EAST AFR. PROT.

1909

Sale of Kisi Cattle .

Previous Paper 31988

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S. S. Hoperson

In March 1908 the seriou statement was made in the House of Compone by Mr Churchill

A very large number of eattle tere captured by the troops from the Kisii during the operations. These it is proposed to restore to the tribes gradually during the next few months as the pacification of the district proceeds.

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It was pointed out to the Governor, in telling him that this statement had been made, that he was quite justified in exacting in return/necessary and erdinary labour in road-making and development in the Kisii country calculated to open the regions to civilization and likely itself to add to the future prosperity of the tribe; but that there could be no question of any profit resulting

to Sovernment or settlers from booty taken through a state of markers, and it was subsequently agreed in response to the carnest representations of the Governor, that he might sell some of the cattle, not exceeding (say) 1,000, the proceeds to be used for the benefit of the Rimit, and put to some purpose of utility such as a dispensary or medical assistance.

It appears from this telegram that 1,698 cattle have already been sold; that 2,502 have been returned to the Misii; and that 529 remain on hand. The proceeds from the sale have been placed to the credit of suspense accounts; but considerable sums are outstanding under the system of gradual payment by the settlers who here sold Some portion of the proceeds hat apparently been ment on the purchase of tools for work in the district." It is not stated whether the tools were for the natives or for Covernment employes engaged there. What the Governor now asks is for sutherity to sell the remaining 129 Kisii cattle, and to expend the proceeds on the necessary roads and station buildings in the Kisil district for which the estimates make insufficient provision, The total number of cattle accounted for by the above figures. In A.729. The difference between this figure was though 600 which were originally captured is, no doubt, to be explained by lesses through death, &c.

It is difficult to know what to advise. It is by no means clear that the proceeds already realised by sale have been spent for the benefit of the Kisii in any such direct manner as the original permission to sell patternation our is it at all clear that if the remaining cattle are now sold and the proceeds are applied as suggested, the Government will not be "making a profit" out of the transaction in the sense that they will be

getting/administrative requirements for which they would otherwise have been compelled to make provision in the ordinary way. The number of cattle sold alread exceeds very considerably the number for when permission to sell was given, and I doubt the advisabilit of increasing this discrepancy and making it more difficult hereafter to defend our action if anyone recurs to the virtual pledge given by Mr. Churchill last year. I should be inclined to reply that the remaining cattle should be returned to the Kisii on the terms suggested in our telegram of the 14th of March 1908, and to enquire by despatch how it is that more than 1,000 cattle were sold without refer ence to the Secretary of State, and how it is that the proceeds from the sale have not been applied to the benefit of the Kisii in the direct and tangible manner suggested in our telegram of the 2nd, of April.

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Telegram.

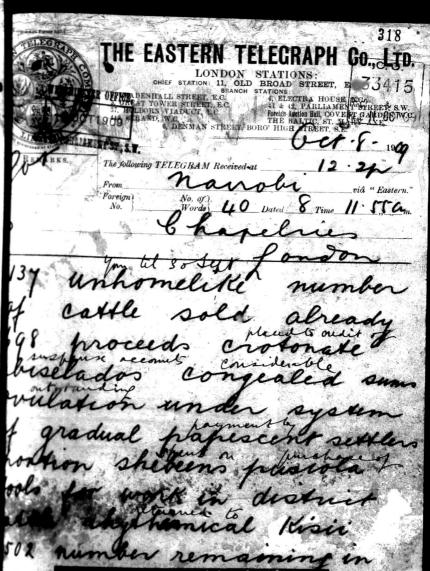
The Governor of the East Africa Protectorate to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Received, Colonial Office, 12.25 p.m. 9th October, 1909)

31968

No. 137. Your telegram 30th September number of cattle sold already 1698 proceeds placed to credit of suspense accounts considerable sums outstanding under system of gradual payment by settlers portion spent on purchase of tools for work in district cattle returned to Kisii 250/2 number remaining in hand 529.

GIROUARD.



REPLIES SHOULD BE ORDERED i la l'aslelle

Doubtful words should be OFFICIALLY repeated. See Rule Book.

No impury respecting this Telegrain can be attended to without the production of this Capy.



REMARKS.

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