

1911

EAST AFR. PROT.

284

284

Liberation of Slaves in Jubaland

Suggest that sum of £500 may be allotted for liberation of African slaves in Jubaland, and of the balance of £1000 of the sum of £1500 granted for liberation of slaves within the Frontier.

Ms. A. 1
K. O. S.
Date
1911
Jan

Previous Paper

Copy sent by Mr. 20/11/11

Mr. Fiddes

Then the estimates for 1911-12 were framed at £120,000, but the total expenditure on compensation of the slaves was only £100,000 out of the sum of £120,000 provided by the Treasury. I see, however, that in the estimates for 1912-13 they have provided a sum of £10,000 to complete the total originally...

It appears to me very desirable that the Government should be authorized to expend up to £500 of the unexpended sum in meeting difficulties over frontiers where it is necessary. It should be a necessary condition of such an authorization that the expenditure should be incurred in accordance with Ordinance No. 7 of 1907 (see copy in file 23373) and that the expenditure on such account may turn out to be larger than the Government anticipates and may in any case...

cause of excess on the sum of \$10,000 originally granted
think it had better call our ourselves by sending the
present copy of this letter and saying that the secretary
of the board proposes with their consent to approve of the
Governor's suggestion.

Yours

John W. ...

Wm. ...

Wm. ...

Wm. ...

Wm. ...

Wm. ...

Wm. ...

Wm. ...

R
COLONIAL OFFICE,

L O N D O N.

3rd January 1911.

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L.C.D.
4. JAN 11

Sir,

I beg to inform you that upon the occasion of my visit to Jubaland last year, my attention was called to the fact that a certain number of slaves were held by the various Somali tribes.

With the abolition of the legal status of slavery within the Coastland Dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar, His Majesty's Government placed at the disposal of the Government of the Protectorate the sum of £10,000 for the redemption of slaves - a process which has been going on for some few years, and has now been nearly completed.

The average price paid for the redemption of slaves has been £6.13.4 - a sum which has by no means contented the masters, but it has nevertheless been accepted. The number of slaves within the Somali country cannot exceed a few hundred, and it would appear desirable to place these owners upon the same basis as the Arab or Swahili of the Coast Strip - more particularly as the desertion of these slaves from their masters might, in the case of the fanatical Somali, lead to serious disturbance.

Yours

The Under Secretary of State
for the Colonies,

L O N D O N.

Of the sum of £40,000 granted for the liberation of slaves within the Coast strip, £12,500 still remains to be expended. This sum it is estimated will suffice for the purpose, and there may even be a small balance to the credit of the Vote.

Though Somali claims for compensation cannot be dealt with in bulk, it is essentially desirable that the Provincial Commissioner of the Jubaland Province should have it within his power to pay for the redemption of those who may desert their masters. The sum involved for the liberation of such slaves is an insignificant one, but the principle or consequences much more important. I would therefore suggest that ~~all~~ of the remaining sum of £12,500 - a sum of £500. should be allotted for the redemption of Somali slaves, and trust this proposed course may receive early sanction

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. ...
Governor.

2. It will be recollected that when the estimate for 1910-11 was framed it was thought that the expenditure in compensation for slaves would be £20,000 out of the sum of £40,000 originally proposed.

H. Macdonald

It is now found, however, on the basis of the estimate which will shortly be before the House, that it is absolutely necessary to anticipate the expense of the full amount proposed, in provision being made according to the provisions of the Act.

proposed, with the consent of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to approve of Sir P.

proposed suggestions that if the balance available a sum of £500 should be allocated for the redemption of slaves.

W. A. G. G.