

DESPATCH.

## EAST AFR. PROT.

N<sup>o</sup> 1893

C.O.

1893

17 JAN 2<sup>o</sup>No  
6 carb  
99

1907

1 Dec.

at previous Paper.

(Subject.)

Dr Macdonald

Medical Off<sup>c</sup> of Health, Mombasa

Recommends he be allowed to take 6 mos leave to 31 March & that he then be placed on half pay a new off<sup>c</sup> could then be appointed to effect by 1st Apr. He  
 shall be available for other ~~medical work where not engaged~~  
 on ~~service~~ ~~on full~~ ~~service~~ ~~in India~~

W. Attwells.

You will see from Lt. Col.  
 letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> of Dec. 97 that there is some  
 trouble w<sup>t</sup> letter S. Macdonald has  
 stated his opinion &c. but I do not  
 think that we need pursue the matter  
 further.

Approve of the recommended procedure  
 Jan. 14 of the present dep<sup>s</sup> & the remittance  
 the paper to consider the question of the  
 app<sup>t</sup> of a successor?

H. J. R.

17/1

Mr. Rich  
 You are doubt at once  
 P.T.O.

ordered that the Govt's proposal  
that Dr M. Md have 6 mos  
leave from 31<sup>st</sup> March & that  
a successor shall be appointed on  
1<sup>st</sup> April involves the anomaly  
of having 2 officers drawing  
salary & bonus qualifying  
for leave in respect of the same  
officer & at the same time.

11/11/23/1

1<sup>st</sup> Sept. Mr J. Hayes-Seller requested that  
he should be appointed on the 1<sup>st</sup> April  
as told him that he had a good candidate  
(See Entry 107) so I suggested he had  
better apply & get 3 months  
to the present appointment. He may  
be brought before the Pensions  
Committee & given some time  
to show his principles & addres-  
ses to the Royal Hospital & send him a C.P.  
so the claims can be considered with the  
men already in the service. I think that  
it will be sufficient to fix it along at  
600 - 620 - 650. I have written friendly  
to Dr. G. Day explaining the situation  
regarding his successor until it is appointed  
the former leave has expired.

H.J.R.  
5/3

I'm very glad you  
have no candidate  
they wish to help  
you

Mr Ellis

In connection with this vacancy I have  
been looking tactfully through our Central  
candidates, & have collected a list of  
Officers in various Colonies who might be  
suitable. I understand however that  
you are anxious to obtain more info with  
regard to possible local candidates & as to  
the qualifications which are desired.  
(you will of course return the papers to us as  
soon as further action on our part is desired)

T.C.Y. 19/5

There is no hurry about this  
as the off is not next till  
30 Sept. Write to Govt  
asking him to send the usual  
form of Indentures you fill up  
with the necessary details of  
the office & the qualification  
desired, and also any  
applications from local candidates  
will be sent to you

11/11/23/1  
above

noticed that the Govt's proposal  
that Dr. M. H. D. have 6000  
leave from 31<sup>st</sup> March & that  
a successor shall be appointed on  
1<sup>st</sup> April involves the necessity  
of having 2 officers drawing  
salary & whose qualifying  
for pension in respect of the same  
offer & at the same time.

1/1/1923

General Staff  
Mr. J. Hayes-Seller suggested that  
a man should be appointed on the 1<sup>st</sup> April  
leave as he has had a good candidate  
waiting (see letter 38694/17) Mr. Gurney has now  
gone to China & will be back in 3 months.  
After the present engagement the vacancy  
should be brought before the Permanent  
Committee sometime in June & the members  
will be asked to get Mr. Gurney's address  
from the Seamen's Hospital & send him a P.  
& that he claims can be assisted with those  
of men already in the service. I think that  
it will be sufficient to fix the salary at  
£500 - £20 - £600. I have written privately  
to the P. to-day regarding the matter  
& have asked him to let me know if he  
will be able to nominate a suitable  
successor when it is to be appointed  
before the former leave has expired.

H. J. R.  
5/3

Mr. Ellis

In connection with this vacancy I have  
been looking but to little avail for suitable  
candidates, & have collected a list of  
officers in various colonies who might be  
suitable. I understand however that  
you are anxious to obtain more information  
regard to possible local candidates & as to  
the qualifications which are desired.

[You will of course return the papers to us as  
soon as further action on our part is desired]

T.C.H. 19/1/23

There is no hurry about this  
as the office is not wanted till  
30 Sept. Write to you  
asking him to make the usual  
type of application giving full info  
as to the qualifications desired  
for the office & the qualifications  
desired; and also any  
affiliations from local universities  
etc.

1/1/23

In connection with this vacancy, will you  
please look at the annexed papers <sup>Read</sup> 6906 & ff.  
those of Dr C. L. Sauron retained by O of Health,  
Witwaters, said.

