

By The QUEEN.

A PROCLAMATION.

VICTORIA R.

WHEREAS by Our Order in Council of this day's date we were graciously pleased to annul, from and after the 30th day of September next, Our Royal Proclamation of the twenty-ninth day of June one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, regulating, according to the scheme set forth therein or recognized thereby, the distribution of the net proceeds of prizes captured from the enemy, of captures and seizures under the several Acts of Parliament passed relating to the revenues of customs, and to trade and navigation, for the abolition of the slave trade, for the capture and destruction of pirates and piratical vessels, and of the rewards conferred for the same, as also of the awards for all salvage granted to the crews of our ships and vessels of war, when not otherwise specially apportioned by the terms of the respective awards and allowances; and in consequence of certain alterations in the apportionment and classification of the shares being desirable, it is expedient that provision should be made for the future distribution of such net proceeds and salvage not otherwise specially apportioned, and all other moneys whatsoever granted to be shared among the officers and crews of our ships and vessels in the manner of prize money.

We do therefore now make known to all Our loving subjects, and to all others whom it may concern, by this Our Proclamation, by and with the advice and consent of Our Privy Council, that Our Royal will and pleasure is, and We do hereby direct, that ships or vessels being in sight of a prize, as also of the captor, under circumstances to cause intimidation to the prize and encouragement to the captor, shall be alone entitled to share as joint captors, and that the distribution of all such net proceeds of prizes, rewards, allowances, salvage awards, and of all bounties and grants whatsoever, distributable to Our Royal Navy in the manner of prize money, shall be made as follows, viz. :—

That the flag officer or officers shall have one-thirtieth part of the whole net proceeds arising from prizes captured from the enemy, and from all other captures and seizures, &c., as aforesaid, made by any of the ships or vessels under his or their command, and of the rewards conferred for the same, according to the following conditions and modifications, save and except as hereinafter provided and directed; that is to say :—

When there is but one flag officer he shall have the entire one-thirtieth part; when two flag officers shall be sharing together, the chief shall have two-thirds, and the other flag officer shall have the remaining one-third of the one-thirtieth part; and when there shall be more than two flag officers, the chief shall have one-half of the said one-thirtieth part, and the remaining half shall be equally divided among the junior flag officers; commodores of the first class and captains of the fleet to share as flag officers; provided always, that no flag officer, unless actually on board any of Our ships or vessels of war, and at the actual taking, sinking, burning, or otherwise destroying any ship or ships of war, privateer or privateers, belonging to the enemy, shall share in the distribution of any head money or bounty money granted as a reward for the taking, sinking, burning, or otherwise destroying any such ship or vessel of the enemy.

That no flag officer, unless actually present at the capture or destruction of any pirates or piratical ship, vessel, or boat, shall share in any distribution of the proceeds or bounty in respect of such pirates, or of the crews of such piratical ship, vessel, or boat.

That no flag officer shall share in any remuneration or reward conferred or awarded to the crew of any of Our ships or vessels as salvage, unless he shall have been actually on board the ship or vessel to which the award shall be made, or have personally aided and assisted in the transaction at the time the service was rendered.

That no flag officer commanding in any port in the United Kingdom shall share in the proceeds of any prize captured from the enemy, or in other captures, seizures, rewards, or any distributive proceeds as aforesaid, made by any ships or vessels which shall sail from or leave such port by order of the Lord High Admiral, or of Our Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral.

That when ships or vessels under the command of several flag officers belonging to separate stations shall be joint captors, &c., each flag officer shall receive a proportion of the one-thirtieth part according to the number of officers and men present under the command of each such flag officer; and when ships or vessels under orders from the Lord High Admiral, or from our Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral, are joint captors, &c., with other ships or vessels under a flag or flags, the like regulations as to the apportionment of the flag share to the flag officer or officers are to be observed.

With reference to flag officers it is to be noted—

That when an inferior flag officer is sent to reinforce a superior officer on any station, the superior flag officer shall not share in any prize taken by the inferior flag officer before he has arrived within the limits of that station, unless the inferior officer shall have received some order directly from, and shall be acting in execution of some order issued by, such superior flag officer.

No chief flag officer quitting any station, except upon some definite urgent service, and with the intention of returning to the station as soon as such service is performed, shall share in any prize taken by our ships or vessels left behind after he has passed the limits of the station, or after he has surrendered the command to another flag officer appointed by the Admiralty to command in chief upon such station.

An inferior flag officer quitting any station, (except when detached by orders from his Commander-in-Chief upon a special service, accompanied with orders to return to such station as soon as the service has been performed,) shall have no share in prizes taken by the ships and vessels remaining on the station after he has passed the limits thereof.

In like manner flag officers remaining on such station shall not share in the prizes taken by such inferior officer, or by ships or vessels under his immediate command, after he has quitted the limits of the station, except he has been detached as aforesaid.

A Commander-in-Chief or other flag officer belonging to any station shall not share in any prize or prizes taken out of the limits of that station by any ship or vessel under the command of a flag officer of any other station, or under orders from