

A PROCLAMATION

By Peter Le MESURIER, esquire, Governor and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Island of Alderney, & of all the Forts & Forces in the same.

WHEREAS there is reason to believe that some evil minded & seditious persons in this Island, did for the most Infamous and traitorous purposes propagate that the alarm sounded about three o'Clock on Sunday morning last, was a false one, & order'd by the Governor merely by way of Experiment in consequence of which the regular supply of horses for the Artillery was grately impeded and several of the Guns left without horses to the great detriment of His Majesty's service, & contempt of the Governor's positive orders for that purpose. The GOVERNOR Hereby publicly declares that whilst he has the Honor of Commanding in this Island, no false alarm shall ever take place and therefore he enjoins & hereby commands all His Majesty's Subjects, that they do on the first signal of alarm repair instantly to their respective posts, & there follow the orders of their Officers; & all Sailors & Strangers who now are or hereafter may happen to be in this Island, are required to obey such orders as they shall receive, & likewise to repair immediately to such posts as may be assigned to them, without waiting to Enquire or Examine whether the Enemy is in sight or not, on pain of being punished at that very moment in a Military manner.

And Whereas those inhabitants who thro' age or Infirmities are excused from duty on the Ordinary days of Militia Exercise, cannot from their Ignorance in the use of arms & the duties of a Soldier, be of any use in the active defence of the Island & might prove a real hindrance thereto; It is hereby order'd that all such persons shall on the first signal of an alarm repair to their own houses & there peaceably & quietly remain unless otherwise order'd by the Officer commanding in Town. And all such persons or others are strictly forbidden to follow (under pretence of having no post assigned to them) the Troops either on foot or horseback, under pain of being punished for disobedience of Orders, but to the end that His Majesty & the Publick may derive from the exertion of every man present all possible advantage & that the whole strength of this Island may be called forth when necessary; every Gentleman, or other Individual person, at present not having the honor of holding a commission in the Militia is hereby invited to apply to Major Robilliard & to signify or Intimate to him any manner in which such person or persons might become of greater use in the defence of this Island tha[n] they are at present & the Major will make his report thereof to the Governor.

Given under my hand & Seal at Head Quarters in the Island of Alderney the nineteenth day of May one Thousand seven hundred & ninety seven; & in the thirty seventh year of His Majestys Reign.

(Signed) *PETER LE MESURIER*

By the Governor's Command

James Hamill, Town Major.