



From among other of the unsuccessful applicants under  
the Land Settlement Scheme & we cannot  
possibly make exceptions what ever of the  
case put on the Priority list, he would have  
no chance of getting out in December. There  
are 600 on the E. Africa Priority list

Refer LF & Col. ...  
according to the letter to ...

... have ...  
... heard ...

Colonial ...

... .. ?

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... ..

... ..  
... ..

I sent the  
... ..  
yesterday  
... ..

Downing Street,

3rd October, 1919.

Dear Major Kirton,

I am afraid that it is impossible for the Colonial Office to give special precedence on the priority list to yourself and your nephews. I quite realise your anxiety to get out soon and the strong reasons you urge in that connection. But there are very many other cases equally pressing whom we are not in a position to help at present owing to the lack of shipping. We are trying to see if there is any possibility of getting special help from the Ministry of Shipping towards the passages of those who have been allotted land under the Ex-Service Settlement Scheme, and if we should succeed we could help you and others in the same plight to secure an early passage. But in view of the innumerable claims on the Ministry of Shipping I cannot hold out any very high hopes at present.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'J. B. G. G. G.', is written below the typed closing.



18th September 1919.

The Under-Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office.

C O  
54206

Sir,

I have the honour to request that in the names of  
Mr. W. Kirton, Lieut. W. Kirton and myself may be given such  
precedence on the Priority List as to ensure passages to  
British East Africa in December next.

For years past it has been my intention to settle per-  
manently in Africa, and my wife and I were on the eve of  
leaving England - where we only became domiciled in 1913 -  
for B.E.A. when War became imminent.

Consequent upon the merging of my applications for land  
into the B.E.A. ex-Service Settlement Scheme, vide W.O. 11412-13,  
No. 30735/1 dated 30th May 1919, from the Secretary of State's  
office, I have now been allotted a farm under that Scheme, which  
I shall develop with the assistance of Lieut. Kirton and, ultimately,  
his brothers, for their benefit. In view of common  
sacrifices, in respect of youthful careers, occasioned by the War,  
I have no desire to lay any emphasis upon one's own particular  
experiences in such a connexion. I would, however, point out  
that the ages of these four young men range from 21 to 25,  
and that by very reason of such sacrifices practically the only  
career now open to them is that which I have now in process of  
pursuing. All that time is, in this respect, a loss, pressing  
consideration.

An essential feature of my Plan is the resumption of  
activities initiated during my two years service in B.E.A., of  
which you are to some extent cognisant, with a view to the speedy  
establishing of useful industries. To this end, and in the  
absence heretofore of any idea that we might not be able to  
leave in December, as the result of which I have already completed  
arrangements and entered into engagements which demand my  
presence in E.E.A. in the course of such passage. I could not,  
however, again call upon my wife to endure another separation,  
and it is also essential that I should be accompanied by Lieut.

Kirton who has recently completed three years service with the A.I.R. and is now in process of being demobilized.

I may also point out that Time is more of consideration to a man of 53 than to those of lesser age; also that the major portion of my life has - as I believe you know - been spent in our overseas Dominions. I think that the element of "re-patriation" might also, if necessary, carry some weight in respect of this matter, and

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

*Walter Kirton*

Major.