

DESPATCH.

EAST AFR. PROT.
33415

G. O
33415
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OCT 09

Governor. No.
1909
177
Oct.
Previous Paper.
31988

Sale of Kisii Cattle.

no. of cattle sold already 1698 - proceeds placed to credit of suspense accounts outstanding - Considerable sums outstanding under system of gradual payment by settlers - portion spent on tools for work in district - no. of cattle returned to Kisii 2502 - no. remaining on hand 529

Sir J. Hopwood

~~Mr. B. ...~~
February
In March 1908 the following statement was made in the House of Commons by Mr. Churchill -

- "A very large number of cattle were captured
- "by the troops from the Kisii during the
- "operations. These it is proposed to restore
- "to the tribes gradually during the next few
- "months as the pacification of the district
- "proceeds".

It was pointed out to the Governor, in telling him that this statement had been made, that he was quite justified in exacting in return ^{for the cattle} necessary and ^{useful} ordinary labour in road-making and development in the Kisii country calculated to open the regions to civilization and likely itself to add to the future prosperity of the tribe; but that there could be no question of any profit resulting

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to Government or settlers from booty taken through a state of warfare, and it was subsequently agreed, in response to the earnest representations of the Governor, that he might sell some of the cattle, not exceeding (say) 1,000, the proceeds to be used for the benefit of the Kisii, and put to some purpose of utility such as a dispensary or medical assistance.

It appears from this telegram that 1,698 cattle have already been sold; that 2,502 have been returned to the Kisii; and that 529 remain on hand. The proceeds from the sale have been placed to the credit of suspense accounts; but considerable sums are outstanding under the system of gradual payment by the settlers who ^{would} have paid. ~~Some~~ Some portion of the proceeds has apparently been spent on the purchase of tools for work in the district. It is not stated whether the tools were for the natives or for Government employes engaged there. What the Governor now asks for authority to sell the remaining 529 Kisii cattle, and to expend the proceeds on the necessary roads and station buildings in the Kisii district for which the estimates make insufficient provision. The total number of cattle accounted for by the above figures is 4,729. The difference between this figure and the 5,000 which were originally captured is, no doubt, to be explained by losses through death, &c.

It is difficult to know what to advise. It is by no means clear that the proceeds already realized by sale have been spent for the benefit of the Kisii in any such direct manner as the original permission to sell contemplated; nor is it at all clear that, if the remaining cattle are now sold and the proceeds are applied as suggested, the Government will not be "making a profit" out of the transaction in the sense that they will be

getting

See tel. of 1908 in 1908

free
getting administrative requirements for which they would otherwise have been compelled to make provision in the ordinary way. The number of cattle sold already exceeds very considerably the number for which permission to sell was given, and I doubt the advisability of increasing this discrepancy and making it more difficult hereafter to defend our action if anyone recurs to the virtual pledge given by Mr. Churchill last year. I should be inclined to reply that the remaining cattle should be returned to the Kisii on the terms suggested in our telegram of the 14th of March 1908, and to enquire by despatch how it is that more than 1,000 cattle were sold without reference to the Secretary of State, and how it is that the proceeds from the sale have not been applied to the benefit of the Kisii in the direct and tangible manner suggested in our telegram of the 2nd of April, 1908. We should also enquire precisely what is meant by the purchase of tools for work in the district.

1903
Oct 13

Mr Churchill's statement must be read carefully. All that he said was that it was proposed to restore the cattle gradually to the tribes during the next few months [from Feb 1908] as the pacification of the district proceeded, and also in return for the making of roads by the tribesmen under their tribal chiefs, which will add to the future security & accessibility of the country. It is clear that if this is to be regarded as a pledge - and it is an intention, which is all that it purports to be - the pledge cannot be literally understood. We have already allowed a certain portion

C. O.
33415

Recd &
OCT 11 1909

317

Telegram.

The Governor of the East Africa Protectorate to the
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Received, Colonial Office, 12.25 p.m. 9th October,
1909)

*4
2
3/19/09*

No. 137. Your telegram 30th September number of
cattle sold already 1698 proceeds placed to credit of
suspense accounts considerable sums outstanding under
system of gradual payment by settlers portion spent
on purchase of tools for work in district cattle re-
turned to Kisii 250/2 number remaining in hand 529.

GIROUARD.

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33415

Oct 8 1909

The following TELEGRAM Received at

12.2p

From *Nairobi* via "Eastern."

Foreign No. No. of Words *40* Dated *8* Time *11.55am.*

Chapelries

you let so say London

137 *unhomelike* number
 of cattle sold already
 198 *proceeds* ^{placed to credit of} *crotonate*
business accounts ^{considerable} *congealed sums*
outstanding *evulation* under system
 of gradual ^{payments by} *prosperous* settlers
portion ^{spent on} *sheepens* ^{purchase of} *plastic*
tools for work in district
all ^{returned to} *rhythmical* *Kisii*
 502 number remaining in

REPLIES SHOULD BE ORDERED *via Eastern*

Doubtful words should be OFFICIALLY repeated. See Rule Book.

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rhythmical



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REMARKS.

The following TELEGRAM Received at _____

From _____ via "Eastern."
Foreign } No. of }
No. } Words } Dated _____ Time _____ m.

(2)

hand 529

grouard

NOT TO BE ORDERED *via Eastern*

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Gov. 33415

E. A. P.

DRAFT.

Telegram

ansd 150/9-10

16 October

Oderite

Gironand
Nairvi

With ref. to your tel. 8th of
unhopeful

MINUTE.

Mr. Butler Oct. 15

Mr. Fiddes 16 stone

Mr. Just.

Mr. Cox.

Mr. C. Lucas.

Mr. F. Hillwood.

Mr. Seely.

Mr. C. C. ...

137 remain in

cattle may be sold
municipal

proceeds to be
portress

carried to
cankerbit

suspense account
abiscalados

stop
abiscalados

[Handwritten signature]