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II.

FURTHER PAPERS

RELATING TO THE

SLAVE TRADE;

VIZ.

Copies of all Appointments which have been granted by His Royal Highness The Prince Regent, to Commissioners for carrying into execution the Treaties with *Portugal, Spain, and The Netherlands*, for the Abolition of the Slave Trade; with the respective Dates of the same:—And

Instructions from the Admiralty to Officers commanding Ships on the Coast of Africa.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
25 June 1819.

L I S T.

- (1.)—Commission for a British Commissary-Judge, a Commissioner of Arbitration, and a Secretary or Registrar, to reside in *London* under the Convention signed at London, July 28th 1817, between His Majesty and his Most Faithful Majesty, for preventing the illicit Traffic in Slaves :—Dated March 27, 1819 - - p. 39
- (2.)—Commission for a British Commissary-Judge, a Commissioner of Arbitration, and a Secretary or Registrar, to reside at *Sierra Leone* under the above-mentioned Convention; with Memorandum referring to Three similar Commissions signed on the same day by the Prince Regent, appointing Commissioners to reside in the *Brazils* under the *Portuguese* Convention, and at *Sierra Leone* and the *Havannah* under the Treaty signed at Madrid, September 23d 1817, between His Majesty and his Catholic Majesty, for preventing the illicit Traffic in Slaves :—All dated February 20, 1819 - - - - - p. 42
- (3.)—Commission for a British Judge, an Arbitrator, and a Secretary or Registrar, to reside at *Sierra Leone*, under the Treaty signed at *The Hague*, May 4th 1818, between His Majesty and the King of the Netherlands, for preventing Traffic in Slaves; with Memorandum referring to a similar Commission appointing a Judge and Arbitrator to reside at *Surinam* under the above-mentioned Treaty :—Both dated May 11, 1819 - - - - - p. 45

A L S O,

- (4.)—Copy of a Letter from Mr. Croker to Commodore Sir James Lucas Yeo, commanding His Majesty's Ship *Semiramis* on the Coast of Africa, dated the 26th March 1818 - - - - - p. 48
- (5.)—Copy of such part of an Order addressed on the 19th of September 1818, by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to Sir George R. Collier, Captain of His Majesty's Ship *Tartar*, at Spithead, appointed to proceed on a cruize to the coast of Africa, as relates to the Abolition of the Slave Trade - - - - - ib.

— 1. —

COMMISSION for a British Commissary-Judge, a Commissioner of Arbitration, and a Secretary or Registrar, to reside at *London*, under the Convention signed at London, July 28th 1817, between His Majesty and his Most Faithful Majesty, for preventing illicit Traffic in Slaves.

(Signed)

L. s.

In the Name and on the behalf of His Majesty,

GEORGE, P. R.

— 1. —

Commission for a
British Commis-
sary-Judge, &c. to
reside in *London*.

