

EAST AFR. PROT.



No. 40406

C.O. 40406 REC'D REG 13 NOV 06

No. 571

(Subject)

1905

Petition of Colonists Association

previous Papers

Is - Will submit his views & remarks as to persons responsible for the address

1905

PRINTED FOR PARLIAMENT 158 AUGUST 1907

(Minutes)

Mr. Antrobus

Wait for the Comm<sup>r</sup>s observations

H. J. R.

Yes; and, in the mean time, print.

The petition w<sup>d</sup> seem from this despatch not to carry so much weight as we expected.

What are it once

note: Proposed for Progress Printing

Jan 2 326 & June 2 326 / 3542 1905

PRINTED FOR PARLIAMENT 158 AUGUST 1907

Commissioner's Office,

40406

Mombasa

October 18th 1905

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 571



Address only  
PRINTED FOR PARLIAMENT  
L. 158 AUGUST 1907

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential despatch of August 18th, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith an Address which has been forwarded to me by the Colonists' Association. Although dated August 23rd, the Address was not received until the 29th of September, and I regret that owing to pressure of work I have as yet been unable to carefully consider the points raised therein. I hope, however, in the course of a week or two to submit to you my views on the suggestions and reforms proposed therein. I would merely remark here that the Colonists' Association is by no means representative, and that many of the best settlers in

the

Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

Downing Street,

LONDON.

20/11/38

10/11/38  
10/11/38

1277. 58-15 \* No. 27732

The country either do not belong to it, or had nothing to do with drawing up the Address. Lord Delamere, for instance, although at one time its President, preferred not to attend the meeting at which Mr. Burn's

petition (forwarded to Mr. Head in Sir D. Stewart's letter despatched August 14th) was discussed. I doubt in fact whether one half of the members have resided six months in the Protectorate.

The persons responsible for drawing up the Address were Messrs. Allen, Baillie, Burn, Chamberlain, Cowie, Bulowson, Periton, Watkins, J.P. Wood, T.A. Wood, and Wilson. Mr. Allen is a Solicitor, a member of the firm of Tonks and Allen of Mombasa and Nairobi, and has no landed interest in the country. Mr. Baillie is a gentleman from South Africa who came to East Africa about a year ago and took up land. I believe he is now selling his estate as he does not think it will pay and is leaving the country to take up a Municipal post in South Africa. Mr. Burn is a Barrister who drew up the first petition. He has no interests in the country and is anxious to obtain a Government appointment.

*must be a private  
which Sir B.  
at that me.  
of various  
for cutting  
the*

*2*

Mr. Chamberlain is already too well known to you to require any comments from me. Mr. Cowie came to East Africa six months ago and is anxious to enter Government employ. Mr. Bulwer is a firm who had at one time great schemes of colonizing the Protectorate with his country people. He now owns a small farm near Nairobi. Mr. Tarlton is an auctioneer from South Africa. Mr. Watkins is a man of means who has been a few months in the country. He was formerly a member of the Volksraad in the Transvaal and as such was well known to Lord Milner who did not think too highly of him. During the recent outbreak of plague at Nairobi, he came off all the settlers put difficulties in the way of the local authorities, and tried, though without success, to hinder the officials in carrying out the necessary preventive measures. Mr. J.R. Wood is the only true settler on the Committee. He is an ignorant man but by dint of hard work has made a small fortune for himself in the country. Mr. T.A. Wood is an auctioneer and mal-content and is always to the fore when an attack is being made on the Government.

Mr. Wilson was formerly a clerk in the Government

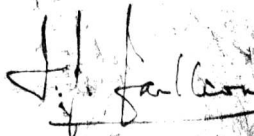
service, who leads a hand to mouth existence on a small homestead near Nairobi. He has a very bad name as an employer of labour, and owing to his treatment of natives finds it impossible to get any to work for him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,



Acting Commissioner.

4

COLONISTS' ASSOCIATION OF  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA,  
Nairobi,

British East Africa,  
23rd August 1903.

To,

The Right Honorable

ALFRED LYTELTON, M.P.,

H. B.'s Secretary of State for the Colonies,

L O N D O N.

Sir,

In view of the fact that the Administration of the  
B. E. A. Protectorate was taken over by the Colonial  
Office from the Foreign Office on April 1st, we desire  
to take the opportunity of our first general meeting  
(July 19th) since the change to lay our views before  
you. We are emboldened to do so by the confident hope  
we feel that the paramount factor in Colonial Office  
rule is to govern according to the wishes of the  
governed.

