

MESSAGE

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

An additional article to the treaty between the United States of America and her Britannic Majesty for the suppression of the African slave trade, signed at Washington, April 7, 1862; signed at Washington, February 17, 1862.

FEBRUARY 18, 1863.—Message read; treaty read first time, and, with the message, referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and ordered to be printed in confidence for the use of the Senate.

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit to the Senate for consideration, with a view to its ratification, an additional article to the treaty between the United States and Great Britain of the 7th of April, 1862, for the suppression of the African slave trade, which was concluded and signed at Washington on the 17th instant by the Secretary of State and her Britannic Majesty's minister accredited to this government.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

WASHINGTON, *February 18, 1863.*

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE

TO THE

TREATY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY

FOR

The suppression of the African slave trade, signed at Washington, April 7, 1862.

Whereas, by the first article of the treaty between the United States of America and her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for the suppression of the African slave trade, signed at Washington on the 7th of April, 1862, it was stipulated and agreed that those ships of the respective navies of the two high contracting parties which shall be provided with special instructions for that purpose, as thereafter mentioned, may visit such merchant vessels of the two nations as may, upon reasonable grounds, be suspected of being engaged in the African slave trade, or of having been fitted out for that purpose, or of having, during the voyage on which they are met by the said cruisers, been engaged in the African slave trade contrary to the provisions of the said treaty; and that such cruisers may detain and send or carry away such vessels in order that they may be brought to trial in the manner thereafter agreed upon: And whereas it was by the said article further stipulated and agreed that the reciprocal right of search and detention should be exercised only within the distance of two hundred miles from the coast of Africa, and to the southward of the thirty-second parallel of north latitude, and within thirty leagues from the coast of the island of Cuba: And whereas the two high contracting parties are desirous of rendering the said treaty still more efficacious for its purpose, the plenipotentiaries who signed the said treaty have, in virtue of their full powers, agreed that the reciprocal right of visit and detention, as defined in the article aforesaid, may be exercised also within thirty leagues of the island of Madagascar, within thirty leagues of the island of Puerto Rico, and within thirty leagues of the island of San Domingo.

The present additional article shall have the same force and validity as if it had been inserted word for word in the treaty concluded between the two high contracting parties on the 7th of April, 1862, and shall have the same duration as that treaty. It shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London in six months from this date, or sooner if possible.

In witness whereof, the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have thereunto affixed the seal of their arms.

Done at Washington the 17th day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD. [L. s.]
LYONS. [L. s.]