

Province of I L O R I N. Report No. ^[1]

for ^[2] ANNUAL 1905 by Resident ^[3] P. M. DWYER.

ADMINISTRATIVE.

The following were the chief matters of interest during the year.

Early in January I proceeded to Egga to meet the Resident of Kabba in order to discuss with him the very vexed question of the Ilorin-Kabba boundary. The King of Patagi claimed Egga as having been placed under him by Mr. Wallace in 1900, this gave rise to very great friction and understanding that the King of Patagi was correct in his statement I felt bound to support his claim. However before leaving for Egga I received a minute from Your Excellency in which Mr. Wallace stated that the King of Patagi was incorrect. On arrival at Egga the Resident of Kabba and I went carefully into the question and I was forced to see that Patagi had no valid claim to this town, the king of which, informed me was a large place when Patagi was a mere fishing village. As all the tributary towns extended all but to Lokoja and none towards Patagi we decided that it should go to Kabba. The rest of the boundary offered no difficulties in arriving at a settlement which was approved by Your Excellency.

(2). In February I had the pleasure of presenting to the Emir of Ilorin the greater part of the very handsome installation present given by Your Excellency. This I need hardly say was carried out with the greatest possible ceremony a vast crowd of people being in attendance. The Emir and his chiefs were deeply touched at this mark of Your Excellency's approval and begged me to telegraph

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them. The presence of the ex Emir of Katsena was a very striking lesson to the crowds that were present, they saw Your Excellency would punish as well as reward.

(3). Immediately after the presentation I broached the subject of the town paying a special tribute to the Government. I explained that it was Your Excellency's ^{wish} that all towns of paramount chiefs should pay roughly five pounds per thousand of the population, I warned them I could not listen to any childish offers of twenty to thirty pounds, I advised them to return to the town and discuss the matter and while doing so to bear in mind that should they not be able to arrive at a satisfactory decision the Government would certainly help them to arrive at this by computing itself what sum should be paid. I was gratified next morning to receive word from the Emir that they would pay one hundred and eighty pounds and asking me to procure Your Excellency's approval to this sum, this was done by telegraph and approval granted.

(4). I regret to say during this month there was a most severe epidemic of cerebro spinal meningitis all over the Province the death rate being as high as 400 in one month. The natives persist in calling this disease small-pox that has not "come out" and declare it is due to the Harmattan as it is always present during this season. Energetic action was taken to isolate all cases, large grass sheds being erected outside the town, the Ilorin however like most natives strongly objected to be sent to these sheds and tried to avoid going there. The family were warned that serious action would be taken if they were found harbouring cases without reporting them, a great many fled to the farms which were away in the bush

and this acted in a manner as isolation but they were deprived of medical attendance.

(5). At the end of February two bungalows, guard room, store, office and prison were completed, the bungalows are a very great improvement on the old mud huts which were very unhealthy and dirty.

(6). Mr. McKay of the C.M.S visited Ibaja a town near Ilorin in search of a site for a station, he was informed by Capt. Anderson that he must first obtain Your Excellency's sanction. This mission are very keen to open a school in Ilorin town and the Emir and chiefs are just as keen they should not. The Emir has told me time after time that unless he gets an order to welcome them from Your Excellency he and his chiefs will object to their presence in the town, he asserts that their own religion is what they desire and that they do not want to try any other.

(7). During march a very serious charge was made against the Emir in that he publicly sold a woman, I could hardly credit such a report and sent for the Emir at once with all his chiefs and made a thorough examination of the charge, there was as I expected not a grain of truth in it, it was merely one of the ordinary women cases, a woman from Oyo ran away from her husband and lived with a man on an Ilorin farm, she was ordered to go back to her husband, or the man she was with, should, in accordance with native law return the dowery money to the husband.

(8). It was necessary to fine Balogun Gambari five pound for allowing one of his followers to visit a village and declare himself an Ajele, Gambari declared that the

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be an attempt to return to the old order of things I inflicted the fine as quoted, the man had done no injury or interfered with no person so I did not think it necessary to make the fine heavier.

(9). On the 8th of April I proceeded to Jebba and Ogudu to investigate the case of Mr, Durrant of the Public Works who disappeared from a sandbank on the Niger opposite Ogudu. The river was searched thoroughly on both sides as far down as Egga but no trace of the body could be found. After careful inquiry I was led to believe that he lost his life on a sea quicksand into which I sank while searching for clues, had help not been near I might, in fact I believe I should have, lost my life as I could not extract myself.

