

36940

Recd
Res 28 SEP 14

Recd 27 Sept 1914

Aug 26

East Africa
Abyssinia

36940

478

70

1914

28 Sept

Last previous Paper.

30/
36286

Position in Abyssinia

Send telegram from Major
Doughty, Colby for the same

Mr. G. Fiddes . They ask for our views
on the whole question.

para 3 Say that it appears to
Mr. Harcourt to be scarcely necessary
to enter into any further argument
with regard to the integrity of Abyssinia
but that he prefers to leave the
decision to the hands of Mr. S. Gray
(General)

para: 4. Say that if in the interests
of the country ~~of Abyssinia~~ it
is considered advisable to make the
annexation Mr. Harcourt willingly
assents to it being done?

- send copy of annexⁿ to Mr. F.
E.A.P. for info in secret L.T.?

H.R.
29/9/14

To F.O.
30 Sept. ✓
Other group. Gov. E.A.P. A/S. 30 Sept. ✓

Next subsequent Paper.

70/30029/14

It is common sense a ~~Republican~~
Co. matter that we agree to do
anything that Sir E. Grey desires. The
question really hinges on the policy of Italy
clearly. W. 29.9.14

W. 29.9.14

Reply that I agree to any course
which Sir E. Grey thinks best.
W. 29.9.14

[If Italy joins us in the European war,
and when it is over, I should like
to divide Abyssinia between U.K.,
France & Italy and have done with
the thing. But it is not time to
discuss this yet.]

If any further communication on the subject please quote

No. 51788/14.

and address—
The Under-Secretary of State,
Foreign Office,
London.

FOREIGN OFFICE

September 26th, 1914.

Secret.

Sir: -

I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit herewith copy of a telegram from His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Adis Ababa, dated September 13th, proposing that a joint guarantee of integrity should be given to the Abyssinian Government by the Governments of Great Britain, France and Italy. Colonel Doughty Wylie further proposes that His Majesty's Government should offer to drop their claims against Abyssinia in respect of arms traffic and frontier roads, in return for a corresponding engagement on the part of the Abyssinian Government not to press complaints against the Italian Government in respect of the sale of arms to the frontier chief Gabra Silasse.

Colonel Doughty Wylie's proposal was originally made with the object of averting a conflict between Abyssinia and Italy which appeared at the time to

be

Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

*copy by Wylie
Telecom.
September 13*

*Wylie
September 13 1914*

(51788/14).

be threatened. Relations between the two countries now appear to be improving, but in a subsequent telegram Colonel Doughty Wylie expresses his opinion that the proposed guarantee would also have the desirable effect of checking any revival of an Italian policy of adventure in the future.

Sir E. Grey is not of opinion that His Majesty's Government should at this time enter into any further guarantee to maintain the integrity of Abyssinia, and it will be sufficient for this purpose to call the attention of the Abyssinian Government to Articles One and Four of the Tripartite Agreement, copy of which is enclosed. This Agreement was communicated to the Emperor Menelik by the Signatory Powers, and itself contains sufficient guarantee. A further engagement to respect the integrity of Abyssinia might of course be made by the three Powers without disadvantage.

As regards the question of dropping the claims of His Majesty's Government in respect of

traffic

(51788/14)

traffic and raids, Sir E. Grey concurs generally in the view expressed by Colonel Doughty Wallis, but considers that the question is one primarily for the decision of the Secretary of State for the Colonies; in the light of the fact that it may become desirable in the future to make some concession of the kind in order to avert any danger of an Abyssinian descent on Eritrea.

Sir E. Grey would be glad to receive Mr. Secretary Harcourt's observations on the whole question as early as may be convenient.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

W. Langley

CONFIDENTIAL

Lieutenant-Colonel Doughty-Wylie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received September 15,
10:40 P.M.)

Adis Ababa, September 13, 1914.

(September 14, 3 P.M.)

(No. 50.)

REFERENCE my telegram No. 48 of 12th September: Italy and Abyssinia.

I venture to suggest rough solution of present tension between Italy and Abyssinia which, if continued, may lead to war.

It is as follows:—

Three Powers of tripartite agreement should present joint note to Lij Yasu as for occasion of his accession, assuring maintenance of integrity of Ethiopia, provided that he did not attack any one of them and continued all equal rights and facilities for commerce.

French and Italian Ministers in conversation see no objection to this idea.

