

by Resident Mr. P. M. DWYER

(18)

Cotton.

The care and attention given to this subject can only be described as ending in a fiasco, not that the crop was a failure, quite the reverse, but that owing to the Niger Coy, declining to purchase it, this was due I believe to the fact that the Cotton Growing Association had set up a plant at Lokoja. Whatever the cause of this refusal to buy may have been it was sufficient to dislocate the whole industry and seriously affect the future exportation. I had again and again informed the farmers that every fibre of cotton grown would meet with a ready purchase and had spent many an hour describing the future benefits that must accrue to them if they planted every piece of available land with cotton. There can be no doubt but that the farmer responded to my wishes and planted large quantities of seed which gave a good crop. It can easily be imagined how shocked I was after all my exhortations to be informed that the Niger Company were no longer purchasing it. I am led to believe that a large quantity was taken to Ibadan and when the Niger Coy, recommenced to buy it only twenty six tons were acquired instead of over 100 tons. The Agent of the B.C.G.A at Ibadan sent up a hand eagle saw gin which however has not done much work. I am informed that the Niger Coy, do not care to buy ginned cotton as they have a plant at Lokoja where they gin it themselves. The Agent of the B.C.G.A at Ibadan bought 250lbs of lint and I understand gave 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d a pound, one small parcel of lint (15lbs) fetched 4d a pound. The Agent offered to buy all lint at a spot price of 2d. per pound and would send an agent to carry it down, this has not been accepted so far as I think it advisable for all cotton grown in Ilorin to be exported via the Niger than by Lagos.

The whole space betw

agency and the toll station

Province of I L O R I N Report No. \_\_\_\_\_ for ANNUAL 1905by Resident Mr. P. M. DWYER.

has been planted with cotton the crop was good even though the "Heliothis Armiger" was found to be present. A mixture of "paris green" <sup>and lime</sup> and was freely used with a certain amount of benefit.

#### MISSIONS.

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(35). There was one Mission at Patagi last year called the American Industrial Mission, I am afraid I can say very little for the work they have done. This mission has taken a new name the American Evangelistic Mission, I assume by the name that their work will be confined to religion and the old idea of teaching the natives trades &c is abandoned. One of their members a Mr, Bamfield has separated from them and set up in Shonga as a "Mennonite" I have been unable to grasp the meaning of this sect, I believe they call themselves "Brothers of Christ" I am afraid more harm than good will be done by these missions who I am made to understand by Mr, Sciortino preach the equality of the European and the native as much as religion.

*Sincerely,  
Dwyer*  
Resident Ilorin.

Province of ILORIN Report No. 32 for JANY--MARCHby Resident Mr. P. M. DWYER.REVENUE.

(22). The Revenue for the quarter ending 31st March was ~~inc~~ included in the annual return of revenue which doubtless Your Excellency has seen by this.

The Tribute tax is one that is now occupying my whole time and attention as it is necessary to reorganize it completely. A great number of towns have been reassessed but this reassessment will have to be carefully tested on the spot hence I anticipate that I will have to be constantly on tour during the next six months.

The Emir and Chiefs of Ilorin are quite willing that the tribute should be much higher and that Government should receive a half, but they view with great distrust the idea that tributary towns should pay to the headman, they have urged me again and again to permit these towns to come in themselves and with the tribute and receive a receipt for it, The Emir is convinced that unless this is done abuses will take place, again the tributary towns have also sent in to be allowed to come direct to me and have done so, I should like Your Excellency to say if you object to this, I do not suppose Your Excellency will pin down each Province to exactly the same manner of collecting the tribute, each Province varies in its customs and people and what suits one does not necessarily suit all. I assume if we follow the rules laid down in Proclamation No, 2 of 1906 as closely as the conditions of the people of the Province will permit and that every town and village is assessed in accordance with that Proclamation Your Excellency will not insist too strictly in the manner in which the tribute is brought in.

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by Resident Mr. P. M. DWYER

for the reason that they have been accustomed to this method for the past four years, also I think it a pity to insist on what is obviously unpopular with the Emir and Chiefs. I gather--gather that they believe if the district chief collects revenue from the tributary towns it will be the first step in cutting themselves adrift from Ilorin and refusing to recognise the Emir as paramount chief.

They always have the example of the Alafin of Oyo before their minds, he was in the past the paramount chief of the whole of Yorubuland, now is not so important as the Bale of Ibadan, this Bale and headmen of other towns collect tribute from their tributary towns but refuse absolutely to pay anything to the Alafin.

A schedule of the new assessment will be sent Your Excellency as soon as it is completed, this will take some little time

*P. M. Dwyer*

Resident Ilorin.

