

By the Commiss^{rs} for executing
the Office of Lord High Admiral
of Great Britain & Ireland &c.

Entered for M. Whereas we have appointed His Maj^{ty}'s
Ship under your Command, together with
the S. Albans, Sphinx, and Badger Sloop,
to be fitted for a Foreign Voyage, in order
to proceed to the Coast of Africa, for the
Protection and Security of the Trade of
His Majesty's Subjects in those parts; —
You are hereby required and directed,
so soon as the said Ships and Sloop shall
be ready in all respects for the Sea, to
repair with them, in the first place, to the
Island of Madeira, and there take on
board, with the utmost Dispatch, a sufficient
Quantity of Wine for their Companies, to
prevent the Necessity of purchasing Rum
or Brandy on the Coast of Africa; which
will not only be a Saving to the Crown,
but better for the Health of the Seamen.

From thence you are to proceed directly
to the Coast of Africa, and endeavour to
fall in with Cape Palmas, and proceed down
from thence to Dix Cove, where you are to
cause the Ships and Sloop to be supplied
with Wood and Water.

Having so done, you are to go down
to Cape Coast Castle, and after getting the best

Information you can from Mess^{rs} Melvil, Husbands, Boteler, and Young, the Agents at that Factory, You are to consider, whether the Possessions of this Nation, or the Trade of His Majesty's Subjects in those Parts, have been Ineroached on, or Interrupted by the Ships or Subjects of any other Nation; which if you find hath been done, and that there are Ships on the Coast to support such Proceeding, You are hereby directed to proceed in quest of such Ships, and advise their Commanders in a friendly manner to depart, and prevent the ill Consequences an obstinate Refusal may produce; but if this method should not have the desired Effect, and you can find no other to prevail upon them to depart, you are then to use your Endeavours to compel them.

And whereas Two French Ships of War, under the Command of the Chev^{er} Glandevie, went last Year to the said Coast, with an Intent to erect a Fort or Settlement at Anamaboe, where our Royal African Company have had a Fort and Factory many Years, for which they pay a Quit Rent to the Principal Person or Proprietor of that part of the Country, who absolutely rejected the Overtures of the said French Commander, for erecting a Settlement at that Place; And we having had frequent Complaints of the French endeavouring to supplant us there, and that they every Year take Advantage of the present Weakness of the Company's Affairs,

to force a Trade; And having received Intelligence, that some Ships of War are lately sailed from Brest for the Coast of Africa (and probably for this purpose) You are hereby likewise directed diligently to look out for the said Ships, and by the means before prescribed to protect and defend our Rights and Possessions from any Violence that may be done or offered to them; and to continue on the Coast as long as shall be necessary for the purposes aforesaid, or as the French Ships shall remain there, taking care to follow them from Place to Place, and to have constantly in View the Protection of the Trade of this Kingdom, and, so far as is consistent therewith, to shew on all occasions a due Regard and Friendship to the Subjects of His Majesty's Allies trading in that part of the World.

And whereas the African Company have formerly represented, that if their Fort at Anamaboe was put into a sufficient Posture of Defence, it would be a means of securing the whole Trade of that Place to the English, to which they are undoubtedly entitled; And the Committee of Merchants trading to Africa having lately informed us, that they propose forthwith to repair the Fortifications there; You are to consult with the Agents and Factors at Cape Coast Castle thereon, and if you find they have received any Directions from
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their Principals for Repairing and Re-establishing the Fort, you are to give them all the Assistance and Protection you can for that purpose.

When these Services shall be performed, or you may find that there are no Ships of Force on the Coast, nor Attempts to make any Encroachments on our Trade or Settlements, you are to proceed down the Coast to Whydah, and then repair to St. Thomas's Island, for a Supply of Wood and Water, as well as to refresh your Men; And when you have so done, you are to direct the Captain of the Sphinx to make the best of his way to Jamaica, and the Commander of the Badger to Antigua, and to put themselves under the Command of the Commanders in chief of His Majesty's Ships at those Places; and if there shall be remaining Two Months Provisions at Whole Allowance for the Companies of the Assistance and St. Albans, you are to proceed with them to Plymouth, giving us an Account of your Arrival and Proceedings. But if your Provisions will not permit you to come directly to England, you are then to go on to Barbadoes, take in as much of each Specie as shall be necessary for your Passage, and make the best of your way to Plymouth, as aforesaid.

