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Foreign

1914

18th January

Last previous Paper.
30/603

Put by

Next subsequent Paper
30/1956/132

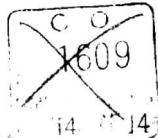
Copy of the despatch from Addis Ababa respecting the rectification of
Mr. J. Anderson
Tintamini Kefla finger is the ablest man in Abyssinia & the most helpful from our point of view, & I hope that he will not come to an untimely end.
Put by?
H. J. R.
14/1/14
~~15/1/14~~
15/1/14
16.1.14
17.1.14

1609

969

In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. *1874*
and address
The Under-Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
London.



The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents

his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of ~~the under-mentioned~~ a despatch from ~~paper~~

Foreign Office,

th
Jan 13 1914

Reference to previous correspondence:

to
by
16-4
Letter from Foreign Office: ~~No 5776~~ of 5th *ultimo**

Description of Inclosure.

Name and Date.

Subject.

H.H. Minister

at Adis Ababa
respecting the

Recapitulation of Southern
Abyssinian Frontier

* No 2.

(Similar letter sent to

1874

RM F.O.
1009/14

AJ

The Superintendent
of Printing, Colonial
Office, presents his com-
pliments to the Registrar,
Foreign Office, and he
would be glad to know
if the word "creditable"
in the third line of the
seventh paragraph is
as written in the original.

Dunning J. Lee

1 January 1915.

The word referred to should
be creditable. It was typed
in the original document as "creditable"
but the letter is not really
considered as such. It is better
not to use it.

Subsequent

1/11

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14 JAN 14

[January 1, 1914.]

SECTION I.

~~ABYSSINIA~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Encl. in No.

[8]

~~Encl.~~
Mr. Theisiger to Sir Edward Grey. (Received January 1, 1914.)

(No. 79.)

Sir,

Adis Ababa, December 5, 1913.

IN continuation of my despatch No 78 of the 29th November, I have the honour to report that there are no further developments.

I have heard from an Abyssinian officer, who was present at the secret meeting held after I left the Council, that the question of the rectification was not again raised, all parties being united in their determination not to concede it, but that Lij Yasu was very indignant at having to submit to the accusation of not having kept his promises without being able to deny it, referring to my refusal to accept any further assurances to the effect that the Abyssinian Government would take certain measures to put a stop to this raiding, as I had received similar promises three years ago, which had remained without effect.

Giamazmatch Gashi was then called up, and on being questioned acknowledged that all I had said was true, but pleaded that the frontier officers could not be blamed for having failed to end this state of affairs, and the extent of country to be covered made it impossible to watch the whole line, and there were always fresh hunters coming down from the provinces of Dejaz Balcha, Balambaras Waldo Gabriel, Dejaz Nado, and Dejaz Merid, in whose employ these men were to all intents and purposes, and by whom they were protected. We have from our side, however, never been able to prove this fact, the truth of which they acknowledge among themselves, but absolutely deny to me.

Four letters were then drawn up to the above-named chiefs putting the whole blame for what had occurred on them, and warning them that if in future any soldiers of theirs were caught on our side of the line the consequences would be very serious for them.

Lij Yasu then turned on the Fitaaurari Hapta Giorgis, and said that as all these incidents had occurred in his country he was responsible for the restoration of order, and must himself go down to the frontier to see about it.

I should think these orders would be obeyed for the next six months, during which time there would be a cessation of these raids, except on the part of the few real outlaws who may be in hiding on the frontier, but after that they will probably begin again by degrees.

The Fitaaurari Hapta Giorgis has left Adis Ababa, but being entirely unfitted by ill-health for such a journey it is most unlikely that he will ever reach his destination. It is also reported on very credible grounds that he has been sent away on this mission, less with the idea of really effecting some results than as the successful result of intrigues against him by his rivals here, who have persuaded Lij Yasu to this step in order to get rid of his influence in the capital.

I hope to have an interview next week with Lij Yasu with regard to the punishment of raiders, who have or may be proved guilty in the future, and to hear from him what measures they propose to adopt.

I must acknowledge that I am very much disappointed at my failure to secure the rectification of the frontier, as I had, against my better judgment, hoped that it would be possible to obtain it eventually. I do not think now that so long as the present system of government is in force, there is any chance of obtaining satisfaction in this or any other really serious matter.

I have, &c.

WILFRED G. THEISIGER.

P.S.—I am addressing a copy of this despatch to Lord Kitchener.

W. G. T.