

Two such fit and able Men as shall be approved by such Officer or Officers in Our Land or Sea Service respectively, as shall be empowered to receive the same; all and every such Person and Persons so serving, or providing Two fit and able Substitutes to serve for him, her, or them as aforesaid, shall have Our gracious Pardon of and for all and every such Offence and Offences and Penalties, and all Indictments, Informations, Prosecutions, Convictions, Judgments, Imprisonments, Executions, and Outlawries, sued, incurred, had, or given, or that may arise or accrue for or by reason or means of any of the said Offences, or other Matters or Things aforesaid.

Given at Our Court at St. James's, the Thirtieth Day of May, One thousand seven hundred and Seventy-eight, in the Eighteenth Year of Our Reign.

G O D save the K I N G.

Admiralty Office, May 22, 1778.

THE Letters, of which the following are Copies, were this Day received from Admiral Young, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships at the Leeward Islands, in his Letter to Mr. Stephens, dated the 23d of March last.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Vincent, of His Majesty's Ship Yarmouth, to Admiral Young, dated Barbadoes, March 17, 1778.

I TAKE the Opportunity of the January Packet's sailing from hence Tomorrow Morning, directly for St. John's, Antigua, of acquainting you of my having on the 7th Instant, at Half past Five P. M. discovered Six Sail in the S. W. Quarter, on a Wind standing to the Northward; Two of them Ships, Three Brigs, and a Schooner. We were then 50 Leagues due East of this Island. We immediately bore down upon them, and about Nine got close to the Weather Quarter of the largest and headmost Ship. They had no Colours hoisted; and, as ours were then up, I hailed her to hoist hers, or I would fire into her; on which she hoisted American, and immediately gave us her Broadside, which we returned, and in about a Quarter of an Hour she blew up. It was fortunate for us that we were to Windward of her; as it was, our Ship was in a Manner covered with Parts of her; a great Piece of a Top Timber, Six Feet long, fell on our Poop; another large Piece of Timber stuck in our Foretop-Gallant Sail (then upon the Cap); an American Ensign rolled up, blown in upon the Forecastle, not so much as singed, &c. Immediately on her blowing up, the other Four dispersed different Ways. We chased a little while Two that stood to the Southward, and afterwards another that bore away right before the Wind, but they were soon out of Sight; our Sails being torn all to Pieces in a most surprising Manner. We had Five Men killed and Twelve wounded.—But what I am now going to mention is something very remarkable; the 12th following, being then in Chase of a Ship steering West, we discovered a Piece of a Wreck, with Four Men on it waving; we hauled up to it, got a Boat out, and brought them on Board; they proved to be Four Men, who had been in the Ship which blew up, and who had nothing to subsist on from that Time but by sucking the Rain Water that fell on a Piece of Blanket, which they luckily had picked up. They informed us the Ship blown up was called the Randolph, of 36 Guns and 305 Men; the other Ship was the General Moutry, of 20 Guns; and the other Three Armed Brigs, and sailed from Charles Town, South Carolina, about a Month before.—I resumed the Chase, but she

was too far a-head to get up with her; however I continued it, in order to drive her at least off the Station, till Eleven that Night, when we made this Island, having lost Sight of her.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Pringle, of His Majesty's Ship Ariadne, to Admiral Young, dated Carlisle Bay, March 18, 1778.

I Have the Honour to acquaint you, that, early in the Morning of the 9th Instant, I saw Two Sail to the Eastward, whom I chased, having His Majesty's Sloop Ceres in Company. The Two Strangers at first shewed a Disposition to attack us, but, in Consequence of the King's Ships having brought the sternmost to close Action about Noon, the other made off. The Ship in Action, after having given to and received from the Ariadne and Ceres some Broadsides, struck; and proved to be the Rebel Ship Alfred, of 28 Nine-pounders and 180 Men. Her Consort was the Raleigh, of 32 Guns, whom with the utmost Dispatch we made Sail after, and chased from that Time until Ten o'Clock the next Day; but finding that we did not come up with her, and that she was throwing every Thing overboard to lighten, we left off Chase.

The Two Rebel Cruizers had been at Port L'Orient in France, to fit out; and came here to cruize for the English and Irish Convoys, having taken the Coast of Guinea in their Way. They had taken no Vessels since their leaving France.

Peterburg, April 28. The Empress removed to Czarco-Zelo to-day; the Great Duke and Dutchess, with the rest of the Court, go thither to-morrow.

Stockholm, May 1. On Tuesday, last at the Annual Solemnity of the King of Sweden's Orders, Colonel M'Leod, who some Time ago quitted the Swedish Service, was named Commander of the Order of the Sword; and Lieutenant-General Baron Duvall was installed, in His Majesty's Bed-Chamber, Commander of the Order of Wasa: After which Divine Service was performed with great Pomp in the Chapel of the Court, into which the Foreign Ministers, after having attended the King's Grand Levée, were, as usual, introduced by the Master of the Ceremonies.

The same Day being fixed for putting on the new National Dress, the Royal Family and the whole Court appeared in it for the first Time, as well as all the Nobility of both Sexes; together with the Military Officers belonging to the different Corps in this Capital.

A Letter from his Swedish Majesty to the Colleges of Commerce and *la Chambre*, dated the 16th of last December, is now published here; by which all Vessels, both Foreign and Swedish, on their entering into any Swedish Harbour, are permitted, after paying the usual Duties, to unload and to sell either the Whole or only Part of their Cargoes, consisting of such Merchandizes as are not prohibited, and at the same Time may purchase and take in all Kind of Swedish Merchandizes as are allowed to be exported; and all this without paying any Kind of Duty (as had been hitherto practised) for such Part of their Cargoes as they do not unload or sell. His Swedish Majesty, however, recommends strongly the utmost Care to be taken, that no Contraband Trade be permitted, nor the Custom-House defrauded of their Duties; and that the Royal Ordinances given for that Purpose be strictly observed, particularly that of the 10th of November 1724; in consequence of which the Liberty granted to Foreign Vessels, of unloading and selling their Goods, is to be extended only to be such Articles as are found to be

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