wana	Shahur	Bhitanni	Zhob	Dera Ismail Khan		
Darwesh Khels	1	11	...	...	...	...	898 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unknown	12	2	6	3	4	123	327 13 0	...	80 2 0	...	...	265 4 0	90	2,035 3 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mahands and Darwesh Khels.	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	8 0 0	...	80 0 0	...	...	...	...	8 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dotanis	...	2	...	...	...	...	4 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bhitannis	5	397 0 0	1,053 15 0	82 0 0
Mahands	15	20	10	31	1	111	2,112 14 0	1,414 10 3	488 4 0	928 18 6	200 0 0	284	751 0 0	994 14 0	727 0 3	116 4 0	614 13 6	...	325 0 0	8 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	28	37	15	40	6	247	2,440 11 0	2,325 8 3	513 6 0	1,105 13 6	6 455 4 0	388	3,840 2 0	1,209 14 0	1,184 0 3	116 4 0	696 13 6	...	1,868 14 0	10 6 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

38. The results of the working of the year under report were on the whole rather more satisfactory than the previous year. The conduct of the tribes, however, so far as the figures can be relied on, cannot be considered to have much improved. The Mahsuds, notably the Jalal Khels, have committed a few offences in the Tochi Valley, which are not included in these statistics which embrace only offences on the Dera Ismail Khan and Zhob sides in addition to Southern Waziristan itself. The most serious offences of the year consisted of two cases of firing on cavalry detachments, one between Khajuri Kach and Wana, and the other between Jandola and Khirgi; the shooting of a Darwesh Khel mounted levy between Wana and Khajuri Kach and a border Military Police sowar in the Gomal; and the murder of two sepoys of the 19th Punjab Infantry near Jandola. There was also an unsatisfactory renewal of raiding in Zhob. The chances of raiding in Zhob will, it is believed, be minimised by the construction of two additional levy towers on the Wana-Khajuri Kach road, the construction of which, unless urgently required owing to the present position of affairs in the Tochi, will be undertaken early next year.

The levy post at Ngandioba was completed in April 1896. New levy posts were built at Sarwekai and Haidari Kach in April and May and at Naraioba in September 1896.

39. The most important event of the year as regards the Mahsud tribe was the movement under Mullah Powindah. About May 1896 he began collecting contributions from the Mahsuds and raised a small bodyguard by demanding from the different sections one follower for every ten houses. In June he sent men to Wana to try to collect contributions from the Wana Ahmadzais also, but his party was ordered away at the request of the Wana Maliks. In the end of June Mullah Dad Muhammad, a well-wisher of Government, was brought in to the hills by some of the Mahsud Maliks to confront Mullah Powindah, and in the meeting, which occurred between Kaniguram and Makin, the latter claimed to be the 'Badshah' of the Mahsud country and refused to argue with Mullah Dad Muhammad. About the 20th July Mullah Powindah, with a following of about a thousand men, left his home for Kabul *via* Birmal and Urgun. The deputation was received coolly by the Amir after some days waiting, and he addressed a letter to the Government of India to the effect that he understood the Mahsuds wished to leave their country and settle in Afghanistan. After a stay of about a month the party was dismissed, Mullah Powindah being given by the Amir a parting present of Rs. 2,000, two guns and a number of cartridges, and Mullah Hamzullah, his secretary, a present of Rs. 800. They returned to the Mahsud country in the beginning of October. After that at one time Mullah Powindah talked of building posts at two or three places in the Mahsud country. He came in to see the Thana-dar of Jandola on the 6th December 1896, on which occasion he gave out that he desired to make his peace with Government, but did not enter into particulars about his position. His last public meeting was on the 'Id (5th March 1897), when some 1,500 Mahsuds visited him at his home, and he advised them to keep up friendly relations with the British Government as long as it did not make any fresh advance towards their country. This seems to be his present attitude. At the height of the Mullah's movement before his departure for Kabul the principal Mahsud Maliks came in and strongly urged that Government should at once occupy their country as this was the only way of securing permanent peace in the country.

40. In March 1897 Mr. Grant, the Political Officer, Wana, met the Political Agent, Zhob, at Gul Kach, and a representative jirga of the Sultan Khels and other sections of the Suleman Khels was assembled, with which negotiations were successfully conducted for the levy of tirmi on their animals grazing in Zhob and in the protected hill tracts of Waziristan. In April 1897 similar arrangements were made for taking tirmi from the sections of the Dotani tribe which graze in the Spin and Toi tracts in Southern Waziristan.

In the beginning of January 1897 the jirgas of the Dotanis and Wana Ahmadzais requested the Political Officer, Wana, to arbitrate between them in the disputed claims to land in Wana and the Toi. The case was a very heavy one, and the enquiry into it lasted for about 2½ months, and the decision was only announced to the two tribes in the beginning of April 1897.

41. A further enlistment of Mahsuds was made this year for the 24th Biluchi Regiment. A higher standard of chest and height measurement was required, and 32 excellent recruits were selected out of some 150 applications. Those who had enlisted in the previous year had saved much money in connection with the operations of the regiment in East Africa, and a great stimulus was thereby afforded to recruitment.

IX.—DERA ISMAIL KHAN.

