

KB opheffing slavernij  
Curacao binnenin

15.586  
[redacted]

N<sup>o</sup>. 201.



Br. no. 29

NEDERLANDSCHE



STAATS-COURANT.

De prijs dezer Courant met het Bijblad is f 30 in het jaar; die van de Courant alleen f 20 en die van het Bijblad alleen f 15.

De prijs der advertentien is 25 cents voor den regel bij iedere plaatsing, buiten de zegelgelden en briefposten.

DINGSDAG 26 AUGUSTUS.

Bij deze Courant behoort een Bijvoegsel.

NEDERLANDEN.

's GRAVENHAGE, den 25sten Augustus.

(Staatsblad n<sup>o</sup>. 164.) WET van den 8sten Augustus 1862, houdende opheffing der slavernij in de kolonie Suriname.

WIJ WILLEM III. BIJ DE GRATIE GODS, KONING DER NEDERLANDEN, PRINS VAN ORANJE-NASSAU, GROOT-HERTOG VAN LUXEMBURG, ENZ., ENZ., ENZ.

Allen, die deze zullen zien of hooren lezen, salut! doen te weten: Alzoo Wij in overweging genomen hebben, dat het welbegrepen belang der kolonie Suriname de opheffing der slavernij vordert;

En willende tevens voorzien in de middelen tot behoud en zooveel mogelijke uitbreiding van den landbouw en de nijverheid in die kolonie, Zoo is het, dat Wij, den Raad van State gehoord en met gemeen overleg der Staten-Generaal, hebben goedgevonden en verstaan, gelijk Wij goedvinden en verstaan bij deze:

Iste HOOFDSTUK.  
Algemeene grondslagen.

Art. 1. De slavernij in de kolonie Suriname is opgeheven op den éersten Julij 1863.

Art. 2. Aan de eigenaren van slaven wordt, ter zake van de opheffing der slavernij, tegemoetkoming toegekend.

Art. 3. De krachtens art. 1 vrijgemaakten staan van den 1sten Julij 1863 onder een bijzonder toezigt van den Staat, voor den tijd van hoogstens tien jaren.

Art. 4. De vrije kolonisatie van Suriname wordt van staatswege aangemoedigd.

Voor den aanvoer van vrije arbeiders in Suriname worden van staatswege premien uitgelooft gedurende hoogstens vijf jaren na afkondiging dezer wet.

Het gezamenlijk bedrag dier premien kan de som van een millioen gulden niet te boven gaan.

De voorwaarden, welke vervulling noodig is om aanspraak op uitbetaling dier premien te verkrijgen, worden door Ons vastgesteld, en het toezigt, op den aanvoer door de Regering te houden, wordt door Ons geregeld.

IIde HOOFDSTUK.  
Van de tegemoetkoming.

Art. 5. Binnen dertig dagen na de afkondiging dezer wet in de kolonie Suriname, wordt door alle eigenaren van slaven of hunne gevolmagtigden ter gouvernements-secretarie ingeleverd een borderel van aangifte in duplo, vermeldende:

- de namen der plantages waartoe de slaven behooren;
- de namen en woonplaatsen der eigenaren, of hunner gevolmagtigden;
- de namen, het geslacht, den ouderdom, het bedrijf of beroep en de godsdienst der hun toebehoorende slaven, met opgaaf dergenen, die regt op manumissie hebben verkregen, en van de zoodanigen, die door de bevoegde commissie gerangschikt zijn onder de suspecten van besmetting door de ziekten van melaatschheid en elephantiasis.

Van de inlevering van dit borderel wordt een bewijs aan den inleveraar uitgereikt.

Art. 6. Bij verzuim van de eigenaren of hunne gevolmagtigden om het in art. 5 vermelde borderel binnen den gestelden termijn in te leveren, wordt het van gouvernementswege opgemaakt, en komen de daarvoor gemaakte kosten voor rekening van den nalatige.

Art. 7. De borderellen van aangifte, bedoeld in de beide voorgaande artikelen, worden, binnen een door den Gouverneur van Suriname te bepalen korten termijn, van gouvernementswege vergeleken met de aanwezige slaven en, zooveel noodig, met de registers.

Art. 8. De tegemoetkoming voor slaven, onverschillig of zij tot plantages en gronden behooren, of als particuliere slaven bekend staan, en zonder onderscheid van ouderdom of geslacht, wordt bepaald op f 300 voor ieder hoofd. Voor slaven, die regt op manumissie hebben verkregen, op f 60 voor ieder hoofd.

