

EAST AFR. PROT.  
 PATRONAGE  
 No. 5804

C. C.  
 5804  
 Recd  
 REG: 17 FEB 07

No. 38  
 1908  
 Jan  
 previous Paper

(Subject.)

Conveyances

For part of Conveyances attached to Land Office suggests Mr. W. A. Noel Davies whose form of appl<sup>n</sup> & testimonials are enclosed. He is ready to take over the work on 1st April and save cost of passage.

(Minutes.)

Noted 78

Mr. Risley

This is the man of whom you spoke to me.

The post salary £300 + £50 House Allow<sup>ce</sup>) has not yet been sanctioned.

Perhaps you will appernd any docs you have to make of head to Mr. P. by whom it will be brought before Patronage Committee in due course.

M. A. P.

Private Sec.

I do not know Mr. Davies personally, but one of these referees (W. A. Preston whom I

sent 190 (200) 23 Sept. 1906  
 To Davies 8 Sept. 1907  
 By Jacobs 04 Sept. 1907

previous Paper

2606  
1905

know well, write to me about him and I have  
handed over the letter to Mr Harris

BJR  
18/2

~~Mr Harris~~

Mr Verney

Now arranged. I presume that when  
the plot is sanctioned we should just  
create other men.

Mr Bickle

$\frac{P}{7}$  selector to the land office EAP

Hand 2nd  
H.C.W.V  
29 2 08 at once

Moderns

Replies struck

Cost

W. Reed

6 inch

~~English Date~~

We could probably subtly candidates with  
strange claims, but you will perhaps  
think the advantage of his being on  
the spot outweighs them

Mr Verney. If you can find a better man  
for the relay I think that we  
ought to take him. It is only a question  
of the passage out - some £400 to £500.

H. J. R.

5/3

Lord Elgin

256

There is a vacancy for a Conveyancer to be attached to the Land Department in East Africa. Salary £300 with £50 house allowance. The Governor suggested for this appointment Mr W. A. Neal Davis who was admitted as a solicitor in 1908 & has been in practice as a solicitor in Nairobi since July 1907. Mr Reed agreed that we ought not to accept the Governor's recommendation if we had better candidates on our books. After discussing the matter with Mr Rieley I submit the name of Mr I. I. O. Gosser, Age 33. In a solicitor's office 1894-99 when he began studying for the bar. Called to the bar 1903. since when he has been in the chambers of a chancery barrister. He appears to have just the qualifications we require, has very good testimonials & made an excellent impression.

appoint Mr Gosser.

17/11/04

£ 2-4

~~£ 2-4~~  
£ 2-4

W. Davis called to day - see notes on p. 11

Good information - nice clean man

Put by H.C.V. 8/2/04 at once

THE  
POST OFFICE  
GENERAL DELIVERY  
OFFICE  
STATIONERS  
LONDON, E.C. 4  
ST MARK'S PLACE  
ST MARK'S PLACE  
ST MARK'S PLACE

25 LINCOLN INN FIELDS,  
LONDON, W.C.

Feb. 15. 1908

My dear Risleby,

I enclose a letter this morning's mail has brought me.

The young man was with us for a year and seemed a competent sort of chap who would fill an office of this kind well.

He came to us from a firm of solicitors of good

reputation which he was article. He comes, I believe, of good connections and we liked what we saw of him.

I must ask pardon for sending the letter to you as I thought it is with us to do with you, but I do not remember that I know any equally distinguished member of the Colonial office staff.

I hope you are flourishing.

Yours very truly  
Charles S. Preston  
J. S. Risleby Esq.

N. DAVIES,  
Solicitor.

NAIROBI, 258  
British East Africa.

20 I 08

Mr. Preston

I forget whether I told you of my intention  
to come out here before I started. If not I expect you  
to be surprised to see where I am.  
I have been here since August of last year  
and I am at present practising as a solicitor at Nairobi  
in this country. The climate up here is good.  
We are about 5000 to 6000 ft above sea level. We are  
practically on the equator so the sun is very hot other  
years very strong. I have been rather disappointed in the  
general business point of view however as the country  
is up rather a stagnant condition just at present but I  
think it is bound to improve.

