

as the accused, specially commissioned to that effect, may be authorized by their Government to deliver judgment instead, and in the place of the Tribunals.

“ARTICLE LVII.

“The procedure and judgment in regard to offences against the provisions of Chapter III, shall always take place in as summary a manner as is permitted by the Laws and Regulations in force in the territories subject to the authority of the Signatory Powers.

“ARTICLE LVIII.

“Any Judgment of the national Tribunal, or of the authorities referred to in Article LVI, declaring that the detained vessel did not carry on Slave Trade, shall be immediately executed, and the vessel shall be entirely free to continue its course.

“In such case the captain or fitter-out of a vessel detained without legitimate ground of suspicion, or which has been subjected to annoyance, shall have the right of claiming damages, the amount of which shall be fixed by agreement between the Governments directly interested, or by arbitration, and shall be paid within a period of six months from the date of the Judgment acquitting the captured vessel.

“ARTICLE LIX.

“In case of condemnation, the sequestered vessel shall be declared a lawful prize for the benefit of the captor.

“The captain, crew, and all other persons found guilty, shall be punished according to the gravity of the crimes or offences committed by them, and in accordance with Article V.

“ARTICLE LX.

“The provisions of Articles L to LIX do not affect in any way the jurisdiction or procedure of existing special Tribunals, or of those which may hereafter be formed to take cognizance of Slave Trade offences.

“ARTICLE LXI.

“The High Contracting Parties undertake to make known to each other reciprocally the instructions which they may give to the Commanders of their men-of-war navigating the seas of the zone referred to, for carrying out the provisions of Chapter III.

“CHAPTER IV.—COUNTRIES TO WHICH SLAVES ARE SENT, THE INSTITUTIONS OF WHICH RECOGNIZE THE EXISTENCE OF DOMESTIC SLAVERY.

“ARTICLE LXII.

“The Contracting Powers whose institutions recognize the existence of domestic slavery, and whose possessions, whether in or out of Africa, consequently serve, in spite of the vigilance of the authorities, as places of destination for African slaves, engage to prohibit the importation, transit, and exit, as well as Traffic in Slaves. They shall organize the most active and the strictest supervision at all places where the arrival, transit, or exit of African slaves takes place.

“ARTICLE LXIII.

“Slaves liberated under the provisions of the preceding Article shall, if circumstances permit, be sent back to the country from whence they came. In all cases they shall receive letters of freedom from the competent authorities, and shall be entitled to their protection and assistance for the purpose of obtaining means of subsistence.

“ARTICLE LXIV.

“Every fugitive slave arriving at the frontier of any of the Powers mentioned in Article LXII

shall be considered free, and shall have the right to claim letters of freedom from the competent authorities.

“ARTICLE LXV.

“Any sale or transaction to which the slaves referred to in Articles LXIII and LXIV may have been subjected through circumstances of any kind whatsoever, shall be considered as null and void.

“ARTICLE LXVI.

“Native vessels flying the flag of one of the countries mentioned in Article LXII, if there is any indication that they are employed in Slave Trade operations, shall be subjected by the local authorities in the ports they frequent to a strict verification of their crew and passengers, both on arrival and departure. Should African slaves be on board, judicial proceedings shall be taken against the vessel and against all persons who may be implicated. Slaves found on board shall receive letters of freedom through the authorities who effected the seizure of the vessels.

“ARTICLE LXVII.

“Penal provisions in harmony with those provided for by Article V shall be issued against persons importing, transporting, and trading in African slaves, against the mutilators of children or of male adults, and those who traffic in them, as well as against their associates and accomplices.

“ARTICLE LXVIII.

“The Signatory Powers recognize the great importance of the Law respecting the prohibition of the Negro Slave Trade sanctioned by His Majesty the Emperor of the Ottomans on the 4th (16th) December, 1889; (22 Rebi-ul-Akhir, 1307), and they are assured that an active supervision will be organized by the Ottoman authorities, especially on the west coast of Arabia and on the routes which place this coast in communication with the other possessions of His Imperial Majesty in Asia.

“ARTICLE LXIX.

“His Majesty the Shah of Persia consents to organize an active supervision in the territorial waters, and on those portions of the coast of the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman which are under his sovereignty; and over the inland routes which serve for the transport of slaves. The Magistrates and other authorities shall receive the necessary powers for this purpose.

“ARTICLE LXX.

“His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar consents to give his most effective support for the repression of crimes and offences committed by traders in African slaves on land as well as at sea. The Tribunals created for this purpose in the Sultanate of Zanzibar shall strictly apply the penal provisions mentioned in Article V. In order the better to insure the freedom of liberated slaves, both in virtue of the provisions of the present General Act and of the Decrees issued in this matter by His Highness and his predecessors, a Liberation Office shall be established at Zanzibar.

“ARTICLE LXXI.

“Diplomatic and Consular Agents and naval officers of the Contracting Powers shall, within the limits of existing Conventions, give their assistance to the local authorities in order to assist in repressing the Slave Trade where it still exists. They shall be entitled to be present at trials for slave-trading brought about at their instance, without, however, being entitled to take part in the deliberations.