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of Commons
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Masai move
High Court proceedings

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Mr. Edmund Harvey. To ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies, whether proceedings have been instituted in the High Court of British East Africa, on behalf of the Masai tribe, with regard to their recent removal from their Lankini reserve; and, if so, what is the exact nature of the proceedings; and whether the plaintiffs represent the tribe and have authority to plead on its behalf. [Wednesday 11th March]

Mr. J. Anderson I have discussed this with Mr. Tregon. ~~My answer is as follows~~
Reply as follows:

Yes, Sir. The action is rather complicated one but, in general terms, the plaintiffs claim that an agreement dated the 26 April 1911 and made between the then Governor of the E.A.P. and certain chiefs of Masai purporting to act on behalf of the Masai tribes, whereby the latter agreed that a part of the tribe should vacate an area called the Northern Masai Reserve and remove to an area south

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of the proposed Railway is not binding
on the tribe generally and that the tribe
are still entitled to the portion of
Reserve under the terms of an agreement
entered into on the 9th Aug 1884 between
the Governor ^{then} and certain chiefs of the
said tribe.

The plaintiffs claim to act in behalf
of the said tribe generally but I am
unable to say to what extent they
actually represent the tribe.

H. J. R.

12/III

W. 12.3.13

Should the whole matter being
now sub-judice I shall be
unable to answer any further
questions in relation to it.

H. 12.3.13

The SECRETARY of STATE for the COLONIES (Mr. Harcourt):—Yes, Sir. The action is rather a complicated one, but, in general terms, the plaintiffs claim that an agreement dated the 26th April, 1911, and made between the then Governor of the East Africa Protectorate and certain chiefs and elders purporting to act on behalf of the Masai tribe, whereby the latter agreed that a part of the tribe should vacate an area called the Northern Masai Reserve and remove to an area south of the Uganda Railway is not binding on the tribe generally and that the tribe are still entitled to the Northern Masai Reserve under the terms of an agreement entered into on the 9th August, 1904, between the Governor and certain then chiefs of the Masai tribe. The plaintiffs claim to act on behalf of the Masai tribe generally, but I am unable to say to what extent they actually represent the tribe, and the whole matter being now *sub judice* I shall be unable to answer any further questions in relation to it.