

3MP7 5059/1910, Lokoja Cantonment Report for September Qtr. 1910
LOKOJA, 19th October, 1910.
25 OCT 1910

To The Secretary to the Administration,
ZUNGERU.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward you my Quarterly Report for the Quarter ending 30th September, 1910.

GENERAL

1.-- During the Quarter His Excellency has passed through Lokoja on his way to Yola, and on the return journey he stayed some days at Government House. The question of laying out the Native Town of Lokoja was further discussed, and I received His Excellency's instructions to carry on the work. With regard to the laying out of the Streets in the Town, as I reported in my June Report, one 100' road has been laid out but not yet made up. The people pulled their own houses down in order to make this road, and so far I have been able to get what I want done, without any friction or ill-feeling on the part of the Townspeople. No doubt as the work proceeds, and, as new streets are made, there will be every chance of a certain amount of obstruction put in one's way, but I am quite certain that this obstruction will come from the European Traders, and that any objection raised by the Native population to the alterations will be suggested also by the European Traders. However, one must use tact and discretion; and now that the reasons of the Government for making the alterations in the Town have been carefully and concisely explained to the European and Native Traders alike, one hopes that instead of obstruction we shall find that the Traders in general will help the Government in every possible way to try and make the Town more sanitary

Protectorate of Northern Nigeria.

No.

5059/1910

6

Chief
FROM THE SECRETARY TO THE ADMINISTRATION

To

THE CANTONMENT MAGISTRATE, LOKOJA

Your report No.436/10 His Excellency comments as follows:-

A very satisfactory report. Mr Byfield seems to be doing very well.

His suggestion as to the undesirability of monopolizing prison labour on building work during rainy season is quite sound and as far as possible should be borne in mind.

The question of an additional Clerk is under consideration.

CST.

CHIEF SECRETARY

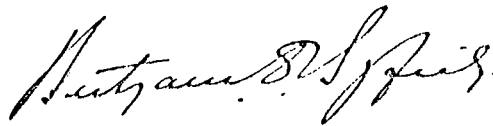
The Secretariat,

Zungeru, 21st November, 1910.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nathaniel S. Spier". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Cantonment Magistrate.

better during the last 12 months than it has ever been. European, Non-Native and Native Traders all confirm this statement. One has only to go through the market and observe for oneself the general businesslike conduct of the people in the Town, and the general peacefulness and contentment which seem to reign over all classes.

PERMITS TO RESIDE

12. Owing to the extent of thieving going on in Cantonments, I have considered it necessary to strictly enforce sections 16 - 22 Cantonment Proclamation. Up to date I have issued 250 Permits to reside in Cantonments. In the case of boys &c, I have not issued these permits, unless they produce their Police Licenses under the Licensing of Servants Proclamation, No. 1 of 1905. This has had the result of getting all boys and others requiring to be licensed, to get licensed, whereas before this was done, I found that nearly half the boys in Cantonments were unlicensed, some of whom were also discharged convicts and, therefore, not fit persons to be acting as servants.

CANTONMENT OFFICE. 13. In conclusion, may I please ask you to favourably recommend to His Excellency the necessity of giving me another Clerk in this Office? At present I have only one Clerk, and I think you will see that the different items of work which come within the jurisdiction of the Cantonment Magistrate are both numerous and varied.

May I please refer you to my letter to you dated the 19th April, 1910, attached to Minute Paper 2022/1910 on this subject? and I would also point out that since that letter was written, Registrar of Servants & Licensing Officer has been handed to me.

direct that no buildings of a permanent nature should be built with the help of Prison labour in the rainy season. It is in the rainy season that one requires all the labour one can obtain to compete with the fast-growing rank grass, and also to repair or remake roads. In the dry season, one does not require the Prison labour so much, and surely this is the time of year to build houses. Houses erected in wet weather are usually damp inside for all time, and the bricks, as made in this country, are not improved by being made in the rains.

D R A I N A G E. 5. All the drains have been kept clean and the long grass cut out of the ditches &c.

SANITATION & CONSERVANCY

6. The Conservancy tax is up to date, and there are no arrears.

BUILDING & LEASES

7. No buildings of any importance have been carried out in Cantonments during the Quarter.

CLERKS' QUARTERS. 8. Some more of the New Clerks' Quarters have recently been handed over to me by the Public Works Department for allocation. I have allocated these quarters and consequently some of the old bungalows recently used by Clerks have been pulled down.

CEMETERIES

9. The Cemeteries have been well kept, and the quick growing trees which I planted round the European Cemetery on the Camp Road have been doing very well. The Native Cemetery near the Hospital has also been fenced with quick growing trees and a double row of aloes to prevent hyaenas getting into the burial ground.

LICENSES.

10. Certain licenses have been issued by me during the Quarter, and the Quarterly Return has been sent to you.

11. T R A D E.

During the last few weeks I have been investigating the question of trade in the Town. After careful investigation I find that the trade has been better

sanitary and healthy than it is at present.

The Cantonment (proper) has been kept clean as well as possible by the aid of the Cantonment gangs. Prison Labour has been unobtainable, except for a small gang of 20 Prisoners, which is under the sole control of the Senior Medical Officer. I have further remarks to make with regard to the Prison Labour, which will appear under heading -Roads, paragraph 4.

I am still thining out ordinary bush trees and planting mango and other trees in suitable places along the roads, so that in a few years, the Lokoja roads will have shade, which is much needed, and which is at present conspicuous by its absence.

A C C O U N T S. 2. I enclose the Quarterly Statement of Accounts.

J U D I C I A L. 3. There have been 67 Criminal Cases and 12 Civil Cases tried in the Cantonment Court to date.

Although the Criminal Cases are 17 more in number than in the last Quarter, at the same time most of the increase is due to offences committed under the Cantonment Proclamation. The Civil Cases are 6 less than those for the last quarter.

I have held 13 Inquests during the Quarter, and of these 9 were held on Prisoners dying in the Gaol or Native Hospital.

On the 16th September, the Acting Chief Justice (Mr. Parodi) held Assizes here.

R O A D S. 4. - Unfortunately I have not been able to do much in the way of repairing the Cantonment Roads. I have practically had no Prison labour at my disposal during this Quarter. They have been employed in carrying bricks for the Public Works Department to the Gaol for certain buildings which are being executed there. It would be a great boon to the Cantonment Magistrate if His Excellency would

direct