Further, in order to settle the affair Gabra Silasse, young Lij Yasu, should be told by me that if he pressed claim against Italy for arms given Gabra Silasse, we should press ours for raids and rifles sold on our frontier. But that we might mutually drop claims without prejudice of any future claims on his part on account of collection of arms of chiefs, and on our part on account of raids on frontier.

Question as to whether it should be emphasised that England does this for a young King out of friendship in order to save him from danger of war, which might easily cost him his Crown.

In return, he must give an assurance of peaceful intentions towards Italy, and send no troops to his frontier if she sent none to hers.

I think that this might help eventual policy with Italy as well as Abyssinia, but it is extremely difficult to answer at present for Abyssinia, where war party [has] grown.

Italian Minister thinks idea may be acceptable to Italian Government.

I venture to think that possibly Italy might resign pretension to Tsana in return.

On our part, although we have claimed 15,000*l.* on account of southern frontier, it would be nearly impossible to recover the money, and so we do not lose very much, and withdraw from awkward situation.

No proposal, even informally, made, and the whole matter entirely private, but it appears to be urgent.

Lij Yasu may at the last moment listen to wiser counsels, and arrange with Italian Minister, but, if not, do you approve such a proposal?

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TREATY

BETWEEN

THE UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE, AND
ITALY

RESPECTING

ABYSSINIA.

Signed at London, December 13, 1906.

*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty,
January 1907.*

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AGREEMENT

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AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED KING-
DOM, FRANCE, AND ITALY, RESPECTING
ABYSSINIA.

Signed at London December 13, 1906.

L'INTÉRÊT commun de la France, de la Grande-Bretagne, et de l'Italie étant de maintenir intacte l'intégrité de l'Éthiopie, de prévenir toute espèce de trouble dans les conditions politiques de l'Empire Éthiopien, d'arriver à une entente commune en ce qui concerne leur conduite en cas d'un changement de situation qui pourrait se produire en Éthiopie, et de pourvoir, à ce que, de l'action des trois États, ou protégeant leurs intérêts, respectifs, tant dans les possessions Britanniques, Françaises, et Italiennes avoisinant l'Éthiopie qu'en Éthiopie même, il ne résulte pas de dommages préjudiciables aux intérêts de l'une quelconque des trois Puissances, la France, la Grande-Bretagne, et l'Italie donnent leur agrément à l'Arrangement suivant :—

Article 1^{er}. La France, la Grande-Bretagne, et l'Italie sont d'accord pour maintenir le *status quo* politique et territorial en Éthiopie tel qu'il est déterminé par l'état des affaires actuellement existant et les Arrangements suivants :

(a.) Les Protocoles Anglo-Italiens des 24 Mars et 15 Avril, 1891, et du 5 Mai, 1894, et les Arrangements subséquents qui les ont modifiés, y compris les réserves formulées par le Gouvernement Français à ce sujet en 1894 et 1895 ;

(b.) La Convention Anglo-Éthiopienne du 14 Mai, 1897, et ses annexes ;

(c.) Le Traité Italo-Éthiopien du 10 Juillet, 1900 ;

(d.) Le Traité Anglo-Éthiopien du 15 Mai, 1902 ;

(e.) La note annexée au Traité précité du 15 Mai, 1902 ;

(f.) La Convention du 11 Mars, 1862, entre la France et les Dammakils ;

(g.) L'Arrangement Franco-Anglais des 29 Février, 1888 ;

(h.) Les Protocoles Franco-Italiens du 24 Janvier, 1900, et du 10 Juillet, 1901, pour la délimitation des possessions Italiennes et Françaises dans le littoral de la Mer Rouge et le Golfe d'Aden ;

(i.) La Convention Franco-Éthiopienne pour les frontières du 20 Mars, 1897.

Il est entendu que les diverses Conventions mentionnées dans le présent Article ne portent aucune atteinte aux droits souverains de l'Empereur d'Abyssinie et ne modifient en rien les rapports entre les trois Puissances et l'Empire Éthiopien tels qu'ils sont stipulés dans le présent Arrangement.

Art. 2. Pour les demandes de concessions agricoles, commerciales, et industrielles en Ethiopie, les trois Puissances donneront leurs instructions à leurs Représentants d'agir de telle sorte que les concessions qui seront accordées dans l'intérêt d'un des trois Etats ne nuisent pas aux intérêts des deux autres.

