

P 1
four half



EAST AFR. PROT.
5563

5563
14 FEB 1914
603

Governor
Balfour 49

1914

6th January

Last previous Paper.
10000/13

DEATH OF MR S. M. WATT

The copy letter from Mr S. Watt... of P.M.O. in...
...
...
...

Mr. Zuckerman

4 J R
10/15/14

I think this case might with advantage
be referred to the C.F. (W.S.) Commission

H.S.B.

See the... available 19/2/14

At 14

Mr. Zuckerman

The C.F.C. considered the
yesterday they thought that the illness was
probably identical with that described by
Samuel Barker... The... 1866
... 340 ... that ...
... 332 ...

might be inferred that this case was regarded
as serious, & that the S.O.S. wd be ... of the

Mr. Zuckerman

Subsequent Paper.

11/11/14

information which is being collected (see 2 of
desk) could be expedited.

MF
12/3/14

H. J. R.
13/10/14

at once
M. 16.3.14

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
NAIROBI,
E. O. BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

5563 January 16th 1914.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 49



*Mr
10000*

From Mr. Watt
Dec. 22nd

From F. M. G.
Jan. 14th

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 891 of the 23rd of October, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter from Mr. Stuart Watt, together with the observations of the Principal Medical Officer thereon, relative to the late illness of Mr. Stewart Macynnis Watt.

I have called for further information from the local authorities on the subject of the disease which Mr. Watt alleges is prevalent at certain periods and I am making further enquiries as to the prevalence of steomyia in the neighbourhood.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your obedient servant,

H. P. ...

GOVERNOR.

THE SECRETARY

LEWIS & CLARK, P. O. BOX 111

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

10, WHITEHALL, LONDON, E.C. 4.

INCLOSURE No 7

In Despatch No. 47 of 11/1/1914

S. O. P. Y.

5583

The Uganda Protectorate,

Kaindindoni, 4 FEB 1914

Donyo Sapuk.

22nd. December 1913.

G. H. Osborne, Esq.

District Commissioner,

Bachakos.

610

Dear Sir,

Your favour of November 29th was duly received owing to the long interval which elapsed before sending for our mails.

With reference to your request for particulars regarding the death of my son Stuart I beg to intimate that he was perfectly sound and healthy young man. I am sorry that I was unable to give his exact temperature during the course of the disease as I had no clinical thermometer with me at the time, but from past experience I believe that during the first severe attack the temperature was about 107°. In all my life in Africa I never was conscious of feeling with the hand so high a temperature in a human body. The heat of the body was not so high in the second exacerbation and lessened considerably as the time of departure approached. There was considerable suffusion of biliary secretion and jaundice was present in a marked degree, but I was not aware of any albuminuria being present.

Bleeding from the nose continued at intervals during the course of the disease and frontal headache was exceedingly severe and lasted as long as consciousness remained. There were a great many cases of severe bilious remittent fever among the natives and numerous deaths from same in the district in which my son was stricken by the disease.

(2)

The initial symptoms, which came on with alarming suddenness, were pains in the stomach and in the lower limbs, and immediately a feeling of coldness and shivering while the face turned yellow. These symptoms were followed by a alarming hot stage with severe diarrhoea from the nose frequent vomiting of yellowish and green matter and terrific frontal headache and the patient soon passed into delirium. The hot stage prevailed without any diminution for a period of eight hours during which the temperature was probably 107°. After which the temperature gradually lowered for a period of four hours until it reached about 102° during which a little sleep was obtained. After this the patient was conscious, but in a very weak state for the space of six to eight hours which time his speech was perfectly coherent, but he was not inclined to speak much. He refused to be carried home from the camp where he was, and insisted upon riding his pony, a distance of twelve miles. After the sixth hour of lowered temperature the second exacerbation came on while he was at home and although his temperature rose high yet it did not on this occasion reach about 106° as far as I could judge. Delirium soon set in and shortly afterwards the power of speech was lost and never regained.

Twenty minutes before death however evident consciousness returned and my son thrust his hand out from under the bed clothing shook hands with his mother, sister and myself and pointing upwards with a smile upon his countenance he passed into the presence of his Saviour. His illness lasted 36 hours. After death the body was of a distinctly yellowish hue and bled freely from the nostrils and also very slightly from the mouth.

This disease has been known throughout Ukanba for a long period of time, and few years pass by without a few cases, and these generally come in the 'nunduni' or cloudy season of June and July. Never before in the memory of the oldest men have there been so many cases, and so many deaths as this year. Their name for the disease is "Kiathi" or "Ndetema"wa Nyonggo" (bilious fever) and they assert that during the course of the disease there is hemorrhage from the internal organs a greatly enlarged gall bladder (which sometimes bursts) and that after death, blood oftentimes oozes from the mouth, nose, ears and anus. Few patients recover, and their recovery is very slow, sometimes covering two years, while others never get strong again.

I shall be glad to answer any further enquiries or aid in anyway in throwing light upon the cause and course of the disease.

Very Sincerely Yours

Sd/- Stuart Watt.

17/130.

P. M. O's Office

Nairobi,

14th. January, 1914.

Sir,

Stewart M. Watt deceased and your
letter No. 26 with minute (17) of
9th. instant.

I have perused Mr. Watt's letter and have no comments to make on his son's illness. It is dangerous to draw deductions or keep other than an open mind as to what the boy died of from information such as this.

2. Members of the Department have always recognized the possibility of the presence of yellow fever - but to date no evidence has been adduced in spite of the prevalence of *in various parts of* ~~the country~~ the country.

3. Mr. Watt's description of the disease common to the natives and from which apparently his son died, is news to me. But then I have had very little information regarding the Ukamba Country, and beyond occasional inspections of Machakos and Kitui by myself or Medical Officers there has been no medical survey of the Province.

4. The Entomologist is unfortunately away on safari, so I am unable to state whether he has any specific information regarding mosquitoes in the Ngeleni district, one notorious for malaria.

HONOURABLE

THE CHIEF SECRETARY,

N A I R O B I.

5. Were the District Commissioners to notify this office of the prevalence of such sickness as described by Mr. Watt, it would be possible to detail a Sanitation Officer to investigate.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Principal Medical Officer.

Gov 5333/1914

615

E.A.P.

DRAFT.

19 ~~1913~~ 1914



20 March 1914.

E.A.P.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 49, of the 16 of Janry, and to inform you that relating to the ~~last~~ illness of Mrs J. M. Watt.

2. I am advised that the

2. ~~As the matter~~ question involved in this case ~~and~~ should appear to be regarded as serious, and I ~~am serious in~~

shall be glad if

you will ~~expedite~~ ^{cause every} the effort to be made to expedite the

E.A.P.

266
A.H. Belfrage
17/3/14
Bottomley
157

enquiries referred to
in the second para.
of your despatch

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