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By the KING.

A PROCLAMATION,

For granting the Distribution of Prizes during the present Hostilities.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS by Our Order in Council, dated the Eighteenth of December instant, We have ordered that General Reprizals be granted against the Ships, Goods, and Subjects of the Emperor of all the Russias (save and except any Vessels to which Our Licence has been granted, or which have been directed to be released from the Embargo, and have not since arrived at any Foreign Port); so that as well Our Fleets and Ships, as also all other Ships and Vessels that shall be commissioned by Letters of Marque, or General Reprizals or otherwise, by Our Commissioners for executing Our Office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, shall and may lawfully seize all Ships, Vessels, and Goods belonging to the Emperor of Russia, or to any of the Territories, Ports, or Places aforesaid, or to any Persons being Subjects of the Emperor of Russia, or inhabiting within any of the Territories of Russia, or within any of the Territories, Ports, or Places aforesaid, and bring the same to Judgement in any of Our Courts of Admiralty within Our Dominions, duly authorized and required to take Cognizance thereof: We, being desirous to give due Encouragement to Our faithful Subjects who shall lawfully seize the same, and having declared in Council, by Our Order of the Eighteenth of December instant, Our Intentions concerning the Distribution of all Manner of Captures, Seizures, Prizes, and Reprizals of all Ships and Goods during the present Hostilities, do now make known to all Our loving Subjects, and all others whom it may concern, by this Our Proclamation, by and with the Advice and Consent of Our Privy Council, that Our Will and Pleasure is, That the Neat Produce of all Prizes taken, the Right whereof is inherent in Us and Our Crown, be given to the Takers (save and except the Produce of such Prizes as are or shall be taken by Ships or Vessels belonging to, or hired by, or in the Service of Our Commissioners of Customs or Excise, the Disposition of which We reserve to Our farther Pleasure; and also save and except as

herein after mentioned), but subject to the Payment of all such or the like Customs and Duties as the same are now, or would have been liable to, if the same were or might have been imported as Merchandize; and that the same may be so given in the Proportion and Manner herein after set forth; that is to say,

That all Prizes taken by Ships and Vessels having Commissions of Letters of Marque and Reprizals, (save and except such Prizes as are or shall be taken by the Ships or Vessels belonging to, or hired by, or in the Service of, Our Commissioners aforesaid,) may be sold and disposed of by the Merchants, Owners, Fitters, and others, to whom such Letters of Marque and Reprizals are granted, for their own Use and Benefit, after final Adjudication, and not before.

And We do hereby further order and direct, that the Neat Produce of all Prizes which are or shall be taken by any of Our Ships or Vessels of War, (save and except when they shall be acting on any conjunct Expedition with Our Army, in which Case We reserve to Ourselves the Division and Distribution of all Prize and Booty taken, and also save and except as hereinafter-mentioned;) shall be for the entire Benefit and Encouragement of Our Flag-Officers, Captains, Commanders, and other Commissioned Officers in Our Pay, and of the Seamen, Marines, and Soldiers on board Our said Ships and Vessels at the Time of the Capture; and that such Prizes may be lawfully sold and disposed of by them and their Agents, after the same shall have been to Us finally adjudged lawful Prize, and not otherwise.

The Distribution shall be made as follows:—The Whole of the Neat Produce being first divided into Eight equal Parts,

The Captain or Captains of any of Our said Ships or Vessels of War, who shall be actually on board at the Taking of any Prize, shall have Three Eighth Parts; but in case any such Prize shall be taken by any of Our Ships or Vessels of War, under the Command of a Flag or Flags, the Flag-Officer or Officers being actually on board, or directing and assisting in the Capture, shall have One of the Three Eighth Parts; the said One Eighth Part to be paid to such Flag or Flag-Officers in such Proportions, and subject to such Regulations, as are hereinafter-mentioned.