There needs no doubt that he is a most  
excellent man, & we ought certainly to give  
a preference to rehired officers over those  
not yet in the service.

Mr Hard tells me he is most strongly recommended  
by Lady Lyttelton, who regards him as one  
of the most devoted & fearless officers now  
in the service, & I venture her opinion is a very  
doubtless & valuable one.  
We can of course obtain further particulars  
of his career from him when he arrives, & in  
the meantime I would suggest that Lady L.  
be convened in writing what she has at  
present only said orally.

I am disposed to think that Dr S. should be  
most carefully considered, & at an early date.

so that if he proves suitable & is accepted, he  
may have time to take a course at the  
School of Tropical Medicine if he is invited  
in E.A.P. [Assume he has not been a candidate]

His salary in the Trust was recently £1100 a year.  
Would there be any likelihood of offering more  
than £500 to start with?

of course all this is subject to your consideration  
of the rate you - before whom the matter  
must be brought later on - probably after we have  
seen Dr S in person.

Will you please pass on to Mr Marshall in the  
govt offices?

T.M. 7/3

We send you the Dr Saxon's letter  
certainly he intended of the rate  
etc, but I am opposed to offering  
more than £500 - so - so soon in  
a very good rate for S Africa &  
indeed we are unable unreasonably  
with a £1, salary in the Trust

A.J.R.

Enclosed by letter No Macmillan  
Please read by letter etc (Enclosed  
Reply attached to 2/3 gov/bqos/psd 1910)

Dr Saxon's  $\frac{1}{2}$  has now come Trust  
14/3/07  
594

I saw him yesterday: he seems a capable fellow;  
I sounded him carefully as to this vacancy, but  
he would not look at it: he does not think it  
would pay him to take less than £1100 a year  
at Port Elizabeth, & he would prefer not to have  
the offer of the appointment.

I have detached from these papers a letter  
from July by letter to Mrs Charlesworth  
Dr Saxon, & care with the Local Govt Board  
under whom he may possibly get a job.

we must proceed with this affair without  
further counsel of Dr Saxon

T.M. 30/4

C.O.  
1893Governor's Office 08  
Harbin

19 December 1907

Very hard.

In response to the correspondence  
ending with my telegram of these days  
date I had the honor to submit the  
indited correspondence regarding Dr  
MacDonald.

1. I and others here have always been  
under the impression that Dr MacDonald  
was between 50 and 60 years of age, but  
at an interview I had with him in  
Honkara he told me he was not yet  
50 years old, and from the certificate  
he produced it appears he will not reach  
that age till September next.

2. Dr MacDonald has been 17 years  
a hunter without a change to England,  
he has not the qualifications considered  
necessary for the post of Medical Officer  
of Health in a large port like Harbin  
and the Confidential Report of the  
Principal Medical Officer shows reasons  
why no change would be desirable.

4.

1. Principal Secretary of State  
to the Colonies.

Leaving Street  
London

S.W.

4. At the same time Dr Macdonald is an officer of long standing and is therefore entitled to consideration. I consider it would be somewhat hard to require him to vacate his appointment and take leave at this time of the year after his long residence in the tropics and I accordingly recommend that he be required to vacate his appointment on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March and be allowed to take the 6 months leave to which he is entitled under the Regulations and be then reduced to pension.

5. This ought to be now and duly qualified medical Officer of Health for and as he is appointed with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April.

6. It should be made a consideration of the new appointment that the officer selected be available for ordinary medical work when not engaged in his own duties as Officer of Health.

I have the honor to be  
with the highest respect  
Yours Lordships most obedient  
humble Servt.

J. G. Agarwal  
F. R. S. M. B. B. S.

Confidential

P. M. O's Office

C. O.

Nairobi.

Novr: 9th 1907

Recd

1907 08

Sir.

In accordance with your instructions I have the honour to submit, as below, a Confidential Report on Dr W. L. Macdonald, Medical Officer of Health, Mombasa.

Dr Macdonald obtained the double qualifications of Edinburgh and Glasgow in 1888, having apparently studied Medicine late in life. In 1890 he came to East Africa in the service of the Imperial British East Africa Company, and in 1895 when the Company was taken over by the Foreign Office, was appointed Principal Medical Officer for the Protectorate. In 1903 when the Medical services of East Africa and Uganda were amalgamated, he was given his present post, viz; that of Medical Officer of Health, Mombasa. This appointment appears to have been a personal one, made by the Foreign Office.