Art. 3. Si des compétitions ou des changements intérieurs se produisent en Ethiopie, les Représentants de la France, de la Grande-Bretagne, et de l'Italie observeraient une attitude de neutralité, s'abstenant de toute intervention dans les affaires du pays et se bornant à exercer telle action qui serait, d'un commun accord, considérée comme nécessaire pour la protection des Légations, des vies et des propriétés des étrangers, et des intérêts communs des trois Puissances.

En tous cas, aucun des trois Gouvernements n'interviendrait d'une manière et dans une mesure quelconques qu'après entente avec les deux autres.

Art. 4. Dans le cas où les événements viendraient à troubler le bassin du Nil, et plus spécialement en ce qui concerne la réglementation des eaux de ce fleuve et de ses affluents (la considération qui leur est due étant donnée aux intérêts locaux), sous réserve des intérêts Italiens mentionnés au paragraphe (b):

(a) Les intérêts de la Grande-Bretagne et de l'Egypte dans le bassin du Nil, et plus spécialement en ce qui concerne la réglementation qui leur est due étant donnée aux intérêts locaux, sous réserve des intérêts Italiens mentionnés au paragraphe (b);

(b) Les intérêts de l'Italie en Ethiopie par rapport à l'Erythrée et au Somaliland (y compris le Benaadir), et plus spécialement en ce qui concerne l'interland de ses possessions et l'un ou l'autre territoire entre elles à l'ouest d'Addis Abeba;

(c) Et les intérêts Français en Ethiopie par rapport au Protectorat Français de la Côte des Somalis à l'interland de ce Protectorat et à la zone nécessaire pour la construction et le trafic du Chemin de Fer de Djibouti à Addis Abeba.

Art. 5. Le Gouvernement Français communique aux Gouvernements Britannique et Italien:

1. L'acte de concession du Chemin de Fer Franco-Ethiopien du 9 Mars, 1894;

2. Une communication de l'Empereur Ménélik en date du 8 Août, 1904, dont la traduction est annexée au présent Accord et qui invite la Compagnie concessionnaire à construire le second tronçon de Diré Daoua à Addis Abeba.

Art. 6. Les trois Gouvernements sont d'accord pour que le Chemin de Fer de Djibouti soit prolongé de Diré Daoua à Addis Abeba, avec embranchement éventuel vers Harrar, soit par la Compagnie du Chemin de Fer Ethiopien en vertu des Actes mentionnés à l'Article précédent, soit par toute autre Compagnie privée Française qui lui serait substituée avec l'agrément du

Gouvernement Français, à la condition que les nationaux des trois pays jouiront pour les questions de commerce et de transit d'un traitement absolument égal à la fois sur le chemin de fer et sur le port de Djibouti. Les marchandises ne seront assujetties dans le port fiscal de Djibouti au profit de la Colonie ou du Gouvernement Français.

Art. 7. Le Gouvernement Français prête son concours pour qu'un Anglais, un Italien, et un Représentant de l'Empereur d'Abyssinie fassent partie du Conseil d'Administration de la ou des Compagnies Françaises qui seront chargées de l'exécution et de l'exploitation du Chemin de Fer de Djibouti à Addis Abeba. Il est stipulé par réciproque que les Gouvernements Anglais et Italien prêteront leurs concours pour qu'un poste d'Administrateur soit également assuré dans les mêmes conditions à un Français, dans toute Société Anglaise ou Italienne qui aurait été formée ou se formerait pour la construction ou l'exploitation de chemins de fer allant d'un point quelconque en Abyssinie à un point quelconque des territoires voisins Anglais ou Italiens. De même, il est entendu que les nationaux des trois pays jouiront pour les questions de commerce et de transit d'un traitement absolument égal à la fois sur les chemins de fer qui seraient construits par des Sociétés Anglaises ou Italiennes et dans les ports Anglais ou Italiens d'un partantout ces chemins de fer. Les marchandises ne seront passibles d'aucun droit fiscal de transit au profit des Colonies ou des Trésors Anglais et Italien.

Les trois Puissances Signataires sont d'accord pour étendre aux nationaux de tous les autres pays le bénéfice des dispositions des Articles 6 et 7 relatives à l'égalité de traitement au point de vue de commerce et de transit.

