

PUNJAB FRONTIER

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

FOR THE

9493

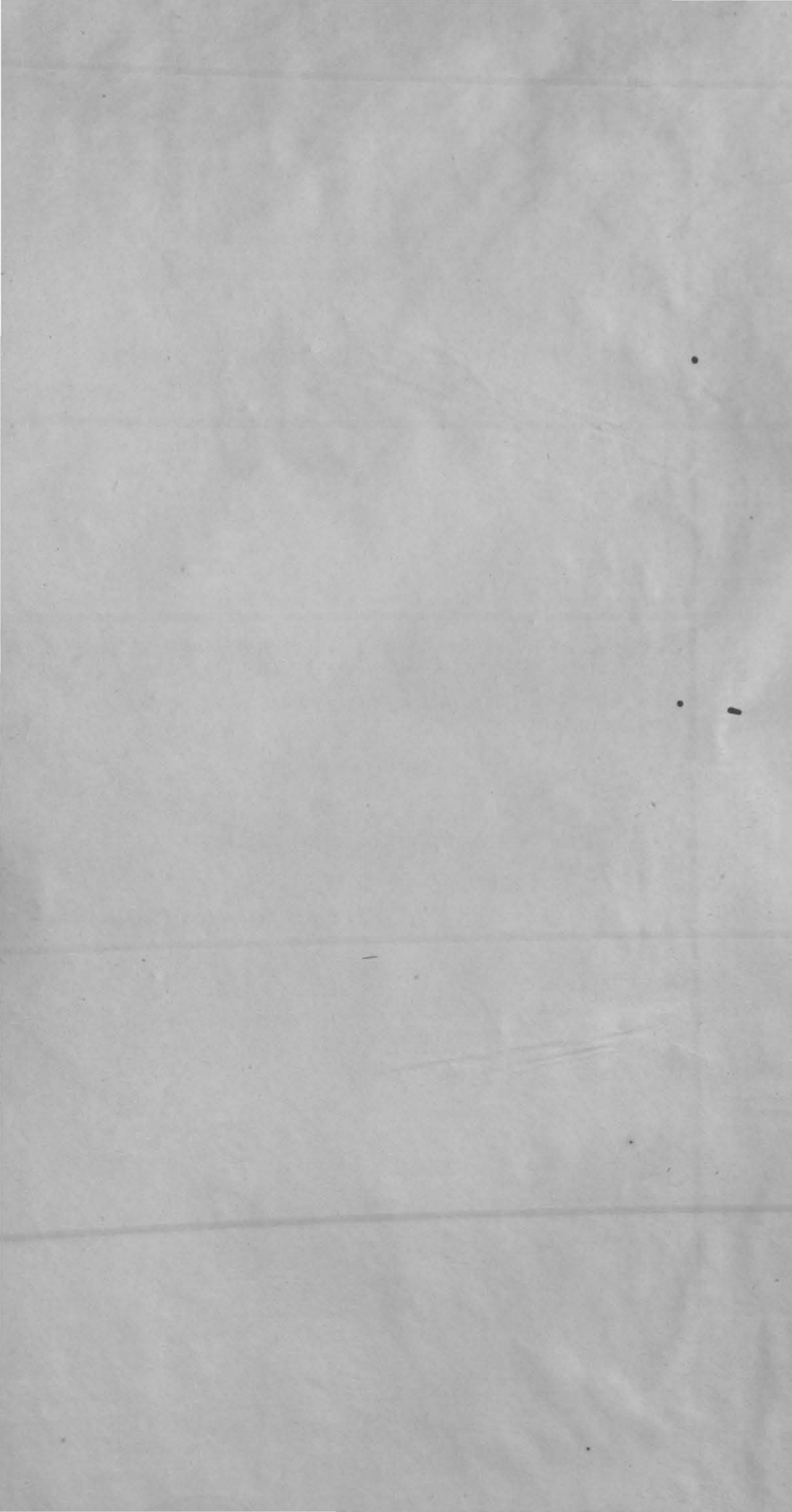
YEAR 1897-98.

E-1 (3)
WEST PAKISTAN SECRETARIAT
LIBRARY COPY
(To be returned to the Library when done with)



SIMLA:
PUNJAB GOVERNMENT BRANCH PRESS,
1898.

