

# The London Gazette.

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From Saturday December 27, to Tuesday December 30, 1777.

*Petersburg, December 5.*

**T**HIS being the Empress's Name Day, the Court was in Grand Gala and very numerous; and this Evening there is a Ball at Court.

AT the Court at *St. James's*, the 12th of December, 1777.

P R E S E N T,

The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

**W**HEREAS His Majesty was graciously pleased, by His Royal Proclamation bearing Date the 25th of October 1776, to promise and declare, That the Bounties of Five Pounds for every Able Seaman, and of Two Pounds Ten Shillings for every Ordinary Seaman, fit for His Majesty's Service, should be paid in the Manner thereby directed, to every such Able and Ordinary Seaman, not above the Age of Fifty, nor under the Age of Eighteen Years, who should, on or before the 31st of December then following, enter themselves to serve in His Majesty's Royal Navy, either with the Captains or Lieutenants of His Majesty's Ships, or the Chief Officers on Board such Tenders as should be employed for raising Men for the Service of the Royal Navy. And whereas His Majesty was also pleased, by His Royal Proclamation bearing Date the 8th Day of November, 1776, to promise and declare, That a Reward of Two Pounds for every Able, and Thirty Shillings for every Ordinary Seaman, should be paid in the Manner thereby directed, to any Person who should discover any Seaman or Seamen, who might secrete themselves, that so such Seaman or Seamen should be taken for His Majesty's said Service, by any of His Majesty's Sea-Officers employed for raising Men, on or before the said 31st Day of December. And whereas His Majesty was likewise pleased, by His Royal Proclamation bearing Date the 15th Day of August last, to promise and declare, That every Able-bodied Landman, not above the Age of Thirty-five, nor under the Age of Twenty Years, who should voluntarily enter himself to serve on Board any of His Majesty's Ships, on or before the 31st Day of October then next, should receive as of His Majesty's Royal Bounty, the Sum of Thirty Shillings each Man, to be paid in Manner thereby directed. And whereas the Time limited by the said Proclamations, for Payment of the said Bounties and Rewards, hath been prolonged and extended to the 31st Day of this Instant December; and it being judged expedient for His Majesty's Service that the said Bounties and Rewards should be continued to be paid for some Time longer; His Majesty, with the Advice of His

Privy-Council, doth therefore order, and it is hereby accordingly ordered, that the Time limited for Payment of the said Bounties and Rewards be prolonged and extended from the said 31st Day of this Instant December, to the 28th Day of February, 1778, inclusive. — Whereof all Persons concerned are to take Notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

*Steph. Costrell.*

St. James's, December 9, 1777.

*Whereas it has been humbly represented to the King, That William Yeal, James McClellan, William Rumford, and Martin Shepherd, Officers of the Customs at Hartlepool in the Port of Stockton, having, about Eleven o'Clock in the Night of the 14th of last Month, seized on the Sea Coast near that Port, from Three Men belonging to a Smuggling Vessel, Twenty-five Bags of Tea and Three Bags of Coffee Berries, which they conveyed to the Custom House at Hartlepool aforesaid, and there continued guarding the same till about Twelve o'Clock at Night, when it was surrounded by Fifteen or Sixteen Men belonging to the said Smuggling Vessel, armed with Blunderbusses, Pistols, and other offensive Weapons, several of which they discharged through the Windows and Door of the said Custom-house, and afterwards feloniously broke and entered the same, when the Officers were obliged, for the Preservation of their Lives, to retreat into the Warehouses above Stairs; that they afterwards fired through the Ceiling into the Warehouse where the Officers had retired to, and thereby put their Lives in the utmost Hazard; that they then broke open the Warehouse Door, presented a Blunderbuss to the Breast of the said James McClellan, and threatened to destroy him and the rest of the Officers, if they made the least Resistance; and by Force and Violence refused and carried away the said Tea and Coffee, so seized by the said Officers, and lodged for safe Custody in the said Custom-house:*

*His Majesty, for the better discovering and bringing to Justice the Persons concerned in breaking open the said Custom-house, and rescuing and carrying away the said Goods, is hereby pleased to promise His most gracious Pardon to any one of the said Offenders, who shall discover his Accomplishes, so that Two or more of them may be apprehended and convicted thereof.*

SUFFOLK.

*And, as a farther Encouragement, the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs do hereby promise a Reward of FIFTY POUNDS, to the Person discovering and apprehending the said Offenders, to be paid by the Receiver-General of His Majesty's Customs, upon Conviction.*

*Edw. Stanley, Secretary.*

[ Price Threepence-Halfpenny. ]