Art. 9. Voor tegemoetkoming komen niet in aanmerking:

a. slaven, die wegens besmetting uit de zamenleving zijn of moeten worden verwijderd. Ten aanzien van hen, die volgens de voorschriften der publicatie van den 7den September 1830 (Gouvernementsblad n<sup>o</sup>. 13) zijn, of naar aanleiding van de verificatie, bedoeld in art. 7, nader mogten worden verklaard verdacht van met eene der daarbij aangeduide kwalen te zijn besmet, blijft de beslissing omtrent de toekenning eener tegemoetkoming opgeschort. De tegemoetkoming wordt niet toegekend indien de lijder binnen het jaar na de afkondiging dezer wet in de kolonie Suriname niet door de bij art. 9 der hiervoren genoemde publicatie aangeduide commissie is gezond verklaard;

b. slaven, die weggelopen of vermist zijn langer dan ééne maand vóór den dag der verificatie, bij art. 7 bedoeld;

c. tot dwangarbeid veroordeelde slaven, wier straftijd binnen vier jaren na den 1sten Julij 1863 niet is geëindigd;

d. kinderen, uit slavinnen geboren na de afkondiging dezer wet in Suriname.

Art. 10. De tegemoetkoming strekt niet slechts voor den persoon van den slaaf, maar ook voor zijne kleederen, klein en pluimvee en alle roerende goederen, die volgens koloniaal gebruik geacht worden hem in het bijzonder toe te behooren.

Deze goederen worden zijn eigendom.

Art. 11. In overeenstemming met de volgens art. 7 geverifieerde borderellen van aangifte, wordt van de te verleenen tegemoetkoming een staat opgemaakt, die gedurende dertig dagen na afdrop van den bij evengemeld artikel bedoelden termijn, ter gouvernements-secretarie tot inzage van de belanghebbenden wordt nedergelegd.

Art. 12. Bijaldien de eigenaren of hunne gevolmagtigden zich met dien staat niet kunnen vereenigen, wordt hun vrijgelaten, binnen veertien dagen na den termijn bij het vorig artikel bepaald, bij deurwaarders-exploit verzet aan te teekenen ter gouvernements-secretarie, met vermelding der gronden van bezwaar.

Art. 13. Binnen veertien dagen na de aantekening wordt, op straffe van verval, het verzet, door hem die het heeft gedaan, bij dagvaarding tegen de eerstkomende terechtzitting voor het gerechtshof der kolonie Suriname gebracht.

Ten dage dienende worden over en weder de sustenuten mondeling toegelicht, zonder het ministerie van procureurs en zonder schriftelijke conclusien.

Het hof doet ten spoedigste daarna uitspraak, ten ware het een nader onderzoek mogt bevelen, waartoe een termijn moet worden gesteld.

De uitspraak van het hof is voor geen hooger beroep vatbaar.

Art. 14. De tegemoetkoming, bij art. 8 bedoeld, wordt binnen drie maanden na de opheffing der slavernij aan den eigenaar of zijnen gevolmagtigde voldaan.

De betaling geschiedt in wissels, gulden voor gulden, af te geven door den Gouverneur op den Minister van Kolonien en betaalbaar ééne maand na zigt bij de Nederlandsche Bank te Amsterdam, of wel, voor zoover verlangd wordt en de koloniale kas daartoe naar het oordeel van den Gouverneur bij magte is, te Paramaribo in wettig betaalmiddel.

Art. 15. In geval van geschillen over eigendomsregten op slaven, of wanneer derden aanspraak maken op het bedrag der tegemoetkoming, of op een gedeelte daarvan, wordt de voldoening van het geheel uitgesteld tot dat partijen het eens zijn of dat het geschil bij eindvonnis is uitgewezen.

Art. 16. Het regt op de krachtens deze wet vastgestelde tegemoetkoming gaat verloren ten aanzien van de sommen, welke binnen vier jaren na de opheffing der slavernij niet zijn opgevorderd.

Art. 17. De opgaven, verklaringen, kwijtingen en verdere administratieve stukken, welke ingevolge de bepalingen van dit hoofdstuk worden vereischt, zijn niet onderworpen aan de belasting van het zegel.

IIIde HOOFDSTUK.

Van het bijzonder toezigt van den Staat.

