

DESPATCH

EAST AFR. PROT.

C.O.
34224

34224

18 OCT 1909



Governor. No.
ward 548

1909

3rd Sept
Previous Paper.

29514

TRANSFER OF MR HOOKLEY'S PAPER TO MR COBB

Explains matter Mr Cobb has also applied for the transfer to him of 1,000 acres belonging to Mr Welaferd. Recommends that subject to Mr Cobb's financial ability to develop both transfers asked for should be allowed. Asks for authority to deal with future similar cases without reference.

W. Reed

See now

Gov.
32531

Staff

Oct 21

With regard to the last para of the despatch, we have been let in by the local people & the fact that I should be asked to give the go-ahead: the wide powers for what he asks. We could perhaps civilly also we answer the despatch: H.J.R.

21/x

Ames Copy to Sec. 29292
subsequent Paper
744-
34531



Governor's Office,
Nairobi,
September 23rd 1909.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

(No. 548)

21/12

C. O.
34224
REC^d
REG^d 18 OCT 09

My Lord,

With reference to Your Lordship's despatch No. 450 of August 6th I have the honour to report that there appears to be some misunderstanding in the matter. Mr Hockley's farm, permission to transfer which to Mr. Cobb was asked for, is a farm of 5,000 acres and not of 1,000 acres as stated.

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2. It is true that the size of the farm was not stated in my despatch No. 347 of June 29th, the reason being that the request was referred to Your Lordship on the general question of the accumulation of land in the hands of Mr. Cobb who already held some 35,000 acres, and it was considered that the size of the farm which it was desired to transfer was immaterial.

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3. It appears however that Mr. Cobb's present holding is all "High Veldt" and it is therefore not unreasonable that he should wish to acquire the land which is the subject of the present reference, as the latter is "Low Veldt", and for successful farming it is desirable that an estate should comprise both.

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+ ho 34224

L.M. Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies,
Downing Street,
London, S.W.

4. Mr. Powys Cobb has also applied for the transfer to him of a farm of 1,030 acres belonging to Mr. Welsford, but this application was being held back to await the receipt of Your Lordship's reply on the general question

5. Personally I am of opinion that provided the land is developed, it is quite immaterial who develops it, and I do not think that we should refuse applications for transfer so long as satisfactory proof is forthcoming of the financial position of the transferee - whatever the size, within reason, of the land to be transferred.

6. In the present case I have the honour to recommend that, subject to Mr. Powys Cobb's financial ability to develop, both transfers asked for should be allowed - and I would ask for Your Lordship's authority to deal with future cases of this nature without reference to Your Lordship.

HC
I have the honour to be,
With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,
humble servant,

EPL Jrouard

