

AT the Court at St. James's, the 29th Day of March, 1750.

P R E S E N T,

The King's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

This Day the Right Honourable John Earl of Hyndford, George Lord Anson, and Sir Thomas Robinson, Knight of the Bath, were, by his Majesty's Command, Sworn of his Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, and took their respective Places at the Board accordingly.

By the KING,

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

Requiring Passes formerly granted to Ships and Vessels Trading in the Way of the Cruizers belonging to the Governments on the Coast of Barbary, to be returned into the Office of the Admiralty of Great Britain, and other Passes of different Forms to be issued.

G E O R G E R.

WH E R E A S by our Proclamation bearing Date the 31st Day of December, in the Third Year of our Reign, We did charge and command all our loving Subjects who then were or should be possessed of any Passes for Ships and Vessels belonging to our Subjects trading to Portugal, the Canaries, Guinea, the Indies, into the Mediterranean, or elsewhere in the Way of the Cruizers of the Government of Algiers (except such Passes as had been granted to Ships gone or going to the East Indies, or other remote Voyages, where they could not be timely furnished with new Passes) that they should, within the Space of Twelve Months, to be computed from the first Day of March then next, return the same, and furnish themselves with Passes of a new Form, under the Hands and Seals of our Commissioners for Executing the Office of High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, in lieu thereof, for their several Ships and Vessels, in such Manner as by the said recited Proclamation was directed. And whereas it hath been humbly represented unto us, that it may have happened that during the late War several Passes, granted pursuant to the said recited Proclamation, may either by Accident or undue Means have fallen into the Hands of Foreigners, who by Colour of such Passes may carry on their Trade; We, taking the Premises into our Royal Consideration, and judging it necessary to put a speedy Stop to all such indirect Practices, which do not only tend to the Prejudice of our Trading Subjects, but may occasion a Misunderstanding between us and the Governments on the Coast of Barbary, for preventing thereof have thought fit, by the Advice of our Privy Council, to publish this our Royal Proclamation, and do hereby declare, that all such Passes of the present Form now in Being, shall not continue in Force longer than till the first Day of April 1752 (except such Passes as have been granted to Ships gone or going to the East Indies, or other remote Voyages, where they cannot be timely furnished with new Passes.) And we do hereby strictly charge and command all our loving Subjects, who are or shall be possessed of any such Passes, that they do, before the First Day of April 1752, return the same (except such as are before excepted) into the Office of the Admiralty of Great Britain, or to the respective Collectors of our Customs at the Out-ports of Great Britain and Ireland, or to the Governors of some of our Foreign Plantations or Dominions, in order to their being cancelled; and that they do furnish themselves with Passes of a new Form, under the Hands and Seals of our Commissioners for Executing the Office of High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, in lieu thereof, for their several Ships and Vessels, according to the Treaties subsisting between us and the said Governments on the Coast of Barbary, and the Regulations made by our Royal Father of Glorious Memory, by Order in his Privy Council on the 14th Day of June, in the Year 1722, and our Instructions given to our said Commissioners for Executing the Office of High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland touching the same. And whereas many Ships and Vessels belonging to our loving Subjects continue several Years trading from Port to Port in the Mediterranean, without returning Home, whereby they cannot so conveniently procure their Passes to be exchanged; We do hereby, for the ~~Safe of our trading Subjects~~ publish and de-

clare our Pleasure, that upon the Application of any Owner of any Ship or Vessel, or other substantial Merchant, to the Office of the Admiralty of Great Britain, and Oath made by him of the Property of such Ship or Vessel, and that three Fourths of the Company are our Subjects, according to an Act made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of our Royal Predecessor King Charles the Second, (intituled, An Act for encouraging and increasing of Shipping and Navigation) and upon entering into the usual Bond for the Return of such Pass at the End of the Voyage, it shall and may be lawful for our Commissioners for Executing the Office of High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, or our High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland for the Time being, and they are respectively empowered to make out a new Pass for such Ship or Vessel, and send the same to such of our Consuls in the Mediterranean as the said Owner or Merchant shall desire, with Direction to such Consul, that upon Application to him from the Master of the Ship for which the Pass is made out, and surrendering up his old Pass, and entering into a like Bond for the Return of such new Pass, he shall deliver out the said new Pass to such Master, and transmit the old one, with the Bond, to the Office of the Admiralty of Great Britain. And in order more effectually to hinder for the Future any Abuses that may be attempted by Foreigners, relating to the new Passes to be issued as aforesaid, we do hereby further declare our Royal Will and Pleasure, That all such new Passes to be hereafter issued for any Ships or Vessels whatsoever, belonging to any of our Subjects of the Island of Minorca or Gibraltar, shall be made out in a peculiar Form, different from the Form of the new Passes to be issued for Ships and Vessels belonging to any other Part of our Dominions; and that such new Passes shall be lodged with the respective Governors, Lieutenant Governors, or Commanders in Chief, for the Time being, of the said Island of Minorca and Gibraltar, and issued out only by them, according to the Regulations made by our said Royal Father in Council as aforesaid: And the said respective Governors, Lieutenant Governors, and Commanders in Chief, are hereby charged and required not to issue or deliver out any such Passes to any Persons whatsoever, other than such as are really our Subjects inhabiting in the said Island of Minorca or Gibraltar respectively, and strictly to conform themselves to the Regulations and Instructions made and given as aforesaid. And we do hereby further publish and declare, That by our Orders made this Day in our Privy Council, we have ordered and directed, That the proper Officers of our Customs in the several Ports of our Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, do demand of the Masters of all Merchant Ships, so soon as they shall return into Port from a Foreign Voyage, all Passes granted as aforesaid, which shall be in their Possession, to be produced to the said respective Officers of our Customs; and that if the same shall appear to be of an older Date than Twelve Months for Ships and Vessels trading on this Side the Streights Mouth, or for Ships and Vessels trading to a greater Distance, in Case the Voyages of such last mentioned Ships and Vessels shall be determined, then such Passes shall be delivered up to the said respective Officers of our Customs, and be by them returned to the Office of the Admiralty of Great Britain: And in Case the Master of any such Ship or Vessel shall refuse to produce or deliver up such Passes, according to the true Intent of our said Order, then the said Officers shall certify the Name of every such Master, and of the Ship or Vessel, to our Commissioners for Executing the Office of High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, or to our High Admiral of Great Britain and Ireland for the Time being, to the End that Directions may be given for putting the Bond, entred into on the granting any such Pass, in Suit. And all our Governors, Lieutenant Governors, and Commanders in Chief of any of our Islands, Colonies or Plantations, Consuls residing in Foreign Parts, and all other our Officers and Ministers whatsoever, and all other our loving Subjects whom it may concern, are hereby expressly required and commanded to yield due Obedience unto, and strictly to observe all the Orders, Instructions, Regulations and Directions before mentioned, on Pain of our High Displeasure.

Given at our Court at St. James's, the 29th Day of March 1750. in the Twenty-third Year of our Reign.