

TREATY SERIES. 1921.

169

N. 7.

579

CONVENTION

BETWEEN

THE UNITED KINGDOM AND
LIBERIA,

SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE CONVENTION OF
JANUARY 21, 1911.

Signed at London, June 25, 1917.

[*Ratifications exchanged at London, March 31, 1921.*]

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



LONDON :

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CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM
AND LIBERIA, SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE
CONVENTION SIGNED BY THE CONTRACTING
PARTIES ON JANUARY 21, 1911,* THE RATI-
FICATIONS OF WHICH WERE EXCHANGED
AT MONROVIA ON MAY 13, 1911.

Signed at London, June 25, 1917.

[Ratifications exchanged at London, March 31, 1921.]

WHEREAS by Article 7 of the Convention signed at Monrovia on the 21st day of January, 1911, between the United Kingdom and Liberia respecting the boundary between Sierra Leone and Liberia it was agreed that the respective Governments would facilitate an arrangement between the Colony of Sierra Leone and the local authorities of the Republic for the settlement of all disputes that might arise between the tribes on either side of the frontier ;

And whereas His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the President of the Republic of Liberia are desirous of entering into an agreement in pursuance of the said agreement ;

They have, with a view of negotiating such an arrangement, named as their respective representatives, that is to say :

His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India : the Right Honourable Arthur James Balfour, Member of the Order of Merit, a Member of Parliament, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs ; and

The President of the Republic of Liberia : J. P. Crommelin, Esq., Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Liberia at the Court of St. James ;

* "Treaty Series (1911), No. 16" [Cmd. 5719].

Who, duly authorised to that effect, have agreed upon the following Articles:—

ARTICLE 1.

Claims relating to Women.

(a.) A sum not exceeding 5*l.* sterling shall be allowed as the full amount of dower paid for a lawfully married wife according to the native customary law of marriage.

(b.) No claim whatsoever shall be made in respect of any woman or her children except by a person, or the relatives of a person, who has been married to such woman according to the native customary law of marriage.

(c.) No woman shall be compelled to return to a claimant without her consent.

(d.) Such claims shall be heard and determined by the District Commissioner of the district in which the woman is found.

ARTICLE 2.

Crossing the Boundary.

(a.) Free intercourse across the boundary shall be permitted to the natives on both sides.

(b.) No tribe or person established on one side of the boundary shall be allowed to hunt or farm on the lands of the other side; but such operations as the cutting of thatch or sticks for the building of huts and fishing in the streams adjacent to the boundary shall be permitted where such rights have hitherto existed: Provided that such permission shall not entitle any person to reap or get products of commercial value.

(c.) A native established on one side of the boundary who commits on the other side of such boundary an offence punishable under the law in force on such other side will be dealt with in accordance with such law.

(d.) No chief shall be allowed to hear or decide any case or dispute arising between himself and any chief established on the other side of the boundary. Such matters must be referred to the District Commissioners on either side, and will then become the subject of adjustment, if possible, by the District Commissioners on both sides.

(e.) Where there are sacred groves or graves on either side of the boundary which are the object of worship or veneration to the natives on the other side, nothing shall be allowed to hinder the free access of such natives to such groves or graves.

ARTICLE 3.

This arrangement shall be subject to such amendments as may be agreed upon from time to time for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of Article 7 of the said Convention. Any such amendment shall come into operation thirty days after the date of the exchange of ratifications by the respective Governments.

And the Right Honourable Arthur James Balfour, Member of the Order of Merit, a Member of Parliament, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and J. P. Crommelin, Esq., Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Liberia at the Court of St. James, on behalf of the Republic of Liberia, have assented to and accepted the said Articles, subject to the ratification of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the President of the Republic of Liberia respectively.

Done at London, the 25th day of June, 1917.

(Signed) ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR.

(Signed) J. P. CROMMELIN.
