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CONTAINING THEIR

PROCEEDINGS

FROM JANUARY 1, 1779, TO JANUARY 1, 1780.

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VOLUME V.

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“ RESOLVED

BY the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives, be authorized and directed, to subscribe, on such terms as they may deem eligible, for the use of the Senate and House of Representatives, for four hundred Copies of the Journals of Congress, which are proposed to be published by RICHARD FOLWELL, and such number of copies of different volumes of the sets now in print, as may be necessary to complete the same.

JONATHAN DAYTON, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

JAMES ROSS, *President of the Senate pro tempore.*

APPROVED, March 2d, 1799 :

JOHN ADAMS, *President of the United States.”*

utility to the United States, have thereby recommended themselves to the favourable opinion of Congress :

That bills of exchange for 900 livres be delivered to those gentlemen respectively, beside the sum mentioned in their contract with the board of war and ordnance.

WEDNESDAY, October 13, 1779.

A letter, of the 31st of May last, from A. Lee, was read ; whereupon,
On motion of Mr. Lovell, seconded by Mr. Morris,

Resolved That Mr. A. Lee be informed of Mr. Jay's appointment, and that, agreeable to his request, he is at liberty to return to America.

On motion of Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Peabody,

Resolved, That Mr. Jacob Hiltzheimer be authorized and directed to provide for the horses belonging to members of Congress ; that for this purpose the commissary-general of forage be directed to supply him with such articles of forage, and of such qualities as he shall direct ; together with the accounts of the cost thereof ; that each member be, from time to time, furnished with an account of the expense of keeping his horses, by the said Jacob Hiltzheimer, and that the same be paid to the pay-master of the board of war and ordnance, in the mode prescribed by a resolution of Congress of the 17th of August, 1778.

THURSDAY, October 14, 1779.

A letter, of the 9th, from general Washington, was read, enclosing a letter of the 28th of September, from major-general Sullivan, at Chemung, giving an account of his successful expedition against the hostile Indians ; whereupon,

On motion of Mr. Gerry, seconded by Mr. Morris,

Resolved, That the thanks of Congress be given to his excellency general Washington, for directing, and to major-general Sullivan, and the brave officers and soldiers under his command, for effectually executing an important expedition against such of the Indian nations as, encouraged by the councils and conducted by the officers of his Britannic majesty, had perfidiously waged an unprovoked and cruel war against these United States, laid waste many of their defenceless towns, and with savage barbarity slaughtered the inhabitants thereof.

Resolved, That it will be proper to set apart the second Thursday in December next as a day of general thanksgiving in these United States, and that a committee of four be appointed to prepare a recommendation to the said states for this purpose :

The members chosen, Mr. Root, Mr. Holten, Mr. Muhlenberg and Mr. Morris.

Resolved, That two members be elected for the committee on appeals, in the room of Mr. Drayton, deceased, and Mr. Paca, who is absent :

The members chosen, Mr. Mercer and Mr. Griffin.

The committee on the treasury brought in a report ; whereupon,

Resolved, That 5,000,180 dollars, being part of the sum remaining to complete 200,000,000, be emitted on the faith of the United States, and under the direction of the board of treasury, in bills of the following denominations, viz.

| | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|-----------|
| 27,028 of 80 dollars | . | . | 2,162,240 |
| 27,028 of 70 do. | - | - | 1,891,960 |
| 27,028 of 20 do. | - | - | 540,560 |
| 27,028 of 5 do. | - | - | 135,140 |
| 27,028 of 4 do. | - | - | 108,112 |
| 27,028 of 3 do. | - | - | 81,084 |
| 27,028 of 2 do. | - | - | 54,056 |
| 27,028 of 1 do. | - | - | 27,028 |
| | | | 5,000,180 |

That the said bills, excepting the numbers, be of the same tenor and date as those emitted the 17th of September last, and be numbered from the last number in each respective denomination progressively.

FRIDAY, October 15, 1779.

A letter, of this day, from Mr. Jay, was read, soliciting leave of absence for lieutenant-colonel Livingston to accompany him to Spain:

A motion was made by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Harnett,

That lieutenant-colonel H. B. Livingston have leave of absence for twelve months.