Our association, known as the Colonists' Association  
of B.E.Africa, has been founded to advance the development  
of this country as a white man's colony, and to

INTRODUCTORY.

COLONISTS'  
ASSOCIATION

AGRICULTURISTS'  
ASSOCIATION  
(continued)

great part of the white unofficial population in the highlands of East Africa, away from the coast.

The first point we would wish to impress upon you is the magnificent possibilities offered by British East Africa for white agricultural settlement. There is an immense quantity of fertile farming land, and unrivalled grazing land, capable under European management of an immense yield for export, while supporting a large population.

POSSIBILITIES  
OF B. E. A.

This country has been opened for settlement by the expenditure of several millions of Imperial money on the Uganda Railway, and is an accidental asset unlocked for when the railway was constructed. Were the country well settled and developed, there can be no question that instead of costing the Home Country many thousands sterling per annum, it would be thoroughly self-supporting and develop a valuable trade with the United Kingdom and the colonies.

OF PROGRESS.

Yet notwithstanding the natural advantages of the country, and the openings it affords for the employment of capital and labour, there can be no question that British East Africa is not making that progress it should

STATE OF PROGRESS  
(continued)

do, and that while the stream of settlers has slackened, many good colonists, who had settled, are leaving in despair of making the land pay.

We are confident that you, Sir, are anxious to do all in your power, both to increase immigration to this country, and to secure its prosperity and its development. In full confidence we will propose to lay before you some of the causes which in our view are keeping the country back.

First and foremost among the causes which are driving away those who have settled, as well as keeping others out, is the absence of a market for the produce of the land. Potatoes, beans, or other crops raised on the land cannot find sufficient purchasers locally, but require to be exported. The natural market of the

*There have serious  
been brought -  
but we hope  
the Treasury  
to increase the  
the revenue here*

2 *Prices  
lowish.*

3 *One heavy  
obligation  
under the Bechuanaland  
Act prevent  
the S. A. Bank on the ground*

country is South Africa, but to reach it, the railway rates for agricultural produce on the Uganda Railway, and the steamer freights are prohibitive, while East Africa not being in the South African Customs Union renders competition in the South African markets difficult, if not impossible. Were these artificial barriers removed, the produce of East Africa would always

*ground*



find a ready market in the South.

To take these barriers in detail:

FIRST BARRIER  
RAILWAY FREIGHTS

2

As the objects for which the Uganda Railway was originally constructed have now been largely achieved, the railway should, we submit, be carried on at a loss, if making it pay checks the development of the country it passes through.

SECOND BARRIER  
STEAMER FREIGHTS

The second artificial barrier against East African products at present is caused by steamer freights to and from other countries. This is a matter in which a judicious expenditure by His Majesty's Government would in a few years lead to large commercial results. What is required is either a Government steamer or a subsidised line of steamers to carry produce at cheap rates between Mombasa and British and other ports.

THIRD BARRIER  
INSIDE OF S. A.  
CUSTOMS UNION

*Richard  
Page*

The third barrier is the fact of the East Africa Protectorate not being included in the South African Customs Union. We would respectfully request that His Majesty's Government would use its best efforts to achieve this object.

What has been said of crops grown on the land applies with equal force to stock.

These are matters which we feel can be directly dealt

with by H. M. Commissioner here, and we have therefore addressed him separately on these points.

#### PENDING POINTS

The points we have hitherto touched upon are those which are absolutely vital to the prosperity of present colonists, and until they are remedied, an almost insurmountable barrier is thrown in the way of further settlement.

#### OTHER MATTERS

There are, however, other matters connected with the laws and administration of the country, which not only tend to render the white population dissatisfied but to prevent other whites from settling.

#### INDIAN ORDINANCES

The first matter we would bring to your notice is the question of the laws. The East Africa Protectorate is governed as if it were a province of India, and a large number of Indian ordinances are applied to it. Apart from the fact that in some cases the whole and in some, part, of these Ordinances are inapplicable to East Africa, there is the greatest objection in principle to placing white men under laws intended for a coloured population despotically governed. However excellent the Indian Penal Code may be for those for whom it was designed, there are many offences created by it, entirely unsuited to a white population, and to which there

strenuously object.

