

of Persia, being mutually animated by a sincere desire to co-operate for the extinction of the barbarous Traffic in Slaves, have resolved to conclude a Convention for the purpose of attaining this object, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:—

“ Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, Ronald Ferguson Thomson, Esquire, Her Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Persia;

“ And His Majesty the Shah of Persia, his Excellency Mirza Saeed Khan, his Minister for Foreign Affairs;

“ Who, after having communicated to each other their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

“ ARTICLE I.

“ In order to prevent the chance of negro slaves, male and female, being imported into Persia, British cruisers shall be permitted to visit and detain merchant-vessels under the Persian flag, or belonging to Persian subjects, which may be engaged in, or which there may be reasonable grounds for suspecting to be or to have been engaged, during the voyage on which they are met, in carrying slaves; and if any such slaves are found on board such merchant-vessels, the vessel, with all on board, shall be taken before the nearest Persian authorities for trial. But no person whatsoever who, being furnished with a Government passport, countersigned by a British resident or consul, may have gone from Persia to visit the places of pilgrimage shall, when returning, be interfered with, provided such person be not accompanied by more negroes, either male or female, than the number mentioned in his original pass. The presence of any such additional negro or negroes shall be *prima facie* evidence of an attempted Traffic in Slaves.

“ ARTICLE II.

“ If any merchant-vessel under the Persian flag be captured by a British cruiser and taken into a Persian port for adjudication, it shall be the officer of the British cruiser making the capture, or some duly authorized officer of the British Government, who shall be present at such adjudication.

“ In the event of the captured merchant-vessel being condemned and sold the proceeds of such sale shall go to the Persian Government, and all slaves found on board such vessel shall be handed over to the British authorities.

“ ARTICLE III.

“ His Majesty the Shah of Persia agrees to punish severely all Persian subjects or foreigners amenable to Persian jurisdiction who may be found engaging in Slave Traffic by sea, and to manumit and guarantee the safety and proper treatment of all slaves illegally imported, that is to say, imported by sea, into His Majesty's dominions after the signature of the present Convention.

“ ARTICLE IV.

“ The present Convention shall come into operation on the first of May, one thousand

eight hundred and eighty-two. After the Convention shall so have been brought into operation Article XIII of the Treaty between Great Britain and Persia, signed at Paris on the fourth of March, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, by which the agreement entered into by Great Britain and Persia in August, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, was renewed, shall be considered as cancelled except as to any proceeding that may have already been taken or commenced in virtue thereof.

“ ARTICLE V.

“ The ratifications of the present Convention shall be exchanged at Tehran within five months or sooner, if practicable.

“ Done at Tehran in quadruplicate, this second day of the month of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.

“ (L.S.) RONALD F. THOMSON.
“ (L.S.) MIRZA SAEED KHAN.”

Now, therefore, His Majesty, by virtue and in exercise of the powers in this behalf as aforesaid, and by virtue and in exercise of the powers in this behalf by “ The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890,” or otherwise, in His Majesty vested, is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

1. The said Treaty or Convention hereinbefore recited shall, from the 1st day of August, 1914, be deemed to be an existing East African Slave Trade Treaty within the meaning of “ The Slave Trade (East African Courts) Act, 1873.”

2. Subject to the provisions of this Order, it shall be lawful for the Court established under “ The Persian Coast and Islands Order in Council, 1907,” to exercise jurisdiction in matters relating to the Slave Trade.

3. Subject to the provisions of this Order, the Court established under “ The Persian Coast and Islands Order in Council, 1907,” shall exercise all the jurisdiction conferred by “ The Slave Trade (East African Courts) Act, 1873,” on the East African Courts, and the said Court, when exercising such jurisdiction, shall be deemed to be one of the East African Courts within the meaning of the said Act.

4. This Order shall be published in the “ Gazette of India ” within such time after the passing thereof as the Secretary of State may prescribe, and shall come into force on the 1st day of August, 1914.

5. This Order may be cited as “ The Persian Coast and Islands (Slave Trade Jurisdiction) Order in Council, 1914,” and shall be read as one with “ The Persian Coast and Islands Order in Council, 1907.”

And the Most Honourable the Marquess of Crewe, K.G., and the Right Honourable Sir Edward Grey, Baronet, K.G., two of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

Almeric FitzRoy.