31st, March 1906

by Resident P. M. DWYER

GENERAL CONDITION

Your Excellency

I am glad to report that the Province is in a satisfactory condition there being nothing of a serious nature to report. (2). Early in April a rather interesting question was dealt with, the Emir sent up a farmer and said he wished to fine him £15 price of three cows which died from eating poisonous grass. I found on examination that the farmer was troubled with goats and sheep wandering over his farm destroying his crops, he sent round to his neighbours to say owing to these depredations he was going to plant on his farm a grass that is most dangerous for cattle to eat, some time after doing this some cattle passed over his farm eat the grass and three cows died. The owner summoned him to Native Court to recover the price of dead cows, the Emir decided the farmer should pay this money but the court Mallam said it was quite an unfair decision for the reason that the neighbours had been informed and that it was most unusual for cows to stray there, I decided the Emir was wrong and the case dismissed, I however warned the farmer that this was a dangerous method to employ and that he should employ other

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by Resident P. M. DAVIS.

to my mind was that we had here the dawning sense of justice, though the Emir declared in favour of a fine the court would not agree as it was not in accordance with Native Law.

(3). The Emir reported on 9th April that a small village on the Jebba road had been attacked by robbers at night and that one girl had been hit with a knife and had died after some days, action was taken at once to trace the robbers but no arrests were made, I am led to believe that the report was nothing more or less than what in England would be described as a practical joke played by an ex prisoner.

(4). On the 9th, the Emir reported that Mamodu Gbede and Bale of Buda Egba were creating very great annoyance and worry, some men from Buda Egba went to collect a debt in Mamodu Gbede's village and were at once seized and tied up, he then sent his messenger to say he had done so and would do the same to every Ilorin he found in his village, the Bale at once made a prisoner of this messenger and reported he had done so, I at once ordered him to at once liberate the man and on no account should he act in this manner, I also telegraphed to the Resident Ibadan pointing out what a deplorable condition of affairs existed on the boundary and informed him I would do all in my power to try and remedy the condition.

Province of Ilorin Report No. 88. for April-June 1906

by Resident P. M. DWYER

(5). Capt P. Lonsdale Assistant Resident arrived at Ilorin on the 10th, and visited Offa on the 14th, I had in the course of instructions warned him to keep a sharp look out for Ajeles in any town he might visit, almost on his arrival he arrested one one of these pests who had been sent by a Chief Aji Ogidiolo living at Ilorin. In my report for the quarter ending 31st March I had mentioned this man's name stating he was more than suspected of being mixed up in the robberies that were going on in the town, but that owing to his great cunning I had never been able to bring a crime home to him, but that I hoped sooner or later to catch him. As luck would have it the day the Ajele came in I discovered that he had been hearing cases in the town, some of those that I had sent to the native Court to deal with.

He was ordered to appear at court and came attended with a large following quite satisfied that he would prove his innocence.

He was tried under the Native Court Proclamation and fined £10.

I then asked his reason for placing an Ajele in Offa when he knew it was against the orders which had been issued so often, he could give no valid excuse for this so I fined him £5 and treated it as a political fine. I very much regret that the instructions embodied in Your Excellency's remarks

Province of ILORIN Report No. 23 for April-June 1908

by Resident P. M. DWYER.

Approved in this  
instance

on my Report for quarter ending 31st, March did not reach me until a week ago so that I did not treat this case as Your Excellency indicated. As it is very necessary to make an example of this man I trust you will give sanction for this fine. In the future should similar cases arise they will be treated as you indicate.

(5). On the 19th, April Mr Higgins of the Public Works paid an inspection visit to Ilorin, I was extremely glad to see him as it was most necessary that a combined court house and office should be erected, The so called office, in reality built as an arm room, was impossible to work in, the heat and dirt being insufferable, so bad was it that I turned one of my rooms into an office and transacted all my work there, as Your Excellency is aware there is a great deal of work to be got through and it was most unsatisfactory to have to interview messengers &c in what I must call my private house. I am glad to say Mr Higgins recognised how impossible it was to carry on the work of the Province without a proper office and informed the Director of Public Works to this effect, this has been sanctioned. The builders have also built a first class well just behind my bungalow, ever since it was sunk water has never failed, we were lucky enough to strike a spring that gives most excellent water.

Very satisfactory



Province of ILORIN Report No. 53 for April-June 1905.

by Resident E. M. DYER.

(8). Permission has been given to Mr Gomez late of the Niger Company to farm land near Jebba, I have been unable up to the present to visit the site selected but I trust do do this and forward a map of the land at an early date.