3)
98



No. 877.



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, 28th July 1898.

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 1897-98.

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.

F

No. 211

To

L. W. DANE, Esquire,
Off. Secy, Ministry of Education,
Punjab in the Provinces

To

The SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

Dear Sir,

Enclosed
are
two

I am directed to forward to you the report of the
Administration Report of the Punjab Province for the year 1917-18.
A copy of the report has also separately submitted to the
Secretary of State for India.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

L. W. DANE,

Off. Secy, Ministry of Education, Punjab

The Secretary to the Government of India

F

Punjab Frontier Administration Report for the year 1897-98.

THE past year has been remarkable for the greatest political upheaval and the most widespread hostile coalition against the British Government that has been known since the annexation of the Punjab brought us into contact with the independent tribes of the present North-West Frontier. Interesting as the subject may be any discussion of the causes that led to a war which in the summer of 1897 disturbed the border from the Indus to the Tochi Valley would be out of place in this report.

Disturbances began with the attack by the Madda Khels on the Political Officer's escort at Maizar. The next outbreak occurred in the sphere of our latest extension of control, the Swat valley, where the Yusafzai clans aided by contingents from Boner on the east and the Utman Khel on the west made a desperate attack on the position at Malakand and the Chakdara post, but were beaten off after several days' severe fighting in which the losses of the tribesmen were estimated at 3,700 killed. The scene of these latter events being beyond the political jurisdiction of the Punjab Government, this uprising is only alluded to as the first act in hostilities which spreading west and southward soon roused the Mohmands, Afridis and Orakzais to war with the Government of India. Their punishment was not long delayed, and before the end of the year British forces had visited and traversed their country from the Boner valley to the Utman Khel and Mohmand hills and the high mountain glens of Tirah. A similar punishment was meted out to the Madda Khels by the Tochi Field Force.

I.—HAZARA.

2. The Hazara border was a striking contrast to the rest of the frontier of the Peshawar Division. It was undisturbed from the head of the Kagan valley to the southern spurs of the Black Mountain, and there is happily little to record about the clans who march with British territory from Chilas to Torbela.

In Allahi the old feud between Arsala Khan and Bahadur Khan continues unabated. Arsala Khan, though blind and in extreme old age, retains his predominant influence. Since his punishment during the expedition of 1888 he has been a friendly and well-behaved neighbour, and was recently instrumental in restoring some cattle stolen in the only offence committed in the past year on the whole length of the Hazara border.

3. *Tikri, Deshi, Nindhar.*—Amir Khan of Batagram, leading man among the Dodal Swathis, has been at feud with other sections in Nindhar. Their fighting is usually unimportant; as soon as one section threatens to become too strong a redistribution of parties restores the balance of power.

In Tikri Muqarrab Khan, son of the old Chief Ghaffar Khan of Trand, has established himself firmly and for the while defeated his family rival Rahim Khan of Chirmang.

4. In Pharari the only point worth notice is the gradual increase in the power of the Chagharzai immigrants; originally tenants they have become practically landlords, and in time will probably overshadow the Sayads whom they already outnumber.

5. *Isazai.*—The Hasanzai and Mada Khel are still at feud. Hashim Ali Khan remains in exile at Jabbo, powerless and dependent on the charity of his neighbours—a striking object lesson of the result of incurring the displeasure of Government. For the past seven years a Border Police post has been peaceably maintained on the further slopes of the Black Mountain at Seri, the head-quarters of the Khan Khel of the Hasanzai, formerly our most troublesome neighbours. This fact and the peaceful attitude of the Hasanzai, Akzai and Chagharzai of the River bank during the excitement and disturbances of the past year may be claimed as proof of the satisfactory settlement made with the Black Mountain clans in 1891, and it should be added are specially creditable to the tact and influence of Arbab Muhammad Farid Khan, the Political Assistant on the Agror border.

II.—PESHAWAR.

