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KABBA PROVINCE.

THE RESIDENT, ILORIN PROVINCE.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith Annual Report (No. 11) on Kabba Province for 1914 together with the following Returns:-

1. Annual Statistical Returns.
2. Deaths of Non-Natives.
3. Return of Officers who have held Military Ranks.
4. Statement of Expenditure against Departmental Votes.
5. Certificate re Code Book.
6. Statement of Revenue and Expenditure (Native Adm.)
7. Native Court Returns.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. Z.

Acting Resident Kabba Province.

The Resident's Office,

Kabba, 10th February, 1915.

C.N.C.

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KABBA PROVINCE.

REPORT NO. 11 FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1914.

BY D. GATOR, ACTING RESIDENT.

GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE.

1. In February instructions were received that Ilorin and Kabba Provinces were amalgamated for administrative purposes.

2. This amalgamation entailed at first only correspondence for the Secretary being forwarded through Ilorin. Subsequently other correspondence has been ordered to be sent through the same channel, and I am afraid this cannot be considered as having been conducive to the quick despatch of business of which possibly the Secretariat is not fully aware.

3. This is hardly surprising but it may not be realized that mails from Zungeru instead of being delivered there pass through to Ilorin first and are then sent back to Zungeru. Nor would there be I fear any gain in the mails going overland direct, at least until such time as a motor service could be inaugurated. At any rate when the question was mooted the Postmaster General could not see his way to providing a mail runner for the direct route.

4. This system also entails considerably more clerical work especially as many communications are again duplicated owing to direct replies being demanded by the Secretary which have to be repeated to Ilorin, although the information required may have already been despatched.

5. The chief difficulty the administration had

All these small difficulties may be considered before it is decided to combine the two provinces.

to contend with during the year was due to the war when various rumours about the Government leaving the country were freely passed and readily accepted. These mainly emanated from the Southern Provinces.

6. Among other things which might have given colour to such rumours was the exodus of Europeans from Kabba to Lokoja.

7. No less than 5 Officials of the Education and Audit Departments were here about the same time and as all but one returned to Lokoja one after the other and the Medical N.C.O. was suddenly recalled too, it was quite easy for the natives to forget their advent and recollect only their departure.

8. Had Mr. Walker visited Kabba about then it would have been freely said he was leaving too. In fact Mr. Blackwood felt the matter so important that he went to fetch specie himself from the Southern Division so that the people should have no excuse for saying that the Government was leaving the country.

9. Further the fact that Political Officers were not allowed to leave their station for a time coupled with the departure of more than half of the police force, affected adversely the endeavours of the Political Staff to restrain the younger and more unruly portion of the tribes from what nearly amounted to a revolt against the administration.

10. Without wishing to appear unduly eulogistic, I consider that the handling of the situation by Messrs Blackwood and Walker was extremely good; since the pagan native is ever ready to disregard, when possible, the necessity of fulfilling his obligations to the Government, although the older men are fully aware of the advantages which they have received by being (for the annual payment of a small sum) free from the possibility of Fulani raids resulting in the loss of children, wives and property.

11. It appears from local rumours highly probable too, that alien enemies trading in the Province tried to damage the administration by saying that the natives had better not pay their taxes now, as Germany would be taking the country.

12. When, too, touring was allowed again, the escort available had been reduced to so few that it needed the greatest care to save our prestige.

13. Mr. Walker in reporting on the Southern Division writes in much the same strain "Shortly after the outbreak of war the Division received a severe set-back, every tribe was in a state of unrest, many openly stated they would pay no more tribute, songs were sung in all the principal markets against the Administration and the majority of the tribes were firmly convinced that our occupation of their country was coming to an end."

14. "Rumours were current that we were being driven down the Benue; our losses at Garua were known

Recher on demand's view to K. P. H. is for the British to disengage and remove.

"known in this Division extraordinarily quickly and
"grossly exaggerated, towns began to move back to the
"hill tops but only a small villages have actually
"done so. These rumours were allowed to lose nothing
"in importance by the old "medicine" men whose power
"is decreasing every day and who would welcome the
"day when the saaswood bowl could be freely passed
"round again".

15. He adds: "In this pagan Division owing to
"the lack of cohesion among the various tribes and
"even amongst individual tribes, the policy of ruling
"through the native Chiefs is not as yet possible
"except to a very small extent but the principle is
"kept in view and where tribal law is not opposed
"to British justice no attempt is made to introduce
"any alien system".

