

DOMESTIC

EAST AFR. PROT.  
No. 24220

C. O.  
24220  
REC'D  
12 JUL 05

Individual

House  
to B.  
1905  
July 11

(Subject.)

Survey of Lake Victoria Nyanza  
Lease

previous Paper.  
No.  
21737

States that G. P. Mason has reported that he is  
fit to return. Points out why his estimate of cost of survey  
has been exceeded, also not all the present estimate will be  
exceeded, but expects that sum of £200 saved in estimate for  
survey of northern part of lake may now be spent on survey  
account.  
(Minutes)

Lat Road

Please see no. 20619

666B

777

St James Palace  
11 July 53

Dear Mr Read

As regards an assistant for me - I have never had any assistant except Mr E. F. Hunter who worked very well with me and in finishing the first survey on my recommendation. My Mother, Sir George Whitehouse, he received a letter of thanks from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, for what he had done with me.

He left me last year, solely on account of his health, as he was dangerously ill for some time from blood poisoning. I was very sorry to lose him, & I think he was equally sorry to leave. I was then that I would continue the work alone - but, as no one else but a sailor could give me assistance with surveying, I asked Townsend of the "Hornet", if he would come with me to the said at once he would.

On applying for him I found he could not be spared & I had him on at once another was procured for me.

I had no personal knowledge of him at all, & said I would rather not take him. My only reason for this was because working in German territory, as I am, I did not like to take a man I knew absolutely nothing about, done there.

But as I found if he could have been spared for me.

I am quite ready to go on without one.

assistant, & I don't know of anyone else  
out there who could be of any assistance  
to me.

Yrs sincerely

M. Whistler

Sac. ex. Salary

June 4<sup>th</sup> 1905

Dear Mr. Whistler

I beg to express receipt of your kind  
letter of May 19<sup>th</sup> from Adm.

I was very sorry to have already from  
reports of Capt. von Stamer at Nakoba,  
that you were not feeling well lately &  
had returned to England. I hope sincerely  
that the change of air and habits will  
help you to overcome the eye trouble soon  
so that we may have you back  
at the table in good time to complete  
the historical work which you have  
undertaken.

At present Capt.  
Stamer is making a trip to inspect  
the stations at one side of the lake  
and to remove the supplies which  
British Administration has given to  
Luthe and Pat Horewa.

I beg to express my most  
sincere wishes for your fast and  
steady recovery and remain with  
kindest regards

Very truly yours

(Sd) E. Haber

Enc. Copy

M. Whistler

Commander

Copy of letter from Mr. Haber, Secretary of  
D.S. Office, forwarded for the information of  
the British Secretary of State for the Colonies, with  
Commander Whistler's compliments

8 July 1905

1905/1905

5220

8<sup>th</sup> June 1905

11 July 1905

Sir

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter to 1905/1905, I have the honor to inform you that the day following the receipt Sir Patrick Manson informed me verbally that I was quite fit for duty. The opinion of the medical board differs from expert opinion obtained at home, & I acted accordingly, as you can imagine, but I do not wish to make out in any way that coming home had not done me good, or deny that it has probably helped to close my eyes.

I have the honor to request that para 12 of my agreement may be referred to — and with reference to it — that it may be noted that I left England with Dr. H. D. Ordne, Deputy P.M.O. of the S. & A. Protectorate, and that he returned to England in the same steamer with me. I was away for five months, on finding it was for six months, I requested that the term might be shortened, & I returned to Africa after 5 months absence, during which I was on two-thirds of my pay. The estimate referred to was made out by me, on the assumption that the cutter bought in 1903 would be available.



available for the work.  
This boat not becoming available until  
the 10<sup>th</sup> July 1904, that estimate was  
revised.

Had she been available when I recommended  
work on the lake, my assistant, Mr. C. S.  
Hunter, would probably not have been  
available, and in my opinion, there would  
have been every chance of finishing the  
present field work by April 1905.

A considerable amount of work has been  
done during my last two trips, on British  
Lake, Africa, beyond the necessary extension  
of the triangulation to former localities  
and making harbours, plotting stations  
on these and royaes and anchorage  
for newly established depots.

Such work was done at the request of  
the Lake Surveyors & Chief Engineer, and  
the present Engineer of the Egyptian Railway  
and I consider it all to have been most  
necessary.

I do not think the present estimate  
should be exceeded, provided, a heavy  
charge is not made for the use of  
the "Percy Anderson" or "William Knickerbocker"  
for, from 3 to 6 weeks work on the  
open lake. It will not be advisable,  
nor do I consider it <sup>necessary</sup> safe to risk  
either of these vessels in working  
the main canal line.

I would say to point out that on the  
estimate for surveying the northern  
portion of the lake, there was a surplus of  
£ 300, and would respectfully request  
that as each survey is made on the other  
this surplus of £ 300 may now be referred  
into the survey account, and that in  
requiring me to complete the survey  
of Lake Victoria for the sum of £ 15,000, it  
may be noted that the excess on my  
total estimate is at present only £ 200.

I would say to point out that  
there is very great need of this survey,  
Public traffic is advertised for, and as the  
steamers are not in regular service, the  
damages on account of losses ought to  
be heavy.

Further, that the Gov. of S. E. Africa  
are making (or are about to make) roads  
from Tanagerika to Mwanza, and the  
west side of the lake. I was informed  
that there was a large settlement (at  
N.E. of Tanagerika, 2 1/2 miles) and that  
there is little doubt that a station  
destined being properly taken, there  
will be a very great increase in the  
lake traffic, which would probably ship  
at a new port south of Rukoba, and  
quite possibly call for a considerable  
increase in the shipping & present  
shipping arrangements.

I have the honor to be  
Your most obedient servant.

R. H. H. H.

Commander

The Under Secretary of State  
Colonial Office  
London, S.W.

526

My dear Sir,

In my letter of 27<sup>th</sup> July 1905 replying to  
No 19059/1905 I find I have made an error  
of date in Para 3, possibly in copying.  
The passage should read —

letter bought in 1903 would be available  
for the work.

This book will become available under  
the 11<sup>th</sup> July 1904 that reference was intended.

Will you kindly correct my letter if  
necessary in accordance with the above.  
We have had a very hot passage so far,  
I estimate the hottest I have ever known  
across Europe.

Yours sincerely,  
R. H. H. H.