Mr. Gomez appears to be an intelligent man and will I trust be able to do good work in cotton growing (8). On the 23rd of April a man was found dead in the bush not far from Offa, his head was split open so the assumption is that he was killed. The man was unknown and no trace of the murderers could be found, the body was lying in the bush away from farms or villages and was unlikely to have been carried there.

(9) On the 24th, April the Emir sent up to inform me that his messengers had been arrested, one at Igbori which is situated on the map just west of the straight line joining Odunfa hill and Buda Egha, the other at Budo Ole Baba which is well in Ilorin territory.

I at once telegraphed reporting this to Your Excellency as it was what I had foreseen when attempting to delimitate the boundary (Lagos - Ilorin) with Major Reeve Tucker, the valuable farms in question which have always been in the possession of the Ilorin farmers without doubt struck him with admiration and the assumption must be that he at once ear-marked the

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by Resident P. M. DWYER.

to them. Although I protested to Major Reeve Tucker that these farms must be considered Ilorin until it was decided otherwise he declined to take this view and sent government messengers to warn the farms in question that they were no longer to pay tribute to Ilorin. Such acts cannot be considered otherwise than discourteous and liable to cause an amount of friction that might easily be avoided. Again his messengers visited Fata another Ilorin farm village with orders for the villagers to supply grass and sticks to rebuild Igbeti, the absurdity of such acts might be amusing were there not a certain amount of danger in them.

(10). On May the 9th, the ex Maaji of Zaria died, he had been for some time suffering and was attended by Dr. Costello who advised him to come into the hospital, this he absolutely refused to do and so died in his house in the town.

(11). On the 15th, May the Emir sent up the men who were caught by the Lagos messengers, one man was in a most shocking condition. His finger broken, the skin all taken from his neck due to the ropes by which he was tied and showing marks of a severe beating. As this was such a gross act of aggression I at once telegraphed to Your Excellency No 112 of 15-5-06, pointing out these acts were a serious menace to the peace of the border.

Province of ILORIN Report No. 25 for April-June

by Resident P. M. DWYER.

For many years past there has been a deeply rooted enmity between the Ilorins and Ogbomoso people and it has been one of my difficult tasks to try and quench this animosity. It would be idle to shut ones eyes to the fact that this arrest and ill treatment of the Ilorin messenger has not caused deep resentment in the breasts of the Ilorins ~~who~~ who state that it could only be done with the protection of the government. Had it been done prior to the government taking over from the Niger Company the Ogbomoso people would have suffered for it. The Ilorins have always been a truculent tribe and it is not fair that they should be compelled through the presence of a Resident to curb their just desire for retaliation. It is necessary to remember also that these acts place me in a most invidious position, the Emir when he reports such offences naturally assumes that I will put an end to them, this cannot be done so long as the Lagos Officials disregard the just and right claims of Ilorin. The acts of aggression that have been done by the Ogbomoso or Ibadan people can only be considered as acts done to annoy and irritate an enemy that in the past they stood in awe of.

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by Resident P. M. DWYER.

(12). On the 18th, may the Oloffa of Offa sent me a long petition asking that Your Excellency would grant him a monthly stipend as it was impossible for him to feed the numerous people of his household, to return present to kings, the not doing of which caused him shame, also he was unable to levy tolls as the Government were doing so. There is not a doubt but that he was put up to this by a "trousered Lagosian" One of this class visited Ilorin and came to see me, owing to being extremely busy at the time and neither having the time or inclination to receive his salutations he left for Offa and the letter was the result of his visit as it was written by him. I informed the Oloffa that I did not think Your Excellency would for one instant consider his proposal and that he should get rid of the idle loungers of his compound and send them out to farm. I also suggested to the Emir that he should send his messenger to the Oloffa and warn him that if he intended to place himself in the hands of these Lagos gentry it would be better for him to leave Offa and reside with them in Lagos territory. The Emir got back a most humble reply that he had no intention of placing himself in such hands and that he would do nothing to cause annoyance in the future.

Province of ILORIN Report No. 58 for April-June 1906.

by Resident P. M. DWYER.

The educated Lagosian is nothing less than a bane to the country, I understand that the Commissioner at Ilesha (Lags) has a most difficult task in dealing with the natives of those parts owing to the constant interference of these men, I would strongly suggest that any chief of Ilorin Province who traffics with them in order to try <sup>to</sup> remedy a real or fancied grievance should be severely dealt with. Everyone in Ilorin province from the Emir down to the poorest slave know quite well that Your Excellency would not permit an injustice to them, so this form of discontent, and I do not know how it can be called anything else, appears to my mind most insolent, I would suggest on any second attempt of a chief to gain his ends through the advice of these Lagosians that he should be removed at once from his position.

