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AT the Court at *Weymouth*, the 15th Day of *August* 1805,

P R E S E N T,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

IT is this Day ordered by His Majesty, with the Advice of His Privy Council, that from and after the First Day of December next, or upon the Publication of a Proclamation to that Effect within each Colony, it shall not be lawful, except by special Licence as hereinafter-mentioned, for any Slave or Slaves to be landed upon any of the Coasts, or imported or brought into any of the Ports, Harbours, Creeks, or Roads, or within the Limits, Jurisdictions, and Territories of any of the Settlements, Islands, Colonies, or Plantations on the Continent of America, or in the West Indies, which have been surrendered to His Majesty's Arms during the present War, until further Order, upon Pain that all Slaves so landed, imported, or brought, contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of this Order, together with the Vessels bringing in the same, or from which the same shall be landed, and their Cargoes, shall become forfeited to His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors: But whereas it may be expedient to permit the Annual Introduction of a limited Number of Slaves, under due Regulations, for the Purpose of supplying any Waste that shall take place in the Population on particular Estates from extraordinary or unavoidable Causes, and thereby of keeping up the Cultivation of the Lands already cleared and cultivated; it is therefore ordered, that any Number of Slaves, not exceeding Three for every Hundred of the whole Number of Slaves in the said Settlements, Islands, Colonies, and Plantations respectively, (Returns of the Number whereof shall be made from Time to Time, in pursuance of Instructions to be transmitted by One of Our Principal Secretaries of State,) may be imported in each Year, (provided Casualties to that Extent shall appear to have taken place in the preceding Year,) under Licences to be previously granted by the Go-

vernor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Officer administering the Government of the said Settlements, Islands, Colonies, and Plantations, from any other of His Majesty's Colonies in the West Indies, into the said Settlements, Islands, Colonies, and Plantations respectively; such Licence, or a Copy thereof, to be produced by the Master of the Ship on which such Slaves are laden, as his Authority for having Slaves on board destined to the Settlements, &c. as aforesaid: Provided always, that, until the First Day of January, One thousand eight hundred and seven, such limited Importation may be made from other Places than His Majesty's Colonies in the West Indies as aforesaid, and without its being necessary for the Master of the Vessel, if met with at Sea, to produce the said Licence, or a Copy thereof, as his Authority for having the said Slaves, destined as aforesaid, on board; but subject, nevertheless, to such Licence being first had and obtained as aforesaid, before any Slaves shall be permitted to be landed or sold from such Vessel in any of the said Settlements: And whereas special Instructions will be immediately transmitted by One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State to the Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, or Officers administering the Government of the said Colonies, Settlements, and Plantations respectively, containing the Regulations proper for carrying this Order into effectual Execution, directing and empowering them to grant Licences for the Importation of such limited Numbers of Slaves as aforesaid, subject to such Regulations as in the said Instructions will be provided:—It is His Majesty's further Order, that such Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or other Officer as aforesaid, shall be, and they are hereby respectively authorized and empowered to grant such Licences, upon such Terms and Conditions, and subject to such Regulations, as, in Conformity to, and in Furtherance of, the Object of such Instructions, may, from Time to Time, be required;—and it is hereby further ordered, that the Prohibition hereinbefore contained shall not extend to prevent the importing and land-