16. The loyalty or otherwise of the people is
most easily discernible in the way they pay their
taxes.

17. In this respect hardly too much praise can
be given to the Oru of Ashaja the head of the
Awore tribe and I have recommended elsewhere that he
receive some recognition. He has in addition under
his some outlying places along the river to the
South of Lokoja mostly of the Igbara tribes a few
of different tribes.

18. He paid his tribute in full by the middle
of August.

19. Amongst others who also paid without any
real trouble are the Kupa, Kakanda and Nupe people
in

in the North East of the Province.

20. Further South West the Eunu people were somewhat passive at first, but had paid the bulk before the end of the year. The Gbede had completed and Yagbas were not quite so good. But neither of these tribes have any paramount chief.

21. Round Kabba itself a few places showed themselves very dilatory, and the inclusion of the people of Oduare, Koin, Ogale, Ogidi, Aiere and Iupa who appeared to be quite agreeable at the time they were grouped under Kabba, was not quite the success which was expected.

22. As for the Akoko they had made up their minds to pay nothing, and were very nearly in a state of revolt. However when touring could be undertaken with an adequate police force they were brought to their senses, though they continued most dilatory even then and it required no small amount of patience to wait quietly on the spot while collecting was being carried out by the responsible chiefs.

23. The reduction of police in the Southern Division greatly hampered the work of the A. D. O. since their presence is imperative for reminding the two backward tribes, the Egbira and Kukuruku, of the power of the administration, the advantages of which they recognize at heart, although sometimes neglecting to obey the necessary instructions given.

24. Kabba town, parts of which have been laid out afresh, is assuming a much better appearance.

There

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There is no question but that the natives do realise how much safer their houses are, owing to this method, for prevention against the disastrous fires which have so often devastated their villages. From a sanitary point of view the town is also vastly improved.

25. One person, named Balegun, was deported during the year and is still absent.

26. There were no expeditions during the year.

KANBA PROVINCE.

REPORT NO. 11 FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1914.

BY D. CAEON, ACTING RESIDENT.

JUDICIAL.

27. There were 50 cases instituted in the Provincial Court during the year, in which 63 persons were charged, but as in some cases there were two or more persons brought up and in others a prisoner was convicted on more than one charge the totals are somewhat different in the following table:-

	Cases.	Persons convicted.
Murder	2.	1.
Serious Assaults....	4.	2.
Extortion & Personation	3.	3.
Larceny.....	6.	6.
Burglary.....	2.	1.
Arson.....	2.	2.
Rape.....	1.	-
Bribery.....	1.	1.
Revenue Offences.....	7.	11.
Nat. Authority Offences	11	14.
Miscellaneous.....	16.	23.
Total.	56.	64.

(8).

28. Another table is appended at the end giving a comparative statement of cases tried during the last 6 years.

29. The sentences were of the following nature:-

	1913.	1914.
Death.....	-	1.
Imprisonment for 5 years & over...	4.	1.
" " 2 " " below 5.	10.	3.
" " 1 " " " 2.	12.	7.
" " 6 months & " 1.	38.	12.
" under " "	16.	9.
Floggings.....	-	1.
Fines.....	19.	24.
Deportations.....	-	1.
Discharged with caution.....	-	5.
Total.....	99.	64.

30. In one case deportation followed a term of imprisonment, and in one case a flogging was ordered

31. This decided decrease is no doubt attributable to the war. The difference works out as follows:-

1913 cases before middle of August 47 after 30.

1914 " " " " " 39 " 18.

32. There was one conviction for murder in which the death penalty was confirmed. The convict was subsequently executed close to his own village.

33. There were 4 Civil cases.

NATIVE COURTS.

34. There are 3 Judicial Councils in the Kabba and Agbaja Divisions.

35. In the Southern Division Mr. J. C. Walker writes:- "There are 2 Judicial Councils one at Okeni and one at Iddo another has been sanctioned for Ibie tribe. Considerable difficulty is found in the satisfactory working of these Courts. All petty chiefs by which I mean the chiefs of villages have from time immemorial necessarily exercised certain quasi-judicial powers and these must be considered for the present as inseparable from their position, and they are naturally very loath to see these powers curtailed".