On which the yeas and nays being required by Mr. Marchant,

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|----|-------------------|
| <i>New-Hampshire,</i> | Mr. Peabody, | ay | } <i>divided.</i> |
| | Mr. Langdon, | no | |
| <i>Massachusetts-Bay,</i> | Mr. Gerry, | ay | } <i>ay</i> |
| | Mr. Holten, | ay | |
| | Mr. Patridge, | ay | |
| <i>Rhode-Island,</i> | Mr. Marchant, | no | } <i>no</i> |
| | Mr. Sberman, | no | |
| <i>Connecticut,</i> | Mr. Huntington, | ay | } <i>ay</i> |
| | Mr. Root, | ay | |
| | Mr. Fell, | ay | |
| <i>New-Jersey,</i> | Mr. Atlee, | no | } * |
| | Mr. Mublenberg, | ay | |
| <i>Pennsylvania,</i> | Mr. Wynkoop, | ay | } <i>ay</i> |
| | Mr. Plater, | ay | |
| | Mr. Forbes, | no | |
| <i>Maryland,</i> | Mr. Jenifer, | ay | } <i>ay</i> |
| | Mr. Griffin, | ay | |
| | Mr. Mercer, | no | |
| <i>Virginia,</i> | Mr. Fitzbugb, | ay | } <i>ay</i> |
| | Mr. Harnett, | ay | |
| | Mr. Hewes, | ay | |
| <i>North-Carolina,</i> | Mr. Sbarpe, | ay | } <i>ay</i> |
| | Mr. Matthews, | ay | |
| | Mr. Matthews, | ay | |
| <i>South-Carolina,</i> | Mr. Matthews, | ay | } <i>ay</i> |

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

A report from the board of war was read ; whereupon,

Resolved, That the resignation of captain Thomas Buchanan, of the first Pennsylvania regiment, be accepted.

SATURDAY, October 16, 1779.

The committee on the treasury brought in a report ; whereupon,

Resolved, That the Rev. Mr. Kirkland be appointed chaplain to the garrison of Fort-Schuyler, and the other posts established in that quarter, with the pay and subsistence of a brigade-chaplain, continuing at the same time to pay as great attention to the Oneidas, and other Indians contiguous to them, as may be consistent with the above-mentioned appointment.

MONDAY, October 18, 1779.

The board of war, to whom their report respecting major la Neuville was recommitted, brought in a another report; whereupon,

Resolved, That major de la Neuville, who has served two campaigns in the American army, and has obtained very honorable testimonials of his merit, valour and services in the several capacities in which he has been employed, be appointed a lieutenant-colonel by brevet in the army of the United States;

That lieutenant-colonel Noirmont de la Neuville have leave to return to France.

The board of war, to whom was referred a letter of the 25th of Sept. last, from the governor of Virginia, brought in a report; whereupon,

Resolved, That the governor of Virginia be informed, that in the opinion of Congress the deficiency of flour for the convention troops, which cannot be obtained from wheat in Virginia, ought to be supplied with meal made of Indian corn, which is equally wholesome:

That his excellency the governor of Virginia be requested to inform the commanding-officer of those troops, that if the commander in chief of the British forces will order supplies of flour to be sent to Virginia from parts in possession of the British army, passports will be ordered for the purpose when applied for.

Resolved, That the board of war be directed to give the necessary orders to the commissary-general of purchases and the commissary-general of issues, for supplying the convention troops with rations of Indian meal, in lieu of flour, agreeably to the foregoing resolutions.

On motion of Mr. Marchant, seconded by Mr. Paca,

Resolved, That the resolution of Congress passed the 2d of July last, so far as it directs or provides, "that each endorsement of the certificates issued by the commissioners of the continental loan-offices for exchanging bills of the emissions of May the 20th, 1777, and April the 11th, 1778, be witnessed by a magistrate," be, and the same is hereby repealed.

TUESDAY, October 19, 1779.

On motion of Mr. Fell, seconded by Mr. Sherman,

Resolved, That the board of war be directed to make enquiry into the number and quality of rations drawn and delivered in the city of Philadelphia, within three months past, from the quarter-master, commissaries of purchases and issues, and barrack-master, the names of the persons to whom such rations have been delivered, their office, rank or occupations, and the particular departments they belong to, and make report to Congress.

WEDNESDAY, October 20, 1779.

The marine-committee laid before Congress a letter of the 13th,

from Jacob Rush, which was read, notifying "that an appeal, in which the United States are a party, from the court of admiralty in the state of Massachusetts-Bay, relative to the ship Viper, is now depending before the commissioners of appeal; that the marine-committee may, if they think proper, retain council on the part of the continent:"

Ordered, That it be referred to the marine-committee to take order thereon.

