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By the KING.

A PROCLAMATION,

Revoking the former Proclamations relating to the Distribution of Prizes, and appointing a new Distribution thereof.

GEORGE R.

WHEREAS it has been represented to Us by Our Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral, that it will be productive of beneficial Effects to the Service, if, instead of the Eighth Parts of the neat Produce of Prizes, which have hitherto been granted to the Captains and Flag Officers serving in Our Fleet, Two Eighth Parts only shall be allotted to them, and the remaining Eighth Part distributed amongst the Petty Officers, Seamen, and Marines, in addition to their present Shares; We do therefore, by and with the Advice of Our Privy Council, think fit to issue this Our Royal Proclamation, hereby revoking our several Proclamations heretofore issued, and now in Force, concerning the Distribution of Prizes taken by Our Fleets and Ships, and by all other Ships and Vessels that are or shall be commissioned by Letters of Marque or General Reprizals, against the Ships, Goods, and Subjects of any of the Countries with which We are at War: Provided always, that the Distribution hereinafter made shall not be construed to affect any Prizes which have been captured before the Day of the Date of this Our Royal Proclamation, nor any Prizes which shall be captured after that Day, and which shall be condemned in any of Our Courts of Vice-Admiralty, before Notice of this Our Royal Proclamation shall have been received by the Court of Vice-Admiralty in which such Condemnation shall pass; and We do hereby declare, that the Produce of all such Prizes as shall have been captured before the Day of the Date of this Our Royal Proclamation, or shall be captured that Day, and shall be condemned in any of Our Courts of Vice-Admiralty antecedent to the Notice of this Our Royal Proclamation having been received in such Court, shall continue to be distributed in the Proportions directed by Our said former Proclamations; and We do now make known to all Our loving Subjects, and all others whom it may concern, by this Our Royal Proclamation, by and with the 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 Taker, (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 further Pleasure, and also save and except as hereinafter-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 Merchandise; and that the same may be so given in the Proportion and Manner hereinafter 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 Net Produce being first divided into Eight equal Parts,

The Captain or Captains of any of Our said Ships or Vessels of War, or Officer commanding such Ship or Vessel, who shall be actually on board at the taking of any Prize, shall have Two-Eighth Parts, but in case any such Prize shall be taken by