6. *Boner.*—The Bonerwals, mostly of the Salarzai section, and men of Chamla joined in the attack on Malakand in July; after the dispersion of the clansmen when the arrival of supports enabled the Malakand Field Force to take the offensive the Bonerwals retired. It was, however, necessary to punish them for their unprovoked hostility. Accordingly they were ordered to surrender 600 guns, and to pay a fine of Rs. 11,500, while 100 guns, as many swords, and Rs. 1,500 were demanded from Chamla. To enforce these terms troops under General Sir B. Blood assembled at Sangao early in January; on the 7th the Tanga pass was stormed; no further opposition was encountered; the force entering by the Tanga and Pirsai routes traversed and surveyed during the next twelve days the whole of Boner with the exception of the Makhuzai valley; compliance with the terms imposed was secured in full, the clansmen were further punished by having to supply grain and fodder for the troops, and the force having thoroughly raised the *parda* of Boner returned to British territory on the 19th by the Ambela pass.

The Hindustani colony, which of late years had settled within Amazai limits, gave no trouble; a portion of them who started to fight being turned back by the Daulatzais. They have since left Mahaban and settled with the Ferozai Chagharzai higher up the Indus valley.

7. *Khudo Khel and Gaduns*.—Of these minor clans it is only necessary to record that they sent contingents to aid the Yusufzais of Swat, but the news of the defeat of the tribesmen at Landikai sent them back to their homes. The Khudo Khel were fined Rs. 2,000 and the Gaduns Rs. 2,500, and they were made further to surrender 150 guns and 200 swords and 200 guns and 200 swords respectively and standards of Dagi Talate and Chinglai and of Gandap and Bisak.

8. *Ranizai, Utman Khel*.—These clans are under the management of the Political Officer, Swat and Dir. It is sufficient to state here that for their share in the fighting in Swat a column was sent into the Luman, the slopes of the hills towards Peshawar, and exacted a fine of Rs. 2,000 and the surrender of 300 guns and as many swords.

9. *Mohmands*.—The excitement roused by the fighting in Swat in July spread to this clan, and early in August the Adda Mulla appeared in the Halimzai valley of Kamali with a large lashkar composed of Baizai Mohmands, of men from Lalpura and the Ningrahar district in Afghanistan. It was hoped that the clans in receipt of allowances from Government would refuse passage through their limits; in the end, however, fanaticism and excitement carried them away, and the lashkar, reinforced by contingents of Halimzai, Dawezai, Utmanzai and Isa Khel and Burhan Khel of Pandiali and headed by the Mulla, attacked Shankargarh, a small Hindu town and mart, plundered and burnt it on the 7th August. The fort adjoining the town was resolutely defended by the garrison of Border Police aided by the police from the thana which was also burnt.

Troops from Peshawar arrived on the 8th, on the 9th an action ensued in which the Mohmand lashkar was broken and driven in rout to the hills, losing many men in a brilliant charge by the XIIIth Bengal Lancers over very difficult ground. To punish the clan for this unprovoked and audacious act of war an expedition was sent into their hills in September, which, co-operating with a column from Bajaur, traversed the hills and valleys of the Halimzai, Khwaezai, Utmanzai and Dawezai up to the confines of Mitai and the watershed of the Kunar river. Fines aggregating about Rs. 18,600 were recovered, 95 rifles, 1,070 jezails and 850 swords were taken, and the tribes further punished by having to supply grain and fodder free while the column was in their country.

III.—KHAIBAR.

10. The Afridis catching the infection from the Mohmands rose in their turn under the leadership of Sayad Akbar, the Aka Khel Mulla. On the 23rd August a large lashkar which had collected in Bara poured over into the Khaibar, attacked, seized and burnt all the posts held by the Khaibar Rifles below Ali Masjid; on the 24th they captured Ali Masjid, and on the following day the fortified serai or fort at Landi Kotal. The last was defended for a while owing to the loyal example and conduct of a Malikdin Khel Subadar, Mursal, who was shot while faithfully and gallantly discharging his duty, but on his death the Afridis in the garrison opened the gates to their clansmen outside, and the fort was plundered and burnt. The tribal gathering then dispersed to their homes in Bazar, Bara and Tirah, but once committed to hostilities the Afridis joined the Orakzais in raids into British territory on the Kohat side and in the Miranzai valley.

