

March next; that so both We and Our People may humble Ourselfs before Almighty God, in order to obtain Pardon of Our Sins, and may, in the most devout and so'lemn Manner, send up Our Prayers and Supplications to the Divine Majesty, for averting those heavy Judgments which Our manifold Sins and Provocations have most justly deserved, and imploring His Blessing and Assistance on Our Arms, and for restoring and perpetuating Peace, Safety and Prosperity to Us and Our Kingdoms: And We do strictly charge and command, that the said Publick Fast be reverently and devoutly observed by all Our loving Subjects in Scotland, as they tender the Favour of Almighty God, and would avoid His Wrath and Indignation, and upon Pain of such Punishment as We may justly inflict on all such as contemn and neglect the Performance of so religious and necessary a Duty. Our Will is therefore, and We charge, that this Our Proclamation seen, ye forthwith pass to the Market Cross of Edinburgh, and all other Places needful, and there, in Our Name and Authority, make Publication hereof, that none pretend Ignorance: And Our Will and Pleasure is, That Our Solicitor do cause printed Copies hereof to be sent to the Sheriffs of the several Shires, Stewarts of Stewartries, and Bailiffs of Regalities, and their Clerks, whom We ordain to see the same published: And We appoint them to send Copies hereof to the several Parish Churches within their Bounds, that upon the Lord's Day immediately preceding the Day above mentioned the same may be published and read from the Pulpits immediately after Divine Service.

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

G O D save the KING.

By the KING,
A P R O C L A M A T I O N,

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 Subject.

G E O R G E 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 Neat 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, Owners, 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 Neat 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 Neat 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