

(the said Commissioners) they shall give, or cause to be given, to the said Agents, all such Lists from the Muster Books of any such Ships of War, and annexed Lists, as the said Agents shall find requisite for their Direction in paying the Prodnce of such Prizes, and otherwise shall be aiding and assisting to the said Agents in all such Matters as shall be necessary. We do hereby further will and direct, that the following Regulations shall be observed concerning the One Eighth Part herein before mentioned to be granted to the Flag, or Flag Officers, who shall actually be on Board at the taking of any Prize, or shall be directing or assisting therein: First, That a Flag Officer, Commander in Chief, when there is but One Flag Officer upon Service, shall have to his own Use the said One Eighth Part of the Prizes taken by Ships and Vessels under his Command: Secondly, That a Flag Officer, sent to command at Jamaica, or elsewhere, shall have no Right to any Share of Prizes taken by Ships or Vessels employed there, before he arrives at the Place to which he is sent, and actually takes upon him the Command: Thirdly, That when an inferior Flag Officer is sent out to reinforce a superior Flag Officer at Jamaica, or elsewhere, the superior Flag Officer shall have no Right to any Share of Prizes taken by the inferior Flag Officer, before the inferior Flag Officer shall arrive within the Limits of the Command of the superior Flag Officer, and actually receive some Order from him: Fourthly, That a Chief Flag Officer returning home from Jamaica, or elsewhere, shall have no Share of the Prizes taken by the Ships or Vessels left behind to act under another Command: Fifthly, That if a Flag Officer is sent to command in the Outports of this Kingdom, he shall have no Share of the Prizes taken by Ships or Vessels which have sailed from that Port by Order from the Admiralty: Sixthly, That when more Flag Officers than One serve together, the Eighth Part of the Prizes taken by any Ships or Vessels of the Fleet or Squadron, shall be divided in the following Proportions, viz. If there be but Two Flag Officers, the Chief shall have Two Third Parts of the said One Eighth Part, and the other shall have the remaining Third Part; but if the Number of Flag Officers be more than Two, the Chief shall have only One Half, and the other Half shall be equally divided amongst the other Flag Officers: Seventhly, That Commodores with Captains under them shall be esteemed as Flag Officers with respect to the Eighth Part of Prizes taken, whether commanding in Chief, or serving under Command. And We do hereby further order, That in the Case of Cutters, Schooners, and other armed Vessels commanded by Lieutenants, the Share of such Lieutenants shall be Three Eighth Parts of the Prize, unless such Lieutenants shall be under the Command of a Flag Officer or Officers; in which Case the Flag Officer or Officers shall have One of the said Three Eighths, to be divided among such Flag Officer or Officers in the Manner herein before directed in the Case of Captains serving under Flag Officers: Secondly, We direct that the Share of the Master, or other Person acting as Second in Command, and the Pilot, (if there happens to be One on Board) shall be One Eighth Part, to be divided into Three equal Parts; of which Two Thirds shall go to the Master, or other Person acting as Second in Command, and the remaining One Third to the Pilot; but if there is no Pilot, then such Eighth Part to go wholly to the Master or Person acting as Second in Command: That the Share of the Chirurgion, or Chirurgion's Mate, (where there is no Chirurgion) Midshipmen, and Clerk and Steward, shall be One Eighth; That the Share of the Boatwain's, Gunner's, and Carpenter's Mates, Yeomen of the Sheets, Sailmaker, Quarter-Master, and Quarter-Master's Mate, shall be One Eighth; and the Share of the Seamen, Marines, and other Persons on Board, assisting in the Capture, shall be Two Eighth Parts. But it is Our Intention nevertheless, that the above Distribution shall only extend to such Captures as shall

without any of His Majesty's Ships or Vessels of War being present or within Sight of, and adding to the Encouragement of the Captors, and Terror of the Enemy: but in Case any of His Majesty's Ships or Vessels of War shall be present, or in Sight, that then the Officers, Pilots, Petty Officers, and Men on Board such Cutters and Schooners, or armed Vessels, shall share in the same Proportion as is allowed to Persons of the like Rank and Denomination on Board His Majesty's Ships and Vessels of War. Lastly, It is Our Will and Pleasure, That this Our Declaration, and Order in Council thereupon, shall extend not only to Captures from the King of Spain, his Subjects, and others inhabiting his Countries, but also shall extend in the like Manner to all Ships and Goods now taken, and not finally adjudged and condemned, and divided, or to be taken hereafter, under the Act of Parliament of the Nineteenth Year of Our Reign, entitled, An Act for the Encouragement of Seamen, and for the more speedy Manning of Our Navy.

Given at Our Court at St. James's, the Twenty-fifth Day of June, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, in the Nineteenth Year of Our Reign.

GOD save the KING.

Admiralty-Office, June 26, 1779.

LIEUTENANT Wickey, of His Majesty's Ship the Rainbow, arrived late at Night on the 22d Instant, with Letters from Sir George Collier, Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in North America, to Mr. Stephens, of which the following are Extracts, viz.

Rainbow, off Portsmouth, May 17, 1779.

HAVING concerted with Sir Henry Clinton, Commander in Chief of the King's Forces in America, the most probable Means for restraining the Trade of His Majesty's rebellious Subjects, a Descent in Virginia was judged of the greatest Utility for that and other Purposes; in consequence of which I sailed from New York on the 5th Instant, with His Majesty's Ships Raifonable and Rainbow, the Otter, Diligent, and Haerlem Sloops, and Cornwallis Galley, together with several private Ships of War, and Twenty-two Transports, having on board the Grenadiers and Light Companies of the Guards, the 42d Regiment, the Royal Volunteers of Ireland, and the Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles; all under the Command of Major-General Matthew.

Our Passage was so favourable, that the Fleet anchored, on the Fourth Evening from our Sailing, between the Shoals of Willoughby Point in Virginia, and early the next Day proceeded up Elizabeth River, leaving the Raifonable in Hampton Road, whose great Draught of Water made her going further very hazardous.

When the Tide of Ebb and a Calm made it necessary for the Fleet again to anchor, we were not above Five Miles from the intended Place of Descent. Anxious to give the Enemy no Time for Preparation and Reinforcement, the First Division of Troops were embarked in the Flat Boats, preceded and covered by the Cornwallis Galley, and Two Gun Boats (carrying a Six-pounder at each End) and landed without Opposition at the Glebe, Two Miles and a Half from the Fort, and Three from the Town of Portsmouth; a favourable Breeze brought up the Ships soon after, and the Disembarkation of the Rest of the Troops was made with the utmost Expedition.

Except a few Guns fired at the Rainbow from the Fort, which the Distance rendered of no Effect, there was no Opposition made by the Rebels; They abandoned their Works with Precipitation, leaving the Rebel Colours flying, which were taken Possession of the same Evening by the King's Troops. The Enemy lost by this Surrender several Ships and Vessels in the Harbour, which fell into our Hands; many others were burnt by themselves; amongst whom were Two large French Ships, laden (as 'tis reported) with a Thousand Heads of Tobacco.