



# The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Saturday November 19, to Tuesday November 22, 1796.

By the KING,

## A PROCLAMATION,

*For Pardoning such Deserters from His Majesty's Marine Forces as shall return into His Majesty's Service on or before the Thirty-first Day of December next.*

GEORGE R.

**W**HEREAS it hath been represented unto Us, that there are at this Time several Deserters from Our Marine Forces, who might be induced to return to their Duty by an Offer of Pardon, and that such an Instance of Our Clemency might have due Influence upon their future Behaviour, We have thought fit, by and with the Advice of Our Privy Council, to publish this Our Royal Proclamation, and do hereby promise Our most Gracious Pardon to all Deserters from Our Marine Forces, who shall surrender themselves on or before the Thirty-first Day of December next, to the Commanding Officers of the Chatham, Portsmouth or Plymouth Divisions of Marines; and We do hereby declare, that such Marines, so surrendering themselves as aforesaid, shall not be liable to be claimed by any other Corps to which they may have formerly belonged: And We do further declare, That Our said Pardon shall extend to such Deserters as have been apprehended, and are now in Gaol or Regimental Custody, upon their Arrival under Escort at Head Quarters. But We do hereby further declare, that any Marine Soldier who shall desert after these Our Intentions shall have been made publick, shall

not be included in the Pardon above offered, but shall, if found guilty by a Court Martial, be deemed unfit Objects of Our Royal Mercy.

Given at Our Court, at St. James's, the Second Day of November, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, in the Thirty-seventh Year of Our Reign.

G O D save the K I N G.

**A**T the Court at St. James's, the 9th of November, 1796,

P R E S E N T,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

**W**HEREAS His Majesty has received Information, that divers unjust Seizures have been made in the Ports of Spain of the Ships and Goods of His Majesty's Subjects, and that Acts of Hostility and unprovoked Aggression have been committed by the Ships of His Catholick Majesty on Ships and Vessels of His Majesty and his Subjects: His Majesty therefore, being determined to take such Measures as are necessary for vindicating the Honor 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 King of Spain, 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

[ Price Thirteen Pence Halfpenny. ]