Advise less drastic measures to start with

(15). On the 25 may I had all the Chiefs and Bale of the town of Afon in to see me re a dispute between them. I found that the Bale had been acting in a very high handed manner giving the most absurd orders simply for the pleasure of seeing them carried out. I warned him this would not be permitted and that if acted like a fool he would be treated as such and removed, the chiefs declared that the Bale would behave for a time and then be as bad as ever, if he is so foolish will recommend his removal to

Province of ILORIN Report No. 22 for April-June 1906

by Resident P. M. DWYER.

(14). On the 2nd of June I was visited by the arab traders from Tunis who are passing to Kano with the idea of diverting the desert route to Lagos. They remained in Ilorin for 10 days and I must say I was very glad to get rid of them. They appeared to think that they should be granted everything they asked for and were more than astonished that they were not. Their idea was that they should receive carriers and horses from stage to stage, merely paying the carriers 5d each as for the horses they would be returned. They absolutely declared over and over again that they were treated thus in Lagos Hinterland, that they took carriers from Ibadan to Ogbomoso, got rid of them there and took new ones to Oyo, from Oyo to Ilorin paying nothing but "ohop money". I could not do this at Ilorin and so telegraphed to the Political Assistant asking for instructions. The Political Assistant replied that Lagos Govt. denied that such an arrangement had been made and that they must pay just wages. The elder of the traders was far from polite stating that he was sent by his king to examine what were good countries and would say Ilorin was not, that the Emir was a bad man &c and that the Lagos kings were good men because they helped him. I asked him did he think that he would be able to hire men at Zungeru and Zaria at the same price.

(II).

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by Resident P. M. Dwyer.

he did he was vastly mistaken, I pointed out to him that he should <sup>have</sup> before leaving Lagos, arranged for his transport and not trusted to chance on the road, I think he saw what a mistake he had made and will be wised should he return again.

(15). On the 4th, June I presented in Your Excellency's name the koran and silks, last portion of the installation present to the Emir. The koran was an object of great delight, the mallam would hardly let it out of his hands. At the end of the presentation the Emir called up his trumpeters and a terrific salute was blown in honour of Your Excellency.

(16). After the presentation the Emir informed me there was great trouble in the village of Gamma owing to the presence of witches who were said to be the cause of the death of the Bale's son, these witches were present three harmless looking women, two quite young with babies. I mention this merely to point out the peculiar difficulties that crop up to a Resident. The moment a woman is suspected of being a witch she must leave the place she resides in, if she does not other village will permit her to reside in it. She therefore must leave the province altogether or become a wanderer from place to place. It is very hard on the woman, who may be suspected on the slightest pretext. These kind of cases were at first most difficult to deal with.

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from exhaustion in the bush. I found the best way to deal with such cases was to treat them with ridicule, always asking why no men are witches only women &c, and then get the mallam to repeat a few words from the koran to show that God is more powerful than witches, this generally settles the matter as the people who lodge the complaint always men are most anxious to be considered mohammedans and do not like it known that they have more belief in witches than in the Koran. This belief in witches is very real and I know of one farm village that was deserted on account of this belief. In- This naturally appears a very trivial matter to embody in a report, all the same it is very often a most difficult matter to deal with.

(17). On the 15th, June Mr, Ross D.C of Oyo and Mr, Scruby D.C. Ibadan visited Ilorin in order to investigate the arrest of an Ilorin messenger by one of the Lagos messengers (Numbermen).

They wished to proceed to the place in question which I readily agreed to, Capt, Lonsdale went with them to make a careful sketch map of the farm in order to prove it was in Ilorin.

(18). On the 21st, the heads of the Lagos-Ilorin railway extension visited Ilorin. They were very much struck with the country in fact said they



(18).

Province of ILORIN Report No. 83 for April-June 1904.

by Resident P. M. DWYER.

a flying one merely to see the lie of Ilorin and what would be the best place to erect a station if the extension is sanctioned. Nothing of course could be definitely arranged as it is not known yet how the line will run, at present the idea is that the line approaching from Offa will cross the Aza River about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles south west of the Residency and then run along the side of the town wall and cross again somewhere near Sobi rock. One question discussed was whether the station should be erected where the line first crosses the Aza or after, this as far as I was concerned was immaterial, the first crossing would certainly be more convenient but no necessity to press for it. The survey party are now at Offa and are thinking to erect a bungalow there, they asked for sanction to do so, they have been informed to send me a plan of proposed site and application for lease of land. I am informed that if the extension is granted they expect to run the line to Ilorin in two and a half years.

