

EAST AFR. PROT.
No. 19319

19319
REL 30 MAY 06

No. 237
1906
May
at previous Paper.

(Subject.)

Expenses of recovering Box of Specie
which fell onto water.

Asks authority to write off £40 bonus to
Mr Kneller, and Rs 176. fuel supplied to
vessel engaged in recovering the box.

(Minutes.)

Mr Read.

The loss of the box may, no doubt
have been due to the clerk's excess of
zeal in hurrying on board the
steamer himself without asking for
assistance or reporting to the ^{ship's} officers
that he was doing so. At the same
time however, the loss was also due
to his carelessness and I do not see
why Govt should bear the whole
cost of salvage.

As regards the bonus of £40 which the
Comms promised to Mr Kneller, I think
^{his} ~~the~~ proper course would have been
to tell Mr K. that his services
in connection with the recovery of the specie
would be brought to the notice of
the S.G.S., and then to recommend
him for a reward.

£40 seems to me a very large sum
under the circumstances but as it has been
promised I suppose it must be
allowed.

copy to amount of 20 5/4 2/3
1906
May
at previous Paper.

19519

Commissioner's Office, 06

Nairobi,

May 9th 1908

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

No. 237.

My Lord,

I have the honour to report that on January 30th
 Es.10,000 last a box containing ten thousand rupees, the property
 of His Majesty's Government, whilst being shipped on
 board the S.S. "Sybil", fell into the water and was lost.
 The spot was buoyed, but although every endeavour was
 made by the local authorities to recover the money, their
 efforts were unsuccessful. I therefore applied to the
 Uganda Protectorate and obtained the services of the
 S.S. "William Mackinnon", and thanks to the exertions of
 Captain Hutchinson, R.N.R., and Mr. St. John Kneller, the
 Executive Engineer at Kisumu, who is an expert diver, the

box.

Principal Secretary of State

for the Colonies,

Downing Street,

L O N D O N, S. W.

Blame without doubt rests with the Clerk. Mr. Northcote was single handed, the hut tax collection was in arrears, and as it is not considered safe to leave large sums of money in out stations, he was justified in sending the money to Kisumu. The Steam Ship authorities were unaware that the money was being shipped and cannot consequently be held responsible for the expenses incurred. As the Clerk, who is a very junior official drawing about ninety pounds a year, was only over zealous in the discharge of his duties, and has already been sufficiently punished by the fright he has had, I would crave Your Lordship's permission to write off the amount spent in recovering the specie in the manner suggested above.

4. In conclusion I would add that had we been able to have an Assistant as well as a Collector at this Station the box would in all probability never have been lost.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,



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Ans to 305

6 June 1906

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MINUTE.

- Mr. Lloyd
- Mr. Peas. 2
- Mr. Andrews
- Mr. Cox
- Mr. Evans
- Mr. Graham
- Sir M. O'Malley
- Mr. Churchill
- The Earl of Elgin

I have the honor to inform you that I have had under consideration your despatch No. 237 of the 9th of May 1906 regarding the various attendances the loss, and the subsequent recovery, of a box of specie containing ten thousand rupees.

2. I concur in the view that the loss of the box was due not to any carelessness on the part of those concerned but to the ill-considered though well-intentioned action of the natives at Harimgar, and

under the care of
approval of the
cost of salvage,
amount to
£9-14-8, being
charged to the vote
of Prov. Admin.
Conting., Prov. of
Kisumu.

At the same time,
however, it is not
clear to me why
Mr. Kothoko omitted
to take the obvious
precaution of
leaving written
instructions for the
care of the 15
tons to take as
the specie on his
arrival, in which case
the ~~difficulty~~ difficulty
of shipment
would not have
arisen as the other

intention is for the
arrangement from one
station to another
etc.

and not the same
If you, no. 13, have
made the necessary
arrangements

4. I shall be glad to
be informed as to the
nature of the
arrangement in force
at present in the
Port for the safe-
keeping of specie at
off the supply of specie
is insufficient for
local requirements.
I presume that
Govt money is placed
under these 70
specie guards with
a double sentry at
station unimposed
with a safe in a
suitable storeroom.

Yours