36. He continues:- "As all Court fees are now credited to the Beit-el-mal one cannot expect the Elders to show much enthusiasm when they realize that as far as they themselves are concerned they are losers, that what was once their perquisites by position are now taken by the Government and until the members of these Courts receive some slight recognition for services rendered I am afraid that summonses will not be readily obeyed that the chiefs will not exert their authority and I fear even connive at the summonses not being obeyed".

37. As regards the latter part that was my own experience round Iddo the previous year.

38. As regards the payment of fees I quite agree, one cannot expect much from unpaid native Magistrates.

(10).

30. The required Returns are attached.

KABBA PROVINCE.
REPORT NO. 11 FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1914.

BY D. CATOR, ACTING RESIDENT.

DEPARTMENTAL.

40. Political. The following Officers were in the Province during the year:-

Resident J.A.Ley Greaves,	January 1 - February 15.
1st Class D. O. D. Cator,	January 1 - May 22.
" " "	November 22 - December 31.
A.D.O. R.M.Blackwood,	January 1 - December 31.
" J.C.Walker,	May 18 - December 31.
" H.B.James,	February 18 - March 3.
" G.Macgregor,	January 1 - July 18.

A. Resident must do his best to see with the staff other side to his Province. This is little likelihood of any increase of staff during the present year.

41. The daily average was thus 22 and agrees with the allocation allowed, but I am afraid with such a low allowance things will not progress as well as one could wish. I have, as instructed, written fully on this subject separately.

42. The following Officers were in charge of the Province during the year:-

Resident J.A.Ley Greaves,	January 1 - February 15.
1st Class D.O. D. Cator,	February 15 - May 22.
A.D.O. R.M.Blackwood,	May 22 - November 22.
1st Class D. O. D. Cator,	November 22 - December 31.

43. The following were on leave:-

Resident J.A.Ley Greaves	March 4 and did not return
A.D.O. D. Cator,	June 3 - November 15.
A.D.O. J.C.Walker.	January 1 - May 7.
" H.B.James,	January 1 - February 1st.
" G. Macgregor,	July 20 - December 31.

44. Postings otherwise were as follows:-

1st D. O. Cator, January 1 - January 23 in charge
Southern Division.

A.D.O. Blackwood, " 1 - May 22 Kabba Division.

" " November 23 - December 31 Kabba
Division.

" Walker, June 1 - December 31 Southern
Division

" Macgregor, January 1 - January 22 ,Okeni.

" " " 23 - May 31, Southern
Division.

" " May 31 - July 18, Okeni.

45. The clerical staff consisted of Mr Baffoe, Chief Clerk, Mr. Acquah who was transferred to Zungeru in September, Mr Gaulker, Mr. Ansah and Mr. Mensah; the two latter arriving in September.

46. The pay of the clerical staff amounts to £306, while that of the Native Staff, 7 in number, is £240.

47. Police. Capt. Merxick visited Kabba in April and made a complete inspection.

48. Mr G. F. Duus was in charge of the police detachment from January 1 - April 24th when he went on leave.

49. Mr Blackwood then took over the duties and immediately began to put the force through musketry until the war broke out, when it was stopped in order to husband ammunition.

50. At one time it was proposed that the A.C.P. Ilorin should take charge of both Kabba and Ilorin detachments. Mr. A.K. Rickards, visited Kabba from 18th to 27th July but had no instructions to take

take over the police or equipment etc.

51. However he commenced the annual musketry of another dozen men and would have completed them had he not been suddenly recalled.

52. The authorized establishment is 1 Inspector, (Mr. Coleman) 1 Sergeant Major, 2 Sergeants, 3 Corporals, 6 Lance Corporals and 58 Constables, making a total of 71.

53. On December 31st there were in the Province 7 N.C.Os (including one Inspector) and 52 Constables, due to the changes mentioned below.

54. Forty of the police were drafted to Muri on the out-break of war and they are still there. From all accounts they have acquitted themselves most creditably and their comrades here are only sorry that they were not also selected for active service.

55. In the middle of November 20 police were drafted from Ikoja and Zungeru to fill for a time the gap caused by the withdrawal of those on active service and they came none too soon to carry on the work of the Province. These 20 police had been urgently asked for, in order to quell the growing disaffection in the Akoko and other Districts. Their advent was extremely fortunate.

