

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to 10 o'Clock to Morrow.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1776

The Congress took into consideration the resolutions moved yesterday:

Resolved, That they be referred to a committee of the whole [Congress.] Whereupon,

The Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the resolutions referred to them; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. [Benjamin] Harrison reported, that the committee have taken into consideration the matter to them referred, but not having come to any resolution thereon, desired leave to sit again on Monday next.

Resolved, That this Congress will, on Monday next, at 10 o'Clock, resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the resolutions referred to them.

On petition of John Bayard, Joseph Deane, and William Erskine, ||being presented to Congress, and read,||

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell ||the petitioners|| 550 lb. of powder, and 400 lb. of swivel and grape shot, for the use of their privateer *Hancock*, and also 750 lb. ||of powder|| before applied for.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to 10 o'Clock on Monday.

MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1776

Sundry letters and papers were laid before Congress, and read;

Two from General Washington, of the 7 and 8, together

with copies of twenty letters and papers from General Schuyler and others.¹

A letter from the commissioners in Canada, May 17; and,
One from Herman Allen.

Resolved, That the said letters and papers be referred to the committee appointed on the 6th, to consider sundry letters that day read.

A letter from Stephen Moylan, expressing his grateful thanks to Congress for appointing him to the office of quarter master general; and

Also a letter from the convention of New York of the 7th, ||were laid before Congress, and read.||²

Resolved, That the pay of the continental troops, in the middle department, be henceforth the same as that of the troops in the eastern.

Resolved, That this Congress will to morrow morning proceed to the appointment of a deputy pay master general for the eastern department.

Agreeable to order, the Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the resolutions to them referred; and, after some time spent thereon, the president resumed the chair, and Mr. [Benjamin] Harrison reported, that the committee have had under consideration the resolutions to them referred, and have come to a resolution, which he read.

The Congress took into consideration the report from the Committee of the whole: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the consideration of the first resolution be postponed to this day, three weeks [July 1], and in the mean while, that no time be lost, in case the Congress agree thereto, that a committee be appointed to prepare a

¹ The letters of Washington are in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 152, II, folios 5 and 9. They are printed in *Writings of Washington* (Ford), IV, 113, 115.

² The letter from the convention of New York is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 67, I, folio 364.

declaration to the effect of the said first resolution, which is in these words: "That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown: and that all political connexion between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

Resolved, That the committee be discharged.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to 9 o'Clock to Morrow.¹

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 1776

Sundry letters were laid before Congress, and read.

2 letters, from General Washington, of the 9th and 10th,

Resolved, That the same be referred to the committee appointed on the 6th.

A letter from H. E. Stanhope, of the 11, and one from E. Webb, of the 12 May, both dated from Northampton Gaol; also, one from Mrs. Connolly, [were read:]²

Resolved, That these be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars be paid the Indian interpreter [Thomas Folmer] for his services, and to defray his expences.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to consider of a compensation to the secretary for his services:

The members chosen, Mr. J[ohn] Adams, Mr. [Edward] Rutledge, and Mr. [Joseph] Hewes.

¹"Congress never were so much engaged as at this time; business presses on them exceedingly. We do not rise sometimes till six or seven o'clock." *William Whipple to John Langdon*, 10 June, 1776.

²The letters of Washington are in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 152, II, folios 17 and 25. They are printed in *Writings of Washington* (Ford), IV, 119, 129. That of Stanhope is in No. 78, XX, folio 33. That of E. E. Webb is in No. 78, XXIII, folio 277. That of "Suky" [Susannah] Connolly is in No. 78, V, folio 47.

Resolved, That an order for 10,000 dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Carpenter Wharton, for the use of the Pennsylvania battallions, he to be accountable.

The present being provided for the Indians, they were called in, and the speech agreed to, was delivered as follows:

BROTHERS,

We hope the friendship that is between us and you will be firm, and continue as long as the sun shall shine, and the waters run; that we and you may be as one people, and have but one heart, and be kind to one another like brethren.

BROTHERS,

The king of Great Britain, hearkening to the evil counsel of some of his foolish young men, is angry with us, because we will not let him take away from us our land, and all that we have, and give it to them, and because we will not do every thing that he bids us;¹ and hath hindered his people from bringing goods to us; but, we have made provision for getting such a quantity of them, that we hope we shall be able to supply your wants as formerly.

BROTHERS,

We shall order all our warriors and young men not to hurt you or any of your kindred, and we hope you will not suffer any of your young men to join with our enemies, or to do any wrong to us, that nothing may happen to make any quarrel between us.

BROTHERS,

We desire you to accept a few necessities, which we present you with, as tokens of our good will towards you.²

The presents being delivered, the Indians begged leave to give a name to the president; the same being granted, the Onondago chief gave the president the name of Karanduawn, or the Great Tree, by which name he informed him the president will be known among the Six nations.

¹ In the original report this sentence follows: "he hath taken up the hatchet to strike us, and given money to a people who are strangers to us, to come from a far country, and fight against us."

² This report, in the writing of George Wythe, is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 30, folio 351. It was presented and agreed to on June 6.

||After which the Indians took their leave and withdrew.||

~~Mr. Chase, one of the Commissioners being arrived from Canada~~ brought a letter from General Sullivan, dated from St. John's, 1st. June was laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That Colonel Shee and Colonel Magaw, be ordered immediately to march with their regiments to New York.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to lend the committee of safety of Pennsylvania, 4 tons of powder.

Resolved, That letters be immediately sent, by express, to the several colonies who are to furnish militia for the defence of New York, acquainting them with the necessity of forwarding the supplies with all possible despatch.

Resolved, That the committee, to prepare the declaration, consist of five members:

The members chosen, Mr. [Thomas] Jefferson, Mr. J[ohn] Adams, Mr. [Benjamin] Franklin, Mr. [Roger] Sherman, and Mr. R[obert] R. Livingston.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare and digest the form of a confederation to be entered into between these colonies:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare a plan of treaties to be proposed to foreign powers.

Mr. [Samuel] Chase, and Mr. [Charles] Carroll, [of Carrollton,] two of the commissioners being arrived from Canada, attended, and give an account of their proceedings, and the state of the army in that country.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to 10 o'Clock to Morrow.