To punish them for this wanton outbreak a large force consisting of two Divisions with five Brigades entered Tirah from the Samana, and after passing through Orakzai country occupied successively the various valleys and glens of the Afridi highlands. It is beyond the scope of this report to give an account of the fortunes of the Tirah Field Force. It will suffice to say that active military operations ceased in the end of December, when the troops were concentrated in the Khaibar, at Jamrud, and near the lower end of the Bara valley. After three months of negotiations at Jamrud a fine of nearly Rs. 50,000 and some 760 rifles was recovered from the Afridis.

When the Tirah Expeditionary Force was broken up at the end of the year under report the following terms imposed by Government still remained unfulfilled:—

- (i). Surrender of rifles and other property captured by Afridis during the war; 70 Lee-Metfords and 2⁹ Martinis; value at usual rates Rs. 30,200.
- (ii). Compensation for property plundered in the Khaibar (excluding value of buildings destroyed) Rs. 28,600.
- (iii). Surrender of some 50 rifles carried off by deserters from regiments, and some 77 rifles taken by deserters of the Khaibar Corps.

Many of the rifles in (iii) have since been given up.

IV.—KOHAT.

11. *Adam Khels*.—In spite of the excitement and disturbances on the frontier to the north and west the Jowakis, Ashu Khels and Kohat Pass Afridis behaved well under considerable temptation, and in circumstances calculated to try their wisdom and good sense they remained loyal to their engagements. There was a constant stream of traffic along the road from Khushalgarh to Kohat, the base of the great Tirah Expeditionary Force, but no offence was committed by the Jowakis.

Similarly, the Kohat Pass was freely used for passage of troops, baggage, and transport trains; no friction was felt and no trouble reported.

12. *Orakzais*.—This powerful clan possessing the hills which bound Kohat on the north to the extremity of Miranzai were not slow to follow the example of the Afridis, and commenced hostilities within a few days of the outbreak in the Khaibar.

In August the Daulatzais attacked and captured the Border Police post at Muhamadzai, a few days later the Shinawari post at the foot of the Samana below Gulistan fell, and other posts. Lakka and Saifaldarra had to be evacuated and were burnt by the clansmen; a large gathering of both Gar and Samil tribes surrounded Fort Lockhart, the central and largest post, and later an attack was made on Fort Gulistan, which was besieged for some days, while the post of Saragarhi was captured by the insurgents on 12th September and its garrison of 21 men of the 36th Sikhs killed. By the 14th September a relieving column marched up the Samana from Hangu, cleared the hill of the enemy and drove them back to the Khanki valley.

To punish the Orakzai the Tirah Expeditionary Force was despatched in October; Dargai was captured on the 20th, the Khanki valley occupied on 21st, and on the 29th the force marched over the Sampaga Pass into the Mastura valley, the summer head-quarters of the Ali Khel, Mishti, Shekhan and Daulatzai.

A fine of Rs. 30,000 and 500 breech-loading rifles was recovered from the Orakzai, and the tribe were kept under blockade for some time while proceedings were being taken against the Afridis.

V.—KURRAM.

13. In August the Sadda post was threatened by a large body of Massuzai Orakzais; owing to the widespread excitement among the frontier clans it was not found possible to detach troops from Para Chinar, the head-quarters, and the Maliks of Lower Kurram were called on to raise their retainers to defend this part of the valley. It is satisfactory to record that the men of Kurram, Turi and Bungash, Sunni and Shiah alike, answered the summons with loyalty and alacrity, and until the arrival of troops from Kohat held the posts and the line of communication with India. As an instance of the spirit they showed may be mentioned the conduct of the Malli Khel Turis; on 1st September the Bulish Khel post was beset by a Massuzai lashkar who were on the point of forcing an entrance, when a small body of 60 Malli Khels coming to the rescue charged the enemy without hesitation and drove them away.

The loyal behaviour of the people of Kurram was rewarded by a remission of part of the land revenue demand for the spring harvest of 1898, and the Maliks and leading men were honoured with khillats presented by the Lieutenant-Governor in public Darbar in Kohat in March 1898. Advantage was also taken of this occasion to present khillats to the Native gentlemen and officials who had rendered good service in the Mohmand, Boner and Tirah Expeditions or in maintaining peace within the border and collecting supplies.