56. The Acting A. C. P. reports:- "The discipline throughout the year has been good. The apparent lack of it amongst the 20 drafted here temporarily is, I think, due to ignorance and lack of training. I am trying to bring them up to the standard of the Kabba men".

1. had the right spirit

57. This ignorance etc. referred to is undoubtedly due to the fact that they were recently enlisted.

58. Prison. There is no separate prison staff in the Province.

59. There have been 41 prisoners in the gaol during the year, with 23 on January 1st and 6 on December 31st. The daily average number was 14.52.

60. The health has been very good.

61. There was one execution.

62. They have been employed on the usual routine work, i. e. prison farm and keeping down the grass round the station.

63. Medical. There has been no Medical Officer quartered in the Province, in fact none has visited Kabba or any outstation through the year.

64. The following were in charge at Kabba:-

Medical Sergeant, J. E. Crawley,	January 1 - March 23rd
" " F. S. Flint,	April 14 - May 25.
" " J. Meason,	June 7 - August 9th.

65. On those occasions when there was no Medical Sergeant here, the Political or other Officer in charge at Kabba did his best to look after the dispensary work etc. This devolved mostly on Mr. Blackwood.

66. Much unnecessary trouble was caused by the Medical Department ordering one Sergeant to leave the station before his relief arrived. This happened twice with short gaps of 21 and 15 days, which surely might have been obviated.

67. Out-breaks of Small-pox have occurred at Ikinri, Ikerram, and other Akoko towns. The former resulted in the loss of 17 people and the latter of 5, but the epidemic appeared to have run its course by ^{the} end of October.

68. Unfortunately those who had not been attacked and who had not previously suffered from the disease, were not willing to undergo vaccination although the Acting Resident was at some pains to explain the advantages of preventive measures. Willing they always are to obtain curative medicines but are as yet too backward or perhaps too timid or unbelieving to fully appreciate the capabilities of European science.

69. Two cases of small-pox occurred at Kabba, one malignant and one confluent. Both were in the absence of a Medical Officer - attended by Mr. R. M. Blackwood and both have recovered. They were of course isolated and their huts were burned and possible sources of infection thoroughly disinfected, and no one else caught it.

70. The present Dispensary Attendant Belo is acquiring a working knowledge of simple dressings of

71. Sergeant Meason R.A.M.C. when stationed here was at great pains to instruct 6 P. Cs in field dressings during June and July, and had nearly completed the instruction when war broke out and he was recalled.

72. The general health has been good.

73. Postal. There is a regularly bi-weekly despatch from Kabba to Lokoja; the return service is not so regular as it depends on the punctual arrival or otherwise of the ocean steamers.

74. There is no Telegraph station in the Province. Lines run from Lokoja to Egga in the North and from Lokoja to Eggeri in the South. These routes are cleared by the adjacent villages.

75. P.W.D. Slight progress was made in improving some of the native roads. There has been but one road which might have been called a second class road in the Province i.e. from Lokoja to Kabba, but that was made in 19⁰⁵~~10~~ and though it is annually cleared of grass it has reverted to a third class road.

76. The Residency was repaired and painted at the end of the year.

77. Education. In May the Rev. G. P. Bargery visited Kabba with a view to the opening of a Provincial school, and made two subsequent visits.

78. The details having been decided upon Mr. Cleuston came out to inaugurate it in June.

79. He was subsequently followed by Messrs Taylor and Cole, the latter of whom was in charge from October to the end of the year.

80. Mr. Cleuston left the station on 24th October and was followed by Mr. Taylor on 31st October.

81. The school has been opened for such a short time that little can be said about it. There are 15 boys on the books and their attendance has been remarkably good, and they have shown themselves amenable to discipline. None are in residence but it is early yet to expect these at a distance to enter their children.

82. Mr. Bargery also visited the village school at Aiya and Imiegba. Subsequently these were closed by the Director of Education.

