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By the QUEEN,

A PROCLAMATION,

For Encouraging Seamen and Landmen to Enter themselves on Board Her Majesties Ships of War.

ANNE R.

WHereas it is Our Royal Intention to give all due Encouragement to all such Seamen and Able Bodied Landmen, who shall voluntarily Enter themselves in Our Service, and Remain on Board Our Fleet of War in Our Royal Navy. We have thought fit, by and with the Advice of Our Privy Council, to Publish this Our Royal Proclamation: And We do hereby Promise and Declare, That all such Seamen and Able Bodied Landmen, (not above the Age of Fifty five Years) as shall from and after the First Day of this Instant January, have Voluntarily Entered, or on or before the Tenth Day of February next, shall Voluntarily Enter themselves in Our Service, either with the Officers of Our Ships of War, Fire-Ships or Bomb-Vessels, who are or shall, before the time in Sea Pay, or with any Justice of Peace, or Chief Magistrate of any Town, or with any Vice-Admiral or other Commission Officer, to Serve on Board any of Our said Ships or Vessels, shall Receive as Our Free Gift and Royal Bounty, the respective Rewards and Allowances following (that is to say) Every such Seamen Two Months Pay, and every such Able Bodied Landmen One Months Pay, to be paid to them respectively by the Principal Officers and Commissioners of Our Navy, before the respective Ships, on which they shall be, do Proceed to Sea. And We do hereby Require and Direct, That every such Seamen or Able Bodied Landman shall without the Time before mentioned, Enter himself with any Justice of Peace, Chief Magistrate of any Town, or with any Vice-Admiral, or other Commission Officer, to Serve on Board any of Our said Ships of War, or other Vessels before mentioned, such Justice of Peace or Chief Magistrate, Vice Admiral, or other Commission Officer respectively shall give to each Man so Entring, a Certificate under the Hand and Seal without Fee or Reward of his Entry, and the Time of such Entry, and for what Ship; and shall thereby Limit such a Number of Days (not exceeding Fourteen Days) as may be necessary for his repairing on Board such Ship, or any other Ship or Bomb-Vessel in Our Service, at the next Port: And We do hereby Declare, That all such Seaman, and Able Bodied Landmen, who on or since the First day of January Instant have Entred, or shall on or before the said Tenth Day of February next, Enter themselves as aforesaid, and within the time Limited and Appointed in such Certificate, Repair on Board any of Our said Ships or Tenders appointed to Receive them, shall be Intitled to Our Royal Bounty therein before appointed, and their Pay from the time of their first Entring with such Justice of the Peace, or other Officer, as aforesaid, according to their respective Qualifications, and not otherwise; And that they, and also such as shall so Enter themselves within Twelve Days after the said Tenth Day of February, shall be allowed Time without Molestation to Render themselves on Board our Ships of War; and We do hereby Require and Command all Captains Commanders and Other Our Ships of War, or other Our Ships aforesaid, and other Persons what soever, Authorized or Imployed as Masters or Mariners for Our Service, That they do not Impress any such Seamen or Able Bodied Landmen, to whom such Certificate, as aforesaid, shall be given, according to the true Intent and Meaning of this Our Royal Proclamation, and who now are in Our Service, who by Ticket Signed by any of Our Flag-Officers, have or shall have Leave to be Absent from their Duty to the said Tenth Day of February next, before which Time they shall Enter themselves on Board such of Our said Ships or Vessels, on which they shall Enter themselves to Serve, to which they shall Belong, according to the Time limited by such Certificate or Ticket, nor any Person or Persons Protected or Imployed in the River, or on the Coasts, by the Commissioners of Our Navy, Ordnance Victualling, Customs or Transportation, or the Watermen in Our Service, or the Servants of Our Most Dear Consort the Queen, to the end We may be truly informed what Persons shall Enter and Remain themselves to Serve on Board Our Fleet in Obedience of this Our Proclamation: We do hereby Require and Command Our respective Captains Commanding any of Our Ships of War, or other Our Ships or Vessels aforesaid, and also all Justices of the Peace, Chief Magistrates, Vice Admirals, and other Commission Officers aforesaid, respectively to transmit to the Principal Officers and Commissioners of Our Navy exact Lists and Accounts of the Names, Ages and Descriptions of the Persons who shall Voluntarily Enter themselves with them, and the Time when, and Place where, and for what Ship, and of the Time which shall be allowed them respectively for Rendring themselves on Board, and of the Times of their respective