The duties of his office do not appear to have been very accurately defined, as on taking over the duties of Principal Medical Officer in 1901 I found that beyond the charge of a Small-pox hut at English Point, generally empty, his entire work consisted of visiting ships arriving at Mombasa and Kilindini, the total yearly number of which was 40 to 45, or less than an average of one ship a week. Detailed instructions were then issued to him to make periodical sanitary inspections of Mombasa and to furnish me with monthly reports of these inspections. I cannot say that Dr MacDonald has failed to carry out these instructions, but must state that on several occasions in connection with matters relating to the public health he has not rendered the assistance which I had a right to expect from him as a Medical

Officer

Officer of Health ~~had a right to exempt~~, and in support of this statement cite one specific instance. When Plague broke out in Zanzibar in 1905, its introduction into Mombasa appeared to be inevitable, and to guard as far as possible against this it was considered expedient to organise the Island into separate districts each under the personal supervision of an European who would carry out daily house to house visitations and thus insure the early recognition of cases should the disease be introduced. With this object in view and with the sanction of the Acting Commissioner, Mr F. J. Jackson, C. B., a meeting of the European residents-official and non-official - was held, at which Dr MacDonald did not put in an appearance, and when taken to task for being absent offered a plausible but inadequate excuse.

His Medical knowledge, whatever it may have been 17 years ago, is now far below the modern standard. He is ignorant of Bacteriology, of the practical use of the microscope, and of the most simple methods of analysis, subjects of which a Medical Officer of Health should possess special knowledge.

He is temperate and regular in his habits. He is inclined to be quarrelsome and vindictive in official matters, especially in dealing with juniors, and is wanting in tact.

His age is stated to be anything from 54 to 60; I have no reliable information regarding it.

He has been in East Africa for over 17 years without once leaving the country and has naturally passed into a groove from which, at

at his time of life, it would be difficult to  
recede.

Under these circumstances I would strongly  
urge the advisability of Dr MacDonald being  
retired on pension which his length of service  
would now entitle him to, and in consideration  
of his long service and the good work which, I  
have no doubt, he rendered in the early days of  
the Protectorate, would venture to recommend  
that the amount of pension granted be on as  
liberal a scale as the regulations affecting  
pensions authorise.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. Kelly  
Principal Medical Officer.

To

His Excellency

The Governor and Commander in Chief,  
East Africa Protectorate

600

No. 221/V.O.

Mombasa, 7th December 1907.

Your Excellency

In accordance with your wish I have now the honour to forward copy of my birth certificate for your information by which you will see that I am not 50 years of age until the 19th of next September 1908.

I have the honour to explain that I was obliged to assume the additional name of Halli Burton on the death of my grandfather who left me a small legacy with the request that I should assume this surname in addition to my own.

As the question of my retirement before I have qualified for pension is one which I naturally reserve as it is likely to seriously affect me in the future I have come to the conclusion, though with great reluctance, to ask that the whole matter be referred to Lord Elgin for his information.

As I have already explained in my despatch No. 218/V.O. of 23rd November "and to which I have as yet had no reply" I in no way wish to prolong my services when they are neither appreciated nor valued and will gladly facilitate any reasonable measures "short of sacrificing my just claims," for an early settlement.

117-218 Victoria Cap. 80 1457252

|   |          |          |                                    |   |
|---|----------|----------|------------------------------------|---|
| 5 | McDonald | John     | Colleagues<br>(Signed)             | 1808  |
|   | Walter   | McDonald | John McDonald<br>Takher<br>present | John McDonald<br>Takher<br>absent<br>(Signed) |
|   | Walter   | McDonald | John McDonald<br>Takher<br>present | John McDonald<br>Takher<br>absent<br>(Signed) |
|   | Walter   | McDonald | John McDonald<br>Takher<br>present | John McDonald<br>Takher<br>absent<br>(Signed) |
|   | Walter   | McDonald | John McDonald<br>Takher<br>present | John McDonald<br>Takher<br>absent<br>(Signed) |

Extracted from the Register Book of Deaths for the District of Rochester  
in the County of Ulster dated this 10th day of June 1907.

J. J. Shandford

Rosario Lanza

No. 71.

P.M.O's Office..

Nairobi.

18th December 1907.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for the information of His Excellency the Governor a copy of a letter addressed by me to Dr. W. H. B. MacDonald, Medical Officer of Health, Mombasa, and also a copy of his reply.

I also attach his Record of Service Form in which Dr. MacDonald stated in 1904 that the date of his birth was 23rd October 1858. This Record was prepared under his own instructions, and it will be noted that the date of birth therein given does not correspond with that stated in the copy of his birth certificate, also that the surname in the latter is spelt McDonald whereas he spells it MacDonald in his usual signature.

I presume the question of his eligibility for pension will not be raised, and would therefore suggest his being retired from the 31st March next.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

Principal Medical Officer.

The Secretary

to the Administration.

COPY.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 41/55/2

P.M.O.'s Office.

Nairobi.

20th November 1907.