(19). On the 22 June I received a letter from the Revenue Clerk at Offa to say he had been attacked by the hunters in the town. This was a piece of exaggeration, not being the case, a meeting of hunters was held and they declared that they would not take out game licenses that they paid their share of the general tribute and would not pay

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by Resident P. M. DWYER.

Clerk and will leave the matter over until I can investigate the discontent.

There is no doubt but that liquor and game licenses are very unpopular and there appears to be a determined combine to refuse to take them out, this is chiefly in the Offa district which is composed almost wholly of pagans who are not inclined to view taxation favourably.

(20). Mr. Sciortino reports well on his district I have directed him to suspend the native court at Iafiagi pending my arrival there to investigate the charges made against the Alkali.

*Percival Dwyer*

Resident Ilorin.

Province of ILORIN Report No. 53 for April-June 1906.

by Resident P. M. DWYER.

SLAVERY.

(SI). There were five slaves liberated during the quarter.

Nos. 80 and 81 were two small children that came from German territory (Bornu), their master was arrested by the police at Buda Egba on suspicion of going to sell the children at Abeokuta, he stated that he sold kolas and the man he sold the 773 to would not pay him and so gave him the children instead. He declared he did not intend to sell them but as there is a widespread idea that Abeokuta is the place where slaves are disposed of I did not think I was justified in allowing the children to go there. They were in a pitiable state though they had not walked being carried on donkeys, and have been under medical treatment since being set free. I did not consider it necessary to imprison the owner and so let him free.

No. 82, This case was sent to me by the Emir, the girl was found wandering about the farms and said that she had run away from her master on account of ill treatment twenty days before being brought in, she also was in a very emaciated condition with marks of blows on her body. As she appears to old for the slave home I would suggest that she be sent as soon as she is able to travel to the

*Approved*

Province of ILORIN Report No. 83 for April-June 1906

by Resident P. M. DUGGS

Resident of ~~Matsena~~ Matsena who may be able to find out her relations.

No. 83. This was a very serious case the child being in a shocking condition, so bad was it that the Emir asked that an exemplary punishment should be meted to the master. Unfortunately he was an old man half blind and incapable of work so that a long term of imprisonment would have been a useless expense to the Government, I sentenced him to one month which was, though quite inadequate, sufficient in ordinary cases, sufficient in this.

No. 84. This was a peculiar case and I may have acted ultra vires. The District Superintendent of Police visited the native prison and found the woman in irons, she asked his help stating she was to be sold to a Fulani. I at once sent to have her liberated and brought before me, also her mistress. On investigating found that she was given as a wife to a crippled Fulani and she would not have him, as she insisted on refusing she was placed in prison. I severely censured the Emir for permitting such a thing and warned him that in future he would have to appear at court to explain his conduct in similar cases.

*P. M. Duggs*

Resident Ilorin

Province of ILORIN Report No. 33 for April-June 1906

by Resident P. M. DWYER

- REVENUE -

(22). The Revenue for the quarter ending 30th, June amounts to £2557-0-8, which is an increase of £798-6-9, over the same period last year.

CARAVANS £1142-II-9

This shows an increase of £440-2-9. Had I not been instructed by the Political Assistant to reduce the price of kolos, owing to complaints having been made, I would have shown more under this head.

It is however satisfactory to note that each year shows a steady increase to the revenue from this source.

TRIBUTE £1146-I-0.

This sum is £2489-10-8 more than was collected during the whole past financial year. 707 towns, villages and farms have been assessed and have paid, there being only a few scattered Ilorin farms and the districts of Lafagi and Egbe to complete the province.

The list of towns, villages and farms will be sent in for approval as soon as the assessment is complete.

HAWKERS £189-10-0

This is a woeful drop as compared with last year, but as the Hawkers Proclamation was repealed it cannot be helped

Most satisfactory

(18).

Province of ILORIN Report No. 33 for April-June 1906.

by Resident P. M. DWYER.

Liquor and Game.

I regret to say that I fear I will be unable to make much headway with these taxes. There appears to be a fixed determination to refuse to pay, especially in the Offa District where the people are all pagans, the hunters of whom there are large numbers, state that they pay in the general tax as farmers, most if not all, having farms and that they will not pay any more. The handful of police here are absolutely unable to enforce this tax, in fact it would be a most dangerous piece of work to attempt it as it would be more than likely to precipitate a serious revolt.

A.R.

*P. M. Dwyer*

Resident Ilorin.

Province of ILOBIN Report No. 53 for April-June 1906.

by Resident P. M. DWYER.

PROVINCIAL COURT.

