



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Saturday, October 31, to Tuesday, November 3, 1812.

By His Royal Highness the PRINCE of WALES, REGENT of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in the Name and on Behalf of His Majesty.

A PROCLAMATION,

For granting the Distribution of Prizes during the present Hostilities.

GEORGE, P. R.

WHEREAS by Our Order in Council, dated the thirteenth day of October instant, We have ordered that general reprisals be granted against the ships, goods, and citizens of the United States of America (save and except any vessels to which His Majesty's licence has been granted, or which have been directed to be released from the embargo and have not terminated the original voyage in which they were detained and released), so that as well the fleets and ships of His Majesty, as also all other ships and vessels that shall be commissioned by letters of marque or general reprisals, or otherwise by the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, shall and may lawfully seize all ships, vessels, and goods belonging to the Government of the United States of America, or to any persons being citizens of the United States of America, or inhabiting within any of the territories thereof, and bring the same to judgment in any of the Courts of Admiralty within His Majesty's dominions duly authorised and required to take cognizance thereof; We being desirous to give due encouragement to His Majesty's faithful subjects who shall lawfully seize the same, and having declared in Council, by Our Order of the thirteenth of October instant, Our intentions concerning the distributions of all manner of captures, seizures, prizes, and reprisals of all ships and goods during the present hostilities, do now make known to all His Majesty's loving subjects, and all others whom it may concern, by this Our Proclamation, by and with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Privy Council, that Our will and pleasure is, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, that the net produce of all prizes taken (save

as hereinbefore excepted), the right whereof is inherent in His Majesty and His Crown, be given to the takers (save also 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, the Commissioners of Customs or Excise, the disposition of which We reserve to Our farther pleasure, and also save and except as hereinafter mentioned); but subject to the payment of all such or 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 reprisals (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, the Commissioners aforesaid) may be sold and disposed of by the merchants, owners, fitters, and others to whom such letters of marque and reprisals are granted, for their own use and benefit, after final adjudication, and not before.

And We do hereby further order and direct, that the net produce of all prizes which are or shall be taken by any of His Majesty's ships or vessels of war (save and except when they shall be acting on any conjunct expedition with His Majesty's land forces, in which case We reserve to Ourselves the division and distribution of all prizes and booty taken, and also save and except as hereinafter mentioned) shall be for the entire benefit and encouragement of the flag-officers, captains, commanders, and other commissioned officers in His Majesty's pay, and of the seamen, marines, and soldiers on board His Majesty's 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 finally adjudged lawful prize to His Majesty, 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 His Majesty's said ships or vessels of war, or officer command-