(10). On 15th, April accompanied by representatives of the Emir and the four Baloguns I visited Shonga, Lafiagi and Patagi in order to present the Chiefs of these towns with a Government Staff of Office, I explained to each the importance of possessing this staff which carried with it Your Excellency's approval of their position and what a serious thing it would be for them should it be necessary to recall it for disloyalty, at the end of each presentation the Chiefs asked me to express to Your Excellency their loyalty and thanks.

At Patagi on the suggestion of Mr, Wallace a chief named Sumasun was permitted to return to Lafiagi from whence he had been deported during the Niger Coy rule for creating a disturbance aimed against the Emir.

(11). While I was at Patagi the Resident of Ibadan sent Capt, Lyon-Campbell of the Lagos W.A.F.F. to cut a line along the boundary from Buda Echa and Odu...

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boundary being a straight line as arranged by Your Excellency and the Governor of Lagos in 1900, I sent Capt. Anderson to accompany him, they made a sketch that was tantamount the same as I had made in 1901 of the towns on the Ilorin side of this imaginary line, Bogun and Tope which were claimed by Lagos were found as I quite well knew to be in Ilorin.

(12). I regret to say during this month there was a certain amount of friction among in the town, certain chiefs who were under the Baloguns fancied they were suffering from a real or imaginary grievance and in order to express this discontent permitted their followers to drum and sing at night that the Emir would be sent to Zungeru, I ordered this to cease or I would inflict a fine on the chief in whose quarter it continued.

The Emir is one of the most loyal Chiefs in Northern Nigeria his town is very large with a great number of people in it, it is not to be wondered at that certain petty chiefs have not forgotten the evil power they had only a few years ago, the Emir naturally tries to prevent them taking such action as would bring them under the law, they are wise enough to realize that he is right and to obey him yet they cannot help feeling a little sore and permitted their followers to express this feeling in the comparatively harmless manner of beating drums. It is not conceivable that a year should pass without a certain amount of friction between the chiefs. Each year the town is settling down more and more and it is yet too soon to expect it to be sans reproach.

(13). In June it was necessary to depose the headman from the town of Idofinon for collecting tribute from his people and then pocketing it himself, this man never had been of much

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thoroughly objectionable to his chiefs and people, he had been previously warned on several occasions to turn over a new leaf and attend to his work of looking after his town these warnings however he neglected and after seizing the tribute there was nothing to be done but depose ~~it~~ him.

(14). In July it was necessary to severely reprimand the ex Lapine of Bida for unceremoniously bursting into the Emir palace and insulting him because his house had fallen down he was ordered to publicly ~~orderd-~~ apologize to the Emir in front of all his Baloguns and Chiefs which he did. This ex chief of Bida received a very great disappointment in Ilorin on his arrival, he I understand, believed he would be received as an important personage and be received by the Emir and Baloguns with open arms on account of the past history of Ilorin and Bida. He was woefully astonished when the Emir and Chiefs of Ilorin informed him that they wanted nothing to do with him and he must sit down in Ilorin in peace without attempting to force himself on them as an honoured guest which they could not consider him so long as he was under the ban of the Government.

(15). In August Balogun Ajikobi was fined ten pounds for accepting a bribe to liberate a prisoner who had been tried and sentenced to a term of imprisonment by the Native Court,

(16). During this month, the sons of the Olofffa of Offa and Olupo of Ajassa two of the most intelligent and excellent chiefs in the Province, paid Ilorin a visit. They were shown the cotton gin working, the police shooting on the range and attended court in order to see how the Government meted out justice. As these two youth will in time to come hold responsible positions their visit should be of great use to them.

I regret to say immediately after their return the Olofffa of

Handwritten notes:
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or his child and yet remain in his own house. I have made particular inquiries on this subject and am led to believe that at the present time the word "pawn" means nothing more than debtor as the pawn does no work for the person he has pledged himself to.

REVENUE.

(24). The Revenue for the past financial year amounted to £6204-7-0 made up as follows.

Tax	1904-5	1903-4
Caravans.....	£3348-13-0.....	£2463-17-3
Tribute.....	601-18-1.....	299- 8-3
Hawkers.....	1805- 5-0.....	397- 3-0
Liquor.....	117- 0-0.....	21- 0-0
Game.....	266-10-0.....	6-10-0
Court Fines.....	56- 4-6.....	84-16-0
, Fees.....	5- 3-6.....	6- 2-6
Customs (parcels)...	9-12-11.....	
Salt.....	5-10-0.....	2-12-0
Miscellaneous.....	10-0.....	
	<u>£6204-7-0</u>	<u>£3281-9-0</u>

There were three toll stations which collected as shown

- (a). Ilorin..... £4428-14-1
- (b). Offa..... 1036- 7-9
- (c). Patagi..... 739- 5-2

£6204-7-0

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Since the inauguration of the different taxes there has been no difficulty, with two exceptions, in collecting them. Again and again the Caravan leaders have told me that they have nothing to complain of that what they...

