



THE

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FROM FRIDAY, JANUARY 27. TO TUESDAY, JANUARY 31. 1797.

BY THE KING,
A PROCLAMATION,

For granting the distribution of prizes taken from the King of Spain, or his subjects, subsequent to the ninth day of November, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, the date of his Majesty's order in Council for granting General Reprizals against the ships and goods of the King of Spain and his subjects.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS, by our order in Council, dated the ninth day of November last, we have ordered, that General Reprizals be granted against the ships, goods, and subjects of the King of Spain, so that as well our fleet and ships, as also all other ships and vessels that be commissioned by Letters of Marque, or General Reprizals, or otherwise, by our Commissioners for executing our office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, shall and may lawfully seize all ships, vessels, and goods belonging to the King of Spain or his subjects, or others inhabiting within any of the territories of the King of Spain, and bring the same to judgment in any of our Courts of Admiralty within our dominions: We, being desirous to give due encouragement to all our faithful subjects who may have lawfully seized any such ships, vessels, or goods, subsequent to the said ninth day of November last, or who shall hereafter seize such ships, vessels, or goods; and having declared in Council our intentions concerning the distribution of all manner of captures, seizures, prizes, and reprizals, of all such ships and goods as aforesaid, which, subsequent to the said ninth day of November, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, have been, or hereafter, during the present hostilities, shall be seized as aforesaid, do now make known to all our loving subjects, and all others whom it may concern, by this our proclamation, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, that our will and pleasure is, that the nett produce of all prizes taken as aforesaid, subsequent to the said ninth day of November last, or which shall hereafter be taken as aforesaid, the right whereof is inherent in us, and our Crown, be given to the takers, (save and except the produce of such prizes as are or shall be taken by ships or vessels belonging to our Commissioners of Customs or Excise, the disposition

of which we reserve to our further pleasure) but subject to the payment of all such or the like customs and duties as the same are now, or would have been liable to, if the same were or might have been imported as merchandize; and that the same may be so given in the proportion and manner herein after set forth; that is to say, that all prizes taken by ships and vessels having commissions of Letters of Marque and Reprizals, (save and except such prizes as are or shall be taken by the ships or vessels belonging to our Commissioners aforesaid) may be sold and disposed of by the merchants, the owners, the fitters, and others, to whom such Letters of Marque and Reprizals are granted, for their own use and benefit, after final adjudication, and not before: And we do hereby further order and direct, that the nett produce of all prizes which are or shall be taken as aforesaid by any of our ships or vessels of war, shall be for the entire benefit and encouragement of our Flag Officers, Captains, Commanders, and other Commissioned Officers in our pay, and of the seamen, marines, and soldiers, on board our said ships and vessels, at the time of the capture; and that such prizes may be lawfully sold and disposed of by them and their agents, after the same shall have been to us finally adjudged lawful prize, and not otherwise. The distribution shall be made as follows, the whole of the nett produce being first divided into eight equal parts.

The Captain or Captains of any of our said ships or vessels of war, who shall be actually on board at the taking of any prize, shall have *Three Eighth Parts*; but in case any such prize shall be taken by any of our ships or vessels of war, under the command of a Flag or Flags, the Flag Officer or Officers, being actually on board, or directing and assisting in the capture, shall have *One* of the said *Three Eighth Parts*; the said *One Eighth Part* to be paid to such Flag or Flag Officers in such proportions, and subject to such regulations, as are herein after mentioned:

The Captains of Marines and Land Forces, Sea Lieutenants, and Master on board, shall have *One Eighth Part*, to be equally divided amongst them; but that every Physician appointed, or hereafter to be appointed, to a fleet or Squadron of our ships of war, shall, in the distribution of prizes which are or shall be taken as aforesaid, by the ships in

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