I have got on fairly well since I have been here  
and I have applied for & have been  
recommended for a government appointment viz. Solicitor  
to the land office. This is a new appointment for which no  
one has been appointed up to the present. I am the only  
applicant in this part of the world. I have been recommended  
by the Governor, the Brown Advocate & the Commissioner  
of Lands so that will carry some weight but the Governor  
feels that there are so many objections at home wanting  
similar appointments that it is quite possible that the  
Colonial Office will take no notice of the recommendation  
I had had to give several references in my application  
I hope you would commend my having given your name  
amongst others as the name of my friend Dan Davies would  
carry some weight with the Colonial Office authorities.

N. DAVIES.

Solicitor.

(3)

NAIROBI,

British East Africa.

259

Do you happen to know any of the permanent staff  
 at the Colonial Office if so, would it be troubling you  
 too much to ask you to put in a word for me, and  
 know it would be of very great assistance to me if some  
 one at home would check me up.

The papers are going home by the same mail that  
 carries this letter & the authorities have asked the Colonial  
 office people to write out their opinion as I wish to get  
 the work of I am to have the part) before the Crown Advocate  
 or on lease which he intends doing if need.

If you would be so kind as to help me in this I shall  
 be very grateful indeed, as I am very keen on getting the  
 matter settled which will improve greatly as the country goes  
 on.

I will let you know later whether I have been  
 successful or not.

Yours sincerely  
 W. Davies.

I find that the Commission of Lands, Col J  
 & others knew the late was stop

Shew "not" "cate"  
 be "present"  
 189

Governor's Office,

Haiti

January 20th 1908.

AFRICA PROTECTORATE

No. 30

(1-21-1)

C. O.
5804
REC'D
Jan 17 1908

reference to my despatch No. 511 of  
 provision for a  
 estimated for next  
 received  
 from Mr. A. Noel  
 practicing here.

that the Gov. General shall be  
 attached to the office so that he may dispose of  
 the legal routine business that the preparation  
 and checking of deeds, and also the

all matters that are well referred  
 the Commission of the Republic of Haiti that  
 the necessary qualifications for  
 the position of the

venture to suggest that the  
 U.S. Government the  
 expense of a passage from  
 of advantage in that he would be in a position to make  
 his work before actually

H.H. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE

taking

THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

LONDON, W. 1.

taking up his appointment. Mr. Davies has intimated his willingness to work either in the Land Office or in Crown Advocate's Office so that he may be prepared to deal with the legal work of the Land Office on April 1st.

4. In the event of the appointment being sanctioned and Mr. Davies' application being favourably entertained, I venture to request that, for the reasons given above, Your Lordship's sanction may be conveyed to me by telegram.

5. I enclose a form of application for employment duly filled in by Mr. Davies and his testimonials in original for the return of which I shall be grateful.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

Yr. Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,



(In the absence of H.K. the Governor)



# Application for Colonial Employment

3884

Form to be filled up by the Applicant himself, and returned to the Private Secretary  
to the Secretary of State, Colonial Office, London.

REC-17 FEB 08

Name in full	William Alfred Noel Davis
Date of Application	
Profession or Occupation	Solicitor Barrister

INCLOSURE  
Despatch No. 38 of Jan. 20. 1908

Name	William Henry Davis (deceased)
Profession or Occupation	Ironmaster
Address	Site of The Gables Strager Cheshire

Year of birth	25 <sup>th</sup> December 1883	Age last birthday	24
Place of birth	Monmouthshire		
Single, married or a widower	Single		
Number of children... Sons	Aged respectively		
Daughters			

Education	Monmouth Grammar School July May 1906 Left Oct 1910 Served 5 years professional articles with Messrs Colborne & Co. Solicitors Newport (Hon) & Messrs Stew Perion & Co. Solicitors of 35 Strand's London W.C.
-----------	---

Professional qualifications (if any) and date at which they were obtained	
---	--

Appointment from completion of education to present date	From the date of admission on the Rolls of Solicitors to July 1911 I was Managing Clerk for Messrs Knight & Sons of Redcar & Staff From August to present time I have been in private practice in Leeds
--	--

Appointment desired if you do not apply for a particular appointment, you should state to what colonies you would go, and what is the lowest salary that you would accept	Solicitor to the Land Office Benedict appointment in any colony.
---	---

Referees ...

