

EAST AFR. PROT.
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JAN 4 1909

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Previous Paper
4483
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E. Africa Boundary

*Sent to Dept. of Public Affairs resp. Dept. taken for
suppl. of Abyssinian Commission - complaint made
resp. manner in which Maj. Ferguson was treated on his
way to Dolo - health of Imperator's child.*

*Put by
at once
H. J. R.
5/1*

*Copy for Conf. 15 Feb 09
2875/089*

2875
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In any further communication on this subject, please quote

No. *45167*
and address— *08*

The Under-Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
London.

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REC
No 4 JAN 09

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 paper.

Foreign Office.

January 4, 1909

Reference to previous letter:

no 40343

no. 57809. Nov. 3.

Description of Inclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
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Lord H. Hervey

Nov. 38.

Dec. 5.

Southern Boundary

Commission - Abyssinia

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JAN 10
BRITISH LEGATION

ADIS ABABA,

December 5th, 1908.

58.
(67)
Sir:-

I have the honour to report that I succeeded in obtaining a short interview with the Emperor last week, at which I enquired what further steps had been taken with regard to the appointment of Commissioners for the delimitation, in conjunction with Major Gwynn, of the Southern Frontier.

His Majesty replied that he had given orders to Dejaz Balcha and Fitaurari Hapta Giorgis to send reliable men to carry out the work; he had not as yet appointed any one special Commissioner, but as he was leaving the next day for the country, he would consider the matter on his return. I pointed out that the work by that time would be well advanced, and I wished it to be clearly understood that whether any special Abyssinian Commissioner arrived or not, the boundary as defined in the meantime must hereafter be
officially

Edward Grey, Bart., M.P.,

&c., &c., &c.

officially recognised. The Emperor signified his assent to this arrangement.

I had also to complain about the way Major Gwynn was treated on his way to Dolo. It appears that the head man at Ginir was absent when the Commission arrived there, and his subordinate ignored the Emperor's pass altogether, preventing the party from leaving. Fortunately the head man soon returned and the Commissioners were allowed to proceed on their journey.

The Emperor promised to have the offender brought in and punished; but such cases of subordinate officials disobeying his orders are very frequent, and go to prove how small is his influence even at a comparatively short distance from the capital.

His Majesty was considerably improved in health and seems to be gradually regaining strength.

I have &c.

(Signed) Herbert Hervey.