

MARITIME WARFARE

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Maritime Warfare by Thomas Gibson Bowles

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THOMAS GIBSON BOWLES

**MARITIME
WARFARE**

MARITIME WARFARE.

BY
THOMAS GIBSON BOWLES.

SECOND EDITION.



LONDON:

W. BIDGWAY, 169, PICCADILLY, W.

1878.

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COVENT GARDEN.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

At a time when men's minds are agitated by the question whether England will be forced to declare war, it appears to be opportune to bring out a second edition of this work, dealing as it does with the question how far England can make war, in case she should declare it, under the enormous disadvantages inflicted upon her by submission to the Declaration of Paris.

That by this Declaration a serious loss of power has been imposed upon the country has now been admitted even by those who approve of it on some other grounds. To exhaust all the questions that may be raised around this point has not been my

object ; but I have endeavoured to lay down the principles of public law and to summarise the facts affecting it, as well as to indicate all the sources whence fuller facts and arguments may be derived by those who still care to inquire whether the power of England at sea has or has not been diminished, and whether it is or is not of any importance that that power should be regained.

T. G. B.

CREVLE LODGE,

HYDE PARK GATE.

27th March, 1878.

PREFACE.

THIS work embodies an attempt to summarise the arguments bearing on the right of search for and the seizure and confiscation of enemy's property found on the high seas in time of war. The arguments scattered through the writings of the publicists have been in a succinct manner collected, collated, and set down, together with such as have elsewhere been produced ; and to these have been added, it is hoped, some which, being new and so far without better authority than that of the author, are presented diffidently. In addition to this some documents are given,

some authorities indicated, and some extracts made, which will, as is hoped, help to lighten the task of the many Englishmen who are now asking themselves in what Maritime Warfare consists; whether by the Declaration of Paris of 1856 it has not been rendered an illusion; and whether that Declaration, so long as it remains unrepudiated, does not fatally impair the strength in war and consequently diminish the dignity and security in peace of all maritime nations, and especially of this nation of Great Britain.

T. G. B.

February 1877.

MARITIME WARFARE.

INTRODUCTION.

WAR consists in the lawful use of force by one nation against another. That it should ever be necessary to use force either between individuals or between nations is lamentable : that it is sometimes necessary cannot be gainsaid. Every nation as well as every individual not only possesses the right, but is under the duty of resisting violence by force ; otherwise violence must become the only law of the world. And when we find as we do, nations which do not merely practice violence, but openly defend it and avow that nothing short of force shall restrain them from it, it especially behoves us to look to the means we possess of resisting that violence, when it is, as in the course of time it may be, directed against ourselves. That the people, or at any rate, that the Government of Great Britain have shown themselves desirous to avoid war of any kind, except it be in the shape of facile expeditions against weak and barbarous tribes, is certain ; but what is equally certain is, that the desire to avoid war cannot alone be sufficient to