INDIAN CRIMINAL  
PROCEDURE CODE

We object to the Indian Criminal Procedure Code as being a dangerous and unaccustomed innovation on the English methods of criminal procedure, and more particularly on account of the very large powers which it entrusts to Magistrates frequently young, inexperienced and without legal training, and to the inadequate provision it makes for trial by jury of many important offences. But perhaps the greatest injustice inflicted upon colonists is the withdrawal from them of the protection afforded to European British subjects, Europeans and Americans in India by chapter 33 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

INDIAN  
PENAL CODE

The Indian Penal Code is thus applied with more rigour to East African Colonists than to European British subjects in India, inasmuch as the former may be sentenced by a Magistrate for certain offences cognizable by him to six months imprisonment or a fine not exceeding One thousand rupees, or both, while the latter for any offence whatever may claim to be tried by a jury of which not less than half shall consist of Europeans or Americans.

1,000

INDIAN CIVIL  
PROCEDURE  
OTHER INDIAN  
ACTS

To the Indian Civil Procedure Code, and to the other Ordinances relating to Civil matters, such as the Indian Contract Act, the Indian Evidence Act, and Indian laws generally, as regard to the relations of civil life, the greatest objection is also felt. In many material particulars, the laws of India differ from the laws of England, and the differences are not, in the opinion of legalists, improvements. To give a few examples:-

While enlightened legislation has abolished imprisonment in England except in the case of recalcitrant debtors, who having the means, refuse to pay, under the Indian law, this archaic right of the creditor flourishes in all its naked hideousness. Again the nature of the provisions of the Indian Civil Procedure Code with regard to Insolvency are most inadequate, imperfect, and unsuited to Europeans. One example of the loss which Europeans suffer from being placed under Indian law may be adduced. By the statute of Frauds, no man can be held answerable for the debt, default, or miscarriage of another, unless he can be shown to have consented thereto by some document in writing. The

deprivation of Europeans of this protection, places them at the mercy of any unscrupulous scoundrel who can be found to swear they agreed to pay some one else's debt.

The necessity of producing a document signed by the persons to be charged has been found in England to prevent much fraud. Many other instances might be adduced if space permitted, to show the absolute unsuitability of Indian law for Europeans.

#### ELIMINATION

#### TRIAL BY JURY

But perhaps the crowning demerit of the Indian Civil Procedure Code is the elimination of trial by jury. The colonists regard trial by jury, as well in civil as in criminal cases, as their inalienable right, and no system of law or of legal procedure can be satisfactory, unless it provides for disputed questions of fact, in all cases however small being tried, if the parties so desire it, by a jury.

From what we have said, you will see, Sir, that the British European Colonists of East Africa desire the entire abolition of Indian law.

We should even wish to place our case higher than that and claim as a right to have the English Common Law. The highlands of East Africa, beyond the ten mile strip leased from the Sultan of Zanzibar, is <sup>13</sup> territory

territory settled by British subjects, many of them from England. By the law of England, every Englishman carries the common law of England into every new country settled by him, over which the King has proclaimed sovereignty. The right we respectfully claim at your hands.

TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION

Next to the Colonists' objections to the laws of the Protectorate, though of equal importance, is their objection to the present method of Administration. That method may be described shortly as taxation without representation. Such a principle is, of course, alien to the British constitution, and is tolerated only in newly colonised territories, until the number of white colonists justifies the gift of self government. But between one man government and self government the enlightened policy of His Majesty's Colonial Office has provided many intermediate stages. We would respectfully claim, Sir, that the advent of European Colonists into East Africa justifies the bestowal upon them of some share in the Administration of their own affairs. If the Imperial Exchequer contributes a quarter of a million per annum, the burden of

taxation borne by each colonist is far greater per head than that borne on account of East Africa by each Imperial taxpayer.

DUTIES AND FEES

Colonists pay an ad valorem duty of 10% on all goods imported into the country with few exceptions; besides heavy duties on the export of certain goods. They also pay leave license duties, are assessed for rates (which they have no voice in spending) in municipal areas. They are also heavily taxed through the fee system for the administration of justice and the winding up of estates, and for stamps on legal transactions.

CROWN COLONY  
GOVERNMENT

Colonists would therefore earnestly urge upon you, Sir, the desirability of turning the Protectorate, or (if difficulties intervene) that portion of it lying beyond the ten mile coast strip, into a Crown Colony without further delay. They would be satisfied if in the first instance a Crown Colony Government of the Balfour type were instituted, by which the control of the finances, and the legislative functions were vested in a Legislative Council nominated by the Crown. They would raise no objection even if the majority of the

members of Council were official, and the minority unofficial, provided that the choice of that minority was made with the consent and concurrence of the majority of the white colonists. Were this done, Sir, we entertain no doubt that the grievances now set forth would be speedily removed, and the finances of the Colony would assume a much more healthy condition.

