

EAST AFR. PROT.

No. 5785

5785

Recd  
Regd 17 FEB 08



Governor. No. 19

(Subject.)

1908

Kenia Forests

11 Jan

Last previous Paper.

Copies of Minutes by Ch Conservator of Forests & Manager, Rly. H. Hutchins will again inspect Kenya forest. further info as acquired is necessary to deal with certain points raised by H. Fauser

W 27593/07

(Minutes.)

Put by  
at once  
H. J. R.  
20/2

Put by

SPR (5M)

Subsequent Paper

W 27963

Singleton  
West Dean

Ans d.  
12.45. on 10  
here 12

West Dean Park,  
Chichester.

Dec 13. 12.45 <sup>132</sup>

Dear George.

Norwick & I discussed

I applied for leases for some  
timber lands on Mount

Kenia.

It is clear some

leases are desirable forms

a very ~~wide~~ known

~~timber~~ form of ~~obtaining~~

would undertake the necessary developments.

I have found out about the arrangements for the Gray Book Club makes with its lessons. Would you find

and Broth & as with P. Wheeler a few minutes I think

that preliminary  
with the papers the

Ms.

172A

I don't like to let  
the same people send  
their reports at first

only investigation without  
some idea that training can  
be done with the C. O.

believe me

Yours very truly

Morton Freeman

to Clark



Governor's Office,

Nairobi,

January 11<sup>th</sup> 1908.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

C. O.

5785

Rec<sup>d</sup>

Rec<sup>d</sup> 17 FEB 08

No. 19

(Incl. 2)

My Lord,

With reference to the papers which accompanied Your Lordship's despatch No. 522 of the 19th September last, I have the honour to submit copies of Minutes by the Chief Conservator of Forests and the Manager, Uganda Railway, dated, respectively, the 24th and 30th ultimo.

2. Mr. Hutchins is proceeding to inspect the Kenya Forest again accompanied by Mr. MacGregor Ross, and I think it will be desirable that we should be in possession of the further information that will be acquired, particularly in regard to the area of the forest, before certain of the questions raised by Mr. Moreton Frewen in his notes on Mr. Hutchins' report are finally dealt with.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

*J. Hayes Saller*  
(J. Hayes Saller)

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR THE COLONIES,

DOWNING STREET,

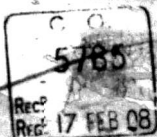
LONDON, E.W.

23505

INCLOSURE

In Despatch No. 9/1/1907

MINUTE.



Forwarded with accompanying note regarding the area of Kenya forest. The delay in forwarding these papers (which I regret) is due to my absence from Nairobi.

Value of timber. Twenty-four pence is an obvious misprint for 2.4 pence. This is the average value of timber standing uncut in the South African forests.

Working the timber. Mr. Moreton Frewen objects to working the timber on conditions which will preserve the forest. He would like to clean fell the forest instead of utilizing the timber by thinning and ensuring its reproduction. No doubt large areas of forests have been worked destructively in America but the practice is wasteful in the last degree, and is falling, more and more, into disrepute. It has been conclusively proved that conservative lumbering in America costs little more than destructive lumbering.

In Cape Colony the forests have been worked for nearly a quarter of a century on conditions similar to those proposed for Kenya. One million pounds sterling has been spent during the last quarter of a century on the extension and conservation of the Cape forests so that destructive working there would not be seriously entertained.

E. HUTCHINS.

Chief Conservator of Forests.

14/12/07.

NOTE.

Forest Office,

Nairobi,

December 20<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Report on the Forests of the Protectorate by D.E. Hutchins.

Mr. Winston Churchill (when discussing forest matters with me at Fort Hall) gave me a positive injunction that my report on the forests of the Protectorate was not to be published until I could add something more definite regarding the Kenia forest area than the estimate given in my preliminary report on the Kenia forest. My time spent in the Kenia forest last year was occupied with the examination of the timber. On returning to Nairobi I found to my surprise that the maps available in the Survey Office were so unreliable that I followed advice and discarded them. I formed a rough estimate of the area of southern Kenia taking my marching distance. I was not permitted to visit the northern Kenia forest but made a rough estimate of its area based on native reports. See my preliminary report on the Kenia forest, page 14: Colonial Reports, Miscellaneous, No. 41.

Mr. Winston Churchill contemplated an extension of the survey operations under Major Smith but I understand that the latter is not, at present, able to accomplish this. Failing an extension of Major Smith's operations I suggest a further examination of the forest by myself and a reconnaissance survey by the Director of the Public Works Department, Mr. Macgregor Ross. Mr. Ross is willing to undertake this duty. He has had previous experience of the country above the bamboo and talks the Kikuyu language. We should be prepared to do this in January or February next before the commencement of the rains taking the route above the bamboo. It seems important that the area reconnaissance should be undertaken by an experienced

officer having the requisite technical education".

## M I N U T E.

From the papers I take it that the principal woods for export are Cedar, Yellow-wood and Camphor wood and from the table on page 25 of Mr. Hutchins' report the average weight of these woods may be taken at 70 cubic feet per ton.

A full train load of timber would consist of 13 vehicles carrying say 8 tons each  $\rightarrow$  104 tons, say 100 tons per train = 7000 cubic feet. 3 trains per day for 300 days in each year = 6,300,000 cubic feet.

This we could work with comparative ease.

1d per ton per mile is the absolute minimum rate at which we could attempt to handle this traffic. In fact I have never contemplated carrying it at less than  $\frac{3}{4}$ d per ton per mile.

$\frac{1}{4}$ d per ton per mile on 450 miles at 70 cubic feet per ton = 3.2d per cubic foot.

Even allowing for the wood being green and weighing more than 70 cubic feet per ton, say even 50 cubic feet, Mr. Frewen's figure of 5d per cubic feet is somewhat high.

I disagree with Mr. Hutchins' idea; of carrying this timber at 1d per ton per mile; it is out of the question. So also is his idea of increasing the gauge of the Railway to 4' 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". If this traffic ever developed to such an extent as to make it impossible for our existing line to work it we would increase the weight of our rails and use heavier engines.

H. A. F. Currie.