GEORGE the Third, by the Grace of God, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, King of Hanover, &c. &c. &c. To all and singular to whom these presents shall come, Greeting: Whereas by a convention concluded at London on the twenty-eighth day of July 1817, between Us and his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of *Portugal*, *Brazil* and *Algarves*, for preventing our respective subjects from engaging in any illicit Traffic in Slaves, it is, amongst other things, stipulated and agreed, that in order to bring to adjudication, with the least delay and inconvenience, the vessels which may be detained for having been engaged in an illicit Traffic of Slaves, there shall be established, within the space of a year at furthest from the exchange of the ratifications of the said convention, two mixed commissions, formed of an equal number of individuals of the two nations, named for that purpose by their respective Sovereigns, and that those commissions shall reside, one in a possession to Us belonging, the other within the territories of his Most Faithful Majesty, one of which commissions is stipulated by the said convention to be always held upon the coast of *Africa*, and the other in the *Brazils*: And it was by the said convention further stipulated and agreed, that the said commissions should judge the causes submitted to them without appeal, and according to the regulations and instructions annexed to the said convention, of which they should be considered as an integral part. And whereas by the said convention, We, in conformity to the stipulations of the treaty concluded between Us and the King of Portugal, on the twenty-second day of January 1815, did engage to grant, in the manner in that convention and hereinafter explained, sufficient indemnification to all the proprietors of Portuguese vessels and cargoes captured by British cruizers between the first of June 1814, and the period at which the before-mentioned two commissions should assemble at their respective posts; and it was therefore by the said convention agreed, that all claims of the nature hereinbefore mentioned should be received and liquidated by a mixed commission to be held at *London*, and which should consist of an equal number of the individuals of the two nations named by their respective Sovereigns, and upon the same principles stipulated by the preceding article of that convention, and by the other acts which from an integral part of the same. And whereas it was, by the said regulations annexed to the said convention, amongst other things provided, that the said mixed commissions which should reside on the coast of *Africa*, and in the *Brazils*, should be composed in the following manner, that is to say, that We and his Most Faithful Majesty should each of Us name a Commissary-Judge and a Commissioner of Arbitration, who should be authorized to hear and decide, without appeal, all cases of Capture of Slave vessels which, in pursuance of the stipulations of the said convention, might be laid before them, and that there should be attached to each commission a Secretary or Registrar, appointed by the Sovereign of the country in which the commission might reside. And whereas it was by the said regulations further provided, that the mixed commission established in *London*, should hear and determine all Claims for Portuguese ships and cargoes captured by British cruizers, on account of the unlawful Trading in Slaves, since the first of June 1814, till the period when the said convention should be in complete execution; and that the said commission established in *London*, should be composed and proceed exactly upon the same basis determined in the same regulations for the commissions established on the coast of *Africa* and the *Brazils*. And whereas by an Act of Parliament made and

— 1. —
 Commission for a
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 sary-Judge, &c. to
 reside in London.

passed in the 58th year of Our Reign, intituled, "An Act to carry into execution a convention made between His Majesty and the King of Portugal, for the preventing Traffic in Slaves," it is, amongst other things enacted, that it shall be lawful for Us, by any warrant under Our Royal Sign Manual, countersigned by one of Our principal secretaries of state for the time being, to appoint such Commissary-Judges and Commissioners of Arbitration as are in and by the said convention and regulations thereto annexed, mentioned to be appointed by Us; and such Commissary-Judges and Commissioners are thereby authorized and empowered to examine and decide all such cases of detention, captures and seizures of vessels and their cargoes, detained, seized, taken or captured under the said convention, or instructions and regulations, as are by the said convention, instructions and regulations, and by that Act, made subject to their jurisdiction, and to proceed therein, and give such judgments, and make such orders therein, and do all other acts, matters and things appertaining thereto, agreeably to the provisions of the said convention, and the instructions and regulations annexed thereto, as fully and effectually, to all intents and purposes, as if special powers and authorities for that purpose were specifically and particularly inserted and given in relation thereto in the said Act: And it was thereby further, amongst other things enacted, that it should be lawful for the said Commissary-Judges, or either of them, and they are thereby respectively empowered to administer oaths to, and take the depositions of all parties, witnesses and other persons who may come or be brought before them to be examined, or for the purpose of deposing in the course of any proceeding before the said Commissary-Judges, or before the said Commissary-Judges and the Commissioners of Arbitration, in the cases in which such Commissioners of Arbitration shall act with the said Commissary-Judges under the said convention, instructions or regulations, or that Act; and that it should also be lawful for the said Commissary-Judges, or for the said Commissary-Judges and Commissioners of Arbitration, in the cases aforesaid, to summon before them all persons whom they may deem it necessary or proper to examine in relation to any suit, proceeding, matter or thing under their cognizance, and to send for and issue precepts for the producing of all such papers as may relate to the matters in question before them, and to enforce all such summonses, orders and precepts by such and the like means, powers and authorities, as any Court of Vice-Admiralty may do: Now know ye, that We, reposing especial trust and confidence in the approved learning, wisdom and fidelity of our trusty and well-beloved *Alexander Marsden* Esquire, and of our trusty and well-beloved *Justinian Casamajor* junior, Esquire, have named, made, constituted and appointed, as we do by these presents name, make, constitute and appoint Our said trusty and well-beloved *Alexander Marsden* Esquire, to be our Commissary-Judge, and our said trusty and well-beloved *Justinian Casamajor* junior, Esquire, to be our Commissioner of Arbitration, under and pursuant to the said convention and Act of Parliament, to meet the Commissary-Judge and Commissioner of Arbitration appointed or to be appointed by his Most Faithful Majesty, at London, there to be resident with them, and to form a mixed commission, according to the stipulations of the said convention, for the adjudication of all such claims as shall be submitted to the said commission under the said convention, and according to the regulations and instructions thereto annexed: And we do hereby give and grant to Our said Commissary-Judge and Commissioner of Arbitration jointly, in all cases in which they shall or may, by the regulations annexed to the said convention, be required or directed to act together, and severally, in all cases in which either of them shall or may, by the said regulations, be required or directed to act separately from the other, full power and authority to examine and decide all such claims for Portuguese ships and cargoes captured by British cruizers on account of the unlawful Trading in Slaves, since the first of June 1814, till the period when the said convention shall be in complete execution, as are, by the said convention, instructions and regulations, and by the said Act of Parliament, made subject to the jurisdiction of the Commissary-Judges and Commissioners of Arbitration respectively to be by Us appointed; and to proceed in all such cases, and give such judgments, and make such orders therein, and do all such other acts, matters and things appertaining thereto, agreeably to the provisions of the said convention, and the instructions and regulations annexed thereto, as fully and effectually, to all intents and purposes, as if special powers and authorities for all and every such purposes were specifically and particularly inserted and given herein in relation thereto. And We do hereby further give

