

Kingston.

Jamaica.

24th June,

To

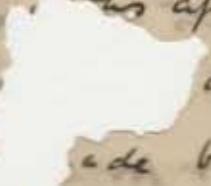
The Right-Honourable

Joseph Chamberlain, D. B.

His Majesty's Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

Sir,

I have the honour to bring to your notice the following facts and to venture to request that you will be so good as to give consideration to my representation. The whole case is well-known to Mr Oliver, both as a Governor of the Hospital of Jamaica and as Colonial Secretary of the Island.

i. In the autumn of 1890, I answered an advertisement in the "Athenaeum" for a Secretary and Librarian for the Hospital of Jamaica. In December, I was appointed, and in February 1891 I entered  duties. The appointment, which was made by the Board of Governors of the Hospital, subject to the approval of the Governor of Jamaica, was for three years renewable at the end of that time. The salary was £500 per annum. In February 1894 on the expiration of the three years the engagement was, with the approval of

the

, renewed for another three years, and
early 1897 it was, with the same approval,
renewed for five years.

Correspondence - commencing with a letter
to the Colonial Secretary of the 20th June 1901
to the Board of Governors of the Institute, and
ending with one from the Officer on the 8th
of March 1902 (a copy of which correspondence
I can produce if desired) - resulted in the
Government - refusing to approve of a further
renewal of the appointment - on the same terms,
reducing the total vote to the Institute by 32
per cent. and refusing to approve of the
appropriation of more than £300 a year from
the reduced vote for the salary of the Secretary
and Librarian, allowing it to be supplemented
to the extent of £50, but not more, from certain
"Private Funds", not arising from taxation, at
the disposal of the Governors of the Institute,
and making the appointment, moreover,
dependent each year on the vote of the
Legislature : in spite of the fact that the
Board wished, even with its reduced vote,
to offer me a renewal of my appointment,
during good behaviour or for a term of
years, at the reduced salary of £450 per
annum, and stated that it regarded the
heavy reduction in my salary and possible
lapsing of my appointment as "necessarily
an injustice" to me.

iii. A perusal of this correspondence
will

will show that - the only cause for the general
for the worse which was made in the letter
my appointment in 1902 was the temporary
in the government-finances which necessitated
retrenchment. His Excellency the Governor expressed
his "agreement in the view of the governor of
the value of Mr Cundall's services if the colony
could afford them" and stated that "it would
be most desirable that his services should be
retained if financial exigencies were not
so pressing and imperative".

iv. While the Government held that retrenchment
could not take the form of a reduction of the salaries
of the civil service, the salary of my appointment, as
not being one strictly in the civil service, though
it is in many ways subject to the restrictions
under which civil servants are placed, was
reduced by 30 per cent. I submit that -
now that the Government finances have recovered
from the temporary depression, ex debito
justitiae, the restoration of my appointment
to its original footing should receive early
consideration.

v. I would further submit that while it
would be hardships for any public official
to hold his office on such a precarious
footing as that on which since 1902
I have held mine, it is peculiarly hard
in the case of such an appointment as
mine. The special qualifications, apart
from those of a general character
required

iii. fit the holder for but few appoint-
- the smaller colonies; and the longer
Ader remains out of England the less
-ce he has of getting an appointment there.
it is to say the holder's chance of obtaining
another appointment in the colonies is very
small, whilst his chance of getting employ-
ment in England each year becomes less.

vi. In these circumstances, and in view of
the fact that I have given upwards of twelve
years of my life to the service of the colony (the
finances of which are now in a much better
position than when the reduction was
made), I should be very grateful if either
my appointment at the Institute of Jamaica
could be put upon a permanent basis with
a salary more commensurate with that which
I have received in the past, or I might be
appointed in some other colony to a
post of a status equal to that which
I held here prior to the 1st of April 1902.

vii. I may add that I am proceeding to
England on leave of absence on the 30th
instant, and that my address in London
will be care of The Royal Colonist Institute.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant-

Frankland