Art. 18. Het bijzonder toezigt van den Staat over de vrijgemaakten wordt opgedragen aan bezoldigde ambtenaren, wier werkkring en bevoegdheid worden geregeld bij algemeene verordening.

Die ambtenaren mogen geen beheer voeren over plantages of eenig geldelijk belang hebben bij eenige onderneming op Suriname.

Art. 19. Het staatstoezigt heeft de strekking om de bij deze wet vrijgemaakten te beschermen en op te leiden tot het familie- en maatschappelijk leven:

door het weren van lediggang en het regelen der verpligting tot arbeid, zoomede

door bevordering van het school- en godsdienstig onderwijs;

door het voorschrijven van de middelen tot ondersteuning der hulpbehoevenden en de verpleging der zieken;

voorts in het algemeen door het nemen van maatregelen, welke in het belang der vrijgemaakten of in dat der publieke orde noodig zijn.

Art. 20. De Gouverneur van Suriname is bevoegd vrijgemaakten, die zich door zedelijk gedrag en arbeidzaamheid gunstig onderscheiden, van het staatstoezigt te ontslaan.

IVde HOOFDSTUK.

Van de vrijgemaakten.

Art. 21. De vrij te maken slaven nemen eenen geslachtsnaam aan, onder welken zij, zooveel doenlijk familie-gewijze, worden ingeschreven in daartoe bestemde registers.

Van die inschrijving wordt hun een bewijs afgegeven, vermeldende: het nummer van inschrijving, den naam en de voornamen en den datum van geboorte of den vermoedelijken ouderdom.

De Gouverneur der kolonie draagt zorg dat de inschrijving geschied zij bij de opheffing der slavernij.







## NETHERLANDS.

LAW of the Netherlands, for the Abolition of Slavery in the Colony of Surinam. Wiesbaden, August 8, 1862.

(Translation.)

WE, William III, by the grace of God King of the Netherlands, Prince of Orange-Nassau, Grand Duke of Luxemburg, &c., to all who shall see these presents or hear them read, greeting; notice is hereby given that:

Whereas we have taken into consideration that the well-understood interest of the Colony of Surinam requires the abolition of slavery;

And we wish also to provide the means for maintaining and extending agriculture and industry in that Colony;

So we, with the advice of the Council of State and joint concurrence of the States-General, have thought fit to enact, as we hereby do enact:

### CHAPTER I.—*General Provisions.*

ART. 1. Slavery shall be abolished in the Colony of Surinam on the 1st of July, 1863.

2. Compensation shall be allowed to the owners of slaves on account of the abolition of slavery.

3. Those who are made free in virtue of Article 1 shall remain under the special care of the State for the term of 10 years at most from the 1st of July, 1863.

4. The free colonization of Surinam shall be encouraged by the State.

Premiums will be offered by the State for the introduction of free labourers into Surinam during five years at most after the promulgation of this Law.

The total amount of those premiums shall not be more than 1,000,000 florins.

The conditions necessary to be observed for claiming payment of those premiums will be fixed by us, and the supervision of the Government in conducting the immigration will be arranged by us.

### CHAPTER II.—*The Compensation.*

5. Within 30 days after the promulgation of this Law in the Colony of Surinam, all owners of slaves or their agents shall deliver to the Government Secretary a schedule in duplicate, stating: The names of the plantations to which the slaves belong; the names and residences of the owners or their agents; the name, sex, age, occupation or calling, and religion

of the slaves belonging to them, mentioning those who have acquired the right to manumission, as well as those who have been ranged by the competent Commission among such as are suspected to be infectious from leprosy and elephantiasis. A voucher for the delivery of the said schedule will be given to the person who delivers it.

6. If the owners or their agents neglect to deliver the schedule mentioned in Article 5, within the term specified, it will be made out on behalf of the Government, and the cost thereof will be charged to the defaulters.

7. The schedules mentioned in the two foregoing Articles will within a short term, to be fixed by the Governor of Surinam, be compared on behalf of the Government of the slaves who are present, as far as necessary, with the registers.

8. The compensation for slaves, whether they belong to plantations and estates, or are acknowledged as private slaves, and without distinction as to age or sex, will be fixed at 300 florins per head; for such as have acquired the right to manumission at 60 florins per head.

