

without infringing the rule established by Congress of the 10th day of April 1780.¹

[WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1783]

The Committee consisting of M^r [Jacob] Read, M^r [William] Ellery, and M^r [Hugh] Williamson to whom was referred a resolve of the General Assembly of the State of Virginia of the 17th June 1783, Report, .

That your committee are informed, That works erected in several of the United States, have been leveled and destroyed, without any instance of an application to Congress heretofore for money to defray the expence of levelling and destroying the same.

Nevertheless, should it be thought consistent with justice, that the works erected by the troops of the United States, the troops of his Most Christian Majesty acting as auxiliaries to the United States, or works left by the troops of Great Britain on their evacuating any particular State, should be levelled and destroyed at the public expence, yet such is the state of the public finances, that Congress cannot comply with the request of the State of Virginia to obtain a sum of money not exceeding seven hundred and fifty pounds for the purposes of levelling the fortifications erected by the troops of his Most Christian Majesty at York Town in the County of York, and at Gloucester Town in the County of Gloucester in the State of Virginia.²

[Report of Secretary at War on Mr. Eliphalet Dyer's motion respecting promotions after the cessation of hostilities.]

PRINCETON, July 26, 1783.

SIR,

On the motion of Mr. Dyer, and the report of a committee of Congress on that motion I beg leave to submit the following report.

That, during the existence of the present army, all vacancies be filled up (excepting new appointments of ensigns) as has been here-

¹ This report, in the writing of Jacob Read, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 32, folio 517. According to the indorsement it was agrced to on this day. Smith's petition, dated Wilmington, August 1, 1783, is in No. 42, VII, folio 161.

On this day, as the indorsement indicates, was read a letter of September 1 from General Sir Guy Carleton, transmitting the proceedings of the general court martial appointed for the trial of counterfeiters. It is in No. 52, folio 9.

Also, a letter of August 31 from Major General Robert Howe. It is in No. 38, folio 115.

² This report in the writing of Jacob Read, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 20, II, folio 311. The indorsement states that it was delivered this day, entered and read.

tofore practiced. But where rank by brevet is conferred, the act of Congress directing the appointment should express that it is by brevet, and it may now be resolved that in future where commissions by brevet are issued they shall not be considered as granting, or entitling to any pecuniary gratuity or other emolument than rank in the army of the United States.¹

WAR OFFICE *August 30, 1783.*

SIR

On a letter from Major General Knox, and a petition from a company of artillery artificers under the direction of Captain Anthony Post, I beg leave to report that I have examined the acts of Congress which respect the settlements of depreciation, and I do not find any one which will apply to the objects of the petition, nor has there been any settlement made similar to the one now requested. But in consideration of the services rendered by the Petitioners, which are authenticated by Major General Knox, I beg leave to submit the following draught of a resolve in their favor.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the States of Connecticut and New York to settle the pay and depreciation of pay of those officers and soldiers belonging to their States respectively, who served in Captain Post's company of artillery artificers, due attention being had, in the settlements, to the real value of their nominal pay when they were inlisted. And that the amount of said pay and depreciation of pay be charged to the United States.²

¹ This report is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 21, folio 363. The indorsement shows that it was delivered July 26, entered and read, and on September 3 referred to Mr. [James] McHenry, Mr. [Richard] Peters, Mr. [James] Duane.

² This report from William Jackson, Assistant Secretary at War, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 149, III, folio 175. According to the indorsement, and the record in Committee Books No. 186 and No. 191, Knox's letter and the petition from the artificers were referred to the Secretary at War on August 27. The report of August 30, from the Assistant Secretary, was delivered September 3, read, and entered. On September 25, it was referred back to the Secretary at War, and he delivered a report September 27, which was acted upon, October 17.

On this day, according to the indorsement, was read a letter, of same date, from William Jackson, Assistant Secretary at War, enclosing a letter, of August 17, from Brigadier General William Irvine, respecting settlements beyond the Ohio and the consequent danger of an Indian War. They were referred to Mr. [James] Duane, Mr. [Richard] Peters, Mr. [Daniel] Carroll, Mr. [Benjamin] Hawkins and Mr. A[rthur] Lee. According to Committee Books No. 186 and No. 191, the committee delivered a report, on this and other papers relating to Indian affairs, on September 19, and it was acted upon, October 14. Jackson's letter is in No. 149, III, folio 183, and Irvine's on folio 179.