MILITARY  
AND POLICE

In connection with the expenditure on administration, there is one matter to which we wish to draw your special attention, and that is the expenditure for Military and Police. The figures not being before us, we can only say we know that expense to be a very great one. We believe that for an equal if not a less expenditure the Protectorate could be very much better served both in the matter of Military and Police. At present the Military and Police are carried out, the former by black troops and the latter by blacks and Indians.

PLANTER RESERVE

The military protection afforded by the black troops, the Government have recently sought to supplement by raising a so-called Volunteer Reserve, consisting of white colonists, and official employees. The invitation of the Government to join this reserve has been very

16



sparingly responded to by Colonists. It may be safely prognosticated that under present conditions, very few Colonists indeed will join the reserve.

WHITE INSTEAD OF  
BLACK TROOPS

Upon this state of facts, the first suggestion we would throw out is, that in dealing with aboriginal black faces such as those to be met with in East Africa, it is much the wiser policy, having regard to results, as well as much the less costly to use white instead of black troops. A small number of high class well paid white troops will yield far better results, and have a much more moral effect, than a large number of blacks.

Mounted Police

In place of employing the King's African Rifles, and black and Indian police, we would suggest to you, is, the formation of a select body of well paid white mounted police, formed on the model of the Canadian North West Mounted Police or the Cape Mounted Rifles. We feel confident that a comparatively small force of white mounted police, supplemented by a few picked blacks, far and among the coloured populations of townships, will be more efficacious and perhaps less costly than the present force of black troops and

police

police. Indeed the continued use of black police among white colonists, as at present, is fraught with danger, and certain eventually to lead to serious trouble.

BURGER LAW

In connection with the military question, and in view of the fact that the Government have thought it necessary to call on colonists to join in the military defence of the Protectorate, we venture to lay before you some suggestions by the adoption of which we believe military service would be gladly rendered by settlers. Our suggestion is that if white mounted police are formed to carry out the military and police duties of the Protectorate, a burger law should be passed in such parts as are full of white colonists, like Umamba Province. Under this burger law let every white male between sixteen and sixty be liable for military service in his own district when called upon, and let the burghers elect their own field cornets and commandants. Accompanying this by turning the field cornets and commandants into magistrates, (unpaid if need be), and entrusted with the maintenance of law and order in these districts.

188

DETAILS OF  
BURGHER LAW

In places where this burgher law was applied, let the civil affairs of the province, district, or field cornets be administered by a quasi county council elected by the burghers. Such a scheme, we are confident, would bear with it the elements of success, for men would willingly give their services were they granted a part in the management of their local affairs. Moreover, it would give a considerable gain to the exchequer, as in such parts of the Colony as the burgher system was in force no Government officials would be required, and the administration would be carried on at a greatly reduced cost. It should be added that when the burgher militia (who should be required to appear mounted) were called out on active service, they should be placed under the provisions of the Army Act, and be paid and rationed as regular troops on such a scale as might be fixed. In order to enable burghers to obtain horses, the same conditions should be applied as in South Africa.

Mining LAWS

We further wish to call your attention to the mining laws of this Protectorate. At present no encouragement is given to prospect for precious stones

and minerals. Hitherto in the early stages of the development of any country under H. M. Government, every facility and encouragement has been given to those who risk their lives and their money in endeavouring to open up the resources of the country, but in this Protectorate the reverse is the case. We maintain that a miner's right should be issued at a nominal price, and in remote districts even a reward offered for the discovery of precious stones and minerals. We respectfully request, therefore, that mining laws and regulations, similar to those in existence in other colonies of His Majesty's possessions, should be introduced into this Protectorate in place of those now in force. In this connection, we would suggest the establishment of a mining department, and the appointment of a competent and experienced official to take charge of the same. At present the decision of the payableness or unpayableness of any discovery, and the administration of the law is left to Sub-Commissioners or Collectors, who have had little or no previous experience of mining, and we believe this state of

affairs

affairs fraught not only with danger, but will cause eventually financial loss, and lead to chaos and confusion.

LAND LAWS, NATIVES,  
NATIVE RESERVES,  
LABOUR QUESTION

There are certain points concerning land laws, Natives, Native Reserves, and the Labour Question which have been already dealt with by a Land Commission on which two of our members were sitting. As its report has been sent to you, Sir, we would reserve any remarks until it has been made public.

