

N^o 7.

THE Information of William Graham:

In Mr. Mear's Memorial of the 30th April 1790. (N^o 4.)

Middlesex, } The Information of William Graham, of Grub Street, Mariner; taken before
to wit. } me Sir Sampson Wright, Knight, One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace
for the said County of Middlesex, this 5th Day of May 1790,

WHO, being on Oath, says, That on or about the Month of September 1788, he entered himself on Board the Vessel called The North West America, then lying in King George's Sound, on the North West Coast of America, belonging to Mr. John Meares, a Merchant trading in those Parts: And further says, That he saw said Vessel launched in said Harbour under British Colours, and navigated under the British Flag, and that she was commanded by Robert Funter, who is a British Subject.

And this Informant further says, That said Ship was trading on Account of said John Meares on the North West Coast of America, between the Latitudes of 60 and 45 North, for Furs, a large Number of which they had purchased and got on Board; and that being in Want of Provisions, they sailed from the Archipelago of St. Lazarus, where they had been so trading as aforesaid, and returned to King George's Sound for a fresh Supply of Provisions, at which Time the Natives were bringing great Quantities of Furs for Sale.

And this Informant further says, That when the said Vessel arrived in the Offing of said King George's Sound, a Number of Boats came out of said Sound, and seized said Vessel, and conducted her into said Sound; that One of said Boats had a Gun in her Bow, and all the People on Board the Boats were Spaniards, and were armed with Cutlasses, Pistols, and Muskets; that they took Possession of said Vessel in the Name of the King of Spain, and made this Informant and the rest of the Crew Prisoners.

That on entering said Sound in Manner aforesaid, he this Informant saw Two Spanish Men of War lying there, one carrying 26 Guns, called The Princessa, and the other 24 Guns, called The St. Carlos, with several Hundred Men on Board, and carrying the Spanish Flag.

That the Spaniards who had boarded said Vessel as aforesaid, brought her to an Anchor close to said Frigates, and put the Captain and Crew of said Vessel on Board said Frigates; that they then took out of said Vessel all the Furs and other Merchandize, and put the same also on Board said Frigates, and then hoisted the Spanish Flag on Board the Vessel they had so captured.

That the Spaniards entreated this Informant, and the rest of the Crew of said Vessel, to enter themselves as Seamen on Board said Frigates, which they all refused to do; that said Spaniards then put the Crew of said Vessel in Irons, and fed them with Horse Beans and Water, for the Space of about Three Weeks, and beat and otherwise ill treated several of them.

And this Informant further says, That he was informed that the Name of the Officer who commanded said Frigates is Stephen Joseph Martinez; and he also further says, that if said Vessel could have continued longer in the Archipelago of St. Lazarus, from whence she was obliged to return to King George's Sound through Want of Provisions, or if she had got a Supply of Provisions at said Sound, and gone back to the Archipelago (from which she was prevented by being Captured as aforesaid) he is well assured that they should have collected a large Quantity of Furs, and other Merchandize, and that the Voyage would have been very advantageous to the Parties interested therein.

That soon after the Capture of said Vessel as aforesaid, she was fitted out, and sent on a trading Voyage, by said Stephen Joseph Martinez, manned with Spaniards, bearing the Spanish Flag, and having also on Board one David Coolidge, Mate of the Sloop Washington, belonging to the United States of America, which was then lying in said Sound; that in the Month of July following, said Vessel returned to said Sound, having on Board a considerable Quantity of Otters Skins, which he this Informant saw taken out of said Vessel, and put on Board said Frigates.

That on the 14th Day of the Month of June 1789, the Princess Royal Merchant Ship, of London, belonging to said Mr. Meares and others, and commanded by Mr. William Hudson, came into said Sound with British Colours flying, and Anchored near the said Frigates; that said Vessel Princess Royal lay in said Sound a few Days, and then sailed (having first obtained