

The London Gazette.

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Whitehall, the Tenth Day of July, 1739.

WHereas many and repeated Depredations have been committed, and many unjust Seizures have been made in the West-Indies, and elsewhere, by Spanish Guarda Costas and Ships acting under the Commissions of the King of Spain or his Governors, contrary to the Law of Nations, and in Violation of the Treaties subsisting between the Crown of Great Britain and Spain, whereby his Majesty's trading Subjects have not only sustained great Losses, but have also suffered in their Persons by the Cruelties and Barbarities which have been exercised by the said Spanish Guarda Costas; And whereas his Majesty has caused repeated Instances and Representations to be made from Time to Time at the Court of Spain, in order to obtain Redress and Satisfaction for such injurious Treatment and unjust Practices, and to prevent the like Violences for the future: And whereas a Convention for making Reparation, to his Majesty's Subjects for their Losses by the said Depredations and Seizures, was concluded between his Majesty and the King of Spain on the Fourteenth Day of January last N. S. by which Convention it was stipulated, that a certain Sum of Money should be paid at London within a Term in the said Convention specified, as a Ballance admitted to be due on the Part of Spain to the Crown and Subjects of Great Britain, which Term did expire on the Twenty Fifth Day of May last; and the Payment of the said stipulated Sum, as agreed by the above-mentioned Convention, has not been made, by which means the said Convention has been violated and broke on the Part of the Crown of Spain, and his Majesty's Subjects remain without any Reparation or Satisfaction for their many, great, and grievous Losses: His Majesty hath therefore taken this injurious Proceeding of the Crown of Spain into his serious Consideration, and his Majesty having determined to take such Measures as are necessary for vindicating the Honour of his Crown, and for procuring Reparation and Satisfaction to his injured Subjects, is pleased by and with the Advice of his Privy-Council, to order, and it is hereby order'd, 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 any of the Courts of Admiralty within his Majesty's Dominions; and to that end his Majesty's Advocate General, with the Advocate of the Admiralty, are forthwith to prepare the Draught of a Commission, and present the same to his Majesty at 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 deem fitly qualified in that behalf, for the apprehending seizing and taking the Ships, Vessels and Goods belonging to Spain, and the Vassals and Subjects of the King of Spain, or any Inhabiting within his 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; And his Majesty's said Advocate General, with the Advocate of the Admiralty, are also forthwith to prepare the Draught of a Commission, and present the same to his Majesty at 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, as also the several Courts of Admiralty within his Majesty's Dominions, 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 the Laws of Nations, to adjudge and condemn all such Ships, Vessels and Goods as shall belong to Spain, or the Vassals and Subjects of the King of Spain, or

(Price Two Pence.)