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collect were game and liquor, the natives certainly made every effort to evade paying them.

The tribute was not collected under the new policy which will be enforced during the coming year. Most of the towns have been accustomed to pay direct to the Emir through the Provincial Court, I anticipate a little difficulty in making them understand the new scheme.

(25). The volume of trade passing through Ilorin station is shown as follows.

IMPORTS

Class of goods	Tons	Value.
Kolas.....	442 $\frac{3}{4}$	£3040-10-0
Spices.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	184- 5-0
Ilorin gowns.....	57	2065-10-0
Cotton goods.....	16 $\frac{3}{4}$	2403-12-6
Hardware.....	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	391-17-6
Total.....	521 $\frac{1}{2}$	£35445-15-0

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EXPORTS.

Class of goods	Tons	Value.
Potash (loose).....	98	£2605-15-0
(Stone).....	26	1091-10-0
Slippers.....	2	54-15-0
Lalli.....	26 $\frac{1}{4}$	36-18-6
Hardware (Native).....	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	351-15-0
Straw ware.....	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	89- 0-0
Skins.....	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	85-15-0
Calabashes.....	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	23- 6-0
Glassware.....	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	29- 0-0
Total.....	138 $\frac{5}{8}$	£4367-13-6

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36
23
24
100

ANIMALS

Horses.....	93	£326-15-0
Cattle.....	267	2125-10-0

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(6). It was unfortunate that my Caravan statistic book was burnt, the months of January and February are not included in the above schedule.

The Revenue derived from caravans (Imports and exports) amounted to £1239-9-9 for these two months.

Assuming that 5% was charged to give this result the value of trade for said two months amounts to £24789-15-0.

In addition to scheduled Revenue Cash to the value of £4525-0-0 was taken to Lagos by Caravans to purchase goods. (Oct. - December)

Again 3224 Hawkers were licensed, in order to avoid over-estimating I will assume that 1000 carried cotton & goods valued £5-0-0 per load and that they each made two trips from Lagos. This gives 1000 x 2 x £5 = £10000-0-0, this sum I am convinced is about one third but I prefer to err on the side of under estimating than over.

(27). The gross value of trade passing through Ilorin Station amounted to £83025-8-6

(28). There are two other stations (a) Patagi and (b) Offa PATAGI from August to December

IMPORTS.....	279 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons.....	£6053-12-0. (value)
EXPORTS.....	81 $\frac{3}{4}$,	2847-10-6. ,
CASH (exported)		1077-10-0

Gross Value..... £9978-12-6
.....

OFFA from January to October

IMPORTS.....	11 $\frac{3}{4}$ tons.....	£660-7-6
EXPORTS....	$\frac{5}{4}$,	65-10-0

Gross value..... £725-17-6

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again explained what I want done but on my return find a narrow illmade ramp by the side of the road and a wooden bridge thrown across the stream. I hope in the future that a skilled European will be lent by the Public Works to oversee this work. Awton and Offa are connected by a similar road which passes through Ajassa and Omu, this road I am led to believe has greatly increased trade between these two important market towns. Rest houses have been erected along this road which is a great convenience while touring

DEPORTATIONS.

(20). There were no persons deported during the year from the province. The ex Ore of Awton who was deported in 1905 is still absent and I trust will never come back.

EMIRS AND CHIEFS.

(21). I cannot speak too highly of the loyalty and general good behaviour of the Emir and Chiefs of Ilorin Province, it should be remembered that this loyalty and obedience to orders is not compelled by the presence of the military, who were removed over a year ago, nor to the police who are too few in numbers to compel it, it must be looked upon as a visible expression of their content under the just and sympathetic policy of the Government. This loyalty and general good behaviour is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that Ilorins only a few years ago were a truculent slave raiding tribe who spent their time harrying caravans and small villages. I certainly do not wish Your Excellency to imagine that the Ilorins are all that could be desired, such is not the case, certain abuses still make their appearance from time to time and have to be delt with, but bearing in mind their past history I consider a

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a very satisfactory condition of affairs has been arrived at.

JUDICIAL.

