

C. A. P.
UGANDA
23521

C. O.
23521

Sickness

Date
1912

July

at previous Paper.

29422

CASE OF MRS HUGH BAKER

Brings to notice. Her husband died at the Sleeping Sickness camp at Kaniungo in 1909. States what she is doing to get scientific training with a view to some appt. Requests advice.

Dr. G. Zoller

Mrs Baker is the sister of Mr. Talbot who with her husband recently made an expedition through N. Nigeria to Lake Chad. They both appear to be accomplished botanists & draughtswomen. You will see from the last para. 25025/09 that the late S. Baker was an excellent official.

We are not likely to require her services in any of the branches but the p^r Secretary might. I think send copy of this letter to Mr. Rensman p^r see? & ask whether she is any employment for

20946

What the ... be ... in ... what
the ... of ... said in 1909
about the late S. ... work?

H. J. R.

3/10

Private Sec.

U. 307

Have written to Bd of
Agricultural copy
attached

1/9
2/8

Re: rest of Mr. J.'s letter
& say that a further comm.
will be sent. ...

at nec
H. J. R.

Now write to Mr. ...
in the name of ...
of the ...
2/8
H. J. R.
7/9

to be made - printing sheet
to 23 p. of the R.R. and in 1109
about the late S. Baker work?

H. J. R.
5/12

Private Secy.

U. 307

Have written to Bd of
Agricultural copy
attached

J. G.
2/8

Ask. rest of Mr. J.'s letter
+ say that a further com.
will be sent. unobtainable

at me
H. J. R.

2/8
Have written to Mr. F. H. G. G. G.
in the case of Mr. Mitchell's
of the 6th Sept. above
H. J. R.
7/9

THICKESSE & HULL
 TELEPHONE VICTORIA 33480
 TELEGRAMS "THYKULIA, LONDON"

5, LITTLE COLLEGE STREET,
 WESTMINSTER, S.W.

26th. July 1912.

The Under Secretary of State,
 Colonial Office,
 Whitehall, S.W.

SIR,

I have the honour of bringing before your notice the case of Mrs. Hugh Baker whose husband died at the Sleeping Sickness Camp at Keniamkage, East Africa, in the year 1908 in consequence of his investigations into the disease.

Mrs. Baker has consulted me as Solicitor and it has been suggested by her friends that I should write to you for advice as to her future. The Royal Society has recently made her a Grant out of their Scientific Relief Fund for the purpose of enabling her to get further scientific training with a view to some appointment. Her husband left no estate and she has no means whatever of her own.

On the other hand Mrs. Baker has had a very good scientific education and helped her husband in all his work, including microscopic work. ^{She has written her own book on the subject} She speaks and writes French and German fluently. She is particularly good at scientific drawing. She has made considerable progress in Botany as will be seen by a copy of a letter from Miss Beatrice Taylor who is an authority on certain branches of Botany, which I have the honour to enclose herewith.

Owing to the Royal Society's Grant Mrs. Baker will be able to take any special course to qualify for a post and she would be very willing and glad to do so.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Robert Thelwell

COPY

93, Cheyne Walk,

Chelsea.

14: 5: 1912.

Dear Mr. Shickel

Mrs. Hugh Baker is a thoroughly capable woman. Before her marriage she took honours (French and German) in the Oxford University Examinations.

In the only subject I have taught her - Botany - she was a thoroughly accurate and careful worker.

She knows some physiology and knew enough in her husband's lifetime to take a keen interest in his studies. She did not take any outside examination in biology or physiology.

In carrying out any handwork, she is an exceptionally careful and dextrous manipulator, and might be the more valuable to any investigator - in that she has no preconceived ideas or special methods of her own. She has had no instruction in microtome work.

She is an excellent draughtsman. You will probably have noticed that the black and white drawings (drawings of Curios) in Olive Macleod's recently published "Chiefs and Cities of Central Africa" are by her.

I will gladly send you any further particulars you may need.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) BEATRICE TAYLOR,

(Met: Sc: Tripos. Cambridge)

Copy

Downing Street

2nd August, 1912.

My dear Maurice,

Mr Harecourt desires me to send you the enclosed copies of correspondence in reference to the case of Mrs Hugh Baker, and to ask you whether the Board of Agriculture have any employment for which she would be suited.

I may say that her husband's illness which ended fatally, was undoubtedly contracted in the execution of his duty in an admittedly unhealthy district, and that the Principal Medical Officer in the East Africa Protectorate spoke very highly of the late Dr. Baker's work, both in the Nairobi Civil Hospital and in the Sleeping Sickness Settlement.

Mrs Baker appears to be altogether a very superior woman.

Yours very truly,

(Sd.) Lionel Earle.

C. D.
3 AUG

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23521/12

Est

760

C. do 1912

DRAFT

R. Thicknesse Esq

MINUTE.

- Mr. *Kennedy* 3/8
- Mr. *Bentley* 3/8
- Sir G. Fiddes.
- Sir H. Just.
- Sir J. Anderson.
- Lord Emmott.
- Mr. Harcourt.

I am so to ask the receipt
of yours of the 26th of July
on the subject of Mr. Hugh
Baker's desire for a
employment,
~~desirable appointment~~ to
inform you that a further
communication will be
addressed to you

Jany

719

Colonial Office

Downing Street, S.W.

September 5th 1912.

Dear Mr. Maurice,

No answer has yet been received to the letter which Mr. Karle wrote to you on August 2nd with reference to the case of Mrs. Hugh Baker.

Mr. Harcourt is anxious to receive your reply as soon as possible in order that some answer may be sent to Mrs. Baker's application for employment.

Yours truly,

(S) J. C. Davidson

Board of Agriculture and Fisheries,
4, Whitehall Place, S.W.

6th. September, 1912.

Dear Sir,

I am sorry to report to you your letter of the 1st inst., and as we have to deal with it in the absence of Mr. Gave.

The question of utilizing Mrs. Hugh Baker's services here has been carefully considered, but at the present moment we have no definite prospect of any vacancy for which she would be suitable.

We will of course bear her application in mind in case a suitable vacancy should occur, but we do not wish to appear to make any promise of an appointment, and thus raise false hopes which it may prove impossible to satisfy.

Yours faithfully

E. M. L. L.

D.
R. 9 SEP
D.

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T. / -23521 *Real Uganda*

DRAFT.

R. Thick *nee* *egg*

11 Sept 1912.

MINUTE.

in

Mr. *Accl* 9/9

Mr. *Read* 9/9

Sir G. Fiddes.

Sir H. Just.

Sir J. Anderson.

Lord Emmott.

Mr. Harcourt.

*with ref to the ...
dept of the ...
I am etc to inform you
that ...
Baker's services being
required in ...
Colonies ...
your letter of the 26th
7 July to the Board*

7

of Agricultural Fisheries
ensuring that there
was any employment
under the Board for
which she would be suitable.

2. He is now informed
that the Board have
carefully considered the
question of utilising
Mrs. Baker's services,
but that at the present
moment they have
no definite prospect
of any vacancy for
which she would be
suitable. They

will however, bear
her application in mind

in case a suitable
vacancy should occur.

but

they are unwilling to
appear to make any
promise of an appointment
or raise false hopes
which it may be
impossible to satisfy.

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