

from 8 Equiton Place (Hotel Allegre,
London S.W.3. Valtournanche,
14 August 1925. Province of Turin
Italy.)

Mr. Armsby,

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Curiously enough I have
been asked if I could make enquiries
in my another Colonial Office
appointment that of a Crown Counsel
Nairobi. Mr. J. A. Watson who is a
partner to the Solicitor in Scotland and has
had an appointment in Kenya for years,
an applicant for the post of Crown
Counsel. His application was turned down
on the ground that only a barrister need
be. He says this is not right because the
Army General told him that he was
particularly anxious to get a solicitor
one of the vacancies (there are, I am
told, at least 2 vacancies for Crown
Counsel in the office).

I am told that there is
something in Colonial Office regulations
preventing such appointments to barristers,
and that a Solicitor was appointed
District Magistrate not long ago.
I shall be grateful if you

Yours sincerely,
F. C. Thomson.

Hon W. S. Armsby - Gore
M. P.,

Under Secretary of State for
the Colonies,
Colonial Office,
Downing Street,
London
S. W. 1.

~~Mr. Cant~~ Mr. Jeffries
Mr. Hankinson

Please see attached you will
no doubt be able to answer his
Watson's Patronage note

Mr. Omsby you can only
reply that in view of his age and
of his not being a varactor his name
could very have been considered if
recommended by the Gov of Kenya the
OAB was however unable to
recommend his selection, after consultation
with the attorney general

Patronage Pt answered at bottom -
see letter to the bottom of the letter
I am agreed you can only reply
as proposed his name not to
more than refer to the Local
Govt & the OAB's reply is
29/96/25.

W. Hankinson 19/8/25

I have drafted the attached letter for Mr. Omsby, but
I have not yet had a look at it first, & treat it as a
draft for comment W.H.
19/8/25

All right I think?
J.P. 19/8/25

Mr. Cant.
I have spoken to Sir J.
W. who suggests the
alteration I have made
W.C. 19/8/25

Mr. Hankinson

~~Mr. Jeffries~~

Mr. Jeffries

Mr. Hankinson

Please see attached. You will
no doubt be able to answer Mr
Watson's Patronage Pt.

Mr Ormsby-Gore can only
reply that in view of his age and
of his not being a barrister Mr Watson
could only have been considered if
recommended by the Govt of Kenya; the
OAG was however unable to
recommend his selection, after consultation
with the Attorney General

1/11/1915

Patronage Pt answered at bottom -
see letter to the Hon. Secy of State
I am afraid you can only reply
as proposed. We could not do
more than refer to the Local
Govt & the OAG. Reply is in
29196/25

Mr. Hankinson 1/11/15

I have drafted the attached letter for Mr Ormsby-Gore
to sign. It will be for you to look at it first & then to send it as a
draft for answer. GGG
19/15

Cont.
I have spoken to Sir S.
only who suggests the
alterative I have made
W.C.G. 19/8/15

Mr. Hankinson

All right I think?
GGG 19/8/1915

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REA

Downing Street,
21st August, 1925.

Dear Thomson,

I have been looking into the case of Mr. J.A. Watson of Kenya. I find that when the vacancy for Crown Counsel occurred in Kenya we telegraphed to the Officer Administering the Government to say that Mr. Watson desired to become a candidate and in reply we were informed that the Officer Administering the Government after consultation with the Attorney General could not recommend him in view of his age and the fact that he was not a barrister. I might add that unless (which is not the case in the present instance) the appointment of a solicitor had been specially requested for the vacancy, the appointment would normally go to a barrister.

Yours sincerely,

W.O.G.

F.C. THOMSON ESQ., K.C., M.P..

29196
27 JUN 25

Telegram from the Officer Administering the
Government of Kenya to the Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

Dated 26th June.

(Received Colonial Office 6.45 p.m. 26th June 1925).

No.286 26th June Your telegram 10th June After
consultation with Attorney General I am not prepared
to recommend Watson for the post of Crown Counsel in
view of his age and the fact that he is not Barrister
and that if appointed I do not think he would be
eligible for promotion in Department.