42. *Largha Shiranis*.—The Largha Shiranis committed no offences either in British territory or on the routes opened by the British Government, and their behaviour has been very satisfactory. The construction of a levy tower near Parwara on the road through the Dhana Chuhar Khel Pass was completed in the beginning of the year and levies were posted there. This seems to have greatly added to the safety of British subjects travelling through the Chuhar Khel Dhana Pass and to have entirely stopped crime.

In February 1897 Mr. Homan, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ismail Khan, met Captain Archer, Political Agent, Zhob, at Moghal Kot, and they disposed of some 40 cases pending between the Largha and Bargha Shiranis, with the assistance of jirgas, and made a joint enquiry into certain points connected with the murder of Lieutenant Holmes. The report has not reached Government as yet. The matter is of considerable importance, as the decision may affect the question of the nature of the control to be exercised over the Larghawals in future.

Ustranas and Kasranis.—There were no offences committed by these tribes during the year and their behaviour has been good.

X.—DERA GHAZI KHAN.

43. There were 60 cases pending against the tribes on this border from the previous year, and 212 new cases were instituted against them during the year under report, making a total of 272, of which 145 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 127 cases pending at the close of the year.

Of 212 new cases—

102	are	against	the	Bozdars.
55	"	"		Lagharis.
27	"	"		Gurchanis.
15	"	"		Khosas.
7	"	"		Kasranis.
4	"	"		Tibbi Lunds.
1	is	"		Drishaks.
1	"	"		Sori Lunds.

Drishaks, Tibbi Lunds, Sori Lunds, Kasranis.—The conduct of the Drishak, Tibbi Lund, Sori Lund, and Kasrani tribes has been good.

Mazaris.—The Mazaris behaved excellently, there being neither any cases pending against the tribe from the previous year, nor any instituted during the year under report.

Nawab Sir Imam Bakhsh Khan, K.C.I.E., the Chief of the tribe, has continued to maintain his reputation for integrity and justice. He exercises a very beneficial influence in his territory.

Bozdars.—The behaviour of the large and turbulent tribe of Bozdars has not been satisfactory, and since the close of the year Gela Ram, a Naib-Tahsildar of Zhob, was murdered on 26th May 1897 at Nili in the Bozdar country. The murderers have not been discovered, but proposals for the enforcement of tribal responsibility are now under consideration.

Several feuds broke out amongst them during the year, and it was found necessary to detain the Mukadams of the offending sections at the district head-quarters.

Gurchanis.—The result of the trial of the Hatwani Bazgir feud case, in which Kadir Bakhsh, the Mukadam of the Bazgirs, and two of his relations were murdered in March 1896, was that 2 Hatwanis were hanged, 6 transported for life, and 24 fined by jirga. This exemplary punishment is expected to have a good effect. During the year the Durkanis (Gurchanis) murdered 2 Hadianis (Lagharis), the feud between the two sections being an old-standing one. The Hadianis in retaliation murdered 2 Durkanis. It was found advisable to impose heavy sentences in order to put a stop to the feud in which many lives had already been sacrificed.

Lagharis.—Nawab Muhammad Khan, the Chief of this tribe, died in December 1896 and was succeeded by his infant son, Jamal Khan, for whom his cousin, Sardar Tagia Khan, acts as Chief of the tribe. Tagia Khan has already got a hold on the tribe, and his appointment appears to be generally popular, though at the installation some objectors to the continuance of the system of allowing the Tumandars to levy their rents in kind tried to create a factional disturbance. It has been decided that the batai payments should be continued at the new settlement in all cases except perhaps that of the Khosa Tumandar, the ultimate adjustment of whose emoluments is under consideration.

Khosas.—During the year under report a reconciliation took place between the Tumandar Bahadur Khan and his cousin Mubarak Khan. This has strengthened the Tumandar's hands.

44. Lieutenant Forbes, Assistant Political Agent, Thal Chotiali, and Mr. Wallace, Political Assistant, Dera Ghazi Khan, were deputed to mark out a portion of the Punjab-Biluchistan boundary in accordance with the decision arrived at by Captain MacMahon in 1891.

Mr. S. E. Wallace held the post of Political Assistant and Commandant, Border Military Police, for 4½ years. He was practically the first incumbent, and his personal influence with and intelligent handling of all concerned did much to make the Border Military Police the useful body of men they at present are. He was relieved by Mr. E. P. Broadway, of the Punjab Police, in November 1896. The latter gentleman also promises to develop into a valuable frontier officer.

The officiating Political Tahsildar Hafiz Ghulam Rasul, and the Risaldar of the Border Military Police, Ghulam Munannad Khan, did excellent work in connection with the management of the hill tribes.

The re-arming of the Border Military Police with Sniders was effected during the year under report.

45. Hitherto the residents of the independent hills, which are only under political jurisdiction (both Punjab and Biluchistan), when convicted by the joint jirgas at Fort Munro of theft from British territory, were, as a rule, let off with a fine only. This was obviously an inadvisable policy to follow. In communication with the Political Agent at Thal Chatiali and Zhob it has now been decided that in future a substantive sentence of imprisonment should be awarded in such cases. The whole question of the degree of control which is to be exercised over the hill tribes between Dera Ghazi Khan and the Biluchistan Agency is under consideration in connection with the scheme for levy posts along the border of the Dera Ghazi Khan jurisdiction, which has recently been sanctioned.