Art. 8. Le Gouvernement Français s'abstiendra de toute intervention en ce qui concerne la concession précédemment accordée au delà d'Addis Abeba.

Art. 9. Les trois Gouvernements sont d'accord pour que toute construction de chemin de fer en Abyssinie à l'ouest d'Addis Abeba soit, dans la mesure où un concours étranger est nécessaire, exécutée sous les auspices de l'Angleterre. De même, les trois Gouvernements sont d'accord pour que toute construction de chemin de fer en Ethiopie reliant le Benaadir à l'Erythrée à l'ouest d'Addis Abeba soit, dans la mesure où un concours étranger est nécessaire, exécutée sous les auspices de l'Italie. Le Gouvernement Britannique se réserve le droit de se servir, le cas échéant, de l'autorisation accordée par l'Empereur Ménélik à la date du 28 Août, 1904, de construire un chemin de fer du Somaliland Britannique à travers l'Ethiopie jusqu'à la frontière Soudanaise, à la condition, toutefois, de s'entendre au préalable avec les Gouvernements Français et Italien, les trois Gouvernements s'interdisant de construire sans entente préalable aucune ligne pénétrant en territoire Abyssin ou devant se raccorder aux lignes Abyssines, et de nature à faire concurrence directe à celles qui seront établies sous les auspices de l'une d'elles.

Art. 10. Les Représentants des trois Puissances se tiendront

réciroquement complètement informés et coopéreront, pour la protection de leurs intérêts respectifs. Dans le cas où les Représentants Anglais, Français et Italiens ne pourraient pas se mettre d'accord, ils se réfèrent à leurs Gouvernements respectifs et suspendraient en attendant toute action.

Art. 13.— Les dehors des Arrangements énumérés à l'Article 1^{er} et à l'Article 5 de la présente Convention, aucun Accord conclu par l'une quelconque des Puissances Contractantes en ce qui concerne la région Éthiopienne ne sera opposable aux autres Puissances Signataires du présent Arrangement.

Fait à Londres, le 13 Décembre, 1906.

(L.S.) E. GREY.
(L.S.) PAUL CAMBON
(L.S.) A. DE SAN GIULIANO

Annexe

Traduction de la Lettre Impériale du 8 Août, 1904, autorisant la Compagnie du Chemin de Fer à entreprendre la Construction de la Ligne de Diré Daoua à Addis Abeba.

L'ON, vainqueur de la tribu de Judas, Ménélik II, élu de Saïnéra, Roi des Rois d'Éthiopie, à M. le Ministre Plénipotentiaire du Gouvernement Français à Addis Abeba.

Salut :

Atin que la Compagnie du Chemin de Fer ne perde pas de temps inutilement, je vous informe qu'il est de ma volonté qu'elle entreprenne vite les travaux de la ligne de Diré Daoua à Addis Abeba. Seulement pour les contrats, nous nous entendrons dans la suite avec la Compagnie du Chemin de Fer.

Écrit le 2 Naassé de l'an de grâce 1896 (ère Abyssine) en la ville d'Addis Abeba (le 8 Août, 1904).

DECLARATION signed at London, December 13, 1906.

Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères d'Italie fait observer qu'il a des Traités avec le Sultan de Lugh, le Sultan de Bahreita et les Dannaikils regardant des questions de frontière. Ces Traités devant faire l'objet d'une négociation avec le Gouvernement Éthiopien, il est impossible de les comprendre dans l'Énumération de l'Article 1^{er}, mais le Gouvernement Italien se réserve de les communiquer à l'Angleterre et à la France après l'issue des négociations.

Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères d'Angleterre et l'Ambassadeur de France donnent acte au Ministre des Affaires Étrangères d'Italie de cette déclaration.

Londres, le 13 Décembre, 1906.

(Signé) E. GREY
(Signé) PAUL CAMBON
(Signé) A. DE SAN GIULIANO

(Translation.)

It being the common interest of France, Great Britain, and Italy to maintain intact the integrity of Ethiopia, to provide for every kind of disturbance in the political conditions of the Ethiopian Empire, to come to a mutual understanding in regard to their attitude in the event of any change in the situation arising in Ethiopia, and to prevent the action of the three States in protecting their respective interests, both in the British, French, and Italian possessions bordering on Ethiopia and in Ethiopia itself, resulting in injury to the interests of any of them, the Government of the French Republic, the Government of his Britannic Majesty, and the Government of Italy have assented to the following Agreement:—

Article 1. France, Great Britain, and Italy shall co-operate in maintaining the political and territorial *status quo* in Ethiopia as determined by the state of affairs at present existing, and by the following Agreements:

(a) The Anglo-Italian Protocols of the 24th March and 15th April, 1891, and of 5th May, 1894, and the subsequent Agreements modifying them, including the reserves formulated by the French Government in 1894 and 1895.

