

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 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, or any Person or Persons by them empowered and appointed, to issue forth and grant Letters of Marque and Reprizals, 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, his Surrogate or Surrogates, 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 to any others inhabiting within any of His Countries, Territories and Dominions; and that such Powers and Clauses be inserted in the said Commission as have been usual and are according to former Precedents; and they are likewise to prepare and lay before His Majesty, at this Board, a Draught of such Instructions as may be proper to be sent to the Courts of Admiralty in His Majesty's Foreign Governments and Plantations

for their Guidance herein; as also another Draught of Instructions for such Ships as shall be commissioned for the Purposes aforementioned.

CHATHAM, P.  
DORSET.  
PORTLAND.  
WESTMORLAND.  
SPENCER.  
LIVERPOOL.  
MACARTNEY.  
FALMOUTH.  
STOFFORD.  
W. PITT.

Admiralty-Office, November 19, 1796.

*Extract of a Letter from Captain Moore, Commander of His Majesty's Ship Melampus, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated off the Isle of Wight, November 14, 1796.*

I Have to acquaint you, for the Information of their Lordships, that Yesterday Morning at Day-light His Majesty's Ships Minerva and Melampus drove a French National Corvette on Shore in the Entrance of Barfleur Harbour. The Wind being directly on Shore, and the Tide falling, it was impossible for His Majesty's Ships to get near enough to destroy her; but I have no Doubt she must be totally lost, it being near Half Ebb when she struck.

Captain Peyton having ordered me to work up towards Havre, with the Melampus and Childers, we parted from the Minerva in the Evening, and at Eight A. M. this Morning, the Childers being in Company, we discovered a Ship, to which we gave Chace: At Four P. M. we began to fire our Bow Guns at her, which she returned with what Guns she could bring to bear: At Half past Five, being within Half Musket Shot, and going to give her a Broad-side, she discharged her Guns in the Air, and struck her Colours. She proves to be L'Etna, of 18 Twelve Pounders and 137 Men, commanded by Citizen Joseph La Coudrais, a National Corvette, from Havre bound to Brest, laden for the Republic with Naval and Military Stores; and various other Articles. The Prisoners inform me, that the other Corvette ashore at Barfleur, had sailed the Night before L'Etna did from the Basin of Havre, is called L'Etonnant, mounting 18 Eighteen Pounders, bound for Brest, and laden with Naval and Military Stores. They are both quite new, very complete Ships, and their first Cruize.

*Extract of a Letter from Captain Rowwater, Commander of His Majesty's Ship Trent, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated Yarmouth Roads, October 16, 1796.*

YOU will be pleased to inform their Lordships, that, in consequence of the Representation of the Mayor of Yarmouth, informing me, that Two Ships passing between Ousley Bay and this Place, were attacked by a small Cutter Privateer off Southwold, on Monday Eve, about Nine o'Clock. I Yesterday