

Bills, do give their receipts for the same, expressing the number and denomination of them; and after numbering and signing them, shall deliver the same to the continental Treasurers, taking their receipts for the bills so delivered.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. S[amuel] Adams, Mr. [Richard Henry] Lee, and Mr. J[ohn] Rutledge, with the Secretary, be a committee to revise the Journal of the Congress, and prepare it for the press.

Adjourned till to Morrow at 8 o'Clock.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1775

Met according to adjournment.

Agreeable to the order of yesterday, the Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on the post office; which being debated by paragraphs, was agreed to as follows:

That a postmaster General be appointed for the United Colonies, who shall hold his office at Philad<sup>a</sup>, and shall be allowed a salary of 1000 dollars per an: for himself, and 340 dollars per an: for a secretary and Comptroller, with power to appoint such, and so many deputies as to him may seem proper and necessary.

That a line of posts be appointed under the direction of the Postmaster general, from Falmouth in New England to Savannah in Georgia, with as many cross posts as he shall think fit.

That the allowance to the deputies in lieu of salary and all contingent expences, shall be 20 per cent. on the sums they collect and pay into the General post office annually, when the whole is under or not exceeding 1000 Dollars, and ten per cent. for all sums above 1000 dollars a year.

That the rates of postage shall be 20 p<sup>r</sup> cent less than those appointed by act of Parliament.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Suspended September 30.

That the several deputies account quarterly with the general post office, and the postmaster general annually with the continental treasurers, when he shall pay into the rec<sup>t</sup> of the s<sup>d</sup> Treasurers, the profits of the Post Office; and if the necessary expence of this establishment should exceed the produce of it, the deficiency shall be made good by the United Colonies, and paid to the postmaster general by the continental Treas<sup>r</sup>.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the postmaster general to establish a weekly post to South Carolina.

That it be left to the postmaster general to appoint a sec<sup>y</sup> and comptroller.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a postmaster general for one year, and until another is appointed by a future Congress, when Benjamin Franklin, Esq<sup>r</sup> was unanimously chosen.

Adjourned till to Morrow at 8 o'Clock.

#### THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1775

Met according to adjournment.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on establishing an hospital, and the same being debated, was agreed to as follows:

That for the establishment of an hospital for an army, consisting of 20,000 men, the following officers and other attendants be appointed, with the following allowance or pay, viz.

One Director general and chief physician, his pay per day, 4 dollars.<sup>1</sup>

Four surgeons, per diem each, one and one third of a dollar.

<sup>1</sup>The original plan provided for a Director general and a Physician, each to receive four dollars a day.

he will appoint a proper person to represent that colony, to confer with the Committee of Congress on the subjects entrusted to them.

That a like letter be written to the council of Massachusetts Bay, and to the lieut-Governor of Rhode Island, and to the president of the convention of New Hampshire.

It being represented to the Congress, that from the present situation of affairs and the correspondence now carried on through N. A., it is apprehended that if the rate of postage is lowered agreeable to the resolution of Congress, the proceeds of the office will not support the necessary riders; and as the people in general are well satisfied with, at least no complaints have been made with regard to, the rates lately paid for the postage of letters,

On motion, *Resolved*, That the resolution of Congress respecting the lowering the rates of postage be suspended until farther orders from this Congress.

The committee of claims reported,

That a certificate presented by William Hall, signed by Cap<sup>n</sup> Daniel Morgan, for necessaries furnished by George Kiger to his company ought to be allowed,

That another certificate presented also by William Hall, and signed by Capt. Daniel Morgan, for necessaries to his company by Meshech Sexton, is reasonable and ought to be paid, both the above sums, amounting in the whole to seventy-one and two-thirds dollars, and that the said sum ought to be charged to said Capt. Morgan's company.

That an account of necessaries furnished by John Jordan, of Lancaster, for Cap<sup>t</sup> Ross's and Capt Smith's Companies of riflemen, amounting to the sum [of] four hundred and thirty-two and  $\frac{2}{10}$  dollars, is reasonable and ought to be paid and charged to the Continent.

The Congress taking into consideration the above report, *Ordered*, that the above accounts be paid.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1775

The Congress proceeded to the election of a Committee and a committee being appointed to examine the ballots reported that Mr. [Thomas] Lynch and Doct<sup>r</sup> [Benjamin] Franklin were duly elected by a majority of Ballots, and that two other members had an equal number,

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the Committee on motion made,

*Resolved*, That the Congress proceed to the choice of a third person by ballot, and that this Rule be observed in all similar cases.

Accordingly, the ballots being taken and examined, the Committee of examination reported, that Mr. [Benjamin] Harrison is duly elected.

*Resolved*, That M<sup>r</sup> Lynch Doct<sup>r</sup> Franklin and M<sup>r</sup> Harrison be the Committee for the purpose expressed in the resolution of yesterday.

Upon motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five members be appointed to draw up Instructions for the above committee.

The ballots being taken, the following persons were elected: Mr. J[ohn] Rutledge, Mr. [Richard Henry] Lee, Mr. [Thomas] Johnson, Mr. [Robert] R. Livingston, and Mr. Sam<sup>l</sup> Adams.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That the president write to General Washington, to inform him of the resolution of Congress, appointing a Committee to wait on him, in order to consult with him, touching the most effectual method of continuing, supporting, and regulating a continental army.

That a like letter be written to the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Connecticut, and to request him, in case he cannot himself attend, that