The committee appointed to prepare a recommendation to the several states, for setting apart the 2d Thursday in December next, as a-day of general thanksgiving, brought in a draught, which was agreed to as follows:

WHEREAS it becomes us humbly to approach the throne of Almighty God, with gratitude and praise for the wonders which his goodness has wrought in conducting our fore-fathers to this western world; for his protection to them and to their posterity amidst difficulties and dangers; for raising us, their children, from deep distress to be numbered among the nations of the earth; and for arming the hands of just and mighty princes in our deliverance; and especially for that he hath been pleased to grant us the enjoyment of health, and so to order the revolving seasons, that the earth hath produced her increase in abundance, blessing the labours of the husbandman, and spreading plenty through the land; that he hath prospered our arms and those of our ally; been a shield to our troops in the hour of danger, pointed their swords to victory and led them in triumph over the bulworks of the foe; that he hath gone with those who went out into the wilderness against the savage tribes; that he hath stayed the hand of the spoiler, and turned back his meditated destruction; that he hath prospered our commerce, and given success to those who fought the enemy on the face of the deep; and above all, that he hath diffused the glorious light of the gospel, whereby, through the merits of our gracious Redeemer, we may become the heirs of his eternal glory: therefore,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several states, to appoint Thursday, the 9th of December next, to be a-day of public and solemn thanksgiving to Almighty God for his mercies, and of prayer for the continuance of his favour and protection to these United States; to beseech him that he would be graciously pleased to influence our public councils, and bless them with wisdom from on high, with unanimity, firmness and success; that he would go forth with our hosts and crown our armies with victory; that he would grant to his church the plentiful effusions of divine grace, and pour out his holy spirit on all ministers of the gospel; that he would bless and prosper the means of education, and spread the light of Christian knowledge through the remotest corners of the earth; that he would smile upon the labours of his people and cause the earth to bring forth her fruits in abundance; that we may with gratitude and gladness enjoy them; that he would take into his holy protection our illustrious ally, give him victory over his enemies, and render him signally great, as the father of his people and the protector of the rights of mankind; that he would graciously be pleased to turn the hearts of our enemies, and to dispense

the blessings of peace to contending nations ; that he would in mercy look down upon us, pardon our sins and receive us into his favour, and finally, that he would establish the independence of these United States upon the basis of religion and virtue, and support and protect them in the enjoyment of peace, liberty and safety.

Done in Congress, the 20th day of October, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, and in the 4th year of the independence of the United States of America.

SAMUEL HUNTINGTON, *President.*

Attest :

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

THURSDAY, October 21, 1779.

Mr. Scudder, a delegate from New-Jersey, attended, and took his seat in Congress.

The committee on the treasury brought in a report ; whereupon, *Resolved*, That Thomas Smith, Esq; commissioner of the continental loan-office for the state of Pennsylvania, be directed to renew for Philip Marsteller, six defaced certificates of the following denominations, viz.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 of 200 dollars, | dated April 9, 1779, | to Adam Heilman ; |
| 1 of 200 do. | - do. | to Henry Humberger ; |
| 1 of 1000 do. | - do. | to Casper Stoever ; |
| 1 of 600 do. | - do. | to Jacob Neff ; |
| 1 of 600 do. | - do. | to Peter Witmer ; |
| 1 of 300 do. | - do. | to William Young. |

Resolved, That two members be added to the committee on the representation from the legislative council and general assembly of the state of New-Jersey, in the room of Mr. Wither Spoon and Mr. Vandyke, who are absent :

The members chosen, Mr. Scudder and Mr. Dickinson.

FRIDAY, October 22, 1779.

A letter, of the 20th, from Charles Pettit, was read, reciting his former applications to Congress on account of a tax, to which by an act of the legislature of New-Jersey, he is subjected as assistant quartermaster-general, and the proceedings of Congress thereon ; and informing that he is called on for £.1000 tax, as assistant quartermaster-general, and requesting the attention of Congress to his letter of the 7th of July, and to the report of the committee thereon :

A motion was made by Mr. Marchant, seconded by Mr. Paca,

That the letter be referred to a committee :

On which the yeas and nays being required by Mr. Fell,

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|----|-------------------|
| <i>New-Hampshire,</i> | Mr. Peabody, | no | } <i>divided.</i> |
| | Mr. Langdon, | ay | |
| <i>Massachusetts-Bay,</i> | Mr. Lovell, | no | } <i>no</i> |
| | Mr. Holten, | no | |
| | Mr. Patridge, | no | |
| <i>Rhode-Island,</i> | Mr. Marchant, | ay | } <i>ay</i> |
| | Mr. Sberman, | no | |
| <i>Connecticut,</i> | Mr. Huntington, | ay | } <i>no</i> |
| | Mr. Root, | no | |