

The London Gazette.

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From Thursday April 23. to Sunday April 27. 1691.

By the King and Queen,

A PROCLAMATION

Concerning COALS:

WILLIAM R.

WHEREAS an Act of Parliament was lately made for Regulating the Prices of Coals, and Supplying the Navigation of the Coal-Trade; And in pursuance of the same, Our Lord Mayor and Aldermen of Our City of London, and Our Justices of Peace of Our County of Middlesex, and City of Westminster, have acted with great Industry, Care, and Prudence, by Settling and Moderating the Prices of Coals, and Providing by good and discreet Means for the Relief of Our People, Inhabiting in and about those Places, (of whose Performance and good Service in the Premises We do highly approve.) Yet notwithstanding there hath happened lately a great Scarcity and dearth of Coals, occasioned partly by divers Colliers staying in Port, or by the Way, with their laden Vessels, during such time as the Wind served, and was proper for their Sailing, and partly by the Pressing, or fear of Pressing of their Seamen, to Serve on Board Our Ships of War. And also the Neglects or Miscarriages of some Officers employed for Convoys. Now in tender Compassion and Care for Our good Subjects, being earnestly desirous to do all that in Us lieth for providing against any Want or Distress, likely to befall them on this Occasion, We have thought fit, by and with the Advice of Our Privy-Council, to Issue out this Our Royal Proclamation, and do hereby Declare and Command, That no Seaman, either English or Foreigner, that shall be Employed in any Ship or Vessel bringing or carrying Coals from Our Town or Port of Newcastle upon Tyne, or Sunderland, or other Adjacent Ports or Places, unto Our Port of London, shall be Pressed, or otherwise Hindered or Molested, either Coming or Returning, by any of Our Press-masters, or other Officers or Ministers, until the Twentieth day of July next. (So as the Seamen Employed on Board such respective Ship or Vessel do not exceed the number of Four Men for every Hundred Tun.) Such Seamen only excepted, for the time of their present Voyage only, as are already gone out of the River of Thames on Board any Ship or Vessel bound to Newcastle, Sunderland, or Ports Adjacent, or are now on Board any Ship or Vessel at this time Laden and Bound from the said Places or Ports to the Port of London; Our Intent being, that such and so many of the said Seamen, as are not absolutely Necessary for the Safety of Such Ship or Vessel, shall, during the time of their said present Voyage, and at their now expected Arrival, be liable to be Pressed for Our Service. Provided always, That if any Colliers shall stay by the way, or make any Delays, in order to Raise the Price of Coals, or shall put into any Port by the way, unless for necessity, by reason of Tempest and unavoidable Peril of the Sea, this Exemption from Pressing shall not be extended to them. And We do hereby make known to Our Loving Subjects, That for the Security of the Persons and Ships bringing and conveying Coals as aforesaid. We have given effectual Order, That from time to time there shall be provided sufficient Convoys for their safe Passage and Condukt to and from the Ports and Places aforesaid. And Our Will and Pleasure is, and We do hereby declare, That if any Officers belonging to any Convey employed in this Service, shall neglect their Duty, or misbehave themselves, they shall lose their Places and Comands, and

be further Punished according to their Demerits. And to the end, that all convenient Expedition may be used in Discharging all Ships and Vessels, (that shall bring any Coals into the said Port of London) in order to their returning and renewing their Voyages, We do Require and Command, That no such Ship or Vessel shall be above Ten Days in Unloading, the said Days to begin and be reckoned from the time of Coming into the Port or Place of Unloading. And We do hereby strictly Charge and Command all Our Officers, Ministers and Subjects whatsoever, both by Sea and Land, That they take Notice of Our Royal Will and Pleasure published in this Our Proclamation, and give due Obedience thereunto as their Perils.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the Twenty third Day of April, 1691. In the Third Year of Our Reign.

Madrid, April 4. The Duke de Medina Cidonia has taken possession of the Government of Catalonia, and is preparing to open the Campaign there with an Army of 16 or 18000 men. The Marquis de Leganes, the new Governor of Milan, will set out in few days on his Journey thither, and carries with him a considerable Supply of Money. And 700000 Pieces of Eight have been lately remitted to the Governor of Flanders. There are repeated Orders sent to hasten out the Men of War that are fitting at Cadix; and 'tis said, they will be ready to sail by the end of this Month. The Envoy of Morocco having finished his Negotiation about the Exchange of the Spanish Prisoners taken at Larache, is gone to Cadix, where he will Embark in order to his return home.

Milan, April 11. The Troops of this State, designed for the assistance of the Duke of Savoy, are on their march towards Piedmont, and are to be employed as his Highness shall think fit. Our Governor has likewise ordered some Troops to march towards Inverca, to guard (as 'tis believed) the Passes on that side, by which the French may put Succors into Cazal, the Garrison of which place begins to be very much strengthened.

Venice, April 14. The Senate have made choice of Signior Alessandro Zeno to be Ambassador from this Republick to the Emperour; The Chevalier Landò, who lately returned from Rome, is named for the Embassy of France, but he endeavours to be excused. The Captain-General Mocenigo is returned with the Fleet to Corfeu, after having quitted and demolished Valona; And the Ottoman Troops that were employed in the Siege of that place, are, 'tis said, since marched to joyn their Army in Hungary.

Vienna, April 15. We hear from the Frontiers, that Teckelay is now at Temeswaer, endeavouring to gather a Body of Men in order to some Enterprize towards Transylvania; That several Barks do daily arrive with Soldiers and Provisions at Belgrade; and that part of the new Fortifications of that place is fallen down. The Letters from Turkey say, that the Grand Vicer would in the Month of April set forward with the Troops from Constantinople towards Adrianople; that several French Enginiers were arrived at Constantinople from Marseilles, and that the French Ambassador told them, They could do nothing more acceptable to the King their Master, than faithfully to serve the Grand Signior, his Ally. Achmet Bassa, late Governor of Belgrade, who was made a Prisoner when the Imperialists took that Town, and has been since treated here with much Respect and Liberty, is very lately sent close Prisoner to Neustadt; upon information, that the Turks use their Christian Prisoners most barbarously. Prince Louis of Baden is expected here this week, and after a short stay at this Court, will go to his Command in Hungary.

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