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By the Lords Justices,

A P R O C L A M A T I O N,

Appointing the Distribution of Prizes taken, and the Bounty for taking Ships of War of the Enemy.

Jo. Cant. Hardwicke C. Wilmington P. Hervey C. P. S. Dorset, Devonshire, Holles Newcastle, Pembroke, Ilay.

W H E R E A S by an Act of Parliament made in the last Session of Parliament, entitled, An Act for the more effectual securing and encouraging the Trade of his Majesty's British Subjects to America, and for the Encouragement of Seamen to enter into his Majesty's Service, it is amongst other Things enacted, That the Flag-Officers, Commanders, and other Officers, Seamen, Marines, and Soldiers on board every Ship and Vessel of War in his Majesty's Pay, shall have the sole Interest and Property of and in all and every Ship, Vessel, Goods and Merchandize, which they shall take after the Fourth Day of January in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and thirty nine, in Europe, and after the Twenty fourth Day of June, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and forty, in any other Part of the World (being first adjudged lawful Prize in any of his Majesty's Courts of Admiralty in Great Britain, or in his Plantations in America or elsewhere) to be divided in such Proportions and after such Manner, as his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors shall think fit to order and direct by Proclamation to be issued for that Purpose. And as a farther Encouragement to the Officers, Seamen, Marines, Soldiers, and others on board his Majesty's Ships of War, as also of Privateers, to attack, take and destroy any Ships of Force belonging to the Enemy, It is thereby also enacted, that there shall be paid by the Treasurer of his Majesty's Navy, upon Bills to be made forth by the Commissioners of the Navy, to be paid according to the Course thereof, without Fee or Reward, unto the Officers, Seamen, Marines, Soldiers, and others, that shall have been actually on board such of his Majesty's Ship or Ships of War, or Privateer or Privateers, in any Action where any Ship or Ships of War, or Privateers shall have been taken from the Enemy, sunk, burnt, or otherwise destroyed, Five Pounds for every Man, which was living on board any Ship or Ships so taken, sunk, burnt, or otherwise destroyed, at the Beginning of the Engagement between

them, the Numbers of such Men to be proved by the Oaths of three or more of the chief Officers or Men, which were belonging to the said Ship or Ships of War, or Privateers of the Enemy, at the Time of her or their being taken as Prize, sunk, burnt, or otherwise destroyed, before the Mayor or other chief Magistrate of the Port whereunto any Prize or Officers, or Men of such Ships as were sunk, burnt, or otherwise destroyed, shall be brought. Which Oaths the said Mayor, or other chief Magistrate of any such Port, is hereby empowered and required to administer, and shall forthwith grant a Certificate thereof, without Fee or Reward, directed to the Commissioners of the Navy; upon producing which Certificate to the Commissioners of the Navy, together with an authentick Copy of the Condemnation of such Ship so taken; or if such Ship be sunk, burnt, or otherwise destroyed, on producing only a Certificate from the Mayor or other chief Magistrate as aforesaid, the said Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy, or such Person or Persons as they shall appoint for that Purpose, shall, according to the Course of the Navy, within Fifteen Days, make out Bills for the Amount of such Bounty, directed to the Treasurer of the Navy, payable to and to be divided amongst the Officers, Seamen, Marines, and Soldiers on board his Majesty's Ships of War, in Manner, Form, and Proportion, as by his Majesty's Proclamation to be issued for that Purpose, shall be directed and appointed, and amongst the Owners, Officers, and Seamen of any private Vessel or Ship of War, in such Manner and Proportion as by any Agreement in Writing they shall have entered into for that Purpose shall be directed: We taking the Premises into Consideration, do, pursuant to the said Act of Parliament (with the Advice of his Majesty's Privy Council) by this Proclamation order, direct and appoint, that the neat Produce of all Prizes taken by his Majesty's Ships of War, and Bounty Money for Prisoners taken in such Prizes, be divided into eight equal Parts, whereof the Captain or Captains of any of his Majesty's Ships of War who shall be actually on board at the taking of any Prize, shall be allowed three Eight Parts. But in Case any Prize shall be taken by any Ship or Ships 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, to have one Eight Part of the said three Eights. To the Captains of the Marines and Land Forces, Sea Lieutenants and Master on board any such Ships, shall be allowed one Eight Part to be equally divided amongst them. To the Lieutenants, and Quarter Masters of Marines, and Lieutenants, Ensigns and

(Price Two Pence.)