

EAST AFR. PROT
40705

C.O
40705
Rec'd
REC'D 23 DEC 1912

No. 705
Imp.

Date
1912

22 Dec

previous Paper.

Late Mr. J.R. Baess

Leads letter to Mr. H.B. Hall w/ enclosure one from
Major Treby resp. circus attending death of Mr. Baess
whilst Superintending Engineer on Uganda Railway in
1902. & submitting case for compassionate grant to
widow & family.

30 [unclear] Mr. H. Hall (see enclosure) Dec 31

Mr. Baess

Major Treby is mistaken in saying that nothing
came of the previous appeal in 1902. The
Ug. Rly. Committee gave £300 in July 1902 (see
2A and 1902)

? send copy con. (to Ug. Rly. Com.)
and inf. Mr. Hall

W.H.D. 18/12

Mr. G. F. ...

There must be some limitation of amount
we can take this

? Tell Mr. Hall that £300 was paid in 1902
& that his Honour fears because of re-appeal the
case which was fully dealt with by the U.R.C. is
the P.S. might be called to the aid of the

Subsequent Paper

4385

at home P.T.O.
copy of letter to Mr. Hall attached
28/12/11
20.5.11

Further correspondence with W.
Wonglas Hall attached.

JAB

Jan 15

W. Read
Mr. B. B. B.

It might be explained to Mr. Hall
in detail that the position is as
follows:-

That Mr. Bacon had to make
have been entitled to 3 months
pay at £1000 per annum and
a first class passage home (equivalent
to about £50) or about £300 in
all.

Say that these payments consisted
in the ordinary course have been due to the Capt.
pardonably, but that in view of Mr. B's service
and the extraordinary circumstances of
his orders by the R. Comnd recommended
to the Treasury
that as an act of grace his orders
should be allowed a compassionate
provision of this amount, and that
the sum was paid.

That any delay due to Mr. B.
and the fact that his death was not
declared until the year 1898, but
the late arrival of the information to the
administration thereof, I mention
that it is regretted that cannot be
avoided

See Letter
to Treasury of
June 1902
R.B.

To ~~Wm. E. Butler~~ & Butler

Agreed. It was a true & personal
gesture, because it was repaid by payment
for which the Railway was a us way, both
after Mr. Deans' death. You will see from the
Office Memo $\frac{34.15}{57}$ that the cost was
approximately the amount of 3 days pay on leave
of absence plus the cost of a first class
travel home. The facts (1) that Mr. Deans
would certainly not have got anything if she had
been in good circumstances & (2) that reference
to the Railway was necessary, are conclusive as
to the propriety of the act of grace.

W. E. Butler

X J L

11/1

and the amount
of £27 Aug 1902

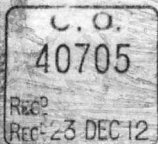
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BODNANT,
TAL-Y-CAPN,
N. WALES.

3 Green St.

Park Lane, W.

22nd December 1912.



My dear Butler,

I enclose a letter from Douglas Hall M. P.
which explains itself. I should be most grateful
if you will be kind enough to have the matter looked
into and communicate with Mr Hall on the subject.

I shall be at the House of Commons on the day
it meets again.

Yours sincerely,

Francis M. Lister

December 19th 1912.



Dear McLaren,

I venture to enclose you a letter I have received in reference to a Mrs Baass residing in my Constituency, which explains itself. I should be very grateful if you could lay the matter before the Colonial Secretary with a view to something been done to help what seems to be a most deserving case.

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

Douglas B. Hall

W.S. McLaren Esq M.P.
House of Commons S.W.

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Downing Street,

30th December, 1902.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Francis McLaren has sent to me your letter to him of the 19th December relating to the case of Mrs. Baass the widow of an engineer who was employed on the construction of the Uganda Railway in 1902. As your correspondent Major Trevellyan says Mrs. Baass's case was represented at the time of her husband's death to the Uganda Railway Committee, a Foreign Office body which was at that time in charge of the affairs of the Uganda Railway. Major Trevellyan is, however, mistaken in thinking that nothing came of the representations then made, for the Committee awarded Mrs. Baass a compassionate gratuity of £300 in July 1902. As it appears that the Uganda Railway Committee dealt fully with the case at the time, I am afraid that it is not practicable for Mr. Harcourt

Wm. Hall Esq. M.P.

to reopen the question.

I return the letter addressed to you by
Major Trevelyan with its enclosures.

Yours truly,

F. G. A. Butler

January 9th 1913.

Dear Sir,

With further reference to your letter of December 30th regarding the case of Mrs Baass, the widow of an engineer who was employed on the construction of the Uganda Railway in 1902, I beg to enclose you a letter I have received from Major Treeby which explains itself.

I shall be very glad if you will kindly return this letter to me after perusal.

I trust that the other facts now brought to your notice may induce your Department to make further enquiries into the matter, as I feel certain that there has been some considerable error in the matter.

Believe me,

Yours faithfully,



F.G.A. Butler Esq.,
Colonial Office,
Downing Street S.W.

WILLOW GRANGE,

WORPLESDON, BUILDFORD

7th January, 1913.

Dear Mr. Hall,

I write to thank you for kindly forwarding the letter from Mr. Harcourt's private Secretary, which I return herewith.

With reference to what Mr. Butler says - as to the Uganda Railway Committee having awarded Mrs. Baass a compassionate gratuity of £300 in July 1902 - from correspondence which I have, it would appear that this sum was paid as stated - but was in reality not a gratuity at all, but was the sum actually due to Mr. Baass as salary owing - or for leave allowances which he would have been entitled to on the eve of his departure - at the time he suddenly lost his life.

Mr. G. R. Baass - brother of the deceased - with whom I have been in correspondence - distinctly states that nothing whatever was given to Mrs. Baass in compensation for the loss of her Husband, but that the sum mentioned was given to her as stated above.

I believe therefore that if the matter is further enquired into, it will be found that this is really the true aspect of the case.

Supposing this view were not correct - it would be strange indeed that the salary or allowances were due to Mr. Baass at the time of his sudden death.

I sincerely hope therefore that further enquiries may be made - and that it may be clearly shown what the sum of £300 was paid for.

Yours, etc.,

(Sd) H.P. Treby

Major

Copy

Downing Street,

13th January, 1913.

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Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th of January with further reference to the case of Mrs. Baass, the widow of an engineer employed on the construction of the Uganda Railway in 1902.

I have looked into the papers and the following appear to be the facts. If Mr. Baass had lived, he would have received four months' privilege leave and a first-class passage home. As, unfortunately, he did not live to enjoy these advantages, the payments involved would not, in the ordinary course, have been due to his legal personal representative, but would have lapsed entirely. In view, however, of Mr. Baass's services and the *straitened* circumstances of his widow, the Uganda Railway Committee

recommends

Downing Hall, 13th Jan 1913.

recommended to the Treasury that, as an act of grace the widow should be allowed a compassionate gratuity of approximately the money value of the privilege leave and the first-class passage home, that is, £300, and this sum was paid accordingly. It is perfectly clear from the correspondence that the sum was paid as an act of grace and in the form of a compassionate gratuity, and ^{was} not a sum which could be claimed as of right by Mr. Baass's relatives or representatives.

Any salary due to Mr. Baass at the time of his death was not included in the sum of £300, but was dealt with in the settlement of his estate by the Administrator General, Mombasa.

In the circumstances I fear that there is no possible answer except that the case cannot be re-opened, and I trust that you will agree that, on the facts stated above, there is no ground for attempting to re-open it.

I return Major Treseby's letter to you of the 7th of January.

James Treseby
F. G. A. Baker