

And for the Encouragement and Increase of Private Ships of War, Be it further Enacted, That the Lord High-Admiral of Great Britain, or the Commissioners for Executing the Office of Lord High-Admiral of Great Britain for the time being, or any Person or Persons in any Part of America, by him or them Impowered and Appointed, shall (at any time during the present War, at the Request of any British Owner or Owners of any Ship or Vessel, giving such Bail and Security as has been usually taken upon granting Commissions, or Letters of Marque, except only for the Payment of the Tenths of the Value of the Prizes which shall be taken, to the Lord High-Admiral) cause to be issued forth (in the usual manner) one or more Commission or Commissions to any Person or Persons whom such Owner or Owners shall Nominate to be Commander (or in case of Death successively Commanders) of such Ship or Vessel, for the Attacking, Surprising, Seizing, and Taking, by and with such Ship or Vessel, any Ship or Vessel, Goods, Ammunition, Arms, Stores of War, or Merchandizes belonging to or possessed by any of Her Majesties Enemies, in any Sea, Creek, Haven, or River in America, not being within the space of One hundred Leagues of any Part of Asia or Africa, whereof that Trade is already granted to the East-India Company; And that such Ship or Ships, Vessel and Vessels, Arms, Ammunition, Stores of War, Goods and Merchandizes whatsoever, with all their Furniture, Tackle or Apparel so to be Taken by or with such Private Owner or Owners, Ship or Vessel, according to such Commission and Commissions, being first adjudged Lawful Prize in any of Her Majesties Courts of Admiralty in or for any of Her Colonies or Plantations in America, shall (subject to the Customs and Duties payable to Her Majesty, as aforesaid, for and in respect of such Goods and Merchandizes) wholly and intirely belong to, and be divided between and among the Owner or Owners of such Ship or Vessel, and the several Persons which shall be on Board the same, and be Aiding and Assisting to the Taking thereof, in such Shares and Proportions as shall be agreed on with the Owner or Owners of such Ship or Vessel as shall be the Captor thereof, their Agents or Factors, as the proper Goods and Chattels of such Owner or Owners, and the Persons that shall be thus Entitled thereto, by Virtue of such Agreements among themselves; and that neither Her Majesty, Her Heirs or Successors, or any Admiral, Vice-Admiral, Governour, or other Person Commissioned by or Claiming under Her Majesty, Her Heirs or Successors, or any Person or Persons whatsoever (other than the Owner or Owners of such Ship or Vessel, being the Captor of such Prize-Ship or Vessel, Arms, Ammunition, Stores of War, Goods and Merchandizes, and the Persons Claiming under him or them) shall be Entitled to any Part or Share thereof (Her Majesties said Duties and Customs being duly Answered and Paid;) Any Custom, Statute or other Law to the contrary notwithstanding.