(b) The Anglo-Ethiopian Convention of 14th May, 1897, and its annexes.

(c) The Italo-Ethiopian Treaty of 10th July, 1900.

(d) The Anglo-Ethiopian Treaty of 15th May, 1902.

(e) The note annexed to the above-mentioned Treaty of 15th May, 1902.

(f) The Convention of 11th March 1862, between France and the Dannaikils.

(g) The Anglo-French Agreement of 2nd 9th February, 1888.

(h) The Franco-Italian Protocols of 24th January, 1900, and 10th July, 1901, for the delimitation of the French and Italian possessions on the littoral of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

(i) The Franco-Ethiopian Frontier Convention of 20th March, 1897.

It is understood that the various Conventions mentioned in this Article do not in any way infringe the sovereign rights of the Emperor of Abyssinia, and in no respect modify the relations between the three Powers and the Ethiopian Empire as stipulated in the present Agreement.

Art. 2. As regards demands for agricultural, commercial, and industrial concessions in Ethiopia, the three Powers undertake to instruct their Representatives to act in such a way that concessions which may be accorded in the interest of one of the three States may not be injurious to the interests of the two others.

Art. 3. In the event of rivalries or internal changes in Ethiopia, the Representatives of France, Great Britain, and Italy shall observe a neutral attitude, abstaining from all intervention in the internal affairs of the country, and confining themselves to such action as may be, by common consent, considered necessary for the protection of the legitimate interests of the three Powers. In foreigners, and of the common interests interfere in any manner whatsoever, except in agreement with the other two.

Art. 4. In the event of the *ratification* laid down in Article 1 being disturbed, France, Great Britain, and Italy shall make every effort to preserve the integrity of Ethiopia. In any case, they shall concert together on the basis of the Accidents enumerated in the above-mentioned Article in order to safeguard

(a) The interests of Great Britain and Egypt in the Nile Basin, and especially as regards the regulation of the waters of that river and its tributaries, and the establishment of a common pool to lower interests without prejudice to the arrangements mentioned in paragraph (c).

(b) The interests of Italy in Ethiopia, as regards Erythraea and Somaliland (including the Boudoumer) and especially with reference to the freedom of navigation on the territorial waters common between them to the west of Adis Abeba.

(c) The interests of France in Ethiopia, as regards the French Protectorate on the Somali Coast, the hinterland of this Protectorate, and the zone necessary for the construction and working of the railway from Djibouti to Adis Abeba.

Art. 5. The French Government communicates to the British and Italian Governments as follows:

(1) The concession of the Franco-Ethiopian Railway of 9th March 1904.

(2) A communication from the Emperor Menelik dated 8th August 1904 the translation of which is annexed to the present Agreement, inviting the Company to whom the above concession was granted to construct the second section of the line from Dire Dawa to Adis Abeba.

Art. 6. The three Governments agree that the Djibouti Railway shall be prolonged to Dire Dawa, Adis Abeba, with a branch line to Harrar eventually owned by the Ethiopian Railway Company in virtue of the deeds enumerated in the preceding Article, or by any other private French Company which may be substituted therefor, with the consent of the French Government, on condition that the nationals of the three countries shall enjoy in all matters of trade and transit absolute equality of treatment on the railway

and in the port of Djibouti. Goods shall not be subject to any fiscal transit duty levied for the benefit of the French Colony or Treasury.

Art. 7. The French Government will endeavour to arrange, by an English, an Italian, and an Abyssinian Representative shall be appointed to the Board of the French Company or Companies which may be entrusted with the construction and working of the railway from Djibouti to Adis Abeba. The British and Italian Governments will respectively endeavour to arrange that a French Director shall in like manner and on the same conditions be appointed to the Board of any English or Italian Company which as herein or may be formed for the construction or working of railways running from any point in Abyssinia to any point in the adjoining English or Italian territory. It is likewise agreed that the nationals of the three countries shall enjoy in all matters of trade and transit absolute equality of treatment on the railways which may be constructed by English or Italian Companies and in the English or Italian ports from which these railways may start. Taxes shall not be subject to any fiscal transit duty levied for the benefit of the British or Italian Colonies or Treasuries.