Give the names and addresses of two referees. They should be responsible persons who know you well, either in private life or in business; and one at least should be well acquainted with you in private life. The names of distinguished persons should not be given unless they really know you well.

1. Name Mr. F. Rigby  
 Address Groundslow  
 Iittensor Staff  
 Occupation Colliery Proprietor

2. Name Mr. G. S. Preston  
 Address c/o Messrs Stow Preston & Lyttleton  
 35 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
 London W.C. 1  
 Occupation Solicitor

Testimonials

Give the name, address, and occupation of the writer of each of your testimonials. Not more than six should be submitted. The originals must be sent for inspection, but they will be returned if their return is requested and copies are sent with them for record in the Colonial Office. Copies may be either in MS. or in print; and it is desirable, though not absolutely necessary, that they should be on foolscap paper not larger than this form.

Mr. F. Rigby  
 Groundslow  
 Iittensor Staff Colliery Proprietor

Mr. J. H. Knight  
 c/o Messrs Knight & Sons  
 Solicitors Newcastle-under-Lyme Staff

Mr. J. J. Nelson  
 Kidsgrove Staff Solicitor

Mr. Edw. Boulman  
 Victoria Chamber Newcastle (Mar) Solicitor

Mr. G. S. Preston  
 c/o Messrs Stow Preston & Lyttleton  
 35 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
 London W.C. 1

Certificate of Incorporated Law Society London W.C. 1

STATEMENT respecting *W. W. A. Neil Davis*

an applicant for the post of Solicitor to the Land Office, Law Office

*Providence*

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

1. Are you good enough to state how long you have been acquainted with the applicant?

1. From *the year 1905*

to \_\_\_\_\_

2. In what circumstances does your knowledge of him rest?

2. *He saved the last year of his articled clerkship as a solicitor to me and he has consulted me in reference to his family affairs.*

3. Are you were acquainted with him was he

- a. honest?
- b. sober?
- c. generally well conducted?

3.

- a. *Yes*
- b. *Yes*
- c. *Yes*

4. Is his health good?

4.

*So far as I know, yes.*

5. If he has been employed under you, will you state the nature of his duties, and how he discharged them?

5.

*He was very articled clerk as mentioned above. His examination work occupied by a good deal of his time, but the work he was able to do seemed intelligently done.*

6. Will you state the cause of his leaving—whether by voluntary resignation, dismissal, or otherwise?

6.

*On the expiration of his articled clerkship, he passed his examination & was admitted & took out a certificate to practise in the county.*

7. Do you consider him to be professionally qualified to undertake the duties of such an appointment as he now desires?

7. He showed some special aptitude for the details of practice here and would therefore I think be well qualified for the post mentioned.

8. Are you aware of any circumstance tending to disqualify him for such an appointment?

8. No.

9. The Secretary of State will be glad to receive any information which you may have to give respecting his character or qualifications in addition to what is contained in the answers to the foregoing questions.

9. So far as my observation goes Mr. Davis appears to be a gentleman of considerable natural shrewdness & ability & of high standing and character and I would so highly think a person would be an efficient & trustworthy public servant in the Protectorate.

Signature

Charles S. Prest

Occupation, Professional qualifications, &c.

Solicitor

Address

35 Amclous Ln Fields, London N.E.

Date

3. 3. 09

W 22 L (2447) - 40750 - 10

[This half-sheet to be torn off, filled up, and returned in the envelope sent herewith.]