THE SLAVE TRADE.

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— 1. —

Commission for a
British Commis-
sary-Judge, &c. to
reside in London.

give and grant to our said Commissary-Judge, and to Our said Commissioner of Arbitration, and each of them, full power and authority to administer oaths to, and to take the depositions of all parties, witnesses, and other persons who may come or be brought before them, or either of them, to be examined under the said convention, instructions or regulations, or under the said Act of Parliament; and to summon before them, or either of them, all persons whom they, or either of them, may deem it necessary or proper to examine in relation to any suit, proceeding, matter or thing under their respective cognizance, and to send for, and issue precepts for the producing of all such papers as may relate to any matter in question before them, or either of them, and to enforce all such summonses, orders and precepts, by such and the like means, powers and authorities, as any court of Vice-Admiralty may do. And We do hereby require all and every our officers and ministers to be aiding and assisting to them and each of them in the due execution of this Our commission: Provided always, and We do hereby will and require, that Our said Commissary Judge, and Our said Commissioner of Arbitration, and each of them, before they shall respectively enter upon the execution of any of the duties of their said respective offices, shall in the presence of the Chief Justice of Our Court of King's Bench or Common Pleas, take the following oath, which oath the said Chief Justice of Our Court of King's Bench or Common Pleas is hereby and by the said Act authorized and required to administer; that is to say, "I *Alexander Marsden*, (or, I *Justinian Casamajor*, junior,) do solemnly swear that I will, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, act in the execution of my office as Commissary-Judge, (or Commissioner of Arbitration,) faithfully, impartially, fairly and without preference or favour either for claimants or captors, or any other persons; and that I will, to the best of my judgment and power, act in pursuance of and according to the stipulations, regulations and instructions contained in or annexed to the convention between His Majesty and his Most Faithful Majesty, signed at *London* on the 28th day of July 1817. So help me God." And We having made choice of and appointed Our trusty and well-beloved *William Rothery*, Esquire, to be secretary or registrar on our part to the said mixed commission, pursuant to the said convention and Act of Parliament, our said Commissary-Judge is hereby authorized and required to administer to the said *William Rothery*, Esquire, before he enters on the duties of his said office, the following oath, that is to say, "I *William Rothery* do solemnly swear that I will, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, act in the execution of my office, and that I will conduct myself with respect to the authority of the Commissary Judges and Commissioners of Arbitration of the commission to which I am attached, and will act with fidelity in all the affairs which may belong to my charge, and without preference or favour either for claimants or captors, or any other person. So help me God."

In witness whereof, We have signed these presents in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty.

Given at the Palace of Carlton-House, the twenty-seventh day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, and in the fifty-ninth year of His Majesty's Reign.

By Command of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty.

(Countersigned) *Castlereagh*.

— 2. —

COMMISSION for a British Commissary-Judge, a Commissioner of Arbitration, and a Secretary or Registrar, to reside at *Sierra Leone*, under the Convention signed at London, July 28th 1817, between His Majesty and his Most Faithful Majesty, for preventing the illicit Traffic in Slaves.

