From Foe to Friend: The Law of War and Slavery

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I am not a man and a brother.
"Does a man set fire to an house, for the purpose of rescuing the inhabitants from the flames?
But if they are only purchased, to deliver them from death; why, when they are delivered into your hands, as protectors, do you torture them with hunger? Why do you kill them with fatigue?"
Declaration on the Universal Abolition of the Slave Trade

“[the Slave Trade] has been considered, by just and enlightened men of all ages, as repugnant to the principles of humanity and universal morality”

“however honourable may be their views, they cannot be attained without due regard to the interests, the habits, and even the prejudices of their subjects...[we] cannot prejudge the period that each particular Power may consider as most advisable for the definitive Abolition of the Slave Trade.”
• Art. 23. Private citizens are no longer murdered, enslaved, or carried off to distant parts,
• Art. 42. Slavery, complicating and confounding the ideas of property, (that is of a 'thing',) and of personality, (that is of 'humanity',) exists according to municipal or local law only. The law of nature and nations has never acknowledged it.
• Art. 58. The law of nations knows of no distinction of color, and if an enemy of the United States should enslave and sell any captured persons of their army, it would be a case for the severest retaliation, if not redressed upon complaint.
• The United States cannot retaliate by enslavement; therefore death must be the retaliation for this crime against the law of nations.