83. I am sorry this step was taken.

84. The expenses of these local schools had been defrayed by the Native Administration at very small cost.

85. I quote the following from Mr. Walker's report:- "The chiefs of these two towns were asked "to send their sons to the Government school at "Kabba some 4 or 5 days march away but declined "to do so. The teaching was of the most rudimen- "tary character but as they ^{had} been established at the "express request of the chiefs I think it was a "mistake to close them after a few months trial. "It could not be said against them that the pupils "were being taken out of their normal grooves, they "were surrounded by their native customs. The pre- "mature teaching of English may be apt to lead to "disrespect for both British and native customs and "disorganisation but I believe these schools and "others could have been used as "feeders" to the "Government central school at Kabba; if they failed
in

"in this respect they could have then been closed
"down. It is expecting a great deal from pagans
"who only 4 years ago seldom saw a Government
"official to send their sons to what to them is
"an unknown country, the small knowledge of English
"that these boys would have acquired, could not
"possibly be denationalising them but would I think
"have acted as an incentive to their parents for
"further education".

86. Audit. Mr. H. Gush visited Kabba in
February and audited the books etc.

87. Mr. M. J. Flanagan subsequently arrived on
October 9th and made a further audit. In neither
case have any criticisms been received which is
most gratifying.

88. Military. No troops have been employed in
the Province during the year.

89. Customs. The customs station at Ngori was
closed down in the course of the year due to the
amalgamation.

KABBA PROVINCE.

REPORT NO. 11 FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1914.

BY D. GATOR, ACTING RESIDENT.

REVENUE AND TAXATION.

90. A re-assessment of the Akoko District was commenced in February but owing to the sudden transfer of Mr. James only a very small portion of this was completed.

91. The Gbade District comprising a small area was re-assessed showing a considerable increase.

92. The re-assessment of the Egbira District was being carried out when the war broke out but that of course stopped all further work in that direction.

93. It will be some time before things get back to normal after the general dislocation caused by the war, and assessment work is bound to suffer.

94. The Land Revenue collected by the end of the year amounted to £8924, which is very much more than was anticipated a couple of months before, but that sum would never have been reached had not a draft of police been sent to fill the gap caused by the loan to Muri of so many men from here.

95. This is short of the total Estimate by some £2500 but a good deal of this will be paid up in January and I am in great hopes all will be eventually got in before 31st March.

8924
 2500
 11424
 Paid from
 8924
 1728 900 M. 2000
 642 1000
 11494

10000 600
 1000 1500
 2000 1000

9
 1000
 1000

(20).

96. The reduction in Licences is due to fewer fuel cutting Licences having taken out.

97. The difference in Rents is due to the fact that several years arrears were paid for one plot of land last year.

NATIVE ADMINISTRATION.

98. The full revenue has not been collected but some tax is still outstanding and it is probable that the estimate will be realized.

99. At the same time the Estimated Expenditure has not been reached, as strict economy was exercised.

100. Full statement is attached.

KABBA PROVINCE.

REPORT NO. 11 FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1914.

BY D. GATOR, ACTING RESIDENT.

ECONOMIC.

101. Cotton. The cotton prospects at the beginning of the year were good and there increased purchases at Okeni by the B. C. G. A., so much so that they arranged to put in a new ginnery.

102. In all some 29 tons of cotton were bought by them which is a slight increase on last year.

103. General In the earlier part of the year there were not so many palm kernels brought for sale as usual which was attributed to the fact that they did not realize such good prices as before.

104. Mr Walker reports from the Southern Division "Since the out-break of the war the trade in palm kernels which is the principle product of this Division has been wholly disorganised. The natives are bitterly complaining that the trading firms will not pay them cash but offer them cloth which they (the firms) value at 6/- but they (the traders) can only retail for cash at 4/6. The Agents of the trading firms at Ajakuta and Egori inform me they have strict orders to pay out no cash but collect all they can and then remit to Burutu, the cash being used to pay the duties on imports".

105. There was a phenomenal lack of rain during the rainy season which seriously affected all crops.

106. Fortunately however some rains fell later and most of the crops were not a complete failure.

107. Maize suffered probably the most, while guinea corn and beni-seed were probably 50% below the average.

108. Except around Kabba and along the river nickel coinage is not popular. In some parts apparently the new silver coinage is not readily accepted, though no individual case has been brought to my notice.

109. It is of course only a matter of time before they are common everywhere, and I have noticed quite a fair amount in the tribute brought in.

110. Another thing that is found too often is bad coinage, of which I have noticed several varieties. This is commonly reported to emanate from Lagos.

KABBA PROVINCE.

REPORT NO. 11. FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1914.

BY D. GATOR, ACTING RESIDENT.

SLAVERY.

111. There have been no cases of slavery brought before the Court during the year.

112. The total number of slaves freed since the auguration of the Province is 88.