(23). The cause list has been sent to the Attorney General at the end of each month, there were 18 cases tried during the quarter.

The most serious cases were

- (a). No. 14 in which one of the Chiefs of Ilorin was fined £10 for exercising Judicial Cas- powers for which he had no authority. I was very glad to be able to get this conviction as it will show the town people that the Native Court is not a mere whim of the Resident but that it alone will be allowed to try cases.
- (b) No. 25 in which a man was sentenced to death for the murder of a youth on a farm village. I was convinced from the evidence that the murder was not premeditated, the first act of wounding with gunshot was quite accidental and the chopping down of the victim afterwards was the brute instinct of self preservation, the man not being aware that he would not have been punished for an unfortunate accident. I considered I was quite justified in recommending Your Excellency to use your prerogative of pardon in his case.
- The rest of the cases were of minor importance.
- NATIVE COURTS. There were 56 minor cases heard during the quarter

(20).

Province of ILORIN Report No. 33 for April-June 1906.

by Resident P. M. DWYER.

COTTON.

(24). One hundred and seventy tons of cotton were purchased by the Niger Company from Ilorin Province this I consider very good and I trust that this amount will be largely increased in the future. I had a certain amount of difficulty in getting the farmers to accept seed, they refused to take it imagining that their farms would be assessed at a higher figure. I directed the Emir to publicly proclaim that I would not ask farmers to pay anything on cotton also that if necessary they could pay a part or the whole of their tax in cotton. I am glad to say this idea has lapsed and seed is being well called for by the farmers. I am, and always have been convinced that there is a great future for Ilorin in export of cotton and the results shown so far justify this belief.

Extract for Cotton file  
and also forward to  
B.C.G.A.

*P. M. Dwyer*

Resident Ilorin.



by Resident Mr. P. M. DWYER.

GENERAL CONDITION.

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Your Excellency

On the 26th, of January I arrived at Ilorin from leave of absence and took over charge of the Province from Capt, G. Anderson on the 29th, . I am pleased to report that I found the Province in a satisfactory condition and the Office Records kept up to date.

Capt, Anderson proceeded on leave on the 2nd, February via Lagos (2). I received a very warm welcome on my arrival from the Emir and Chiefs who met me at the Oyon River. The next day they came up and we discussed events that happened during my absence, as Capt Anderson had carried on the administrative work without friction there was no question of importance for me to deal with the exception of certain robberies that were taking place at night in the town and which could not be traced to anyone.

I warned him that he and his chiefs must take an energetic action to put an end to this abuse this they promised to do (2). On the 7th, February numerous chiefs who had come in for the Mohammedan feast came up to see me, these visits are of great use as we are able to discuss outstanding points of friction between individual chiefs on the spot and before both parties, The cotton and tribute questions were necessarily the chief points of interest at these discussions. Of the chiefs who came in the Olupo of Ajassa is by far the most intelligent and is very keen on growing cotton and farming.

Province of ILORIN Report No. 32 for JANU-MARCH 1906

by Resident Mr. P. M. DWYER.

the Director of Public Works I visited Jebba in order to see reason of delay of a P.W.D foreman proceeding to Sokoto, this man left the day after my arrival.

On my return from Jebba I found Mr, Falkoner and Mr, Home at Ilorin, they did not give me any information as to the value of Ilorin from a mineral point of view, I, however gathered from our conversations that they were on the whole disappointed with their visit.

(4). On the 23rd I visited the Emir and he informed me that the robberies in the town had assumed a serious aspect, that the people were in a state of alarm, that gangs went about at night armed with knives and seriously assaulted anyone who resisted them, that they were supposed to come in from the farms, on one occasion a house was attacked by mounted men. I at once sent for the Baloguns and chiefs to come to the Emirs house and I told them that did they not put a stop to this at once I would ask Your Excellency to send fifty W.A.F.F. who would be quartered in the town at their expense and that they would be left there until this abuse ended, once again I informed them that they personally would be held responsible for the continuation of these crimes. also that it was absurd for them to say they did not know who were mixed up in these robberies, if they wanted to discover the criminals they could do so,

After consulting for some time the Emir asked permission to call in hunters to patrol the town at night, I told him he might do so but that he would be responsible for any crime they might commit under the guise of a patrol. About fifty hunters were called in and divided up in the four quarters