9. For the compensation no account is taken of slaves who by reason of infection are or may be expelled from the community. With regard to those who, according to the rules of the publication of the 7th September, 1830, are, or on occasion of the verification mentioned in Article 7 may be afterwards, declared to be liable to suspicion as infected with a disease thereby indicated, the decision respecting the grant of indemnity will be suspended. The compensation will not be granted if the sufferer be not declared healthy within a year after the promulgation of this Law in the Colony of Surinam, by the Commission mentioned in Article 9 of the aforesaid publication;

(b.) Slaves who have run away or are missing for more than a month before the day of verification mentioned in Article 7;

(c.) Slaves sentenced to forced labour, whose period of punishment has not ended within four years from the 1st of July, 1863;

(d.) Children who have been born of female slaves after the promulgation of this Law in Surinam.

10. The compensation includes not only the person of the slave, but also his clothes, small animals and birds, and all movable goods, which according to colonial custom are considered as belonging to him separately.

These goods will be his property.

11. In concurrence with the declaratory schedules, verified according to Article 7, a statement of the compensation to be granted is to be made out, which during 30 days after the expiration of the period mentioned in the aforesaid Article is to

be deposited with the Government Secretary for the inspection of those concerned.

12. If the owners or their agents should not be able to agree to the statement, they will be at liberty, within 14 days from the term fixed in the preceding Article, to send in an answer to the Government Secretary through his attendant, mentioning the grounds of complaint.

13. Within 14 days of sending in the answer it is to be brought by summons, or it will be disregarded, before the next sitting of the Court of the Colony of Surinam.

On the day of the hearing, the matter is to be discussed verbally on both sides without the assistance of lawyers, and without written decisions.

The Court will pass sentence very soon after, unless a further inquiry be ordered, for which the time must be fixed.

The sentence is not subject to appeal to a higher authority.

14. The compensation mentioned in Article 8 will be paid to the owner or his agent within three months after the abolition of slavery.

The payment will be made in florins by bills of exchange drawn by the Governor on the Colonial Minister, and payable one month after sight at the Netherlands Bank, Amsterdam, or if required, and the Governor is of opinion that the Colonial Treasury has sufficient funds at Paramaribo, in lawful money.

15. In case of disputes about the ownership of slaves, or if third persons claim the amount of the indemnity or a part thereof, the payment of the whole will be deferred until the parties agree, or the dispute is settled by final award.

16. The right to the compensation fixed in virtue of this Law will be forfeited in regard to the sums which are not demanded within four years after the abolition of slavery.

17. The statements, declarations, receipts, and other administrative documents which are required in consequence of the provisions in this Law are not liable to stamp duty.

### CHAPTER III.—*Of the Special Supervision by the State.*

18. The special supervision of the freedmen by the State will be entrusted to paid officers, whose sphere of operation and authority will be regulated by general ordinance.

The officers must have nothing to do with the management of plantations, nor any pecuniary interests in undertakings in Surinam.

19. The State supervision is intended for the protection of those who are made free by this Law and to promote their domestic and social life:—

By the prevention of idleness, and regulating the liability to labour;

By the encouragement of scholastic and religious instruction ;

By prescribing the means for the relief of the indigent and the tendance of the sick ;

And, in general, by adopting measures that are necessary for the interests of the freedmen and of public order.

20. The Governor of Surinam is authorized to release from State supervision those who distinguish themselves by good behaviour and industry.

#### CHAPTER IV.—*Of the Freedmen.*

21. The slaves who are to be made free are to adopt a family name, under which they will be inscribed as far as possible, in families, in the registers prepared for the purpose.

A voucher of the inscription will be delivered, stating the number of the inscription, the name and surname, and the date of birth or presumed age.

The Governor of the Colony will take care that the inscription be made at the abolition of slavery.

22. The ordinary civil and criminal law is applicable to the freedmen, with such exceptions as the State supervision necessarily makes while they are under it.

23. The freedmen will be considered as inhabitants of the Colony.

They will not come into full enjoyment of civil rights until the abolition of the State supervision, and on fulfilment of the provisions on that behalf.

