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AFRICA. No. 1 (1878).

TREATY

OF

FRIENDSHIP, COMMERCE, AND FOR THE SUPPRESSION
OF THE SLAVE TRADE,

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND

THE KING OF DAHOMEY.

Signed at Whydah, May 12, 1877.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1878.

LONDON:
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Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and for the Suppression of the
Slave Trade, between Her Majesty and the King of Dahomey.

Signed at Whydah, May 12, 1877.

Treaty between Captain George Lydiard Sullivan, of the Royal Navy, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Sirius," on behalf of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India, and the Avogah of Dahomey, Sahcloca, the second Avogah of Dahomey, Chodatong, on behalf of Gelele, King of Dahomey.

ARTICLE I.

IT is agreed that there shall be henceforth peace and friendship between Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria and His Majesty Gelele, of Dahomey, in Africa, and their heirs and successors.

ARTICLE II.

There shall be to the subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India, complete liberty of commerce, and they shall have entire right and liberty to come with their ships and cargoes to all places and ports in the dominions of His Majesty Gelele, to reside and trade in any part of the said dominions, to hire, occupy, and possess any houses or warehouses for the purpose of commerce, and enjoy the most complete protection and security from His Majesty the King of Dahomey, the Governors and people of his dominions.

ARTICLE III.

The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty being or residing or trading in the country of Dahomey shall receive special protection from all annoyance and inconvenience in their various occupations or trades from any and all of the subjects of His Majesty Gelele, and from foreigners residing in that country, and they shall be permitted to hoist on their houses and factories a flag of the Kingdom of Dahomey alone, or in concert with the flag of England; and the King Gelele engages herewith to issue a proclamation to His Majesty's subjects, and to all foreigners in his dominions, never again to molest, interfere with, or threaten the lives or persons of British subjects, on pain of severe punishment.

ARTICLE IV.

The export of slaves to foreign countries is for ever abolished in the territories of the King of Dahomey, and the law made and proclaimed in accordance with a former Treaty between Her Majesty the Queen of England and King Gezo of Dahomey, dated January 13, 1852, shall continue in force for ever.

ARTICLE V.

No British subject shall henceforth be compelled to attend any of the customs of the country of Dahomey where any human sacrifices are held.

ARTICLE VI.

Whereas, in consequence of insult and violence towards one of Her Majesty's subjects in the country of Dahomey, a fine has been imposed of 500 puncheons of oil on that Kingdom, and a blockade established to enforce payment of the same, it is herein agreed, on the part of Her Most Gracious Majesty, that the fine shall be reduced to 400 puncheons of oil and the blockade immediately raised, under the following conditions: that 200 puncheons of oil are paid at once, and the remainder within twelve months from this date; and His Majesty King Gelele agrees to these conditions, and promises herewith to complete the payment of the 400 puncheons of oil by the time given.

Signed at the Pàcooteh Whydah, at Whydah, this 12th day of May, 1877.

(Signed) GEORGE LYDIARD SULLIVAN, *Captain and Senior Officer, West Coast of Africa.*
 SACHLOCA, *the Avogah of Dahomey.*
 CHODATONG, *the Second Avogah of Dahomey.*
 KING GELELE, his ✕ mark.

Witnesses to Treaty:
 (Signed) ARTHUR H. ALINGTON,
Commander, H.M.S. "Boxer."
 FREDERICK MAXWELL HERON,
Commander, H.M.S. "Seagull."

TREATY of Friendship, Commerce, and for the
Suppression of the Slave Trade, between Her
Majesty and the King of Dahomey.

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