

*Acts agreed upon by both Houses, do desire the immediate Attendance of this Honourable House in the House of Peers, to hear the Commission read; and the Commons being come thither, the said Commission, empowering the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, and several other Lords therein named, to declare and notify the Royal Assent to the said Acts, was read accordingly, and the Royal Assent given to*

An Act for raising a certain Sum of Money by Loans or Exchequer Bills for the Service of the Year One thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight.

An Act to revive and continue, until the First Day of March, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, an Act, passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Years of His present Majesty, Chapter One hundred and two, videlicet, on the Nineteenth Day of July, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, for granting to His Majesty additional Duties on Distilleries in the several Parts of the Highlands of Scotland therein particularly described, for a limited Time; and for regulating the Duties on Distilleries in the respective Districts in Scotland.

An Act for the Regulation of His Majesty's Marine Forces while on Shore, to continue until the Twenty-fifth Day of March, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

An Act to continue, until the Expiration of Six Weeks from the Commencement of the next Session of Parliament, so much of an Act, passed in the Session of Parliament of the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Years of His present Majesty, Chapter Seven, videlicet, on the Eleventh of November, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, as relates to the Exportation and carrying Coastwise of Wheat and Rye, and to the Importation of several Articles of Provision.

An Act to continue, until the Expiration of Six Weeks after the Commencement of the next Session of Parliament, an Act, passed in the Thirty-fifth Year of His present Majesty, Chapter Fifteen, videlicet, on the Sixteenth Day of March, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-five; and also an Act passed in the same Year, Chapter Eighty, videlicet, on the Twenty-second Day of May, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-five; and also another Act, passed in the Thirty-sixth Year of His present Majesty, Chapter Seventy-six, videlicet, on the Fourteenth Day of May, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, relating to the Admission of certain Articles of Merchandise in Neutral Ships, and the issuing of Orders in Council for that Purpose; and to continue, for the same Period, an Act, passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Years of His present Majesty, Chapter Twenty-one, videlicet, on the Twenty-eighth Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-six, authorizing His Majesty to make Regulations respecting the Trade and Commerce to and from the Cape of Good Hope.

An Act to indemnify such Persons as have omitted to qualify themselves for Offices and Employments, and to indemnify Justices of the Peace, or others, who have omitted to register or deliver in their Qualifications within the Time directed by Law, and for extending the Time limited for those Purposes until the Twenty-fifth Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight; to indemnify

Members and Officers in Cities, Corporations and Borough Towns, whose Admissions have been omitted to be stamped according to Law, or, having been stamped, have been lost or mislaid, and for allowing them until the Twenty-fifth Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, to provide Admissions duly stamped; to permit such Persons as have omitted to make and file Affidavits of the Execution of Indentures of Clerks to Attornies and Solicitors, to make and file the same on or before the First Day of Michaelmas Term One thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight; and for indemnifying Deputy Lieutenants and Officers of the Militia, who have neglected to transmit Descriptions of their Qualifications to the Clerks of the Peace, within the Time directed by Law, and for extending the Time limited for that Purpose until the First Day of September One thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight.

An Act to give further Time for executing, and for enlarging the Powers of an Act, made in the last Session of Parliament, intituled, An Act to raise and embody a Militia Force in that Part of the Kingdom of Great Britain called Scotland.

An Act to amend an Act, made in the Twentieth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King George the Second, intituled, An Act to enable His Majesty to grant Commissions to a certain Number of Foreign Protestants, who have served Abroad as Officers or Engineers, to act and rank as Officers or Engineers in America only, under certain Restrictions and Qualifications.

An Act to amend Two Acts, made in the Thirty-first and Thirty-third Years of the Reign of His present Majesty, for taking down and rebuilding the Parish Church of All Saints, within the Town and County of the Town of Southampton.

Admiralty-Office, December 30, 1797.

*Copy of a Letter from Captain Robert Barlow, Commander of His Majesty's Ship Phœbe, to Evan Nepean, Esq; dated in Cawsand Bay the 26th Instant.*

S I R,

BE pleased to inform their Lordships, that on the 21st Instant, at Ten A. M. being with His Majesty's Ship under my Command in Lat. 48 deg. 30 min. North, Long. 10 deg. West, we discovered one of the Enemy's Frigates, which, about Nine o'Clock the same Evening, we had the good Fortune to come up with and capture, after an Action which lasted upwards of Two Hours.

To account to their Lordships for it's continuing so long, it will be necessary to trouble them with some Detail.

The Difference in Point of Sailing between the Two Ships being inconsiderable, she damaged our Masts, Sails and Rigging very much with her Stern Chace Guns, and at the Moment when we were nearly in a Situation to commence our Attack, she put in Stays, the Phœbe being at this Time under a Crowd of Sail; and as, from the Darkness of the Night, the Enemy's Disposition for tacking could not be discovered, a few Minutes necessarily elapsed before we could tack to follow her, after exchanging Broadsides on passing. This Manœuvre increased our Distance, and subjected us a second Time to the Fire of her Stern Chace, with which they were but too successful in cutting up our Sails and Rigging. At length, about Ten o'Clock, we got fairly along-

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