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From Tuesday December 2. to Saturday December 6. 1718.

At the Court at St. James's, the 3d of December, 1718.

P R E S E N T,

His Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

His Majesty having taken into Consideration the Injuries and Acts of Hostility committed by the King of Spain and his Subjects, upon the Ships, Goods and Persons of His Majesty's Subjects, extending to their grievous Damages, and amounting to great Sums; and that notwithstanding the Complaints made of such Usage to the King of Spain, no Redress or Reparation could be obtained from him; His Majesty, with the Advice of His Privy Council, hath this Day thought fit to order; that general Reprizals be granted against the Ships, Goods and Subjects of the King of Spain; So that as well His Majesty's Fleet and Ships, as also all other Ships and Vessels that shall be Commissioned by Letters of Marque, or general Reprizals or otherwise, by His Majesty's Commissioners for executing the 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 the Territories of the King of Spain, and bring the same to Judgment in the High Court of Admiralty: And that His Majesty's Advocate-General, with the Advocate of the Admiralty, do forthwith prepare a Draught of a Commission and present the same to this Board, authorizing the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral to issue forth and grant Letters of Marque and Reprizal to any of His Majesty's Subjects, or others, whom the said Commissioners shall think duly qualified in that behalf, for the apprehending, seizing and taking the Ships, Vessels and Goods belonging to Spain, their Vassals and Subjects, or any inhabiting within their Countries, Territories or Dominions; and that such Powers and Clauses be inserted in the said Commission, as have been usual, and are according to former Precedents: As likewise that the Advocate for the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral do forthwith prepare the Draught of a Commission and present the same to this Board, authorizing the said Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral to will and require the High Court of Admiralty of Great Britain, and the Lieutenant and Judge of the said Court, to take Cognizance of, and judicially proceed upon all and all manner of Captures, Seizures, Prizes and Reprizals of all Ships

and Goods that are or shall be taken, and to hear and determine the same, and according to the Course of Admiralty and Laws of Nations to adjudge and condemn all such Ships and Vessels that belong to the Subjects of Spain, or to any others inhabiting within their Countries or Dominions; and that such Powers and Clauses be inserted in the said Commission as have been usual, and are according to former Precedents; and also to prepare a Draught of such Instructions for such Ships as shall be commissioned for the Purposes aforementioned.

St. James's, December 5.

An humble Address of the Grand Inquest for the Body of the Island of Barbadoes, having been transmitted hither, has been presented to His Majesty by the Agents of the said Island, introduced by the Right Honourable James Craggs, Esq; one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Which Address His Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

Naples, Nov. 18. It is reported that all the Imperialists are now arrived, at Melazzo, and we expect soon to hear of Action.

Leghorn, Nov. 25. Admiral Byng has sent hither the Lendax and Supperbe Men of War. To Morrow they will sail with several British Ships towards Port Mahon, and will then cruise in the Way to this Port. Another British Man of War is expected from Naples to cruise on this Coast.

Paris, Dec. 10. Yesterday in the Afternoon the Prince de Cellamare, Ambassador of Spain, was put under a Guard in his own House, and his Papers were seized; the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and the Secretary at War, being present to see the Papers put together and sealed up. We have Advice from Madrid, that the King of Spain's Legs are swelled, and that he is feverish; he yet appears in public, it is thought he is in a Dropsy. The Earl of Staupe has presented a Memorial to his Royal Highness the Regent, whereupon Orders are given, not to suffer the Spaniards to fit out Privateers in the French Islands in America. Colonel Stanhope arrived