

or conveyed out of any Port or Place in Great Britain, any Sort of Rock Salt whatsoever, without Leave or Permission being first had and obtained from His Majesty or His Privy Council, upon Pain of incurring the Forfeitures inflicted by an Act passed in the Thirty-sixth Year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for indemnifying all Persons who have been concerned in advising or carrying into Execution an Order of His Majesty in Council respecting the Exportation of Rock Salt; for preventing Suits in consequence of the same; for authorizing His Majesty to prohibit the Exportation or carrying Coastwise of Rock Salt; and for making further Provisions relative thereto;" His Majesty, nevertheless, by the Advice aforesaid, hath thought fit to order, that nothing herein contained shall prevent Rock Salt being carried Coastwise, under the usual Rules, Regulations and Restrictions, nor the Exportation of the same to Ireland, or to any other of His Majesty's Dominions, under the usual Conditions and Regulations, and upon Security being given, by the Exporter and Two other Persons, (of whom the Master of the Vessel shall be one) by Bond, in such Penalty as shall be directed by the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs, that the said Rock Salt shall be exported to some Port or Place in His Majesty's Dominions, and none other; and that a Certificate shall be produced within Six Months from the Date of the Bond, if such Rock Salt shall be entered out for any Part of His Majesty's Dominions in Europe, and within Twelve Months if for any Part of His Majesty's Dominions in America or the West Indies, and within Eighteen Months if for any of the British Settlements or Factories in Asia or Africa, under the Hand of the Principal Officer of the Customs at the Port or Place where such Rock Salt shall be so landed; and if there shall be no Officer of the Customs, then under the Hand of the Chief Magistrate of the Place, testifying that the said Rock Salt has been duly landed at the Port or Place for which the same was entered out. And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, are to give the necessary Directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

*Step. Cottrell.*

AT the Court at St. James's, the 25th of April, 1798;

P R E S E N T,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

HIS Majesty having been pleased to appoint the Right Honourable George Edward Henry Arthur Earl of Powis to be Lord Lieutenant of the

County of Salop, his Lordship this Day took the Oaths appointed to be taken thereupon, instead of the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy.

Admiralty-Office, April 28, 1798.

*Copy of a Letter from the Right Hon. Admiral Lord Bridport, K. B. to Ewan Nepean, Esq; dated on Board His Majesty's Ship Royal George, at Sea, the 22d Instant.*

S. I. R,

I Have the Satisfaction to acquaint you, for their Lordships Information, that L'Hercule, of 74 Guns, was taken by His Majesty's Ship Mars last Night.

The inclosed Copy of a Letter from Lieutenant Butterfield will best shew to their Lordships the Spirit and Judgment manifested upon this Occasion. No Praise of mine can add one Ray of Brilliancy to the distinguished Valor of Captain Alexander Hood, who carried his Ship nobly into Battle, and who died of the Wounds he received in supporting the just Cause of his Country. It is impossible for me not to sincerely lament his Loss, as he was an Honor to the Service, and universally beloved; he has fallen gloriously, as well as all those who are so handsomely spoken of by Lieutenant Butterfield. I have appointed him to the Command of L'Hercule, to carry her into Port, and I have given a temporary Appointment to Captain James George Shirley to command the Mars, and Lieutenant George White, First of the Royal George, to command the Megara. Lieutenant Henry Combe, the Second, will deliver to you this Dispatch.

I have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

BRIDPORT.

*Mars, at Sea, April 22, 1798.*

My Lord,

I Beg Leave to acquaint your Lordship, that the Ship chased by His Majesty's Ship Mars Yesterday, per Signal, endeavoured to escape through the Passage du Raz, but the Tide proving contrary, and the Wind Easterly, obliged her to anchor at the Mouth of that Passage, which afforded Captain Hood the Opportunity of attacking her, by laying her so close alongside as to unhinge some of the Lower Deck Ports, continuing a very bloody Action for an Hour and a Half, when she surrendered.

I lament being under the Necessity of informing your Lordship, that His Majesty has, on this Occasion, lost that truly brave Man, Captain Hood, who was wounded in the Thigh late in the Conflict, and expired just as the Enemy's Ship had struck her Colours. This Ship proves to be L'Hercule, of 74 Guns and 700 Men, her first Time at Sea, from L'Orient, to join the Brest Fleet.

I cannot sufficiently commend the Bravery and good Conduct of the surviving Officers and Men, who merit my warmest Thanks: I must particularly recommend to your Lordship's Notice Mr. Southey, the Signal Midshipman.

Lieutenants Argles and Ford are the only Officers wounded. Captain Hood and Captain White, of the Marines, are killed. Lieutenant Argles, though badly wounded, never quitted the Deck.

From a Number of the People being with Lieutenant Bowker, in Charge of the Prize, I cannot at present