

esty's ships of war if the shares of the proceeds and rewards above mentioned were considerably increased beyond what those valuable officers and men do now receive.

We would, therefore, most humbly submit, that your Majesty may be graciously pleased, by your Order in Council, to cause the Royal Proclamation of the twenty-ninth of June one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, for granting the distribution of the proceeds of prizes captured from the enemy, and the Order in Council of the thirtieth June one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, for the distribution of the proceeds and rewards arising from the several other captures and seizures before mentioned, to be annulled, and that in lieu thereof your Majesty would cause your Royal Proclamation to issue, directing the distribution of the proceeds of all such captures and seizures and rewards henceforth to be made and conferred among the officers, seamen, and marines of your Majesty's Fleet in the manner following, viz.

First.—By taking a reasonable sum from the flag-officers, captains, and commanders, and commanding officers' shares of two eighths, as at present allowed, and adding it to the shares of the other commissioned and warrant and petty officers, seamen, and marines.

Secondly.—By giving to the flag-officers, captains, and commanders, and commanding officers, definite shares of the whole sum to be distributed respectively, without making the flag-officers' share dependent on that of the captains and commanders.

Thirdly.—By giving to the first lieutenant or commander doing the duty of a first lieutenant (where there is any), a specific number of shares.

Fourthly.—By adding a third class of petty officers, and dividing the boys into two classes, by which the present number of classes, namely eight, will be increased to ten.

Fifthly.—By throwing the whole, after deducting the parts allotted to the flag officers, captains, and commanders, into specific shares to each individual of the several classes, instead of appropriating a fractional portion to each class collectively.

Should your Majesty be graciously pleased to accede to these general principles, we would humbly submit that the flag officers or officers should have one sixteenth part of the whole net proceeds arising from prizes captured from the enemy, and from all other captures and seizures as aforesaid, made by the ships and vessels under his command, and of the rewards conferred for the same, save and except as hereinafter mentioned.

That the captain or captains, or commanders, of any of your Majesty's ships or sloops of war, or the officer or officers respectively commanding such ships or sloops of war, who shall have been actually on board at the time of any such capture or seizure, shall have one sixth part of the remainder, and where there is no flag officer, one sixth part of the whole.

That the remainder should be distributed into shares according to the annexed scale :

First class.—To the senior lieutenant, from first to fifth rates inclusive, or the commander acting as first lieutenant (where there is one); the master of the fleet and field officer of marine (if embarked)—fifty-five shares each.

Second class.—To the other lieutenants, captain of

marines, master, physician of the fleet, and secretary to the commander in chief—forty-five shares each.

Third class.—To the chaplain, surgeon, and other flag-officers, secretaries, purser, lieutenants of marines, boatswain, gunner, and carpenter—twenty-five shares each.

Fourth class.—To mates, second master, assistant surgeons, schoolmaster, clerks, master at arms—eighteen shares each.

Fifth class.—To midshipmen, master's assistant, admiral's coxwain, ship's corporal, captain's coxwain, quartermaster, gunners' and boatswains' mates, captains of fore-castle and hold, coxwain of launch, caulker, sail-maker, carpenters' mates, armourer, captains of main and fore-tops, serjeant of marines—ten shares each.

Sixth class.—To captains of masts and afterguard, yeomen of signals, coxwain of pinnace, sail-makers', caulkers', and armourers' mates, cooper, rope-maker, volunteers of first class, ship's cook, corporals of marines—eight shares each.

Seventh class.—To seamen, gunners, gunners' crew, carpenters', coopers', and sail-makers' crews, able seamen, yeomen of store-room, private and fifer of marines above seven years—five shares each.

Eighth class.—To cook's mate, barber, ordinary seamen, captains' and pursers' and ward-room stewards, captains' and ward-room cooks, private and fifer of marines, under seven years; and admiral's steward, cook and domestics—three shares each.

Ninth class.—To landsmen, stewards' mates, and others not described, including supernumeraries for victuals only, boys of first class—two shares each.

Tenth class.—To boys of the second class—half a share each.

When land forces are embarked to serve as marines, they are to share according to their respective ranks as marines.

Secondly.—In the cases of prizes captured from the enemy, and all other captures and seizures as aforesaid, made by the officers and men of cutters, schooners, brigs, and other armed vessels of war commanded by lieutenants, when not in company with other ships commanded by captains or commanders, the said lieutenants to share as captains; and where more small vessels than one shall be together, the lieutenants shall have equal shares of the one sixth part.

But a lieutenant or lieutenants commanding small vessels, when in company with captains or commanders, shall share only as commanders doing duty as first lieutenants, or first lieutenants of first to fifth rates inclusive, namely :—they shall have fifty-five shares.

The remainder to be shared as in the foregoing scale, with the exception of the clerk in charge, who is to share as purser, but if a ship or vessel bearing a purser be present, he is to share only as a clerk.

Thirdly.—In all cases in which supernumeraries, whether officers or men, shall be borne by order of the Lord High Admiral, or the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral, or by other proper authority, they shall share with the respective ranks in which they may be acting; save and except, that no flag-officer or other person, not actually present at the capture or destruction of any pirate vessel, shall be entitled to share in any distribution of the proceeds or bounty in respect of the