

At the Court at Carlton-House, the 29th of May 1820.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the time limited by the Order in Council of the twentieth of November last, for prohibiting the exportation of gun-powder, arms, or ammunition, to the places therein specified, will expire on the thirtieth day of this instant May; and whereas it is expedient, that the said prohibition should be continued for some time longer; His Majesty, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, doth hereby order, require, prohibit, and command, that no person or persons whatsoever (except the Master-General of the Ordnance for His Majesty's service) do, at any time during the space of six months (to commence from the thirtieth day of this instant May), presume to transport any gun-powder or salt-petre, or any sort of arms or ammunition, to any port or place within the dominions of the King of Spain, or to any port or place on the Coast of Africa, or in the West Indies, or on any part of the Continent of America (except to a port or place, or ports or places in His Majesty's territories or possessions on the Continent of North America, or in the territories of the United States of America), or ship or lade any gun-powder or salt-petre, or any sort of arms or ammunition, on board any ship or vessel, in order to transporting the same into any such ports or places within the dominions of the King of Spain, or into any such ports or places on the Coast of Africa, or in the West Indies, or on the Continent of America (except as above excepted), without leave or permission in that behalf first obtained from His Majesty, or His Privy Council, upon pain of incurring and suffering the respective forfeitures and penalties inflicted by an Act, passed in the twenty-ninth year of the reign of His late Majesty King George the Second, intituled "An Act to empower His Majesty to prohibit the exportation of salt-petre, and to enforce the law for empowering His Majesty to prohibit the exportation of gun-powder, or any sort of arms or ammunition, and also to empower His Majesty to restrain the carrying coastwise of salt-petre, gun-powder, or any sort of arms or ammunition;" and also by an Act, passed in the thirty-third year of His late Majesty's reign, cap. 2, intituled "An Act to enable His Majesty to restrain the exportation of naval stores, and more effectually to prevent the exportation of salt-petre, arms, and ammunition, when prohibited by Proclamation or Order in Council:"

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, the Master-General and the rest of the Principal Officers of the Ordnance, and His Majesty's Secretary at War, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

Jas. Buller.

Admiralty-Office, November 4, 1820.

Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant William Edward Parry, commanding His Majesty's Ship Hecla (lately employed with the Griper Gun Brig on a Voyage of Discovery in the Arctic Seas), to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated His Majesty's Ship Hecla, West Coast of Davis's Strait, Lat. 70 Deg. 41 Min. N. Long. 69 Deg. 17 Min. W. September 5, 1820.

SIR,

I avail myself of an unexpected opportunity by the Lee, of Hull, whaler, to acquaint you, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that His Majesty's ships under my orders, succeeded in discovering a passage through Lancaster's Sound into the Polar Sea, and penetrated, during the summer of 1819, as far as the longitude of $112\frac{1}{2}$ deg. west of Greenwich, between the parallels of 74 deg. and 75 deg. north latitude.

In this space twelve islands have been discovered, and named the Islands of New Georgia, in honour of His Majesty. The expedition wintered in a harbour on the south side of the largest of these islands (called Melville Island), in latitude 74 deg. 47 min. N. and longitude 110 deg. 47 min. W. and proceeded to the westward immediately on the breaking up of the ice at the commencement of the present season, the ships being in perfect condition, the Officers and men in excellent health, and with every prospect of the final accomplishment of our enterprize.

At the south west end of Melville Island, however, the quantity and magnitude of the ice was found to increase so much, that for sixteen days (being above one-third of the whole navigable season in that part of the Polar Sea), it was found impossible to penetrate to the westward beyond the Meridian of 113 deg. 47 min. W.; in order, therefore, that no time might be lost, I determined to try what could be done in a more southern latitude, and for that purpose, ran back along the edge of the ice which had hitherto formed a continuous barrier to the south of us, in order to look out for any opening which might favour the plan I had in view; in this endeavour I was also disappointed, and the season being so far advanced as to make it a matter of question whether, with the remaining resources, the object of the enterprize could now be persevered in, with any hope of success; I consulted the principal Officers of the expedition, who were unanimously of opinion that nothing more could be done, and that it was, on that account, adviseable to return to England.

In this opinion it was impossible for me, under existing circumstances, not to concur, and I trust that the detailed account of our proceedings, which I shall shortly have the honour to lay before their Lordships, will prove highly satisfactory, and that, though our exertions have not been crowned with complete success, they will not be found discredit-able to the naval honour of our country.

I beg you will be pleased to acquaint their Lordships, that having proposed to survey the west coast of Davis's Straits, previous to my return, and being desirous of losing as little as possible of the remaining part of the present season, which is favourable