Of the independent tribes on the eastern and north-eastern border of Kurram the conduct and punishment of the Orakzai have been noticed above. Advantage was taken of the presence of the Tirah Expeditionary Force to send a column into the Para Chamkanni country, and that clan were punished by the destruction of their towers and settlements in the Tabai glen. Unfortunately in an advance up the Khurmana valley a party of Kapurthala Imperial Service Troops attached to the Kurram Field Force losing their way were overpowered and massacred; in this affair the Khani Khel Chamkannis captured some 30 Martini rifles which it has not been possible to recover.

That the wave of fanaticism and political hostility which overran the frontier from the Indus to Tirah and the Samana did not spread further south was due in great measure to the prudent attitude of Chikai, who kept his clan, the Zaimusht, in firm control, and to the loyal gallant behaviour of the men of Kurram.

The conduct of the Zaimusht was specially satisfactory, as they abut on a weak and unguarded section of the main road from Kohat to Kurram, and had they risen communications would have been seriously endangered.

14. The Civil administration of the Kurram Valley made steady and quiet progress. Excellent work has been done in the Civil Hospital which is growing yearly more popular and useful. The village schools are flourishing, and the Turis have begged for a middle school at Para Chinar where education of a higher grade may be open to their sons. The land revenue, nominally about Rs. 50,000, is light, and has been collected with ease; the tolls, which are sold to a lessee, fetched Rs. 12,050.

15. The Kurram Militia were called upon to take an active part in the defence of the valley and in the operations of the column which entered the Chamkanni country by the Khurmana defile. The spirit and steadiness shown in many engagements with superior numbers of Massuzai, as well as their patience and discipline under circumstances entailing much hardship and exposure, won for them high credit, and were suitably acknowledged in orders published by the Officer Commanding the Kurram Moveable Column.

THE TOCHI VALLEY.

I.—General.

16. The general features of the year under report were the attack on Mr. Gee's escort at Maizar on the 10th June 1897 and the punitive expedition against the Madda Khels which followed it. The expedition lasted from the beginning of July 1897 to the 15th January 1898. Before the close of the year more than half of the fine of Rs. 10,000 imposed on the Madda Khels had been collected, and the surrender of 6 (including Sadda Khan, the leading man of the tribe) out of 17 men demanded by Government obtained. It remained to collect the rest of the fine, also Rs. 9,000, the value of miscellaneous property lost at Maizar, to recover 4 Government rifles, or Rs. 2,000 in lieu thereof, and to obtain the surrender of the other 11 ringleaders.

17. A regrettable incident of the expedition was the fracas which occurred on the 7th July 1897 between the military garrison and the levies of the Saidgi Post. Four levies were killed and 10 wounded. Rupees 5,000 were sanctioned as compensation by Government, and were paid to the wounded levies and the heirs of those who were killed.

18. During the expedition all parts of the Kazha were visited by troops. A column also traversed part of Shawal and another marched from Miran Shah by the Ghureshti to the Khetu and returned by Spinwam to Idak. The Afghan boundary pillars between Dotoi and Laram were repaired. The Kabul Khel country between the Khetu and the Kurram was surveyed, and the survey of the Khaisor corrected by the Survey Department.

19. The Bannu Datta Khel cart-road was commenced during the expedition, and by the end of the year was practically completed as far as Miran Shah.

20. The Datta Khel permanent levy post was commenced in August 1897 and finished about the end of the year under report.

21. During the continuance of the expedition the Tochi Valley was under the direct management of the Government of India. Shortly after its reversion to the Government of the Punjab it was visited by the Lieutenant-Governor, who received a Wazari jirga at Miran Shah on the 11th March and a Dauri jirga at Idak on the 12th March 1898. At the former His Honor released Dande Khan, one of the men surrendered by the Madda Khels, who had been acquitted of blame in connection with the Maizar attack.

22. The Civil Dispensary at Miran Shah increased in popularity with Waziris as well as Dauris. Medical arrangements were also made at Datta Khel on receipt of sanction to an allowance of Rs. 10 per mensem to one of the Military Hospital Assistants for Civil work.

II.—Daur.

