

Merchant Seamen Deserters.

TREATY between Great Britain and the United States respecting Merchant Seamen deserters. Signed at Washington, June 3, 1892. [Ratifications exchanged at Washington, August 1, 1892.]

WHEREAS the Governments of Great Britain and the United States of America are desirous to make provision for the apprehension, recovery, and restoration of persons who may desert from merchant vessels of their respective countries while in the ports of the other country, and to conclude a treaty for the above purpose, the high contracting parties have accordingly appointed as their plenipotentiaries to conclude the said treaty, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Sir Julian Pauncefote, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States; and

The President of the United States of America, James G. Blaine, Secretary of State of the United States;

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

ARTICLE I.

The consuls-general, consuls, vice-consuls, and consular agents of either of the high contracting parties, residing in the dominions, possessions, or colonies of the other, shall have power to require from the proper authorities the assistance provided by law for the apprehension, recovery, and restoration of seamen who may desert from any ship belonging to a subject or citizen of their respective countries while in the ports of the other country. If, however, any such deserter shall have committed any crime or offence in the country where he is found, his surrender or restoration may be delayed until the proper tribunal before which the case shall be pending, or may be cognizable, shall have pronounced its sentence, and the sentence shall have been carried into effect.

It is understood that the preceding stipulations shall not apply to the subjects or citizens of the country where the desertion shall take place.

ARTICLE II.

The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London or at Washington without delay.

ARTICLE III.

The present treaty shall come into operation at the expiration of thirty days from the date of the exchange of ratifications. It shall remain in force for five years after that date, and thereafter until terminated by a twelve months' notice to be given by either high contracting party to the other.

In faith whereof we, the respective plenipotentiaries, have signed this treaty, and have hereunto affixed our seals.

Done in duplicate at Washington, this third day of June, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two.

[L.S.]

JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

[L.S.]

JAMES G. BLAINE.