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From Saturday October 17, to Tuesday October 20, 1807.

By the KING.

A PROCLAMATION.

For recalling and prohibiting Seamen from serving Foreign Princes and States.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS it hath been represented unto Us, that great Numbers of Mariners and Seafaring Men, Our Natural-born Subjects, have been enticed to enter into the Service of Foreign States, and are now actually serving as well on board the Ships of War belonging to the said Foreign States, as on board the Merchant Vessels belonging to their Subjects, notwithstanding Our former Proclamation recalling them, contrary to the Duty and Allegiance which Our said Subjects owe unto Us, and to the great Diservice of their Native Country; We have therefore thought it necessary at the present Moment, when Our Kingdom is menaced and endangered, and when the Maritime Rights, on which its Power and Greatness do mainly depend, are disputed and called in question, to publish, by and with the Advice of Our Privy Council, this Our Royal Proclamation:

We do hereby strictly charge and command all Masters of Ships, Pilots, Mariners, Shipwrights, and other Seafaring Men, being Our Natural-born Subjects, who may have been enticed into the Pay or Service of any Foreign State, or do serve in any Foreign Ship or Vessel, that, forthwith, they and every of them do (according to their bounden Duty and Allegiance, and in Consideration that their Native Country hath need of all their Services), withdraw themselves, and depart from, and quit such Foreign Services, and do return home to their Native Country; or do enter on board such of Our Ships of War as they may chance to fall in with, either on the high Seas, or in any Rivers, Waters, Havens, Roads, Ports, or Places whatsoever or whereforever.

And, for the better Execution of the Purposes of this Our Royal Proclamation, We do authorize and command all Captains, Masters, and others, commanding Our Ships and Vessels of War, to stop and make stay of all and every such Person or Persons (being our Natural-born Subjects) as shall endeavour to transport or enter themselves into the Service of any Foreign State, contrary to the Intent

and Command of this Our Royal Proclamation, and to seize upon, take, and bring away all such Persons as aforesaid, who shall be found to be employed or serving in any Foreign Merchant Ship or Vessel as aforesaid:—but We do strictly enjoin all such Our Captains, Masters, and others, that they do permit no Man to go on board such Ships and Vessels belonging to States at Amity with Us, for the Purpose of so seizing upon, taking, and bringing away such Persons as aforesaid, for whose discreet and orderly Demeanor the said Captains cannot answer; and that they do take especial Care that no unnecessary Violence be done or offered to the Vessel, or to the Remainder of the Crew, from out of which such Persons shall be taken:

And in case of their receiving Information of any such Person or Persons being employed, or serving on board of any Ship of War belonging to such Foreign State, being a State at Amity with Us, We do authorize and command Our Captains, Masters, and others, commanding Our Ships of War, to require of the Captain or Commander of such Foreign Ship of War, that he do forthwith release and discharge such Person or Persons, being our Natural-born Subject or Subjects; and if such Release and Discharge shall be refused, then to transmit Information of such Refusal to the Commander in Chief of the Squadron under whose Orders such Captain or Commander shall be then serving; which Information the said Commander in Chief is hereby strictly directed and enjoined to transmit, with the least possible Delay, to Our Minister residing at the Seat of Government of that State to which the said Foreign Ship of War shall belong, or to Our Lord High Admiral, or Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for the Time being, in order that We, being apprized of such Proceeding, may forthwith direct the necessary Steps to be taken for obtaining Redress from the Government to which such Foreign Ship of War shall belong, for the Injury done to Us by the unwarranted Detention of Our Natural-born Subjects in the Service of a Foreign State:

And whereas it has further been represented unto Us, that divers Mariners and Seafaring Men, Our Natural-born Subjects, have been induced to accept Letters of Naturalization, or Certificates of Citizenship, from Foreign States, and have been taught to