24. All who are under the special State supervision are liable to fixed labour in accordance with the following provisions :—

(A.) For those who are settled on plantations or estates, or have usually worked thereon :—

§ 1. That all who are of the age of from 15 years inclusive to 60 years inclusive are bound to enter into engagements with planters or agricultural contractors, at their choice, for plantation work ;

§ 2. That such engagements shall be entered into in presence of the officer mentioned in Article 18, and according to the regulations to be established on that behalf, for not less than one nor more than three years ;

§ 3. That the Governor shall be authorized, in so far as he may consider it necessary during the first two years of the operation of this Law, to limit the choice of the freedmen in entering into engagements to the district in which they are settled on the 1st of July, 1863 ;

§ 4. That those who shall not have entered into engagements within three months from the abolition of slavery will be



set to work by the Administration on Government plantations, or in operations of general utility ;

§ 5. That those who are more than 60 years of age will remain with the families to which they belong, the same as children under 15, who in any case will follow their mothers ;

§ 6. That the old people and children mentioned in the foregoing paragraph will be bound, according to their strength and ability, to give their services, at settled wages, to the tenant or planter with whom the head of the family or the mother of the children shall have made the engagement.

(B). For those who are not settled on plantations or estates, or who have not usually worked thereon :—

§ 1. That they, the same as those who have been plantation slaves, who are of the age of from 15 years inclusive to 60 years inclusive, are bound to enter into engagements for work or service with persons of their choice ;

§ 2. That such engagements shall be entered into in presence of the officer mentioned in Article 18, and according to the regulations to be established in that behalf, for not less than three months and not more than a year for work or service in the town ; if they engage themselves for plantation work, the provisions of §§ 2, 5, and 6 of the sub-section (A) will be applicable to them ;

§ 3. That to those who are able to show to the satisfaction of the said officer that they can follow any handicraft, trade, or calling, to provide for their own wants and those of their family, a licence shall be granted on payment of the licence-duty levied by the general colonial regulations on the pursuit of any handicraft, trade, or calling, and this licence shall be renewed in writing every year ;

§ 4. That those who have not entered into any engagements within three months from the abolition of slavery, and those who, in virtue of their licence to provide for themselves, do not follow some handicraft, trade, or calling, shall be set to work by the Administration on the Government plantations, according to their strength and habits, or be employed in operations of general utility ;

§ 5. That those who are more than 60 years of age and children of from 12 to 15 years, shall do light work in proportion to their strength and ability ;

§ 6. That children up to and including 12 years of age shall not be separated from their mothers, whilst children of from 12 to 15 years of age may work apart from their mothers.

#### CHAPTER V.—*General Provisions.*

25. Religious service and education will be encouraged by the State and supported as far as possible.

26. The possession and wearing of arms by the field and

plantation labourers under Government supervision, and those who are to be introduced under this Law, can only be allowed in special circumstances.

27. With the exception of penal servitude all work on the Government plantations and in operations of general utility will be paid for; the wages as well as the work itself will be regulated by Government tariff.

The rates of the said tariff will also apply to plantation work for other persons, in case no different conditions have been made by agreement.

A working day is reckoned at eight hours' labour in the field and 10 hours' labour in buildings; and the working year at 300 working days.

28. If volunteers cannot be obtained for military and other transports for the public service or for works of general utility, at reasonable wages, the Administration is authorized to call for all those under Government supervision who are from 15 to 60 years of age, as well as all other field and plantation labourers.

29. Idleness and vagrancy will be liable to punishment under the existing regulations, and those that may be enacted.

30. The owners will be bound, for at most three months from the abolition of slavery, to afford lodging for those who were their slaves, and have not been able to provide it for themselves. They may, however, escape this liability by paying the costs of lodging elsewhere to the satisfaction of the officer who is entrusted with the supervision.

On the other hand the freedmen will be bound to do at least four days' work a week for those with whom they live.

31. Setting to work or lodging those who are under Government supervision, without a lawful engagement, will be liable to fine, recoverable by imprisonment, according to the regulations which are to be made.

32. Care will be taken by the Administration that those who are sick while under Government superintendence shall have medical help and care; on the plantations, by issuing ordinances for regulating the liability of the tenants to provide proper places for the sick and the necessary medical treatment; and elsewhere, by establishing hospitals where necessary.

Those who are excluded from the community in virtue of existing regulations, on account of infectious diseases, will be permanently attended in establishments appointed for the purpose, at the cost of the colonies.

33. Those who employ people under State supervision are bound to provide proper dwellings for them and their families, and also to grant them the necessary ground to raise food for their own use; all in accordance with regulations to be made.

34. The freedmen who are not set to work on plantations provide themselves with lodging and medical attendance on

their own account, both for themselves and their family, unless otherwise settled in the agreement for work or service.