23. A number of petty offences against Government, such as wire-cutting and firing of single shots by night into posts, occurred during the expedition. Fifteen of these were more important, *viz.*, 6 offences which occurred before the Maizar affair, and 9 which followed after it. The latter number includes a raid which was made on the 31st July 1897 upon camels belonging to various owners in the employment of the Commissariat Department while grazing in the Dande plain about 4 miles from Miran Shah. Two hundred and fifty-four camels were looted and driven into Khost by the raiders who were Khostwals. Four of the raiders were killed by the military grazing guard.

24. Altogether 106 cases of offences against Government British subjects and travellers within the limits of Daur were dealt with during the year; of these 4 were of murders, 3 of hurt, 40 of thefts and robberies, 26 of wire-cutting, and 17 of firing into Government posts. Government fines amounting to Rs. 5,015-5-3 were imposed, and compensation amounting to Rs. 4,949-8-0 was assessed in these cases.

Tribal criminal cases disposed of during the year were 194 in number, and in these the Government fines amounted to Rs. 2,405, and the compensation to complainants to Rs. 4,453-8-0. Fourteen of these were cases of murder, 5 of hurt, 4 of house-breaking, 62 of theft and robbery, 24 of simple hurt, and 26 miscellaneous; 8 related to women, and 51 were proceedings for security to keep the peace.

In addition to the above Government and tribal criminal cases, 280 civil cases of a tribal nature were decided.

25. Out of the Rs. 8,000 revenue of Daur (Rs. 6,000 Khalsa plus Rs. 2,000 inam) Rs. 7,954-13-3 were realized.

Both harvests in Daur were good, and the cultivated area in Lower Daur continued to increase.

26. On the whole the attitude of the Dauris during the expedition was satisfactory, and in consideration of the demands made on them and of their generally good behaviour, Rs. 1,500 of the revenue of Daur for the year 1898 were remitted by the order of Government.

III.—Waziris.

27. Excluding the attack at Maizar, Government cases against Waziris during the year numbered 57, and Waziri tribal cases settled were 103. Of the former, 3 were murders, 27 thefts or robberies; of the latter, 11 were murders, 2 riots, 1 house-breaking, 12 hurt, and 27 thefts or robberies and 7 proceedings for security to keep the peace. In the Government cases fines proper amounted to Rs. 7,305-12-0 exclusive of the Maizar fine, and compensation to injured persons to Rs. 2,382-14-0. In tribal cases fines proper were Rs. 28 and compensation Rs. 2,019.

28. Two important cases pending from the previous year were settled. The fine of Rs. 900 on account of the murder of Honda Ram, Levy Muharrir of Sheranni, the distribution of which has been assigned as one of the immediate causes of the Maizar outbreak, was paid up by the Madda Khel after their submission in November 1897, and Rs. 2,500 on account of the murder, with robbery, of Niaz Muhammad, camel sowar of the 1st Punjab Cavalry, was realized from the Khiddar Khels, Manzar Khels, and Ismail Khels.

29. The Tori Khels and Momit Khels were concerned in some of the most serious offences of the year. The Khiddar Khel section of the Momit Khels behaved well, and the Manzar Khels did not conduct themselves badly. The Ger Madda Khels were in a state of open hostility against Government for about five months, and the Kazhawals evidently sympathised with them, but both sections made a thorough submission in November 1897.

IV.—Mahsuds.

30. Sixty-seven offences in the Tochi laid to the charge of Mahsuds by Waziris and Dauris await settlement. A number of these offences are undoubtedly committed by various Mahsud tribes, especially the Jalal Khels, whom it has not been possible hitherto to call to account. The rest are committed by Waziris and are wrongly attributed to Mahsuds. It has been arranged that all these cases should be taken up in the next cold weather in a joint jirga of Waziris and Mahsuds, and the responsibility definitely fixed on some tribe in every case.

BANNU.

31. The year has been an unusually quiet one in regard to border offences, for, with the exception of a very serious camel raid at Islam Chauki on the road to the Tochi, the crimes committed by trans-border folk have been few and comparatively insignificant. The raid on the camel convoy at Islam Chauki is directly attributable to the military operations on the Tochi Valley.

Hathi Khel.

32. The Hathi Khel Waziris have maintained their reputation for orderliness, and there have been no offences recorded against them during the year.

