

By George Marlon Esq Vice
Admiral of the White, and
Commander in Chief of His
Majesty's Ships and Vessels,
employed and to be employed
on the Coasts of Spain and Portugal
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Whereas by the 8th section of an
Act of Parliament passed in the 20th of Geo 2^d Chap.
33 - intituled - "An act for amending, explaining,
and reducing into one act of Parliament the laws
relating to the Government of His Majesty's Ships
Vessels and forces by sea; - it is enacted that in
case any Commander in Chief of any Fleet or
Squadron of His Majesty's Ships or Vessels of War,
in foreign parts, shall detach any part of such
Fleet or Squadron, every Commander in Chief
shall, and is hereby authorized, and required by
writing under his hand, to empower the Chief
Commander of the Squadron, or Detachment, so
ordered on such separate service, to hold Courts
Martial during the time of such separate service,
or until the Commander of the said Detachment
for the time being, shall return to His Commander
in Chief - or shall come under the Command
of any other his superior officer, or return to
Great Britain or Ireland.

In conformity therefore to
the power and authority in me vested, and in
pursuance of an Order from the Lords Commissioners
of the Admiralty, for the better maintaining a
proper Government, and strict discipline in that
part of the Squadron under my Command
which is placed under your Orders; You are
hereby authorized and empowered to call, and
assemble Courts Martial as often as you shall
see occasion, But you are most strictly
charged and enjoined not to permit or suffer
any Lieutenant, acting as Commander of any
Vessel, to assist at, or compose a part of such
Courts Martial; the Twelve Judges of England,
having by a question referred to them by
His Majesty's Order in Council of the 2^d
of September 1791. given it as their opinion,

55 Geo. Martin

that persons under those circumstances are not Commanders (per meaning of law 22th of Geo 2^d)