

137-36

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(Customs.)

Illicit Exportation of
GOLD COIN, or of GOLD BULLION.

Copy of CORRESPONDENCE in the possession of the Commissioners of the Customs, in *England*, respecting the Illicit Exportation of GOLD COIN, or of GOLD BULLION; within the last Three Years.

Custom-House, London,
29th November 1808.

Gentlemen,

THERE being reason to apprehend that evil practices at present prevail, touching the fraudulent and illegal Exportation of the Coin of this Kingdom, and Bullion;—

WE deem it proper to remind you, of our several General Orders; and particularly of that, dated the 28th March 1797, on the above subject; and to direct you, and the several Officers under your Survey, to use your utmost vigilance and endeavours, for the detection and prevention of such unlawful proceedings: And you are also especially to direct the attention of the Commander of the Cruiser, and the several Officers of the Waterguard at your Port, to small Vessels proceeding to the Continent; and to Vessels professedly employed in fishing, whether the same shall take goods on board or not; in order effectually to guard against the shipping and concealment of Coin and Bullion on board such Vessels, whilst in Port; and also for the purpose of preventing the same being put on board such small craft, from other Vessels or boats, after their leaving the Port, and whilst they remain on the Coasts of this Kingdom.

And in case any seizure, or other matter touching the subject before mentioned, should occur at your Port, you are forthwith to apprise us thereof, by a confidential Letter to our Secretary, under separate cover, marked "Private."

(Signed)

William Roe. Gloucester Wilson.
F. T. Luttrell. John Buller.

(Private.)

Gentlemen,

INFORMATION having been transmitted to the Board, from which there is reason to believe that attempts will be made to export illegally to Holland, the Coin of this Kingdom, and Bullion;

I have it in command, to remind you confidentially of the Board's private General Order of the 29th November last, touching such fraudulent Exportation: And the Commissioners strictly enjoin you and the Officers under your Survey to the utmost vigilance and exertion, for preventing any attempts that may be made to renew the practices therein alluded to, and to report to the Board forthwith, under cover to me, marked "Private," any matter that may arise in consequence thereof, fit for the Commissioners cognizance.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servant,

Custom-House, London,
28th June 1809.

H. Richmond,
Secretary.

0557

RELATING TO THE ILLICIT

Custom-House, London,
11th August 1809.

Gentlemen,

A SEIZURE having been recently made at Gravesend, of a considerable quantity of the Coin of this realm, which was found artfully concealed in the linings of the cabin of a Vessel bound to Holland in ballast; and deeming it of the utmost importance that the illicit and fraudulent conveying of Coin out of this kingdom should effectually be detected and prevented;

WE refer you to our former and special Orders of the 28th March 1797, the 29th November 1808, and the 28th June last, on that subject; and direct you particularly and strictly to enjoin the several Officers under your Survey, more especially those of the Waterguard, to the utmost vigilance and exertion in detecting and preventing the Exportation of Coin of the realm, and also of Bullion without entry, by any mode in similar or any other vessels, in which the same may be attempted, by the strictest rummage and search of every Vessel, previous to departure from your Port.

And you are yourselves, by all means in your power, to take care that this special and important Order be carried into execution, and to transmit copies of the same to the respective Commanders of Cruisers, and Sitters of Boats belonging to or touching at your Port, and to enjoin them to have a constant and watchful attention to Vessels, which are departing or may have cleared out from this kingdom, particularly when bound to the Continent of Europe; and also to Boats proceeding from the coasts, when any ground of suspicion may arise; and in all such cases most strictly to rummage, with a view to discover if any Coin of the realm, or any Bullion without entry, are illegally conveying therefrom.

We direct you further, to enjoin the Supervisors of Riding Officers, and the Riding Officers, to direct their attention to this Order; and if, in the course of the discharge of their proper duty along the coast, any means arise of their being instrumental to the object thereof, they are not to fail to exert themselves on the occasion.

And you are to report forthwith to us, if any matter should arise proper for our cognizance, in a letter under cover to the Secretary, marked "Private." And to the end that the utmost publicity may be given to this Order, and warning of our intention to adopt every possible measure for the detection of offences of this heinous and pernicious nature, and for the infliction of such punishment as the law directs in case of the commission thereof, you are to affix copies of this Order in the most conspicuous places in and about the Custom-House.

(Signed)

Will^m Roc.
J. Buller.

J. Willis.
R. Frewin.

(Private.)

Gentlemen,

THE Commissioners having received information, that several persons have left Heligoland for England, with a view of collecting all the Gold Coin they can possibly procure, and returning to Heligoland therewith;

I have it in command to communicate the said information confidentially to you, and to direct you to apprise the several Officers of the Waterguard at your Port thereof, and enjoin them strictly to examine the persons and baggage of passengers on board Vessels bound to Heligoland, and to endeavour, by every means in their power, to prevent or detect all attempts that may be made to Export the Coin of this realm; reporting immediately to the Board any seizures that may be made, or any information they may derive on this subject, fit for the Board's cognizance.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servant,

H. Richmond,
Secretary.

Custom-House, London,
3d February 1810.

EXPORTATION OF GOLD.

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(Private.)

Gentlemen,

THE Commissioners having received an intimation from a high quarter, that there is reason to suspect that Vessels returning to France in ballast may sometimes carry away Bullion; the Commissioners direct you to use your utmost endeavours, and to excite the proper Officers under your Survey, in a confidential manner, to the greatest vigilance and exertion, in order to detect and prevent the clandestine Exportation of Bullion; taking care to apprise the Board forthwith of any matter that may arise in consequence thereof, fit for their cognizance, and to transmit your Report under a separate cover to me, marked "Private."

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most humble Servant,

H. Richmond,
Secretary.

Custom-House, London,
19th March 1811.

30th March 1811.

True Copies,

H. Richmond,
Secretary.

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(Customs.)

Illicit Exportation of
GOLD COIN, or of GOLD BULLION.

CORRESPONDENCE

In the possession of the Commissioners of the
Customs, in *England*, respecting the Illicit
Exportation of Gold Coin, or of Gold
Bullion; within the last Three Years.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be printed,
5 April 1811.

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