(22). Again I must express my satisfaction at the condition of the Province as regards crime, sixty two cases tried in the Provincial Court is not a heavy list with a population of over two hundred thousands. I am glad to say that the crime of impersonation and extortion is rapidly disappearing from the Province. This is due to the constant touring and warnings given that this crime will meet with exemplary punishment, also to the fact that the lower orders are realizing that the Government do send men out to seize everything they can lay hands on. It is also worth noticing that scarcely a summons has been issued during the year, the prisoners tried b the Provincial Court have been arrested by the town or villag people and brought in for trial, witnesses have also trouped in to give evidence without waiting to be sent for. The schedule below shows the nature of the crimes delt with.

CRIME	NUMBER	CONVICTED	1904
Slavery Procl;	5	4	3
Robbery & Violence	1	-	6
Assault	10	8	13
Manslaughter	-	-	1
Murder	4	3	2
Resisting arrest	2	2	-
Larceny	13	7	14
Arson	2	2	4
Liquor Procl	2	2	1
Indecent assault	1	1	1
Burglary	1	1	-
Road Procl	1	1	-
Breach of peace	1	1	-
Damage Govt, property	1	1	-
Caravan Procl	3	3	-
Escape	1	1	4
Game Procl	1	1	-
Perjury	1	1	-
Impersonation	12	6	11

Sentences

61 45 60

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of Offa died, his death causes a great loss to the Province as he was a most loyal and intelligent man. He it may be remembered was the chief who on the Government taking over the Province left the town in Lagos hinterland in which he had lived for over twenty years and returned to rule his old town of Offa.

Lagos Boundary

(17). This I regret to say is in a most unsatisfactory condition. In 1890 Your Excellency and the Governor of Lagos decided that the boundary should be a line connecting the 22nd telegraph pole from Buda Egba and Odunfa hill. This gave a small village called Gbede to Lagos, ever since then the headman of this village named Mamadu has caused the most intense annoyance to Ilorin. Formerly a petty farmer he at once assumed a position he had no conceivable right to and commenced annexing farms and villages on the Lagos side of this imaginary line. Not satisfied with this he had the audacity to send mounted men to collect money and farm produce to towns almost at the gates of Ilorin. Numerous complaints were made to the Resident of Ibadan re this man but as the boundary was in such an unsatisfactory state little or nothing was done to curtail his aggressive acts, the boundary being a terra incognita to the Resident Ibadan he was compelled to rely on native information as to where the villages under dispute were situated, he was naturally told they were under Ibadan so he unconsciously supported this man in his acts of aggression. In 1904 this man sent and arrested the headmen of two villages Bogun and Tope in Ilorin territory and had them brought to Bbede until they paid a fine. I telegraphed to the Resident of Ibadan demanding redress, he, the Resident came to meet me

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at Buda Egba and ordered this man Momadu to return the money taken .It is impossible to consider this as a punishment for such an offence yet nothing more was done, the sums ordered to be repaid by the Resident of Ibadan were not paid until six months after when I telegraphed to know what action was to be taken. This man again last year raided Awodi and summons were issued against him and sent to the Resident Ibadan for service, the Lagos Government declined to serve it. The condition of affairs was so unpleasant that Capt, Anderson who was in charge wrote to the Acting Resident of Ibadan asking "was there no power human or divine that could put an end to this mans acts". Action was taken, and Momadu was brought to Ibadan tried and acquitted and returned to his town I expect without a stain on his character. There is one thing I can assure Your Excellency on and it is that did I permit the Ilorins to harry and disturb the peace of Lagos towns as this man has been permitted to do to Ilorin Your Excellency would have had copious correspondence on the subject from the Lagos Government and I doubtlessly experience the weight of your censure. What is so particularly so irritating about this subject is that my ordinary administrative duties in unquestionably Ilorin towns are described as acts of Ilorin aggression, I must emphatically declare that the behaviour of the Ilorins has been exemplary under the provocations received from this man Momadu .It would be too much to hope I am afraid that this boundary will soon be settled.

Provincial Record.

(18). Although the Province has been so short handed and the work so heavy a very fair progress has been made, Offa and

to take account of the old law and the new

Shonga are completed, Patagi proper also and I expect that Lafiagi and Egbe will soon be finished. Ilorin district still requires much work before it is complete, over three hundred towns and villages are placed under their fiefholder and population and tribute assessed, but this assessment was und under the old scheme and will have to be revised. An enormous amount of time is required for this work which unfortunately the imperative work at headquarters prevents being devoted to it. So far I have found it next to impossible to appoint a district headman for the reason that the villages are and always have been independant of each other. For the Government to appoint one Bale as district headman and make him responsible for the collection of tribute would for a certainty give rise to great discontent and in all probability to great difficulty in its collection. I consider it advisable to hold the fiefholder responsible for the tribute which he would collect without friction or difficulty.

to take account of the old law and the new

ROADS.

