

# The London Gazette.

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AT the Court at *St. James's*, the 29th of *July*,  
1778,

P R E S E N T,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

**W**HEREAS many Injuries and Acts of Hostility have been committed, and many unjust Seizures made, by the French King and his Subjects, unto and upon the Ships and Goods of His Majesty's Subjects, contrary to the Faith of Treaties; and whereas His Majesty has lately received Advice, that such Acts of Hostility are now Publicly encouraged and authorized by the French King's Orders: His Majesty has taken into Consideration these injurious Proceedings of the French Court; and His Majesty, being determined to take such Measures as are necessary for vindicating the Honour of His Crown, and for procuring Reparation and Satisfaction for His injured Subjects, is pleased, by and with the Advice of His Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, That General Reprizals be granted against the Ships, Goods and Subjects of the French King, so that as well His Majesty's Fleet and Ships, as also all other Ships and Vessels that shall be commissioned by Letters of Marque or General Reprizals, or otherwise by His Majesty's Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, shall and may lawfully seize all Ships, Vessels and Goods belonging to the French King or his Subjects, or others inhabiting within any the Territories of the French King, and bring the same to Judgment in any of the Courts of Admiralty within His Majesty's Dominions; and to that End His Majesty's Advocate-General, with the Advocate of the Admiralty, are forthwith to prepare the Draught of a Commission, and present the same to His Majesty at this Board, authorizing the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral, or any Person or Persons by them empowered and appointed, to issue forth and grant Letters of Marque and Reprizal to any of His Majesty's Subjects, or others whom the said Commissioners shall deem fitly qualified in that Behalf, for the apprehending, seizing and taking the Ships, Vessels and Goods belonging to the French King, and the Vassals and Subjects of the French King, or any inhabiting within his Countries, Territories or Dominions; and that such Powers and Clauses be inserted in the said Commission as have been usual, and are according to former Precedents: And His Majesty's said Advocate-General, with the Advocate of the Admiralty, are also forthwith to prepare the Draught of a Commission, and present the same to His Majesty at this Board, authorizing the said Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral, to will and require the High Court of Admiralty of Great Britain, and the Lieutenant and

Judge of the said Court, his Surrogate or Surrogates, as also the several Courts of Admiralty within His Majesty's Dominions, to take Cognizance of, and judicially proceed upon, all and all Manner of Captures, Seizures, Prizes and Reprizals of all Ships and Goods that are or shall be taken, and to hear and determine the same; and according to the Course of Admiralty, and the Laws of Nations, to adjudge and condemn all such Ships, Vessels and Goods as shall belong to the French King, or the Vassals and Subjects of the French King, or to any others inhabiting within any of his Countries, Territories and Dominions; and that such Powers and Clauses be inserted in the said Commission as have been usual, and are according to former Precedents: And they are likewise to prepare, and lay before His Majesty at this Board, a Draught of such Instructions as may be proper to be sent to the Courts of Admiralty in His Majesty's Foreign Governments and Plantations, for their Guidance herein; as also another Draught of Instructions for such Ships as shall be commissioned for the Purposes afore-mentioned.

AT the Court at *St. James's*, the 10th of *July*,  
1778,

P R E S E N T,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

**W**HEREAS the Names of many of the Officers serving in the respective Regiments and Battalions of Militia, within the several Counties in England and Wales, have been frequently returned by the Judges in the List of Persons proper to be appointed Sheriffs, notwithstanding such Officers are by Law exempted from serving the Office of Sheriff, during the Time of their Service in the Militia: And whereas the Impropriety of such Returns has proceeded from the Want of Information being given to the Judges of the Names of the several Officers serving in the Militia, from whence many Inconveniencies have arisen: His Majesty, in order to prevent the like happening for the future, is pleased, with the Advice of His Privy Council, hereby to require and command, that the respective Lieutenants of the several Counties in England and Wales, where the Militia has been raised and embodied, do cause Lists to be made every Year of the Names and Places of Residence of the Officers serving in the Militia within the respective Counties, and cause the said Lists to be delivered into the Hands of the Clerk of Assize, in order to be laid before the Judges at the Time of holding the Summer Assize, that Care may be taken for the Time to come not to insert the Names of any such Officers on the Roll of Persons to be proposed to His Majesty as proper to serve the Office of Sheriff.

*Steph. Cottrell.*