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(5). What made these robberies so serious was that it was the talk of the bazaars that certain chiefs were mixed up in it, that the robbers after looting a house paid them a per centage to prevent their being found out. One man named Aji Ogidiolu was said to be the chief protector of these thieves. Aji though a slave has risen to great power in the town having a very large following in fact much more than any of the Baloguns, and is famous for his "manafuki" he has worked his way till he has become the go between of the Emir and every Chief in the town, I gather he was closely mixed up in the death of the late Emir and I understand that he has a peculiar knack of recalling this death to the present Emir when things dont go as he pleases. I have had my eye on this man for years yet he is so cunning that I have never been able to pin him down to a crime or abuse. On hearing that he was mixed up in these robberies I at once put the police and secret service men on his track and even offered a private reward of £5 to anyone who would give evidence that would lead to a conviction. Police and secret service men all gave the same report, viz, Aji was known to be hand in glove with the robbers but not a person would come up and give evidence as he has against him. If this is true it shows what a difficult people the Ilorins are to deal with that they allow themselves to be robbed and refrain to give evidence. I need not say that I will leave no stone unturned to discover if he is really acting in an illegal manner, If I can once get a conviction against him it would be the end of his intriguing.

(6). On my return from the Emir I found a telegram from Your Excellency re the Sitiru affair, the Emir expressed his regret at the trouble and said "God help the rebels they

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small boy at Mecca. The Ilorins take a very great interest in the subject of the Mahadi as the Emir tells me there is a tradition that the last one to appear will give justice to the world from Ilorin, I have often heard Ilorin called holy ground but did not know the reason why.

(7). On March the 1st, as I was so satisfied with the loyalty of the Emir and Baloguns, the Sitiru affair not yet being settled) I went to Buda Egba to meet Major Reeve Tucker re the boundary from that place to Odunfa hill, as I informed Your Excellency in my letter No, 52/06, I was unable to come to any settlement with him, he insisted on only recognising the straight line between these two places which gave to Lagos some of the most valuable farms Ilorin possesses. It is to be deprecated that Major Reeve Tucker should have taken up this line of argument which I am convinced was quite contrary to the instructions given. It is not conceivable to me that anyone visiting the boundary with an open mind could fail to see the injustice of handing these valuable farms to Ogbomoso and Oyo places which never in the past had a shadow of a claim to them, Did Your Excellency wish to punish the Emir and his Chiefs then by all means allow this encroachment by Lagos, but as I do not think you do I trust you will prevent the Ilorins from suffering what I cannot call otherwise than a gross injustice.

(8). On my return from this futile visit I received a visit from the Emir and his Chiefs who were struck with consternation at the idea of losing their farms and begged me to intercede with Your Excellency, they also asked me to congratulate you on the defeat of the rebels at Sitiru.

(9). While with Major Reeve Tucker he gave me a letter to read that he had received from the Alafin of Oyo in which he asked Major Reeve Tucker to

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my reason for acceding so readily to this request was owing to the fact that this man Onikoyi was not a desirable person. Your Excellency may remember he was one of the men the Emir complained about when you visited Ilorin stating he, wanting in curtesy and obedience, on my arrival at Ilorin I at once sent for this man and he stated he wanted to go so I told him he had perfect liberty but that when he left he would renounce all claims to any farms &c, he held while he resided in Ilorin.

(IO). On the 18th, the Emir sent up £180-0-0 special tribute for Ilorin town, this was done without my direction, I noticed however that a very large portion of this sum was made up of old money, when I pointed it out the chief messenger appeared very surprised that I took exception to it stating it was money issued by the Government.

I regret to say that on the morning of the 18th, a prisoner escaped on the eve of the day appointed for his execution for murder, the woodwork of the prison window was eaten by white ants and he slipped the bars and escaped, no trace has been discovered as to his whereabouts.

(II). On the 19th, a woman named Ramatu brought me a letter from the Colonial Secretary Lagos, she wished to redeem and take away to Lagos her grandchild a girl who is in the Emirs harem, I had the girl up before me and she declined to go away from Ilorin, I did not see how I could do more and sent a letter to the Colonial Secretary Lagos to this effect, copy of letter was sent Your Excellency on the 17-3-06 No60

(12). On the 20th, I had in all the Yoruba Chiefs of Share in to see me, the Nupe king of the town had written to say the condition of the place required my attention as the friction between the Yorubas threatened to take a serious

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for drunkenness and general bad conduct, this king was brought in to Ilofin where he remained till his death last year. Mr. Watson received sanction to this act of his, this town of Share was remarkable for possessing two kings a Yoruba and Nupe, I decided that there was no necessity to have two kings and with Your Excellency's sanction the Nupe King, a most excellent man, was declared king of the town, as the Yoruba part of the population required someone to look after them I placed a man called Adeleye as their headman, The son of the late Yoruba King was permitted to reside in Share and he was warned he must not interfere with the work of the town, soon after he had taken up his quarters he commenced to try and obtain supreme power in the town, he was warned to desist, he then turned his attention to becoming head of the yorubas and collecting three chiefs and a certain following he forbid anyone to have anything to do with the headman Adeleye, he placed men on the watch and if they saw people going to this man they were turned back and told they if they liked could come to Bakare (the late kings son and the man in question). The condition of the town became such that the Nupe king feared that the friction would end in bloodshed and so wrote to me.

