

East Africa Participants

N^o. 9583

Read
16 March 07

Individual

(Subject.)

Chas. W. Hoare

Mr. H. Henderson

1907

6 Mar

Remarks on course leading up to
resignation.
This case may be fully gone into.

Paper

H
4254

(Minutes)

Mr. Read
Tapped minutes around
1907

W. Anderson
Ellis? Proposed as proposed by
A. S. E.

1913

Yes; except that I would
write direct to Col. Stearns
and not say anything to the
India Office

Act. Ind. 20
1913

Paper

Mr. Rowland,

For the story of Mr. H. Henderson's resignation see my typed memo attached to 425.

Col. H. Henderson says (1) there are other officers who are as bad and have yet not been asked to resign. To this the answer is "Two blacks don't make a white"

(2) That his son did not draw a cheque on a bank where he had no account but only one where at the time he had an account. This of course is a not unimportant distinction and it was for this reason that I proposed to omit the charge in regard to this cheque when suggesting an answer to Colonel H. on 425.

(3) Col. H. desires to know what are the other actions which "disqualify him for further service" referred to in our letter of 25th November 1905 (41326).

They are detailed in my minute on 425 Nos. 1, 4 and 5.

Col. H. demands a "full and unbiased enquiry" into the unduly harsh treatment of his son.

I should inform Col. Henderson that, as he must be well aware, the time for demanding an enquiry was when his son was called upon to resign, and that the matter cannot be re-opened at this date especially as the fact, which the Secretary of State gathers is not ~~desired~~ ^{denied} of a police officer being indebted to natives and Indians and having judgment entered against him for such debts in the courts of the Protectorate is of itself sufficient cause for dismissal, *so that*

any enquiry wld. in any case have been unnecessary I

I should ask the India Office to convey this
message to Col. Henderson, and I should at the same
time tell them that the S. of S. does not consider
the tone of the letter suitable for an officer in
Col. H's position addressing another department of
Government from that under which he is serving.

H.A.P.

16/3.

Enclosing a copy
of the memo
concerning the
Col. H
H.A.P.

From

Colonel William Henderson



To
The Under Secretary of State
Colonial Office

Aden March 5th 1907.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter No 4254 of 4th July 1907 enclosing a copy of a report under W. J. Harris letter No. 41326 of the Colonial Office.

In letter No. 41326 of Nov 27th 1905 Mr. Henderson is informed that he is disqualified for further service under the Protectorate for the following reasons:

1. That he is heavily indebted to various persons in West Africa. My son cannot deny but at the time he left he had paid very little assistance paid off nearly all he owed. Even if he had not why should my son be singled out for dismissal on this account when it is a notorious fact that many officials Senior Officers in the Protectorate were & probably are in a similar financial position. It is an open secret that an

officially employed in the
Account Department of the Protector
ate was so heavily in debt that
the large part of his pay was
monthly allotted to his creditors.
I may state that I am not indebted
to my son for this information.
I know to be a fact. Why
was this official not dealt with
in a way I may say. Have the
Colonial Office 2 weights & 2
measures?

ii. The next accusation is that
Mr. Henderson ~~at the time of his~~
was charged with writing cheques
on a Bank when he had no account
there or one of those but which is half
the truth but makes it a difficult
matter to fight. Mr. Henderson
did issue a cheque on the only
Bank in Mombasa where his
balance was nil but I say he
had an account. What it
was, a term or account may
be. I know for a fact that
the money was sent my son to
pay his debts had he had this
Bank but a few weeks
previously. When Mr. Henderson issued
this one important cheque he had
all his plate at the Bank. His
plate was worth at least £100 -
Mr. Henderson's pay was drawn

regularly by this Bank. The ¹⁸⁷⁵cheque
was issued on the 26th or 27th of
the month & at the time it was
issued he wrote to the Bank offering
to lodge his pay bill for his pay which
was due in a few days as security
against the amount. Surely Mr.
Henderson may be held to have done
all that lay in his power to guard
against any suspicion of dishonest
dealing. There are the facts of the
case. Are there grounds on which
official of Mr. Henderson's standing
could be dismissed?

iii. The Colonial Office state there
are other actions which are being
taken for further search. What
are these other actions. The Colonial
Office having done and Mr. Henderson
possibly partly all these
grounds which I know what they
are. May I ask to be informed
as to their nature. I think I may
say I have a right to know what
they are. Will the Colonial Office
be so good as to check them &
the evidence on Mr. Henderson?