35. The Administration undertakes, as far as necessary, to look after the lodging and maintenance of unprovided and other indigent persons.

To meet the outlay required for this, the freedmen who enter into engagements within the term, all field and plantation labourers, and those who have licences according to Article 24 (B), § 3, will be liable to a tax of 3 florins for men and 1·50 florin for women.

This taxation is to be paid into the Treasury of the country by the farmers at the beginning of the year, and in the course of the year will be stopped by them from the wages of the labourers; by those who have licences and other independent persons, it is to be paid on delivery of the voucher mentioned in the aforesaid § 3.

36. The penalties for not fulfilling the engagements are:—

For the farmers, fines to be enforced by imprisonment, with or without cancelling the engagement; in the first case with compensation if there be grounds;

For the labourers,—

(a.) Fines, and if not paid reduction of wages;

(b.) Penal servitude on the public works.

All in conformity with the regulations to be made, which will point out the competent Magistrates and the manner of proceeding.

37. The Governor of Surinam retains the faculty of conducting the government of the Colony of Surinam in extraordinary circumstances, as conferred upon him by Royal Decree of 9th August, 1832, No. 89.

38. Expenses occasioned by this Law are not to be incurred unless the sums required are granted by law.

39. Every year, beginning from 1863, our Minister for the Colonies is to send in a report to the States-General respecting the execution of this Law.

We direct and command that these presents be inserted in the State Journal, and that all Ministerial Departments, authorities, boards, and officers concerned therein shall attend to the exact fulfilment thereof.

Wiesbaden, August 8, 1862.

WILLIAM.

G. H. UHLENBECK, *Minister of the Colonies.*

LAW of the Netherlands, for the Abolition of Slavery in the Island of Curaçao and Dependencies. Wiesbaden, August 8, 1862.

(Translation.)

WE, William III, by the grace of God King of the Netherlands, Prince of Orange-Nassau, Grand Duke of Luxemburg, &c., to all who shall read this or hear it read, greeting, take notice :

Whereas we have taken into consideration that the well-understood interest of the Colony of Curaçao and Dependencies requires the abolition of slavery, so we, with the advice of the Council of State, and with joint concurrence of the States-General, have thought fit to enact, and hereby do enact, as follows:—

#### CHAPTER I.—*General Principles.*

ART. 1. Slavery in the Colony of Curaçao and Dependencies, Bonaire, Aruba, St. Eustace, Saba, and St. Martin (Dutch part), shall be abolished on the 1st of July, 1863.

2. Compensation shall be allowed to the owners of slaves on account of the abolition of slavery.

#### CHAPTER II.—*The Compensation.*

3. Within 30 days from the promulgation of this Law in each of the islands, the owners of slaves or their agents shall deliver to the Colonial Secretary in Curaçao, and in the other islands to the Administrator, a schedule in duplicate, stating:—

The names of the plantations to which the slaves belong;

The names of the residences of the owners or their agents;

The names, sex, age, occupation or calling, and religion of the slaves belonging to them, with a statement of those who have acquired the right to manumission.

A voucher for the delivery of this schedule will be given to him who delivers it.

4. If the owners or their agents neglect to send in the schedule mentioned in Article 3, it will be made out on behalf of the Government, and the costs thereby incurred will be charged to the account of the defaulters.

5. The schedules mentioned in the two preceding Articles will within a short term, to be fixed by the Governor in Curaçao, and by the Administrators in the other islands, be compared on behalf of the Government with the slaves who are present, and, so far as is necessary, with the registers.

6. The compensation for the slaves, without distinction of age or sex, will be fixed as follows:—

(a.) For those in Curaçao, Bonaire, Aruba, St. Eustace, and Saba, 200 florins each;

(b.) For those in St. Martin, 30 florins;

(c.) For those who have acquired right to manumission:—

For those under (a), 50 florins;

For those under (b), nothing.

7. Compensation will not be given for—

(a.) Slaves who are excluded from the community on account of infection. With regard to those who, by decision of a Commission of three physicians to be nominated by the Governor, have been declared as suspected of the diseases of leprosy and elephantiasis, the award of a compensation will be suspended, and will not be granted unless the sufferers be declared healthy by the Commission within the year from the promulgation of this Law in the various islands;

(b.) Slaves who have run away, or been missing for more than a month before the day of the verification mentioned in Article 5.