In case you shall meet with Cap^t. Daniel, in the Assurance, who sailed the 21th of last Month for the Coast of Africa, you are to

communicate these Orders to him; and if, by any Intelligence he or you may have received, there are Ships of War of any other Nation on the Coast, of equal or superior Force to those with you, you are then to deliver up the Command of the Ships to him, and he is hereby required and directed to take them under his Command, and to carry these Instructions into execution; but if neither of you shall have any such Intelligence, he is then to obey the Orders given him by us the 25th of September last, for visiting all the Forts and Settlements along the Coast of Africa, and you are to part Company, and proceed as before directed.

And whereas it is difficult to procure Wood and Water on some parts of the Coast of Africa, some of the Men belonging to His Majesty's Ships having formerly been killed, and others wounded, for attempting to supply themselves therewith, without making some Acknowledgment to the Natives; We do hereby empower you, and the Commanders of the other Ships, and Sloop, that proceed with you (for which you are to give them Directions) to receive on board, and carry thither, such Goods as you shall judge will be most agreeable to the Natives of the Places where you may want to Wood and Water and refresh your Men, not exceeding the following Value for each Ship, to wit; For your own Ship, Fifty Pounds;

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the S.^t Albans, Sixty Pounds; the Sphinx, Twenty Pounds; and the Sloop, Fifteen Pounds; the same to be disposed of to the Natives, as you shall find it needful, the better to procure Wood and Water, and whatever else you may be in want of: for which purpose we have directed the Commissioners of the Victualling to imprest to you the Amount of the aforesaid Sums, being One Hundred forty five Pounds.

But whereas Complaints have been made, that the Captains of His Maj.^{ty} Ships have made an ill Use of this Liberty, by trading themselves on the Coast of Africa, and have even transported great Numbers of Negroes in His Maj.^{ty} Ships to Barbadoes for Publick Sale, to the Dishonour of His Majesty's Service, the Prejudice of the Fair Trader, and in breach of an Act of Parliament passed in the 22^d Year of His present Majesty, which prohibits under severe Penalties, the Commanders of His Majesty's Ships to receive on board any Goods or Merchandize, in order to Trade with the same; We do hereby strictly enjoin and require, that you do not directly or indirectly concern yourself in any sort of Trade whatsoever, as you will answer the contrary at your Peril: And in order to prevent any evasive Excuses hereafter, We do hereby declare, that if we receive any Information of any Goods, Slaves, or other Merchandize of what kind soever, being received on board

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the Ship under your Command, in the Way of Trade, We shall esteem the same to be your own Act, and shall expect you to be answerable for the same, inasmuch as such a Practice cannot possibly be carried on, without your Knowledge and Consent: And you are to signify the like, with the same Injunctions, to the Captains of the Ships, and Sloop, under your Command.

For the Preservation of the Health of the Ships Companies, while you shall be on the Coast of Africa, you are carefully to observe the following Instructions.

- 1st — You are not to lye Twenty four Hours in any River except Gambia; nor to suffer your Officers or Men to lye on Shore, or to drink Palm Wine.
- 2^d — You are not to let your Men cut Wood, or do any Work on Shore, which the Natives can be hired to do for a small Reward.
- 3^d — When any of your Men are upon the Recovering hand from Sickness, you are to cause them to be excused from Duty as much as possible, until they are perfectly recovered.

In case of any Vacancies on board the Squadron under your Command, during such

such time as you shall not be under a superior or senior Officer, you are to appoint such other Persons to act in their room, as by the Quality of their Employments ought to succeed therein.

And in case of your Inability by Sickness or otherwise, you are to be careful to leave these our Instructions with the next commanding Officer, who is hereby empowered to put the same in execution. Given under our hands the 14th of November 1751.

To Cap^t. Buckle, Comd^r.
of His Maj^{ty}: Ship the
Assistance, at
Plymouth.

John Barrington
Juncannon
W. Ellis

E. Boscawen.

By Com^d. of their Lordships.
Aberland

14th Nov: 1751
The Lords Com^{rs}: of
the Admiralty's Orders
& Instructions, for
Proceeding to the Coast
of Guiney.

Signed by
John Barrington
John Juncannon
W. Ellis
Edm^d. Boscawen