Nekzan Khel.
Umarzai.

33. There are no cases against either of these sections.

34. Two camels were seized in an Iesperka hamlet in Muhammad Khel territory and carried off across the border. Two Iesperkas were accused of the crime, and the value of the camels stolen has been recovered. No other offences have been recorded against the tribe. A fine of Rs. 1,200 is due by them for the offence recorded in last year's report, in which the villagers of Gumbatti, a village just across the border, took part. Only some Rs. 50 odd have

as yet been recovered. Their crops in British territory are now under attachment, and the balance of the fine will be recovered from the whole Isperka tribe in accordance with the decision pronounced in the case.

35. There is no case against this section. In one case in which seven donkeys were raided from their territory and carried off through the Baran Pass, local responsibility was enforced against the section as actual offenders were not discovered. Most of the value of the donkeys stolen has already been recovered. The quarrel between the Shadakka and Khundi Khel Muhammad Khels has broken out afresh. The former circulate between the Tochi and Gurbuz in Khost, and the latter are settled in Bannu District in the cold weather and go to Shawal in the hot season. No offences were committed in British territory in prosecution of the quarrel.

36. The raid of 176 camels which occurred during the expedition on the 20th July 1897 near Islam Chauki on the road to the Tochi occurred in the territory of the Bakka Khels. The raid was committed by certain Bakka Khel outlaws, Khostwals, &c., all residents of the Amir's territory. The raided camels were taken through the Baran Pass, and local responsibility would have been enforced against the Muhammad Khels had it not been for the fact that the raid was committed during the field operations of the Tochi Expedition, and the actual offenders, who are in the Amir's territory beyond the reach of the sections responsible for the pass, were identified or traced.

Other offences committed through Bakka Khel passes were the theft of two camels from Bannu, of four donkeys at Islam Chauki, of a camel and other property on the Bannu-Tochi road, and of four camels from the Jani Khel grazing-ground.

About Rs. 1,300 have been recovered from the Bakka Khels in fines in the past year, and some Rs. 500 are in course of realization.

37. The Jani Khels have behaved better than their fellow Utmanzais, the Bakka Khels; there is only one offence against them, the theft of a horse from Nar.

Bhitanni.

38. There are no offences to record against the Bhitannis. The behaviour of the tribe has been excellent.

SOUTHERN WAZIRISTAN.

39. The most noticeable feature during the year under report is the large increase in the number of civil and criminal cases brought up for settlement to our officers. During the year 145 cases were reported or brought up for settlement as against 37 in the preceding year. In all the 145 cases, with the exception of a few petty theft cases, both complainants and accused or defendant are trans-frontier men.

40. In the Gomal, Bhitanni, Shirani and Zhob tracts there has been an increase in the number of offences committed with a corresponding increase in the value of the property stolen. The increase may be attributed to the high prices of food-grains which prevailed during the year in the hills, and to the generally disturbed state of the border owing to the troubles on the Peshawar and Kohat borders.

41. The pending cases from the previous year amounted to 86, of which 29 were offences committed in the Dera Ismail Khan District and 57 in the protected hill tracts. Of the Dera Ismail Khan cases 19 have been settled, leaving 10 still pending. Of the other cases, 42 have been settled, leaving a balance of 15. As regards cases indicating distinct hostility or ill-will to Government the past year bears a fairly clear record, the only serious case which occurred being the burning of Commissariat grass at Wana on March 21st last. The case has since been settled and the actual offenders punished.

42. The most remarkable feature of the year has been the generally quiet attitude of the Mahsuds during a period of disturbance which has involved very nearly the whole of the rest of the border. In spite of one or two half-hearted attempts on the part of the Mulla Powindah to raise trouble, the Mahsuds have as a whole remained undisturbed both by the wave of fanaticism which swept the northern tribes from Boner to Kurram and also by the Madda Khel outbreak in their immediate vicinity. The Maliks (headmen) have as a whole worked well and done their best during the period to restrain their sections from committing acts of hostility against Government.