In conclusion I would
anxiously request that my son's
case may be ^{justly} ~~fairly~~ gone into.
That he has been ^{justly} ~~fairly~~ treated I freely
admit; (When he was serving as
Deputy Inspector General of Police
he was only 23 years of age)

and the youngest officer in the
[Particulars] but that he has been
dishonest or vicious I do strenuously
deny. Mr. Henderson kept up a small
number of bonds on the condition
that those partaking in the short
named subscriptions towards their
[?] - subscriptions paid for
Mr. Henderson was saddled with
the greater part of these expenses
and not talking at random - as
I know this to be the case - I myself
never happened - I bought bonds
amounting to thousands to the value
of several hundred pounds & sent
them on to Africa & have
never been paid to this day

In various letters from the
Colonial Office, stress is being
put on the fact
that Mr. Henderson himself
ought to be held responsible
for the mere fact of his being
allowed to do so seems to point
to the fact that the Colonial
Office did not take the serious
view of the case on considering
it at first. The subject
with which I have a copy of a kindly
letter from the Secretary of
the Colonial Office

I myself have served
some 30 years. One of
Mr. Henderson's grandfathers served

for a longer period in the Indian
Army than his grand father, on
his mother's side served with
Walton in the Victory at Trafalgar
I only mention these
facts to show that Mr. Henderson
has some claims on the country
that his own record, as far as
his capabilities as a Police Officer
go, entitle him to some considera-
tion. At least a full & fair
enquiry into what appears to me
to be a mild, his unduly harsh
and severe treatment.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most-obedient Servant,
W. Henderson
Col. Secy.
P. M. O. Ad. B. Co.

Private

18th Aug. 1906

9533

Dear Madam

REC:

REG 16 MAR 07

I certainly shall not
interfere in any way in the
matter you mention. I
trust you may restore the
position.

Yours faithfully
S^d A Lytleton

Tam Joly
W^m Skene

Downing Street

14th December 1906

9583

REC'D

REC'D 16 MAR 07

Dear Sir

I have had your letter of the 25th October before me for some time, but I am sorry to tell you that I see no sort of possibility of finding a vacancy that will suit you. It is not easy, when once a man has gone out of the service to bring him back into it again.

Yours faithfully

S^r

Ernest Alexander Harris

5th Dec 1908

C.C.

9583479

REC'D:

REGD 16 NOV 1908

Dear Mr Henderson

Mr Lytton asks me to

say in reply to your letter of
the 28th ult that he is extremely
sorry that you find yourself in
so sad a position. In consequence
of facts which have been brought
to light, it was necessary to
call upon your husband to
tender his resignation of the
office which he had held in
British East Africa, & your
husband himself in the reply
which he wrote on the 28th ult.
asked to be allowed to resign
Mr Lytton, as you will
see by the newspapers will

no longer be Secretary of State
for the Colonies, so that any
further letters must be
addressed to his successor.

Believe me

Yours truly

Geo. Grenville & Co.

and please send me your
letter to me

London

Wm. Grenville & Co.

9573
E.A.P. 483
26
26

DRAFT

Ed. N. Home Henderson
V.M.P.

26 March 07

Sir

I am directed by
the Earl of Elgin to
acknowledge receipt of your
letter of the 6th inst.,
in which you ask
that an enquiry may
be held with respect
regard to the treatment
of your son, Mr.
H. H. Henderson,

Ans. 7/11/07

MINUTE

Mr. Wms 22/3

Mr. Brad 12/3

Mr. Antibus 2/3

Mr. Cox

Mr. Lucas

Mr. Graham

Sr M. Oramapney

Mr. Churchill

The Earl of Elgin

Lately Deputy Inspector
Genl of Police in
the E. A. P.

I am to request
2. Anyone must be well
aware of the time for

dominating such an inquiry
was in November 1905
when your own received
the letter from this dept.
calling upon him to re-
-sign his office; ~~that~~
so far from demanding
an inquiry, Mr.
Henderson wrote on the
28th Nov - I therefore
most humbly beg that
I may be allowed to
resign instead of being
dismissed.

3 The matter accordingly
cannot be reopened at
this date, especially as
the fact (which Lord Bingen
gives is not denied)
of Mr Henderson being
then Deputy Chief for

481
become involved in
considerable sums to
native & Indians,
& having judgement
entered against
him for such a debt
on the assets of the
Pastorate, ^{his} ~~of~~
stock sufficient ^{to} ~~to~~
to discharge ^{the} ~~the~~
for continuing ^{to} ~~to~~
the ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~the~~
and would ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~be~~
sufficient

John
R.L.