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From Thursday August 10. to Monday August 14 1693.

By the King and Queen,

A PROCLAMATION

For the preventing of the Stealth and Imbezilment of Their Majesties Stores of War.

MARIE R.

WHEREAS notwithstanding divers good Laws Made and Enacted for the Preventing of the Stealth and Imbezilment of Their Majesties Stores of War, and for the Punishing the same, Their Majesties do find by Experience, that whether by the Negligence or Unfitness of Their Officers, or through the Difficulty of the Work, those Frauds, Stealts and Imbezilments are not prevented (as they ought) but are daily practised, particularly in Stores relating to the Navy, not only to the great Prejudice of Their Majesties service, but likewise to the Hindrance and Discouragement of such Tradesmen, whose Profession and Livelihood it is to make and sell such Stores and Commodities to Merchants Ships, who finding a cheaper way for Furnishing their Ships, by Buying the Stores Purloyned and Imbeziled, as aforesaid, decline the lawful Sellers of such like Provisions: For the preventing of these and the like Abuses for the future, Their Majesties are pleased hereby strictly to Charge and Command all Their Officers, (and particularly those of the Customs lately Authorized therunto) not only to endeavour the Discovery of the said Abuses, as aforesaid, but also strictly to Prosecute the Persons offending, according to the Rigour of the Laws in such Cases provided. And for the more easie discovery of the same, and to the end the Receiver of such Stolen Goods may not pretend Ignorance, Their Majesties have thought fit hereby to Publish and Declare the Marks of the Stores belonging to Their Navy; Namely, That all the Cordage of Three Inches and upwards is wrought with a White Thread laid the contrary way; and the smaller Cordage (viz. from Three Inches downwards) with a Twyne in lieu of a White Thread laid the contrary way as aforesaid; That all the Canvas wrought and unwrought is marked with a Blue Streak in the middle; And all other Stores with the Broad Arrow, by Stamp, Brand or otherwise. And Their Majesties do hereby forbid all Artificers to make any Stores or Provisions so marked (except for the Use of Their Majesties Navy or Ordnance) and do likewise hereby Command all Their Majesties Loving Subjects, That they forbear to buy or receive from any Person whatsoever any Stores marked, as aforesaid, (without particular Order and Leave from the Principal Officers and Commissioners of Their Majesties Navy) upon Pain of being proceeded against as Receivers of Stolen Goods, and as Imbezilers of Their Majesties Stores. And for the better Discovery of such as shall (notwithstanding this Their Majesties Proclamation) Imbezil any of Their Stores, as aforesaid, Their Majesties are pleased to Declare, That any Person who shall discover to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of Their Majesties Navy, or any of them, any Anchors, Cables, Cordage, Sails, Canvas, Iron-work, or other Stores, Imbeziled or Purloyned out of

Their Majesties Yards, Ships or Stores, shall receive as a Reward and Encouragement for such his Discovery, upon the Delivery thereof into any of Their Majesties Stores, one full Third Part of the Value of such Stores so discovered. Provided that he likewise discover either the Imbeziler or Purloyners of them, or at least the Receiver of the same.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall, this Tenth Day of August, 1693. In the Fifth Year of Our Reign.

Rome, July 25. The Difference between the Imperial Ambassador and this Court is made up; The Pope has Pardoned the Ambassadors Heydukes who assaulted the Sbirris, and given Orders for Annulling the Proceedings against them; and his Excellency has sent away several of his Servants who were concerned in this Business. The Cardinal d'Estree, who has been long preparing for his return to France, continues still here; endeavouring to obtain before his departure the dispatch of the Bulls for the French Bishops, tho' hitherto with no great appearance of his succeeding in it. A stop is put to the publick Buildings which were begun at Civita Vecchia by the Popes Order, by reason of the great difficulty as well as expence of that Work.

Venice, August 1. We have not heard from the Levant since the News we had of the Doge's arrival at Napoli di Romania; but we hope to have now very quickly an account of some considerable Action on that side. The Popes and the Maltese Gallies took in their way thither 3 Caravels belonging to Tripoli, and retook two Vessels laden with Corn and Oil, which they had with them.

Turin, August 1. Our Forces do attack the Fort of St. Brigide near Pignerol, against which they design to employ 27 pieces of great Cannon and 4 Mortars; They have already possessed themselves of some Posts, and as we hear are advanced to the Counterscarpe. The Marechal de Gatinat lies with 9 or 10000 Men about Susa, having abandoned all the Posts which the French were lately Masters of in the Valley of Perouse.

Madrid, July 24. This Court has received advice, That the Moors appeared lately to the number of 20000 Men before Oran, a Spanish Garison on the Coast of Africa, which they thought to have surprized, being encouraged thereunto by the French Envoy, who was sent not long ago to the Emperor of Morocco, but the Duke de Casan Governor of that Fortress, having detached part of the Garison to make a Salley upon the Enemy, they performed the same so successfully, being