Sir,

I have been instructed to inform you that it is proposed to appoint almost immediately a Medical Officer of Health for Mombasa who is possessed of the technical qualifications for that post and that your appointment as such will therefore shortly terminate.

I am further directed to state that your services as M. O. H. have been fully appreciated by the Government, but it is now considered necessary that Medical Officers holding Public Health appointments should be fully qualified in that special branch of medical science.

You are however entitled to six months leave of absence, and I would suggest, as the course of procedure which would probably be most agreeable to you, that you should apply for this amount of leave as from the 1st March 1908, and at the same time tender your resignation on the plea of say length of service in the tropics, from the date of termination of your leave.

I need scarcely say that I shall be glad to recommend you for the highest rate of pension which in my opinion your long and continuous service would entitle you to.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(signed) J. Will,

Principal Medical Officer.

M. O. H.

MOMBASA.

Dr. W. H. E. MacDonald,

Confidential.

No. 218/H.O.

Mombasa.

23rd November 1907.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Confidential despatch No. 41/58/2 of 20th November in which you inform me that it is proposed to appoint almost immediately a Medical Officer of Health for Mombasa who is possessed of the technical qualification for that post, and that my appointment as such will therefore shortly terminate.

I have foreseen for some time that such a change might be necessary and entirely agree that the reasons for terminating my services as Medical Officer of Health for Mombasa are right.

As is apparent from your despatch I gather that my services in any form are not now required or appreciated by the Colonial Authorities: this being so, it will I am sure, be readily understood that further service under such conditions would "to say the least of it" be unsatisfactory, if not unpleasant. I am therefore desirous of facilitating so far as I can, short of sacrificing my rights any reasonable measure which may lead to an early settlement.

I have hitherto understood that an Officer in the Colonial Service must attain the age of fifty years before he can qualify for pension. I shall be glad to know if this statement is correct.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your most obedient humble servant,

(sd) W.H.B. MacDonald

Medical Officer of Health.

To Lt. Colonel J. Will,

P. M. O. &c. &c.

# REGISTER OF SERVICE

This will be filed in P.M.O.

| Date of approval<br>in Office | Actions            | Indefinite service<br>From date | To date | REMARKS   |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------|---|
| 4 December 1919.<br>in Office | Nicobar<br>Islands |                                 |         | Appointed Dr. H. C. Moffat M.B. with the<br>Imperial British East Africa Company<br>Services Transferred 1 July 1915<br>to the East Africa Federals and<br>appointed Dr. H. C. Moffat M.B. with the<br>East Africa Federals up<br>to 31st March 1916. The post of Dr. H. C. Moffat was<br>eliminated on amalgamation of Medical<br>Service of Uganda and East Africa<br>Protectorates when Dr. Moffat and<br>Appointed P.M.C. |

4 December 1919.

Nicobar  
Islands

Appointed Dr. H. C. Moffat M.B. with the  
Imperial British East Africa Company  
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to 31st March 1916. The post of Dr. H. C. Moffat was  
eliminated on amalgamation of Medical  
Service of Uganda and East Africa  
Protectorates when Dr. Moffat and  
Appointed P.M.C.

Assigned duties of Medical Officer of  
Health on 1st April 1913.

Leave 1 to 30 June 1915.

E. A. P.

Record of Service of Medical Officer.

Name Walter Hall Burton Mac Donald

Date of birth 23rd October 1883

Age Fifty

Address Lochalsh, Ross-shire, Scotland

Admission into service

C.A. Protectorate

Date

1st July 1955

Station

Mombasa

Status of relation

Miss Mac Donald

Address of relatives

Lochalsh, Ross-shire, Scotland

for  
1593 07

818

606

22 January 1900.

DRAFT.

Barclay Port Cott

Sir,

Se J. Hayes Sudder

MINUTE.

Mr. Motteux

Mr. Reed

Mr. Syf

Mr. Atkinson

Mr. Fox

Mr. Lister

Sir P. Hippisley

Mr. Churchill

The Earl of ...

I have the honor to enclose  
the copy of your draft  
dated 20. 08. of the  
19<sup>th</sup> of December, and to  
inform you that I approve  
of your recommendation  
that Dr. Woods Macdonald  
should be appointed to  
make his application to  
31<sup>st</sup> of December and  
be allowed to take the  
vacation leave to  
which he is entitled,  
and that he should be  
entitled on payment

Further action

Apr 1893/07 S. A. Post

607

Jan 22nd 1893

DRAFT

S. A. Post. No 244

for stamp sales

to Dr. W. H. G.

MINUTE.

Mr. Duke 50 m.

Mr. Ellis 700 22/5/-

Mr. Judd

Mr. Hubbard

Mr. O-

Sir C. Lucas

Sir Hopwood

Mr. Churchill

The Battell Elgin