254

STATEMENT respecting Mr. C. S. Prest

is an application for the post of Solicitor to the Land Office, East African Protectorate

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

1. Will you be good enough to state how long you have been acquainted with the applicant?

1. From Autumn 1901 or 1902 to Autumn 1907

2. Under what circumstances does your knowledge of him arise?

2. Knowing his father I have constantly met the son - Socially -

3. When you were acquainted with him was he

- a. honest?
- b. sober?
- c. generally well conducted?

3. yes -  
yes -  
yes -

4. Was his health good?

4. yes -

5. If he has been employed under you, will you state the nature of his duties, and how he discharged them?

5. Never employed by me

6. Will you state the cause of his leaving - whether by voluntary resignation, dismissal, or otherwise?

6. \_\_\_\_\_

TURN OVER.

QUESTIONS.

7. Do you consider him to be professionally qualified to undertake the duties of such an appointment as he now desires?

Yes -

8. Are you aware of any circumstance tending to disqualify him for such an appointment?

No -

9. The Secretary of State will be glad to receive any information which you may have to give respecting his character or qualifications in addition to what is contained in the answers to the foregoing questions.

He is a very steady & persevering man. I think he will make every effort to give satisfaction -

Signature

Frank Rieby -

Occupation

Professional qualifications, as Colliery Proprietor  
Civil & Mining Engineer -

Address

~~14~~ Groundsdown, Litterton  
Staffordshire

Date

3<sup>rd</sup> March 1908 -

Groundsman  
Littensor

265

Staffs

29<sup>th</sup> June '07

I have known Mr Noel Davies  
Solicitor (the bearer) about five years and I  
believe him to be straight and honourable  
in every way.

Frank Rigby  
J.P. for the Counties  
of Staffs & Cheshire

Insured with diurnal  
& fund correct.

John Tynan

22-11-07.



Copy

W & Sons  
SolicitorsNewcastle under Lyme  
Staffordshire

July 1907

I well know Mr William Alford Noel  
Davies who was admitted a Solicitor in  
England in April 1906 after serving his articles  
with Messrs Colborne Colquhoun & Lawrence  
Solicitors of Newport (Mon)

That firm has a most extensive  
conveyancing mining and general practice  
in South Wales.

Mr Davies has since served with my  
firm and has acquired experience in  
nearly every branch of the law.

He has proved himself to be a man  
of strict integrity and while with my firm  
he has given us every satisfaction and shows  
great ability in the many matters which  
have been placed under his charge

J. H. Knight  
Clerk to Magistrates  
Clerk to Guardians  
Superintendent Registrar  
Clerk to Newcastle Rural  
District Council  
Solr to North Stafford En-  
Insurance Co Ltd

Compared with original  
& found correct.

Wm. G. Jones  
23/7/07

Wm. G. Jones 23/7/07

Copy

267

Kidsgrave  
Staffordshire.

July 1<sup>st</sup> 1907

I have known M. H. A. Neil Davies for  
6 or 7 years and can testify as to his legal  
qualifications and high moral character.

M. Davies is the son of the late M. H. H.  
Davies the General Manager of the Shelton  
Coal Iron and Steel Company Ltd one of the  
largest Commercial undertakings in Staffordshire  
M. Davies possesses much of his father's  
business ability and his social gifts.

His character is unimpeachable and  
his generosity and sportsmanlike qualities  
have gained for him a wide circle of friends.

I can confidently recommend M. Davies  
for admission as a Solicitor of any of the  
Colonial Courts.

John J. Nelson

Solicitor clerk to Kidsgrave  
Alcegar & Audley Urban District  
Councils &c

Compared with original  
& found correct.

J. Montgomery  
Clerk of the Peace

22-11-07



Copy

268

Victoria Chambers  
Newport Mon.  
24<sup>th</sup> May 1906

Dear Mr. Davies,

In compliance with your request I have much pleasure in putting on record for your use that during the 4 years of your articles which you served at this office I found you diligent and attentive to your duties, and during the last year or 18 months with the knowledge and experience you had acquired I found your services very useful and valuable, and I should imagine that you ought to have no difficulty in satisfactorily carrying out the duties of any appointment which you may accept and I have no doubt that if you ask our London Agents they will give you a similar satisfactory reference with regard to the year which you spent with them.

