Six Subsequent Paper 40352 6042

AFRICA PROPECTORATE

No.743.)

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

BRITISH EAST AFRICA

August 11th, 1914.

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A PRICE TON L

Sir.

The state of

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No.403 of the 28th of April on the subject of the recruiting of Kikuyu labourers for the coastal districts of this Protectorate.

2. I have made careful enquiries from the Provincial Commissioners concerned and from the reports received it is clear that the health of these natives is in no way endangered by the mere fact of their employment at the Coast.

I see no objection whatever to the recruiting of voluntary labour for these districts, as the native is not likely to proffer his services for employment in a region which he has reason

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

* No 14757.

LEWIS HARCOURT, P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET, LONDON,S.W.

Concessions

to believe will not suit him. For instance wikuyu from certain districts of Ayeri and Embu, where the climate is fairly warm, are in the habit of seeking work at the coast on their own initiative in large numbers, whereas those who live in the higher and colder parts of the Kenia Province rarely go there at all.

a. The real danger to health lies in the hardships which these travelling bands of natives undergo during their journey to the coast. It is difficult, at the present time, to arrange for their supervision, but I aw considering the question of the establishment of labour Camps and Nest-houses which will I trust place the matter on a satisfactory footing.

I have the honour to be,

/ Sir

Your humble obedient servant

Hlanday Bry sed

GOVERNOR .. (3