After hearing both sides of- it was evident that this man Bakare had acted in an overbearing and illegal manner, he begged forgiveness for his acts and declared he did not want to remain at Share but wished to reside on his farm quite close to the town where he would be joined by those who wished to follow him, I told him he might do so but that I could not pass over his disobedience in acting contrary to my orders so I fined him £10, and three of his

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(13). On the 26th, Dr. Flood proceeded on leave being relieved by Dr. Costello.

Towards the end of the month the Resident Ibadan sent a man up with a complaint re a woman, I sent him to the Native Court but he was not satisfied with the decision and was extremely violent in his manner, fearing he might have some grounds for his excitement I briefly inquired into his case he stated his wife ran away from him and he wanted her or his dowry back, the Court Mallam insisted that he had no claim whatever to dowry by native law neither had he a claim to the woman whom he had driven away, he might have a claim to money he had expended on her, I advised him to accept £3 which is the usual sum granted in Ilorin, he absolutely refused to accept anything but £15 and became wild with excitement as he was leaving he drew out a knife and swore he would kill himself or someone, his knives were taken away from him and I declined to have anything more to do with him. There is one thing I am certain of and it is that no Ilorin dare act in such a way.

(14). On the 28th the Lagos troops arrived at Ilorin and left on the 31st, 13 sick were left in hospital.

(15). I regret to say numerous complaints are coming in of Lagos men attending the evening markets and palming off in the dusk counterfeit coins on the sellers, a watch has been kept but the result has been nil, It is impossible to believe that the Ilorins could make these base coins, The Emir sent to say they were made by Gold Coast men, this of course is only a suspicion. I forward a few specimens for Your Excellency's inspection.

(16). Mr. Sciortino reports well on his district with the exception of Lafiagi which is very much behind other parts.

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of the district-- Province. I regret to say he makes very serious charges against the Emir and Alkali, he reports that when the Lagos troops were expected at Lafiagi he directed the Emir to have sufficient food in the markets for them to buy, the Emir sent out for yams &c to the outlying villages and when it came in kept three fourths for himself and paid nothing for it, he also states that the Native Court is far from satisfactory, that the Alkali being nephew of the Emir should not have anything to do with the Courts, this I do not agree with, what is however the most serious charge is that the monthly cause list is "faked" (as he describes it). I have directed him to make the most searching inquiries in to these charges, if proved very drastic measures should be taken.

(17). He also states that large numbers of Nupes are leaving Patagi and are returning to Bida, over three hundred having left since January, he wished to know if this could not be stopped, as I have always advocated that people should have absolute liberty to remain or leave a district I could not direct him to take any steps to prevent them leaving Patagi

(18). He informs me there is a great deal of game destroyed by men who will not take out a license, they declare they keep a gun for self protection not to kill game, I have directed him to keep a sharp look out while touring for heads and horns exposed, if freshly killed to arrest the persons who has them in possession. I have also directed him to forbid anyone poisoning water holes.

COTTON

(19). The Agent of Niger Company at Jebba informs me that he



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march and that he anticipated further large amounts in the approaching quarter. On my way to Jebba I visited numerous cotton farms and urged the importance of still further extending the farms, I questioned numerous sellers of cotton as to whether they were satisfied with the price received at Jebba they all said yes but would like a higher which is only to be expected, I am afraid that the farmers have in numerous cases planted native and imported seed in the same farm, this is to be deprecated but I did not think it advisable to interfere too much with their methods, as each season passes more and more imported seed will be issued and it will gradually superceed the native variety.

#### PROVINCIAL COURT

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(20). The Cause list has been sent in to the Attorney General at the end of each month, the most serious case for the quarter was No, 4, in which a man was convicted of a very brutal murder, the sentence of death was confirmed but I regret to say the man escaped on the eve of his execution. The police were out in all directions but no trace of him could be found, the Emir also had men out but they likewise failed to trace him. In march I had a rather difficult case to decide, No, 8. A girl complained she was sold by two men to a third, they all appeared to be connected with each other. The prisoners stated that the girl was not sold but given in marriage and the money that passed between the parties was ordinary dowery money which is allowed, it is always a difficult thing to differentiate between dowery money and slave dealing and it was especially so in this case, as the men gave different accounts of the transaction and the