In the Name and on the Behalf of His Majesty,
(L. S.) GEORGE P. R.

— 2. —

Commission for a
British Commis-
sary-Judge, &c. to
reside at *Sierra
Leone*.

GEORGE the Third, by the grace of God, King of the United Kingdom of *Great Britain and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith, King of Hanover, &c. &c. &c. To all and singular to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Whereas by an additional convention concluded at London on the twenty-eighth day of July 1817, between Us and his Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of *Portugal, Brazil and Algarves*, for preventing our respective subjects from engaging in any illicit Traffic in Slaves, it is, amongst other things, stipulated and agreed, that in order to bring to adjudication, with the least delay and inconvenience, the vessels which may be detained for having been engaged in an illicit Traffic of Slaves, there shall be established, within the space of a year at furthest from the exchange of the ratifications of the said convention, two mixed commissions, formed of an equal number of individuals of the two nations, named for that purpose by their respective Sovereigns, and that those commissions shall reside, one in a possession to Us belonging, the other within the territories of his Most Faithful Majesty. one of which commissions is stipulated by the said convention to be always held upon the coast of *Africa*, and the other in the *Brazils*: And it was by the said convention further stipulated and agreed, that the said commissions should judge the causes submitted to them without appeal, and according to the regulations and instructions annexed to the said convention, of which they should be considered as an integral part. And whereas it was, by the said regulations annexed to the said convention, amongst other things provided, that the said mixed commissions should be composed in the following manner, that is to say, that We and his Most Faithful Majesty should each of us name a Commissary Judge and a Commissioner of Arbitration, who should be authorized to hear and decide, without appeal, all cases of capture of Slave vessels which, in pursuance of the stipulations of the said convention, might be laid before them, and that there should be attached to each commission, a Secretary or Registrar, appointed by the Sovereign of the country in which the commission might reside: And whereas, by an act of parliament made and passed in the 58th year of Our reign, intituled, “An Act to carry into execution a convention made between His Majesty and the King of *Portugal*, for the preventing Traffic in Slaves,” it is, amongst other things enacted, that it shall be lawful for Us, by any warrant under Our Royal Sign Manual, countersigned by one of our principal secretaries of state for the time being, to appoint such Commissary-Judges and Commissioners of Arbitration as are in and by the said convention and regulations thereunto annexed, mentioned to be appointed by Us; and such Commissary-Judges and Commissioners are thereby authorized and empowered to examine and decide all such cases of detention, captures and seizures of vessels and their cargoes, detained, seized, taken or captured under the said treaty or convention, or instructions and regulations, as are by the said treaty, convention, instructions and regulations, and by that Act, made subject to their jurisdiction, and to proceed therein, and give such judgments, and make such orders therein, and do all other acts, matters and things appertaining thereto, agreeably to the provisions of the said treaty, convention, and the instructions and regulations annexed thereto, as fully and effectually, to all intents and purposes, as if special powers and authorities for that purpose were specifically and particularly inserted and given in relation thereto in the said Act: And it was thereby further, amongst other things enacted, that it should be lawful for the said Commissary-Judges, or either of them, and they are thereby respectively empowered to administer oaths to, and take the depositions of all parties, witnesses and other persons who may come or be brought before them to be examined, or for the purpose of deposing, in the course of any proceeding, before the said Commissary-
Judges,

— 2. —
Commission for a
British Commis-
sary-Judge, &c. to
reside at *Sierra*
Leone.