Repairing on Board any of Our said Ships. And We do hereby Command and Require the said Seamen and Landmen to Repair on Board the respective Ships on which they shall so Enter themselves, or to which they shall Belong, within the Time limitted by such Certificates or Tickets, on pain of Our highest Displeasure. And We are also graciously Pleased to Declare, That Conduct Money, according to the Practice of the Navy, shall be allowed to all such Seamen and Landmen so Voluntarily Entring themselves on Board, according to the true meaning of this Our Royal Proclamation. And for Preventing of any Deceits or Abuses which may happen by any Person or Persons leaving the Ships to which they belong, and Entring him or themselves on Board any other of Our Ships, as aforesaid, in order to the Obtaining the Bounty-Money hereen before Granted, We do hereby likewise Direct, Declare and Command, That such Seamen and Landmen belonging to any of Our Ships or Vessels whatsoever, as shall Absent themselves from any of the Ships or Vessels to which they shall belong, and shall Enter themselves on Board any other of Our Ships, in order to the Obtaining the said Bounty-Money, shall not only lose the Wages due to them in the Ships which they shall so leave, but also be severely punished according to their Demerits. And We do hereby further Declare, That if such Men in Our Service, who are or shall be permitted to be Absent by such Tickets, as aforesaid, do not repair Board their respective Ships by the Time allowed by such Tickets, they shall not only be liable to be Impressed, but to suffer such further Punishment as by Law may be inflicted on them for such their Neglect. And We do hereby Require all Our Justices of the Peace, and other Magistrates, and also all Our Captains of Our Ships, and others, who shall be Imployed in Impressing Men for Our Fleet, That they take particular Care not to Take up, Impress or Entertain any very Old Men or Boys, or others, who, by reason of Infirmity or otherwise, are not fitly Qualified for Our Service in our Royal Navy, for that none such shall be received by the Officers of Our Fleet into Our Service. And whereas it has been often found, that in Time of War, great Numbers of Seamen have left the usual Places of their Abode, and have removed themselves in Private and Obscure Places, endeavouring thereby to avoid the Publick Service when there is the greatest Occasion for them, We do hereby therefore Require and Command all Our Justices of the Peace, Constables and other Officers, that they not only give all necessary Assistance to Our Officers Imployed in Impressing, as aforesaid, but that they do use their utmost Endeavours to Discover, Secure, and Send to some near Sea-Ports Town all such Seamen fit for Our Service, as shall so Absond after the said Tenth Day of February next, in order to their being put on Board Our Fleet, in Ours and their Countreys Service, and that of what they shall do therein, they from time to time send an Account to the Commissioners of Our Navy. And We do hereby Direct the respective Officers of Our Fleet, who shall receive such Seamen, to give Receipts for them, therein expressing the Names of such Seamen, and on Board what Ship or Vessel, and the Time when, and Place where they are received; And the Commissioners of Our Navy are hereby Directed, upon producing (at any Port) where there are Officers immediately under their Directions) the said Receipts, to Pay to the Person producing the same, Twenty Shillings for each Seaman, and Six Pence per Man for each Mile he shall be brought, if under Twenty Miles, and Ten Shillings for each Seaman that shall be brought above Twenty Miles, over and besides the said Twenty Shillings. And We do hereby Declare, That no Protection of any Men in any Ships or Vessels Imployed in the River or on the Coast by the Commissioners of Our Navy, Ordnance, Victualling, Customs or Transportation, shall be in Force for more than Six Months from the Date thereof, except such as shall be Signed by Our Lord High Admiral, or in His Absence by His Council. And do further Direct, That in all Protections the Persons be not only Named, but Described by their Place of Residence and Imployment, and Service for which they are Protected. And We do hereby Require and Command Our Commissioners of Our Navy, Ordnance Victualling, Customs and Transportation, that they do not Protect more Men than their Service Absolutely Requires, and to Renew all the Protections within their Reach, by the End of the said Time limited for Bounty-Money, and so Revoke all Protections by them or any of them granted respectively, so soon as the Service is over, for which the same respectively were or shall be granted.

Given at Our Court at *St. James's* the Ninth Day of January, 1703. In the Second Year of Our Reign.

GOD Save the QUEEN.

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