The three Signatory Powers agree to extend to the nationals of all other countries the benefit of the provisions of Articles 6 and 7 relating to equality of treatment as regards trade and transit.

Art. 8. The French Government will abstain from all interference as regards the Concession previously granted beyond Adis Abeba.

Art. 9. The three Governments are agreed that all railway construction in Abyssinia west of Adis Abeba shall in so far as foreign assistance is required be carried out under the auspices of Great Britain. The three Governments are also agreed that all construction of railways in Ethiopia joining the Boudoumer to Erythraea to the west of Adis Abeba shall in so far as foreign assistance is required be carried out under the auspices of Italy.

The Government of His Britannic Majesty reserves to themselves the right in case of need to make use of the authorization granted by the Emperor Menelik on the 28th August, 1904, to construct a railway from British Somaliland through Ethiopia to the Sudanese frontier on condition, however, that they previously come to an agreement with the French and Italian Governments, the three Governments undertaking not to construct without previous agreement any line entering Abyssinian territory or intended to join the Abyssinian lines, which would compete directly with those established under the auspices of any one of them.

Art. 10. The Representatives of the three Powers will keep each other fully informed and will cooperate for the protection of their respective interests. In the event of the British, French, and Italian Representatives being unable to agree, they will refer to their respective Governments, pending all action meanwhile.

Art. 11. Beyond the Agreements enumerated in Articles 1 and 5

of the present Convention, no Agreement concluded by any one of the Contracting Powers concerning Ethiopia shall affect the other Signatory Powers of the present Agreement.

Done at London, December 13, 1906.

(Signed) F. GRAY
(Signed) PAUL CAMBON
(Signed) A. DE SAN GIULIANO

Annex

Translation of the Imperial Letter of August 8, 1904, authorizing the Railway Company to undertake the Construction of the Line from Dire Dawa to Adis Abeba.

THE Lion, conqueror of the tribe of Judah, Menelik II, elect of the Lord, King of Kings of Ethiopia, to the French Minister Plenipotentiary at Adis Abeba.

Greeting

In order that the Railway Company may lose no time unnecessarily, I inform you that it is my will that it forthwith commence work on the line from Dire Dawa to Adis Abeba.

As regards the terms of the contract, however, we shall come to an arrangement later with the Railway Company.

Written the 2nd Naasse, in the year of grace 1896 (Abyssinian style), in the city of Adis Abeba (the 8th August, 1904).

DECLARATION signed at London, December 13, 1906.

THE Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs states that Italy has Treaties with the Sultan of Lugh, the Sultan of Raheita, and the Dannakiils respecting frontier questions. Inasmuch as these Treaties must form the subject of negotiations with the Abyssinian Government, it is not possible to include them in the list contained in Article 1, but the Italian Government reserves to itself the right to communicate them to Great Britain and France after the termination of the negotiations.

His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and the French Ambassador take note of the declaration made by the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

London, December 13, 1906.

(Signed) E. GRAY
(Signed) PAUL CAMBON
(Signed) A. DE SAN GIULIANO

Secret

Sept 1914

Sir,

I am glad to

ackn. the receipt of
Secret
your letter No 51788/14
of the 26th of Sept.,

transmitting a copy of
a telegram from M.M.'s
Chargé d' Affaires at
Addis Ababa ^{reporting on} ~~concerning~~
the general position in
Abyssinia and suggesting
making certain proposals.

~~that a guarantee~~
of integrity should be
given to the Abyssinian
Govt by the Govts of
Great Britain, France &
Italy.

DRAFT.

Secretary of State
Foreign Office

MINUTE.

- Mr. Cooze 30/9/14
- Mr. Read 30
- Mr.
- Mr.
- Sir P. Fiddes.
- Sir H. Just.
- Sir J. Anderson.
- Lord Emmott.
- Mr. Harcourt.

Copy of copies to
Mr. Ed. in Secret
L.F.]

(c)

(2) In reply I am to
state for the information
of Sec. Sir E. Grey, that
Mr. H. is prepared to
agree to ^{whatever} ~~any~~ course
which Sir E. Grey may
think best.