Judges, or before the said Commissary Judges and the Commissioner of Arbitration, in the cases in which such Commissioners of Arbitration shall act with the said Commissary Judges under the said convention, instructions or regulations, or that act; and that it should also be lawful for the said Commissary-Judges, or for the said Commissary-Judges and Commissioners of Arbitration, in the cases aforesaid, to summon before them all persons whom they may deem it necessary or proper to examine in relation to any suit, proceeding, or matter or thing under their cognizance, and to send for and issue precepts for the producing of all such papers as may relate to the matters in question before them, and to enforce all such summonses, orders and precepts by such and the like means, powers and authorities, as any Court of Vice-Admiralty may do: Now know ye, that We, reposing especial trust and confidence in the approved learning, wisdom and fidelity of our trusty and well-beloved *Thomas Gregory*, Esquire, and of our trusty and well-beloved *Edward Fitz-Gerald*, Esquire, have named, made, constituted and appointed, as we do by these presents name, make, constitute and appoint our said trusty and well-beloved *Thomas Gregory*, Esquire, to be our Commissary-Judge, and our said trusty and well-beloved *Edward Fitz-Gerald*, Esquire, to be our Commissioner of Arbitration, under and pursuant to the said convention and act of parliament, to meet the Commissary-Judge and Commissioner of Arbitration appointed, or to be appointed by his Most Faithful Majesty, at our possession or settlement of *Sierra Leone*, on the coast of *Africa*, there to be resident with them, and to form a mixed commission, according to the stipulations of the said convention, for the adjudication of all such causes as shall be submitted to the said Commissioners under the said convention, and according to the regulations and instructions thereto annexed: And we do hereby give and grant to our said Commissary-Judge and Commissioner of Arbitration jointly, in all cases in which they shall or may by the regulations annexed to the said convention be required or directed to act together and severally, in all cases in which either of them shall or may by the said regulations be required or directed to act separately from the other, full power and authority to examine and decide all such cases of detention, captures and seizures of vessels and their cargoes, detained, seized, taken or captured under the said convention, or instructions and regulations, as are by the said convention, instructions and regulations, and by the said act of parliament, made subject to the jurisdiction of the Commissary-Judges and Commissioners of Arbitration respectively to be by Us appointed; and to proceed in all such cases, and give such judgments, and make such orders therein, and do all such other acts, matters and things appertaining thereto, agreeably to the provisions of the said convention, and the instructions and regulations annexed thereto, as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes, as if special powers and authorities for all and every such purposes were specifically and particularly inserted and given herein in relation thereto. And we do hereby further give and grant to our said Commissary-Judge, and our said Commissioner of Arbitration, full power and authority to administer oaths to, and take the depositions of all parties, witnesses and other persons who may come or be brought before them, or either of them, to be examined under the said convention, instructions or regulations, or under the said act of parliament, and to summon before them, or either of them, all persons whom they, or either of them, may deem it necessary or proper to examine in relation to any suit, proceeding, matter or thing under their respective cognizance, and to send for and issue precepts for the producing of all such papers as may relate to any matters in question before them or either of them, and to enforce all such summonses, orders and precepts by such and the like means, powers and authorities, as any Court of Vice-Admiralty may do. And we do hereby require all and every our officers and ministers to be aiding and assisting to them, and each of them, in the due execution of this our commission: Provided always, and we do hereby will and require, that our said Commissary-Judge, and our said Commissioner of Arbitration, before they shall respectively enter upon the execution of any of the duties of their said respective offices, shall, in the presence of the principal magistrate then residing and acting in our possession or settlement of *Sierra Leone* aforesaid, take the following oath, which oath such magistrate is hereby, and by the said Act, authorized and required to administer; that is to say, "I *Thomas Gregory*, (or I *Edward Fitz-Gerald*), do solemnly swear that I will, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, act in the execution of my office as Commissary-Judge, (or Commissioner of Arbitration) faithfully, impartially, fairly, and without preference or favour either for claimants or captors, or any other persons; and that I will to the best of my judgment and

— 2. —
 Commission for a
 British Commissary-Judge, &c. to
 reside at *Sierra Leone*.

power, act in pursuance of, and according to the stipulations, regulations and instructions contained in, or annexed to the additional convention concluded at *London*, on the 28th day of July 1817, between his Majesty and His Most Faithful Majesty. So help me God." And we having made choice of and appointed our trusty and well-beloved *Daniel Molloy Hamilton*, Esquire, to be Secretary (or Registrar) to the said mixed commission, pursuant to the said convention and act of parliament, Our said Commissary-Judge is hereby authorized and required to administer to the said *Daniel Molloy Hamilton*, Esquire, before he enters on the duties of his said office, the following oath: that is to say, "I *Daniel Molloy Hamilton* do solemnly swear that I will, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, act in the execution of my office, and that I will conduct myself with respect to the authority of the Commissary Judges and Commissioners of Arbitration of the commission to which I am attached, and will act with fidelity in all the affairs which may belong to my charge, and without preference or favour either for claimants or captors, or any other persons. So help me God."

