



PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Reference: Fo 84 / 1310

East African Slaves

WHAT'S IT ABOUT?

This photograph is dated 1 November 1868. It reveals a little of the terrible suffering that was caused by the slave trade. This group of severely emaciated boys and young men from East Africa are pictured on the lower deck of the Royal Naval ship HMS Daphne. They were taken on board from a slave ship. The captain of the Royal Naval ship had instructions not to return the rescued slaves to the place on the coast where they had been put on the slave ship (presumably because they were in danger of being recaptured by traders) but it is not clear what happened to them afterwards.

Source: The National Archives, ref: FO 84/1310