(19). Over one hundred and ninety miles of roads have been completed (excellent second class roads). Starting from Buda Egba it runs in a straight line to Ilorin sweeping round to the south to cross the Aza River and ends at the police barracks. Then commencing at the Jebba gate of the town it runs to Share passing to the south of this town and a little further on branching to (a) Shonga and Ogudu, (b) to Zumbofu, Lafiagi and Patagi. The road is 12 feet wide raised well above the ground surface with a good ditch on either side. The traffic (caravan) has been so heavy on it that the surface has been beaten down and the road solid right through. The one feature that mars its excellence is the

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Sentences

Five years and over.....	3
Two , , , , ,	4
One year and Over.....	2
Under six months.....	22

1904

Flogging

24 lashes.....	1
12 ,	3
6 ,	1

There were only two Civil Cases heard during the year
NATIVE COURTS.

185 cases were heard in Ilorin Native court, they were composed of debt, divorce, theft and petty assaults I am pleased to state there was not a single appeal against the cases tried. Having to report all cases tried at the end of the month is a very great check on the Court, I should not like to state definitely that every case tried is reported but I do think that any non reported cases are of a very trivial character in which serious injustice is not likely to have been done. Patagi and Lafiagi Courts heard 14 and 44 cases respectively, they were also composed of debt and divorce. Offa and Shonga Courts have not been a success, it has been most difficult to get returns in from them and when they did arrive very little was to be gathered from them. Shonga cause list usually consists of salutations and expressions of loyalty and very little else.

SLAVERY.

(23). The total number of slaves liberated since the Province was inaugurated is 59. There were only three liberated during the year. Slave dealing may to all intents and purposes be considered non-existent in the Province. I am afraid however that pawing goes on to a certain extent. The natives do not look upon this as slave dealing and it is all but impossible to detect it. A person am...

by Resident Mr. P. M. DWYER.

DEPARTMENTAL

(29).

(29). It was unfortunate that Mr, Sciortino and I were at home on leave at the same time , this left Capt, Anderson in sole charge of the Province for some months. The following were the changes in Staff during the year.

Mr, Beak Asst, Resident left for Muri on 17th, February.

Mr, Sciortino Asst, Resident left for home on 22nd April

I left for home on 7th, June.

Mr, Migeod Asst Resident in charge of Patagi 9th, August

Mr, Liddard , , relieved him on 10th, October

Mr, Sciortino , , , , 7th, November.

Capt G, Anderson had charge of the Province from 7th, June to 27th, January 1906.

NATIVE STAFF.

(30). The permanent Native Staff consists of

1 Political Agent

4 Clerks

2 Interpreters

5 Couriers

1 Court Mallam;

Their aggregate pay amounts to £481-0-0.

POLICE.

(31). The police force consisted of one District superintendent and sixty two rank and file. Eight men were stationed at Patagi and ten at Offa. They were employed on guards preventive work and ordinary police work. The number of men allowed the province are quite inadequate to carry out the necessary work. There are a large number of time expired

W.A.F.F. men in the force, the training these men have had in the past should make them of value in case of emergency

I am pleased to say that their general conduct has been excellent.

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PRISONS.

(32). There is one prison at Head Quarters capable of holding twenty prisoners, the average number of which is ten. They are employed cleaning up the station, emptying latrines and carrying stone for the buildings. Their value to Government was approximately £90-0-0.

MEDICAL

(33). The health of the Europeans at Ilorin must be considered excellent even though Mr. Bastow and Mr. Johns of the police were invalided at the end of a year's service. The health of the Native staff and police has also been excellent. A dispensary has been erected in the town and was under the charge of Dr. Flood. He informs me that he attended during the year 352 pauper patients and vaccinated 221. This is a satisfactory beginning considering how averse they are to European methods of attending the sick, they greatly prefer their native medicines. A certain amount of progress has been made in sanitation, the towns and villages have been exhorted to burn the rubbish which is heaped up and which is such an unpleasant and unhealthy feature in the towns of the Province, they have also been requested to fill up as well as they can the stagnant pools that are also an eyesore and a cause of disease.

ECONOMIC.

(34). The past year has been exceptionally good for crops of all kinds but more especially for guineacorn which is abundant. The pigeon peas grown as an experiment were considered quite a success, the Emir is anxious