In witness whereof, we have signed these presents in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty.

Given at the Palace of Carlton-House, the twentieth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, and in the fifty-ninth year of His Majesty's reign.

By Command of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty.

(Countersigned)

Castlereagh.

MEMORANDUM.

Three similar commissions were signed on the same day by His Royal Highness the Prince Regent:

The First.—Appointing *Henry Hayne*, Esquire, Commissary-Judge, and *Alexander Cunningham*, Esquire, Commissioner of Arbitration, to reside in the *Brazils*, under the convention between His Majesty, and his Most Faithful Majesty, signed at *London*, July 28th 1817.

The Second.—Appointing *Thomas Gregory*, Esquire, Commissary-Judge, *Edward Fitz-Gerald*, Esquire, Commissioner of Arbitration, and *Daniel Molloy Hamilton*, Esquire, Secretary or Registrar, to reside at *Sierra Leone*, under the Treaty between His Majesty and his Catholic Majesty, signed at *Madrid*, September 23d 1817, (in addition to their above-mentioned appointment under the *Portuguese* convention.)

And the Third.—Appointing *Henry Theophilus Kilbie*, Esquire, Commissary-Judge, and *Robert Francis Jamieson*, Esquire, Commissioner of Arbitration, to reside at the *Havannah*, under the said Treaty between His Majesty and his Catholic Majesty.

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— 3. —

COMMISSION for a British Judge, an Arbitrator, and a Secretary or Registrar, to reside at *Sierra Leone*, under the Treaty signed at the Hague, May 4th 1818, between His Majesty and the King of the Netherlands, for preventing Traffic in Slaves.

In the Name and on the Behalf of His Majesty.

(Signed,)

L. S.

GEORGE P. R.

— 3. —

Commission for a
British Judge, &c.
to reside at *Sierra
Leone.*

GEORGE the Third, by the grace of God, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, King of Hanover, &c. &c. &c. To all and singular to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Whereas by a treaty concluded at the *Hague*, on the fourth day of May 1818, between Us and his Majesty the King of the *Netherlands*, for preventing Our respective subjects from engaging in any traffic in Slaves, it is, amongst other things, agreed, that in order to bring to adjudication, with the least delay and inconvenience, the vessels which might be detained for having been engaged in a Traffic of Slaves, according to the tenor of that treaty, there should be established, within the space of a year at furthest from the exchange of the ratifications of that treaty, two mixed courts of justice, formed of an equal number of individuals of the two nations, named for that purpose by their respective sovereigns, and that those courts should reside, one in a possession to Us belonging, the other within the territories of his Majesty the King of the *Netherlands*: And it was by the said treaty further stipulated and agreed, that the said courts should judge the causes submitted to them according to the terms of the said treaty, without appeal, and according to the regulations and instructions annexed to the said treaty, of which they should be considered as an integral part. And whereas it was, by the said regulations annexed to the said treaty, amongst other things provided, that the said mixed courts of justice which were to reside on the coast of *Africa*, and in a colonial possession of his Majesty the King of the *Netherlands* should be composed in the following manner; that is to say, that We and his Majesty the King of the *Netherlands* should each of Us name a judge and an arbitrator who should be authorized to hear and decide, without appeal, all cases of capture of vessels which, in pursuance of the stipulations of the before-mentioned treaty, might be brought before them, and that the said mixed courts should also take cognizance and decide, in manner therein mentioned, on all claims for compensation on account of losses to vessels detained under suspicion of having been engaged in the Slave Trade, but which should not have been condemned as legal prize by the said courts; and that there should be attached to each court a secretary or registrar, appointed by the sovereign of the country in which the court might reside, who should register all its acts, and who, previous to his taking charge of his post, should make oath before the court, to conduct himself with respect for their authority, and to act with fidelity in all the affairs which might belong to his charge: And whereas, by an Act of Parliament made and passed in the 59th year of Our reign, intituled, "An Act to carry into effect the treaty with the *Netherlands* relating to the Slave Trade," it is, amongst other things enacted, that it shall be lawful for Us, by any warrant under Our Royal Sign Manual, countersigned by one of our principal secretaries of state, to appoint such judges and arbitrators as are in and by the said treaty and regulations thereto annexed, mentioned to be appointed by Us; and such judges and arbitrators are thereby authorized and empowered to examine and decide all such cases of detention, captures and seizures of vessels and their cargoes, detained, seized, taken or captured under the said treaty, instructions and regulations, as are, by the said treaty, instructions and regulations, and by that Act, made subject to their jurisdiction, and to proceed therein, and give such judgments, and make such orders therein, and to do all other acts, matters and things appertaining thereto, agreeably to the provisions of the said treaty, and the instructions and regulations annexed thereto, as fully and effectually, to all intents and purposes, as if special powers and authorities for that purpose were specifically and particularly inserted and given in relation thereto in that Act: And it