43. The settlement of the Ahmadzai-Dotani disputes in regard to land in Wana and Spin was made in the beginning of the year and has worked very well in practice. Owing mainly to inter-sectional jealousies and disunion the arrangement made with the Suleman Khels for payment of tirmi fell through, and in view of the unsettled state of the frontier generally, it was not considered advisable to push the matter through by sending an enumerating party into Zarmelan.

44. The levies are gradually improving both in *personnel* and discipline, and arrangements have been made for arming the Bhattani, Waziri and Miani Levies with the discarded muzzle-loaders of the Border Military Police. The Political Officer, Wana, reports that the working of the levies has on the whole been very satisfactory—a result entirely due to the control exercised over them and the interest shown in their welfare by Mr. Mercer, Assistant Political Officer.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN.

45. The Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ismail Khan, has charge of only three trans-border tribes, *viz.* the Largha Shiranis, the Ustranas and the Kasranis.

46. No offences were committed by the Largha Shiranis against British subjects during the year, while the offences by the Mahsuds against the Largha Shiranis in the Shirani country numbered 6 as against 2 last year.

Out of these 6 cases 5 were disposed of during the year, leaving only 1 awaiting settlement.

These 6 cases were committed in the interior of the Largha Shirani country, but none of them were of any special importance.

47. The behaviour of the Largha Shiranis may be considered to have been most satisfactory.

48. In March last the Deputy Commissioner of Dera Ismail Khan and the Political Agent, Zhob, met at Moghalkot and disposed of about 30 cases pending between the Largha and Bargha Shiranis with the aid of the joint tribal jirgas.

49. No offences were committed by the Ustranas and Kasranis during the year under report.

DERA GHAZI KHAN.

50. There were 127 cases pending against the tribes on the Dera Ghazi Khan border from the previous year, 233 new cases were instituted against them during the year under report, making a total of 360, of which 180 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 180 cases pending at the close of the year.

Of the 233 new cases—

97	are against the	Bozdars.
42	ditto	Gurchanis.
36	ditto	Legharis.
35	ditto	Khosas.
6	ditto	Tibi Lund.
14	ditto	Kasranis.
3	ditto	Mazaris.

There were no new cases against the Drishaks and Sori Lunds.

The behaviour of the Legharis, Drishaks, Tibi Lund, Kasranis, Sori Lunds and Mazaris has been good.

51. The behaviour of the Bozdars has been on the whole good. The only notable case against the section is the murder of Lala Gela Ram, Naib-Tahsildar of Musa Khel, committed in the Zhob District, as noted in last year's report. The Bozdars have grazing rights in land in the Zhob District. The Zhob authorities exact *per capita* grazing dues, and as the Bozdars reside outside this jurisdiction naturally sometimes find difficulty in assessing and collecting these. Lala Gela Ram in order to obtain payment of the grazing dues is said to have roughly treated several Bozdars during the day and at night pitched his camp near one of their hamlets. He had a guard with him, but the guard all went to sleep; about midnight he was murdered. The case was enquired into by joint jirgas in July 1897. A punitive post has been established for a year near the scene of the murder. The Bozdars have been prohibited from grazing in Zhob for a year. It has been arranged that the *tirni* collections of the Zhob District from the Bozdars should in future be made through the Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ghazi Khan, who has the political charge of the section. In August 1897 new Border Military Police posts were established at Fazla Kach and Hinglun Kach in the Bozdar country. The men are at present located in rough huts, pending the allotment of funds for the construction of the posts.

52. The behaviour of the Gurchanis, with the exception of the Lishari section, has been decidedly good. The Lishari section in the early part of the hot weather migrate into the northern part of the Rajaupur Tahsil, and while there they commit thefts of cattle and women.

In August 1897 new Border Military Police posts were established at Kalchas and Chacha in the Gurchani hills.

Legharis. 53. Sardar Taggia Khan, the Leghari Chief, has made up the quarrel with Sardar Jallab Khan, the Gurchani. The two families have been at enmity for many generations. The present reconciliation reflects great credit on both Chiefs.

Khosas. 54. The behaviour of the Chief of the Khosas, his relations and tribe has as last year not been as satisfactory as could be desired.

55. In January 1898 Sardar Ahmad Khan, the Chief of the Sori Lunds, died without issue. He has been succeeded by his cousin Sardar Naurang Khan.