HOSPITAL  
ACCOMMODATION

There is one subject to which we would especially draw your attention. The Protectorate provides hospital accommodation, medical attendance, and nursing for its own officials, at Mombasa and Nairobi, at the charge of three rupees per day. If a non-official European man or woman enters the hospital the Government charge him, or her, the sum of twelve rupees per day for the same accommodation. Needless to say such charges are regarded by settlers as absolutely prohibitive, and only in the direst extremity, are the Government hospitals made use of. We submit, Sir, that the time has now arrived when hospital accommodation should be provided to all non-official Europeans at a moderate rate.

Rs.3

Rs.12

4  
rate

rate, and for destitute Europeans free.

516

GAME LICENSE.

Another point to which we would draw your attention is the exceptional privileges accorded to officials in the matter of Game licenses. A full big Game license is styled a sportsman's license and costs fifty pounds; a "public officer" is given precisely the same license for ten pounds. Why public servants should be entitled to special privileges in the matter of a luxury, like big game shooting, is hard for any one to understand. But one thing is certain, that such an invidious and improper privilege, given to public servants, must always cause the bitterest hostility in the minds of those from whose pockets the salaries of public servants are drawn.

CLOSED DISTRICTS

There is another point on which we feel constrained to address you, viz:- that of the "Closed Districts". We feel, Sir, that it is not in the interest of the Government, nor in that of the settlers, that any districts or provinces should be closed owing to the inability of the Government to give protection to white traders and others. Not only is such action a sign of weakness and fraught with the danger of loss of prestige, but is also a direct injury to the trade and revenue

517

of the country. In the "closed districts" at the present time the savage is permitted to follow his own instincts and customs, and to disregard all civilized methods of law and order. This, besides being a danger to the good government and peace of the Protectorate, is fraught with considerable danger to those settlers who are living on the borders of the districts referred to. By the non-establishment and maintenance of the King's authority, the tribal authority of the chiefs remains unimpaired, and the fighting strength of tribes is turned frequently against their neighbours, and whenever the opportunity offers against settlers. Trouble of this kind is continually happening with tribes such as the Nandi, the Lumbwa, and the Sotik. Tribal wars, cattle raids and outrages compel the Government frequently to step in, and a costly expedition has to be undertaken in order to chastise the natives. We maintain, therefore, that from every point of view it is incumbent that the Government should assert its authority and that for this purpose only white troops should be employed, as we have already suggested. The employment of black troops in these expeditions has no lasting effect upon the tribes against whom they are employed and only tends

bring the Government of the Protectorate into contempt. We, therefore, respectfully protest against a continuance of a policy which, we maintain, is pusillanimous, and in the interest of the effective occupation and good government of the Protectorate.

NATIVE TRIBES.

The problem of how to deal with the natives still living in a savage state in various parts of East Africa is a matter upon which the very existence of settlers depends. They are a few hundreds, while the blacks around them number hundreds of thousands and are in an absolutely savage state. Hitherto a policy of bluff, without any real or adequate force in reserve, has been sufficient to deal with these natives. But to any one who has had experience of natives of Africa, and indeed to any one who can read intelligently the teachings of the history of our dealing with native races, it must be evident that the present condition of things cannot be expected to last. At present the black has hardly realized what the intrusion of the white man into his country means. As the country becomes more settled, as fences are erected and the savage finds himself shut



out from the enjoyment of land, which before he could roam over and enjoy, so will his resentment grow. From being a smouldering fire, that resentment will after a time break into flame, and when it does may even cause hereditary tribal enemies to unite in rebellion against the common foe of both, the white man. Moreover, another cause is tending also in a large degree to bring about black rebellion, and that is increased familiarity with white men. Until the British occupation of East Africa hardly any of the natives of the Highlands had seen a white man. By degrees the fear of the natives for white men will wear off, and they will become insolent. There is no doubt that that time will arrive more speedily in East Africa than it otherwise would have done on account of the action of the Government in not maintaining white prestige.