—3.—

Commission for a
British Judge, &c.
to reside at *Sierra
Leone.*

is thereby further, amongst other things, enacted, that it shall be lawful for the said judges, or either of them, and they are thereby respectively empowered to administer oaths to, and take the depositions of all parties, witnesses, and other persons who may come or be brought before them to be examined, or for the purpose of deposing, in the course of any proceeding before the said judges, or before the said judges and arbitrator, in the cases in which such arbitrator shall act with the said judges under the said treaty, instructions and regulations, or that Act; and that it shall also be lawful for the said judges, or for the said judges and arbitrator, in the cases aforesaid, to summon before them all persons whom they may deem it necessary or proper to examine in relation to any suit, proceeding, or matter or thing under their cognizance, and to send for and issue precepts for the producing of all such papers as may relate to the matters in question before them, and to enforce all such summonses, orders and precepts by such and the like means, powers and authorities, as any Court of Vice-Admiralty may do: Now know ye, that We, reposing especial trust and confidence in the approved learning, wisdom and fidelity of Our trusty and well-beloved *Thomas Gregory*, Esquire, and of Our trusty and well-beloved *Edward Fitz-Gerald*, Esquire, have named, made, constituted and appointed, as We do by these presents name, make, constitute and appoint Our said trusty and well-beloved *Thomas Gregory*, Esquire, to be Our judge, and Our said trusty and well-beloved *Edward Fitz-Gerald*, Esquire, to be Our arbitrator, under and pursuant to the said treaty and act of parliament, to meet the Judge and Arbitrator appointed, or to be appointed by his Majesty the King of the *Netherlands*, at our possession or settlement of *Sierra Leone*, on the coast of *Africa*, there to be resident with them, and to form a mixed court of justice, according to the stipulations and conditions of the said treaty, for the adjudication of all such claims and cases as shall be submitted to or be brought before the said court under the said treaty, and according to the regulations and instructions thereto annexed: And We do hereby give and grant to Our said Judge and Arbitrator jointly, in all cases in which they shall or may, by the regulations annexed to the said treaty, be required or directed to act together, and severally, in all cases in which either of them shall or may by the said regulations be required or directed to act separately from the other, full power and authority to examine and decide all such cases of detention, captures and seizures of vessels and their cargoes, detained, seized, taken or captured under the said treaty, instructions and regulations, as are by the said treaty, instructions and regulations, and by the said act of parliament, made subject to the jurisdiction of the said Judge and Arbitrator respectively to be by Us appointed, and to proceed in all such cases, and give such judgments, and make such orders therein, and do all such other acts, matters and things appertaining thereto, agreeably to the provisions of the said treaty, and the instructions and regulations annexed thereto, as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes, as if special powers and authorities for all and every such purposes were specifically and particularly inserted and given herein in relation thereto. And We do hereby further give and grant to Our said Judge, and to Our said Arbitrator, full power and authority to administer oaths to, and take the depositions of all parties, witnesses, and other persons who may come or be brought before them, or either of them, to be examined under the said treaty, instructions or regulations, or under the said act of parliament, and to summon before them, or either of them, all persons whom they, or either of them, may deem it necessary or proper to examine in relation to any suit, proceeding, matter or thing under their respective cognizance, and to send for and issue precepts for the producing of all such papers as may relate to any matter in question before them, or either of them, and to enforce all such summonses, orders and precepts by such and the like means, powers and authorities, as any Court of Vice-Admiralty may do. And we do hereby require all and every Our officers and ministers to be aiding and assisting to them, and each of them, in the due execution of this Our commission: Provided always, and We do hereby will and require, that Our said Judge, and Our said Arbitrator, before they shall respectively enter upon the execution of any of the duties of their said respective offices, shall, in the presence of the principal magistrate then residing and acting in Our possession or settlement of *Sierra Leone* aforesaid, take the following oath, which oath such magistrate is hereby, and by the said Act, required to administer; that is to say, "I *Thomas Gregory*, (or I *Edward Fitzgerald*,) do solemnly swear that I will, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, act in the execution of my office as Judge, (or Arbitrator,) faithfully, impartially, fairly, and without preference or favour either for claimants or captors, or any other persons; and that

