

Lib. C. B. British Colours have been insulted in the most ignominious
 p. 69 Manner: And Whereas we have caused frequent Complaints to be made to the King of Spain, of these violent and unjust Proceedings, but no Satisfaction or Redress has been given for the same, notwithstanding the many Promises made, and Cedula's issued, signed by the said King, or by his Order, for that purpose: And Whereas the Evils above mentioned have been principally occasioned by an unwarrantable Claim & pretension set up on the Part of Spain, that the Garda Costas, and other Ships, authorized by the King of Spain, may stop detain and search the Ships and Vessels of Our Subjects navigating in the American Seas, contrary to the Liberty of Navigation, to which Our Subjects have not only an equal Right, with those of the King of Spain, by the Law of Nations, but which is moreover expressly acknowledged and declared to belong to them by the most solemn Treaties, and particularly by that concluded in the Year 1670: And Whereas the said groundless Claim and Pretension, and the unjust Practice of stopping, detaining, and searching Ships and Vessels navigating in the Seas of America, is not only of the most dangerous and destructive Consequence to the lawful Commerce of Our Subjects, but also tends to interrupt and obstruct the free Intercourse and Correspondence between Our Dominions in Europe, and Our Colonies and Plantations in America, and by Means thereof to deprive Us and Our Subjects of the Benefit of those Colonies & Plantations; a Consideration of the highest Importance to Us & Our Kingdoms; and a Practice which must affect, in its Consequence, all other Princes and States of Europe, possessed of Settlements in the West Indies, or whose Subjects carry on any Trade thither; And whereas, besides the notorious Grounds of Complaint abovementioned, many other Infractions have been made on the Part of Spain, of the several Treaties and Conventions subsisting between Us and that Crown, and particularly of that concluded in the year 1667, as well by the exorbitant Duties and Impositions laid upon the Trade and Commerce of Our Subjects, as by the Breach of ancient and established Privileges, stipulated for them by the said Treaties; for the Redress of which Grievances the strongest Instances have been, from time to time made, by Our several Ministers residing in Spain, without any Effect;
 p. 70 And Whereas a Convention for making Reparation to Our Subjects for the Losses sustained by them, on Account of the unjust Seizures and Depredations committed by the Spaniards in America, and in Order to prevent for the future all the Grievances and Causes of Complaint therein taken Notice of, and to remove absolutely and for ever, everything which might give Occasion thereto, was concluded between Us, and