

EAST AFR. PROT

N^o. 19737

1905

Admiralty
1905
June
Previous Paper.
No. 2

(Subject.)

Loan of Chronometers

Observations as to. Unless it is with to assist in securing observations of minute scientific precision, His Lords cannot accede to the request for the loan of instruments to determine the longitude of Umbrosia, wh. is already known with sufficient accuracy for navigational purposes

(Minutes.)

Mr. Ellis.

The I. D. (whom I called on Saturday) could not tell me whether Col. Smith has a portable Transit instrument or not, and search at F.O. (whose papers have been unattainable until to-day) has had no result as to this.

Major Lee, of the I.D., considered that the elaborate foundation required by Admiralty would not be necessary for the accurate ~~position~~ determination of the longitude. I have some doubts as to this, but Col. Smith may have arranged for such a foundation to be made.

^{According to Major Lee,}
Personal equation will be eliminated by the exchange of observers referred to in the F.O. correspondence with the German Ambassador annexed [to be returned to I.D.]

We cannot go to the Admiralty again on our present information, and I think we must either arrange at once for the

Admiralty 23 Aug 70
Copy copy to Home 31 Aug 70
29/73

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

purchase of one Character of each
description or telegraph to Col.
Smith asking for info. as to (a) and (c).
(b) ?
In view of the extremely intricate
nature of the former course, in
view of the expense which will be
involved.

* I have included (b) because, in the
case of the determination of the long de Plecia,
Major Wetherston had his personal
equation specially tested, and I am not
aware that Major Lee is correct as to this.]

15/6

Mr Antillas

13/6

This appears to be a matter
for the F.O. as the matter
root of the Commission is
borne on their vote for this
year. I send copy would be

Wm. stating that the question
appears to be one for F.O. decision

MA 13/6

17/6

purchase of one Chronometer of each
description or telegraph to Col.

Smith asking for info as to (a) and (c)?

In view of the astronomical attitude,
close to the former course, in
t of the expense which will be
involved.

I have included (b) because, in the
c of the determination of the longth of Pizarra,
by W. L. Wetherston had his personal
equation specially tested, and I am not
sure that May or Lee is correct as to this.]

1861

Mr Antillas

13/6

This appears to be a matter
for the F.O. as the weather
cost of the Commission is
borne on their vote for this
year. I send reply ^{to}

Wm stating that the question
appears to be one for F. O. decision

13/6

17/6

any further communication
on this subject should be
sent to the Secretary of State

N. 9715

Secretary of State
Whitehall
London S.W.

1913
9 JUN 13

Admiralty

5th June 1913

107

Sir,

In reply to your letter No. 17612/05 of 30th ultimo requesting a loan of chronometers for the use of Lieutenant-Colonel G. E. Smith in connection with the determination of the longitude of Membasa, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request you will represent to the Secretary of State that, as the rate on account of chronometers has been largely reduced, it is only possible to supply these instruments to other Departments very sparingly, and in circumstances in which the results to be obtained would be of value to the Admiralty. My Lords wish to observe that chronometers which had been lent to the Colonial Office on a former occasion have recently been returned in so bad a condition as to necessitate months being spent upon their repair and that their Lordships therefore consider that, unless it is with a view to assist in securing observations of minute scientific precision, they would not be acting with a due regard to the reserve of chronometers necessary for H.M. Fleet in lending such instruments in the present instance.

I am accordingly to enquire whether Lieutenant Colonel G. E. Smith's observations include

- (a) The use of a Portable transit instrument (not merely transit theodolite.)
- (b) The elimination of personal equation.
- (c) Building solid masonry piers for the transit instrument, and allowing an interval of several weeks to allow them to settle thoroughly.

Since the longitude of Membasa is already known

Under Secretary of State,
COLONIAL OFFICE.

with

with sufficient accuracy for all navigational purposes, My Lords are not prepared to accede to the present application unless they can be assured that the observations will be carried out in the manner specified.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Evan Macpherson

Adm. E. H. P.
1973

DRAFT.

21 June 1905

U.S. G.S.

Sir,

Ind.

70.

MINUTE.

- Mr. Bottomley 17/6
- Mr. Read
- Mr. Antrobus 19/6
- Mr. Cox
- Mr. Lucas
- Mr. Graham
- Sir M. Ommanney
- The Duke of Marlborough
- Mr. Lyttelton

I am directed by Mr. Key, by letter to transmit to you the accompanying copy of correspondence relative to a request made by Lieut. Col. G. E. Smith, R.S., the British Commissioner on the Anglo-German Boundary Commission (East of Lake Victoria) for the supply of chronometers for use in connexion with the telegraphic determination of the

Letter written to
 before the present
 letter 27/6/05
 (1791)
 30/6/05
 (18)
 8 June
 (1757)
 W & A L ORD & CO
 100, BOND STREET
 LONDON, W. 1

Copy furnished to any
 other person

Log of the of the
 2. It will be found
 that it will probably
 be necessary to
 2. As to the cost of
 the Commission has
 been provided for
 on the Foreign Office
 Vote for 1905-6,
 Mr. Mellor presumes
 that the question
 whether the necessary
 instruments should
 be purchased for
 Col. Smith's use is
 one for Lord
 Lansdowne's decision
 of the previous papers
 in regard to the
 determination of the
 log of the of the
 have been obtained
 from the F.O. for

reference to Commission
 with the Commission
 returned here
 R. H. A.