THE SLAVE TRADE.

47.

I will, to the best of my judgment and power, act in pursuance of and according to the stipulations and instructions contained in or annexed to the treaty between His Majesty and his Majesty the King of the Netherlands, signed at the Hague on the fourth day of May 1818. So help me God." And We having made choice of and appointed Our trusty and well-beloved *Daniel Molloy Hamilton* Esquire, to be secretary or registrar on Our part to the said mixed court, pursuant to the said treaty and act of parliament, Our said Judge is hereby authorized and required to administer to the said *Daniel Molloy Hamilton* Esquire, before he enters on the duties of his said office, the following oath; that is to say, "I *Daniel Molloy Hamilton* do solemnly swear that I will, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, act in the execution of my office, and that I will conduct myself with due respect to the authority of the Judges and Arbitrators of the commission to which I am attached, and will act with fidelity in all the affairs which belong to my charge, and without preference or favour either for claimants or captors, or any other persons. So help me God."

— 3. —
Commission for a
British Judge, &c.
to reside at *Sierra
Leone.*

In witness whereof, We have signed these presents in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty.

Given at the Palace of Carlton-House, the eleventh day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, and in the fifty-ninth year of His Majesty's reign.

By command of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty,

(Countersigned)

Castlereagh.

MEMORANDUM.

A similar commission was signed on the same day by His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, appointing *Christopher Edward Lefroy* Esquire, Judge, and *Thomas Sherard Wale* Esquire, Arbitrator, to reside at *Surinam*, under the treaty between His Majesty and the King of the *Netherlands*, signed at the *Hague*, May 4th 1818.

—(4.)—

— 4. —
 Letter from Mr.
 Croker to Sir J. L.
 Yeo, transmitting
 Copies of Treaties
 with Portugal and
 Spain.

COPY of a letter from Mr. Croker to Commodore Sir James Lucas Yeo, commanding His Majesty's Ship *Semiramis*, on the coast of Africa, dated the 26th of March 1818, transmitting copies of the Treaties with Portugal and Spain, for preventing the Traffic in Slaves, with instructions thereon.

Sir,

Admiralty Office, 26th March 1818.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you herewith, printed copies of an additional convention, and of a treaty, concluded on the 28th July, and 23d September 1817, between His Majesty and the Kings of Portugal and Spain, for the purpose of preventing their subjects, respectively, from engaging in any illicit Traffic in Slaves; and to signify their Lordships direction to you to observe the stipulations contained therein, and to give the necessary corresponding instructions to the commanders of any vessels under your orders.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) *J. W. Croker.*

To Commodore Sir James Lucas Yeo, K. C. B.
 His Majesty's Ship *Semiramis*, on the
 Coast of Africa.

—(5.)—

— 5. —
 Order to Sir G. R.
 Collier, Bart. &c.
 relating to Treaties.

COPY of such part of an order addressed on the 19th September 1818, by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to Sir George R. Collier, Bart. and K. C. B. Captain of His Majesty's Ship *Tartar* at Spithead, (appointed to proceed upon a cruize to the coast of Africa,) as relates to the carrying into effect the Treaties concluded between His Majesty and the Kings of *Portugal* and *Spain*, for the more complete abolition of the African Slave Trade.

WITH regard to the conduct to be observed towards the Portuguese ships and settlements, and towards Spanish ships, We send you herewith copies of the existing treaties between this country and Portugal, and between this country and Spain, upon this subject; and we hereby strictly require and direct you to govern yourself according to the instructions and stipulations contained therein.

II.

FURTHER PAPERS

Relating to the

SLAVE TRADE.

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
25 June 1819.*

517.