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SLAVE TRADE. No. 1 (1874).

TREATY

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND THE

SULTAN OF MUSCAT

FOR THE

ABOLITION OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

Signed at Muscat, April 14, 1873.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1874.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Treaty between Her Majesty and the Sultan of Muscat for the Abolition of the Slave Trade.

Signed at Muscat, April 14, 1873.

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Highness the Seyyid Toorkee-bin-Said, Sultan of Muscat, being desirous to give more complete effect to the engagements entered into by the Sultan and his predecessors for the perpetual abolition of the Slave Trade, they have agreed to conclude a Treaty for this purpose which shall be binding upon themselves their heirs and successors; and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, having appointed as her Plenipotentiary Sir Henry Bartle Edward Frere, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, he, having communicated to the Sultan of Muscat his full powers found in good and due form, and the aforesaid Sultan of Muscat, Seyyid Toorkee-bin-Said, acting on his own behalf, they have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

The import of slaves from the coasts or islands of Africa or elsewhere into the Dominions of Muscat, whether destined for transport from one part of the Sultan of Muscat's Dominions to another, or for conveyance to foreign parts, shall entirely cease, and any vessels engaged in the transport or conveyance of slaves after this date shall be liable to seizure and condemnation by all such Naval and other Officers or Agents, and such Courts as may be authorised for that purpose on the part of Her Britannic Majesty; and all persons hereafter entering the Sultan's Dominions and Dependencies shall be free.

ARTICLE II.

The Sultan engages that all public markets in his Dominions for slaves shall be entirely closed.

ARTICLE III.

The Sultan engages to protect, to the utmost of his power, all liberated slaves, and to punish severely any attempt to molest them or reduce them again to slavery.

ARTICLE IV.

Her Britannic Majesty engages that natives of Indian States under British protection shall, from and after a date to be hereafter fixed, be prohibited from possessing slaves, and in the meanwhile from acquiring any fresh slaves.

ARTICLE V.

The present Treaty shall be ratified by Her Majesty, and the ratification shall be forwarded to Muscat as soon as possible.*

In witness whereof, Sir Henry Bartle Edward Frere, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and Seyyid Toorkee-bin-Said, Sultan of Muscat, on his own behalf, have signed the same and have affixed thereto their respective seals.

Done at Muscat this fourteenth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three.

(L.S.) H. B. E. FRERE.

(L.S.) SEYYID TOORKEE-BIN-SAID.

* Delivered to the Sultan in September 1873.

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