The employment of blacks by the Government as soldiers and police to deal with white settlers is absolutely fatal to the maintenance of white prestige among natives, and must seriously hasten the day of black rebellion. We stand practically on the edge of a human volcano, which may at any time burst forth in

uncontrollable

uncontrollable eruption and destroy us. The day of that eruption no one can foresee, it may be to-day, it may be to-morrow, or it may be some years hence, but that it will come is an absolute certainty. And when it does come, what protection have settlers in Ukamba, Malvasha, Kenya, or Kisumu Provinces? So far as the Government is concerned they have absolutely none. One battalion of black troops at Nairobi, and one near the coast are absolutely useless for staying off anything like a negro rebellion on a large scale, such as at any moment might take place. Not only would they be numerically inferior, but their presence would inspire no fear, and they would be incompetent to carry on warfare at great odds against savage races. Indeed it is not certain that being themselves to a very large extent drawn from these very races, their loyalty under trying circumstances could be depended upon. And what possible protection could one battalion of Infantry stationed on Nairobi Hill afford to the outlying settlers scattered over an area of about 100 miles round Nairobi, or even to the town itself? The 1,800 black police, mainly Swahilis with a few Indians is altogether a negligible

negligible quantity, the Swahili being useless for fighting as has been demonstrated on several occasions. A few hundred hostile negroes, armed with spears and shields, would be sufficient to massacre the outlying settlers, and to take Nairobi itself, while if the negroes came in thousands, as they would probably do, the consequences ~~may~~ be the extermination of the whites. Under the present system of Government the settlers would be unable to defend themselves, as owing to vexatious Government restrictions few, if any, have any ammunition. Dangers, such as the white settlers in East Africa are exposed to, require instant action and we need scarcely point out to you, that great indeed is the responsibility of any Minister of the Crown who disregards our warnings. Should the evil day come, as it may at any moment, and the white community be found in its present defenceless condition, the responsibility of those who have the controlling of these matters would be great indeed. We cannot insist too strongly, Sir, on the necessity of instant action to provide adequate means of protection from native attack. In our judgement, the first requisite for such protection

26

is the formation of forts either of stone or wood, and each with a well, built at such convenient distances among the settlers, and in the town of Nairobi, as would serve for the whole population to take refuge in with their families in case of attack. This protection and the adoption of our suggestions as to a white mounted police, Imperial white troops, and a universal mounted burgher militia, would suffice to prevent loss of life, though perhaps not damage to property. Moreover, we should regard the institution of a good white mounted police and a burgher militia, as measures in themselves tending to prevent native risings, and as forming a real reserve of strength, when the system now in force, is no longer of avail. Indeed, Sir, the more the native question is looked at, the more will the necessity be seen of ceasing to regard this country as a part of India and instead of freely and frankly treating it as a white man's colony, and governing it in the manner that a white community should be governed, in a land teeming with native races in a savage state, against whom they may at any moment be called upon to fight for their lives. The sooner the sorry farce of Indian Laws, and Indian methods of Government is abolished,

and the white community are given their share in the Government of the country, and of defending that country against the hordes of natives by whom they are surrounded, the sooner will Ministers of the Crown relieve themselves of the grave responsibility that now attaches to them for the safety of the white community here, and the sooner will East Africa be on the high road to prosperity as a self-supporting colony.

CURRENCY

The last Order-in-Council relating to East Africa passed by the Foreign Office has reference to the currency. A few words will put you in possession of the facts. Representations of a pressing character were made both by this Association and the Mombasa Chamber of Commerce to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for the substitution of British for Indian currency in the Protectorate. The change was strongly advocated in the local press and was vigorously supported by the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. It was also supported in England by most of the financial organs and by journals in different parts of the United Kingdom. The business community and settlers of British East Africa naturally expected that their urgent representations would cause the Foreign Office to grant their

request  
21

request. The surprise of the whole white community was  
great when instead of substituting British coinage for <sup>524</sup>  
Indian, the Foreign Office issued an Order-in-Council  
perpetuating the rupee currency and instituting a new  
coinage up to the thousandth part of a rupee! In  
other words, the wishes of the whole community both in the  
highlands and on the coast are a solute~~d~~ disregarded,  
and a new coinage is instituted which no one had asked  
for, and which the great majority in the country  
condemns!!! To you, Sir, we confidently appeal for the  
reversal of this Order-in-Council. For the arguments in  
favour of British currency, we would refer you to the  
memorials put forward by the Mombasa Chamber of Commerce  
and this Association to the Foreign Secretary.

sd/- FRANK WATKINS,

Hony: Vice-President of the  
COLONISTS' ASSOCIATION,  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

sd/- W. MacClellan Wilson,  
Honorary Secretary  
COLONISTS' ASSOCIATION,  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.