

712

EAST AFR PROT.  
No. 37792

DESEATCH  
37792 275  
RE 25 5

No. 527  
1905

(Subject.)

Mr R. Chamberlain's Land Grant

Has carried out instructions in  
Co disp. 320 Transmits copy letter from Mr  
(C. to late Sir D. Stewart and reply of letter,  
also copy of Mr C's letter to newspaper  
withdrawing his letter of 27 June & apologising

(Minutes.)

Mr. Cantabrus

~~Statement to the Comms.~~

See on 37422

Mr. Chamberlain's  
apology may be regarded as  
a sign of grace

Yes  
H. R.

M. R. 24/10  
H. R.  
27/10

Yes. Send copy to R.O.

M. R. 21/10

Unad 64 6 Feb 06 3357

8258

7792  
Commissioner's Office

Mombasa,

Ref

37792  
No. 23 of 1905

September 30th 1905.

276

PROTECTORATE.

No. 527



S1

I have the honour to report that, in obedience to the instructions contained in your despatch No. 580 of July 22nd, I addressed a letter to Mr. Chamberlain on August 24th last in the sense of your despatch to the High Commissioner of South Africa of the 26th of May.

2. Immediately on the receipt of this despatch Mr. Chamberlain wrote a private letter to Sir D. Stewart, copy of which together with Sir Donald's reply I have the honour to transmit herewith. I also enclose a copy of an apology which Mr. Chamberlain has inserted in the local papers.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

Acting Commissioner.

Chamberlain  
25th  
25th  
Chamberlain  
25th  
Chamberlain  
25th

H.M. Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies  
Downing Street,  
London

Encls 1/10/05

C: 00  
37792  
Rr:  
E. 23 J.T. 05

Private & Confidential

ELMENTEITA,

August 28th 1905.

277

Dear Sir Donald Stewart,

I was at Naivasha a few days ago and met there some friends for whose opinions I entertain much respect. It was represented to me that I have not treated you with fairness and proper consideration in failing to distinguish between your personal judgment and your official acts. I greatly regret this, for, whatever may be thought, it was very far from my desire to press upon your notice and the many and anxious cares of your office, any difficulties of my own in any unfair manner, more especially as these difficulties have not been created by any action of yours and come before you only as an undesirable heritage, whatever may be your attitude towards me as Commissioner, I trust that you will permit me, as between man and man, to give this assurance of my sincere regret.

At the same time, I hope you will be able to extend to me some patient consideration. My own difficulty is really far more serious than it can at present appear. I cannot give way on the principles at issue, and, although I know that in the end this resolution must cost me the heaviest price that any man be called upon to pay, I mean to-day, as I have meant since Mr. Eliot telegraphed to me in March of last year, to obtain a public enquiry. Naturally I wish to exhaust the resources of patient representation, and in order that I may do this without involving you unfairly in a discussion for the necessity of which you are not responsible, I have decided to go home in order to make personal representations to Mr. Lyttelton. If, before you are not indisposed to receive me, I shall

Yours sincerely,  
welcome

Sir D. Stewart

Encl. 1/10/05

C. 00  
37792  
REC  
23 JUL 35

Free & Confidential

ELMENTEITA,

August 28th 1905.

277

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*[Handwritten scribbles and signatures at the bottom of the page]*

welcome the opportunity of an interview at which I may perhaps be permitted freely to explain to you my position in connection with the matter without prejudice either to your duties as the Commissioner or my own rights.

Yours, etc.,

~~Ed~~ - R. Chamberlain

C.O.  
37792  
Rec'd  
23 Sept 1905  
279

Nyeri,  
September 5th 1905.

Private.

Dear Mr. Chamberlain,

The receipt of your private and Confidential letter of August 14th in which you express your regret at having inadvertently taken too personal a view of my attitude in connection with your disagreement with H. M. Government, has afforded me great satisfaction.

I take this opportunity of assuring you in my turn that I have endeavoured in the past and shall endeavour in the future to regard the matter from a purely official stand point, and to disassociate it entirely from my personal feelings towards and my personal relation with yourself.

I am at present on tour but expect to return to Nairobi about the 20th instant and shall be glad to see you after that date either there or in Mombasa, whither I intend to proceed shortly.

Yours, etc.  
Sd/- D. Stewart.

D. Chamberlain, Esq.,  
MOMBASA.

No. 527 of September 1905

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hiv

Encl. 3

h. J. P. C.

TO THE EDITOR "THE AFRICAN STANDARD."

Sir.—On June 27th last I addressed to Sir D. Stewart, H. M. Commissioner, a letter which was intended to direct attention to certain aspects of the disagreement between H. M. Government and myself in respect of my land grant on the Enderit river. A copy of the letter referred to was published at my request in the "African Standard" of July 1st. With the same circumstances of publicity, I now withdraw my letter of June 27 without reservation of any kind and with an expression of profound and sincere regret that it should have been written.

It has quite recently been represented to me, by friends for whose opinions I entertain much respect, that in writing the letter of June 27th, I had not treated Sir Donald Stewart with fairness and consideration in failing to make careful and just distinction between his personal judgments and actions and his official acts as His Majesty's Commissioner. These representations were supported by statements which left me no doubt as to the fact that I had done that which could not be justified by my conscience and sense of right. Accordingly I addressed my regrets to Sir D. Stewart in the manner in which I now write to you. Sir Donald Stewart has since accorded me the privilege of a private interview, and has extended to me a considerate and chivalrous courtesy which has made a deep impression upon my mind and has established a strong claim upon my gratitude and respect.

I am, etc.

ROBERT CHAMBERLAIN.

Elmentita, Sept. 23, 1906.