With kind regards &  
wishing you every success

I am

yours very truly

Edwd. Coulman

W. G. A. Davies Esq.

The Gables

Alsager

Cheshire

Compared with original  
& found correct.

Montgomery  
22-11-07

Copy

Ston Preston &  
Lyttelton

35 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London W.C.

Dear Mr. Davies

Now that you have passed  
your final examination you will perhaps  
like us to write you formally that from all  
we saw of you while you were serving a  
part of your articles in this office, we had  
great pleasure in recommending you for  
any professional work which you may  
undertake.

We know you are prepared to take  
an interest in all work which falls to  
you and have had valuable experience  
which cannot fail to be of service to  
in commencing what we have no doubt  
will be a very successful career.

We are  
Yours truly  
Ston Preston & Lyttelton

W. A. Noel Davies Esq

Compared with a civil  
and found correct  
J. M. Guinness

Copy of original 1871

Copy

Stan Preston &  
Lyttelton

35, Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London W.C.

Dear Mr. Davies

Now that you have passed your final examination you will perhaps like us to write you formally that from all we saw of you while you were serving a part of your articles in this office, we had great pleasure in recommending you for any professional work which you may undertake.

We know you are prepared to take an interest in all work which falls to you and have had valuable experience which cannot fail to be of service to you in commencing what we have no doubt will be a very successful career.

We are

Yours truly

Stan Preston & Lyttelton

N. A. Noel Davies Esq

Compared with original  
and found correct.

J. Livingston

22-11-07

50  
Copy to Mr. Lyttelton & Stan Preston

I hereby certify as follows:

The name of William Alford Noel Davies,  
of Alsager

Gentleman  
was on the Ninth day of April 1906 entered  
on the Roll of Solicitors of the Supreme  
Court.

The said William Alford Noel Davies  
was duly admitted as a Solicitor of the  
said Court on that day, and his Name still  
continues on the said Roll.

The said William Alford Noel Dav  
has not been struck off the said Roll  
nor has he been suspended from pro  
and I further certify that no complaint  
of misconduct has been made against  
him to this Society.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June 1907

Secretary

The Law Society  
Chancery Lane W.C.

Compared with original  
a found correct.  
Dunquhony  
22-11-07

Admitted 11-4-06

Gov/5804 EAR

271

J. C. Jones

W.C.S. 3/4  
W. Reed

3  
D  
b

Off.  
E.A.

Communications on this subject  
should be addressed to—  
The Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office,  
London, S.W.,  
and the following number quoted.

Downing Street,

*[Handwritten signature]*

7 April 1908

H. O. Gomer Esq.

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to  
inform you that, subject to your being passed as physically fit for  
service, he proposes to select you for Temporary  
probationary appointment as  
Comvyancer in the Land Office of the East African  
Protectorate

with salary at the rate of £300 a year  
and house allowance of £50 a year

2. The appt. would be for thirty months from the date  
of arrival at Mombasa, and you would receive half salary  
quarters during the voyage and full salary from the date  
of arrival. At the end of the thirty months you would receive a

3. A memorandum showing the general conditions attached to  
granted leave of absence for three months on full salary, with a  
appointments in the Protectorate is enclosed herewith, but you are to  
further than the leave on three quarter salary if your appt. is

understand that you will be subject to any regulations which may here-  
renewed. If you would receive a first class passage to the  
after be introduced by or with the sanction of the Secretary of State.  
Protectorate, and a similar passage home on the satisfactory

A copy of the regulations as to pensions is also enclosed.  
Completion of your appointment.

3. If you are prepared to accept the appointment on these  
conditions, you should present yourself to one of the medical advisers of  
this Department, whose names are given on the enclosed  
purpose of being medically examined. The letter is to be detached and  
left with him; and you will be required to pay him a fee of one guinea.  
He will send his report direct to this Department.

20971  
Ans 12606  
aff. must be  
submitted to the  
Secretary  
C.C.S.

*[Handwritten scribbles and signatures]*  
A. J. Jones  
Apr 19 1908