(c.) Slaves condemned to penal servitude, whose term of punishment has not expired within four years after the 1st July, 1863.

(d.) Children born of female slaves after the promulgation of this Law in the various islands.

8. The compensation extends, not only to the person of the slave, but also to his clothes, small animals and birds, which, according to colonial custom, are considered to belong to him separately. These goods will be his property.

9. In conformity with the schedules verified according to Article 5, a statement of the compensation to be granted will be made out, and, during 30 days from the expiration of the term mentioned in the aforesaid Article, will be deposited at the Colonial Secretary's office in Curaçao, and in the other islands at the Administrator's office, for the inspection of those concerned.

10. If the owners or their agents cannot agree with the statement, they will be at liberty, within 14 days from the term fixed in the foregoing Article, to send in an answer through the Assistant at the Colonial Secretary's office in Curaçao, and at the Administrator's office in the other islands, stating the ground of complaint.

11. Within 14 days from sending the answer, or it will not be attended to, the sender must bring it by summons before the respective Court at its next sitting—for Curaçao, Bonaire, and Aruba, before the Court in the first-mentioned island; for St. Eustace and Saba, before the Court in St. Eustace; and for St. Martin before the Court there.

At the time of hearing, the case is to be discussed verbally on both sides without the assistance of lawyers and without written decision.

The Court will pass sentence as soon as possible, unless a

further examination be ordered, for which the time must be fixed. The sentence of the Court will not be liable to appeal.

12. The compensation mentioned in Article 6 will be paid to the owner or his agent in each of the respective islands within three months from the abolition of slavery.

The payment will be made in bills of exchange for florins, drawn by the Governor of Curaçao and dependencies for Curaçao, Bonaire, and Aruba, by the Administrator of St. Eustace for that Island, and for Saba and for St. Martin by the Administrator there, on the Colonial Minister, and payable a month after sight at the Netherlands Bank, Amsterdam, or, if so required and in the opinion of the aforesaid Governor and Administrators the Treasury is competent, in each of the islands in lawful currency.

13. In the case of disputes concerning the ownership of slaves, or if third persons claim the amount of the compensation or a part thereof, the payment of the whole will be withheld until the parties agree or the dispute is settled by final award.

14. The right to the compensation granted in virtue of this Law will be forfeited in regard to the sums not demanded within four years from the abolition of slavery.

15. The statements, declarations, and other administrative documents required in consequence of the provisions of this Law are not liable to stamp duty.

#### CHAPTER III.—*Of the Freedmen.*

16. The slaves who are to be made free will take a family name under which they will be entered by families, as far as possible, in the registers for the purpose.

A voucher of the registration will be given, stating the number of the entry, the name and surname, and the date of birth or presumed age. The Governor in Curaçao and the Administrators in the other islands will take care that the registration be effected at the time of the abolition of slavery.

17. The ordinary civil and criminal law is applicable to the freedmen.

18. The freedmen will be considered as inhabitants of the Colony. They will enjoy the special protection of the Administration.

#### CHAPTER IV.—*General Provisions.*

19. Religious service and school instruction will be encouraged, and, as far as possible, supported by the State.

20. Freedmen will not be allowed to possess and wear arms except under special circumstances.

21. Idleness and vagrancy will be liable to punishment according to general regulations to be established.

22. The owners will still have to afford lodgings for those who have been their slaves and have been unable to provide them for themselves for three months after the abolition of slavery; but the farmers can escape this liability by paying the cost of lodging elsewhere, to the satisfaction of the Administration.

On the other hand the freedmen are bound to do at least four days' work a week for those with whom they live.

23. The Administration undertakes, as far as necessary, the lodging and maintenance of unprovided and other indigent persons.

24. The Governor of Curaçao retains in pressing circumstances the right conferred upon him in Article 63 of the Regulations for conducting the government of the Colony of Curaçao and Dependencies, confirmed by Royal Decree of 27th January, 1848, No. 51.

25. Expenditure required by this Law is not to be incurred unless the money for it has been granted by law.

26. Within a year, reckoned from the 31st of July, 1863, our Minister for the Colonies will send in a report to the States-General on the execution of the present Law.

We direct and command that this be inserted in the State Journal, and that all Ministerial Departments, authorities, boards, and officers whom it concerns shall look to the exact fulfilment thereof.

Wiesbaden, August 8, 1862.

WILLIAM.

G. H. UHLENBECK, *Minister of the Colonies.*

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