

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Tuesday August 27, to Saturday August 31, 1776.

AT the Court at St. James's, the 28th Day of August, 1776,

P R E S E N T,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

HIS Majesty in Council was this Day pleased to order, That the Parliament, which stands prorogued to Thursday the 5th Day of September next, should be further prorogued to Tuesday the 15th Day of October following.

By the KING,

A P R O C L A M A T I O N,

Requiring Passes, formerly granted to Ships and Vessels trading in the Way of the Cruizers belonging to the Governments on the Coast of Barbary, to be returned into the Office of the Admiralty of Great Britain, and other Passes of different Forms to be issued.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS, by Our Royal Proclamation bearing Date the Twenty-second Day of February, in the Fifth Year of Our Reign, We did charge and command all Our loving Subjects, who then were, or should be, possessed of any Passes for Ships and Vessels belonging to Our Subjects trading to Portugal, the Canaries, Guinea, the Indies, into the Mediterranean, or elsewhere, in the Way of the Cruizers of the Government of Algiers (except such Passes as had been granted to Ships gone or going to the East Indies, or other remote Voyages, where they could not be timely furnished with new Passes) that they should, before the First Day of February, One thousand seven hundred and sixty six, return the same, and furnish themselves with Passes of a new Form, under the Hands and Seals of the Commissioners for Executing the Office of High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, in lieu thereof, for their several Ships and Vessels, in such Manner as by the said recited Proclamation was directed: And whereas it hath been humbly represented unto Us, that there is the greatest Reason to believe, that many of Our Passes may, either by Accident or undue Means, have fallen into the Hands of Foreigners, who, by Colour of such Passes may carry on their Trade; We, taking the Premises into Our Royal Consideration, and judging it necessary to put a speedy Stop to all such indirect Practices, which do not only tend to the Prejudice of Our trading Subjects, but may occasion a Misunderstanding between Us and the Governments on the Coast of Barbary, for preventing thereof have thought fit, by the Advice of Our Privy Council, to publish this Our Royal Proclamation, and do hereby declare, That all such Passes of the present Form, now in being, shall not continue in Force longer than till the Thirty-first Day of August, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, (except such Passes as have been granted to Ships gone or going to the East Indies, or other remote Voyages, where they cannot be timely furnished with new Passes; and that in such Case, the Passes of the present Form do continue in Force for Two Years, from and after the said Thirty-first Day of August, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven). And We do hereby strictly charge and command all Our loving Subjects, who are or shall be possessed of any such Passes, that they do, before the Thirty-first Day of August, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, return the same (except such as are

before excepted) into the Office of the Admiralty of Great Britain, or to the respective Collectors of Our Customs at the Out-ports of Great Britain and Ireland, or to the Governors of some of Our Foreign Plantations or Dominions, in order to their being cancelled; and that they do furnish themselves with Passes of a new Form, under the Hands and Seals of Our Commissioners for Executing the Office of High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, in lieu thereof, for their several Ships and Vessels, according to the Treaty subsisting between Us and the said Governments on the Coasts of Barbary, and the Regulations made by Our Royal Predecessor King George the First, by Order in His Privy Council, on the Fourteenth Day of June, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and twenty-two, so far as the same remain unaltered by the Regulations this Day made by Us in Our Council, and according to the further Regulations then there made, and Our Instructions given to Our said Commissioners for executing the Office of High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland touching the same. And whereas many Ships and Vessels belonging to Our loving Subjects continue several Years trading from Port to Port in the Mediterranean without returning Home, whereby they cannot so conveniently procure their Passes to be exchanged; We do hereby, for the Ease of Our trading Subjects, publish and declare Our Pleasure, That upon the Application of any Owner of any Ship or Vessel, or other substantial Merchant, to the Office of the Admiralty of Great Britain, and Oath made by him of the Property of such Ship or Vessel, and that Three-fourths of the Company are Our Subjects, according to an Act, made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Our Royal Predecessor King Charles the Second, (intituled, An Act for encouraging and increasing of Shipping and Navigation) and upon entering into a Bond for the Return of such Pass at the End of Three Years, or of the Voyage, if that shall sooner determine, it shall and may be lawful for Our Commissioners for executing the Office of High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, or Our High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, for the Time being, and they are respectively impowered to make out a new Pass for such Ship or Vessel, and send the same to such of Our Consuls in the Mediterranean, as the said Owner or Merchant shall desire, with Direction to such Consul, that, upon Application to him from the Master of the Ship, for which the Pass is made out, and surrendering up his old Pass, and entering into a like Bond for the Return of such new Pass, he shall deliver out the said new Pass to such Master, and transmit the old one, with the Bond, to the Office of the Admiralty of Great Britain. And in order more effectually to hinder, for the future, any Abuses that may be attempted by Foreigners, relating to the new Passes to be issued as aforesaid, We do hereby further declare Our Royal Will and Pleasure, That all such new Passes, to be hereafter issued for any Ships or Vessels whatsoever belonging to any of Our Subjects of the Island of Minorca or Gibraltar, shall be made out in a peculiar Form, different from the Form of the new Passes to be issued for Ships and Vessels belonging to any other Part of Our Dominions; and that such new Passes shall be lodged with the respective Governors, Lieutenant Governors, or Commanders in Chief for the Time being, of the said Island of Minorca and Gibraltar, and issued out only by them, according to the Regulations made by Our said Royal Predecessor