Mass: General court: House

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Journal of the House.
May 1782 - March 1783.
Vol. 3.

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- Journal -

- OF THE -

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
- OF THE -

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Commencing Wednesday, may 29th.

1782.
Ending Wednesday, March 26th.

- 1783. -

The

IIId.

General Court,

under the Constitution of

- 1780, -

sat from 29 May 1782, to 6 July 1782 &

then adjourned to September 18th 1782;

sat from September 18, to November 14,

then adjourned to January 29, 1783;

sat from January 29, to March 26,

then prorogued to April 16, 1783,

AND NEVER MET AGAIN.

= Journal =

- of the Hon^{e}. -

House of Representatives,

from the 29$^{th.}$ day of May

- to -

The 6$^{th.}$ day of July 1782,

(inclusive)

Being the first Session

- of the -

Genl. Court.

- A JOURNAL -
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Y

AT A GREAT AND GENERAL COURT,

OR ASSEMBLY, FOR THE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN NEW-ENGLAND,

BEGUN AND HELD AT BOSTON

IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

UPON WEDNESDAY, THE TWENTY

NINTH DAY OF MAY, BEING THE

LAST WEDNESDAY IN SAID MONTH,

ANNO DOMINI

- 1782 -

1 Wednesday May 29th 1782.

By the returns from the several towns it appeared that the following gentlemen were chosen to represent them in General Assembly, the ensuing year viz -

County of Suffolk

Boston, - Hon. Wm. Phillips Esqr., Samuel Allyne Otis Esqr., John Lowell Esqr., Thomas Dawes Esqr. John Rowe Esqr., Samuel Barrett Esqr. Nathan Frazier Esqr.

Roxbury - Deacon David Weld.

Dochester - Ebenezer Wales Esqr.

Milton - Edward Hutchinson Robbins Esqr.

Braintree - Richard Cranch Esqr.

Weymouth - Nathl. Bailey Esqr.

Hingham - Capt. Theophilus Cushing

Cohasset - Col. Thomas Lothrop

Dedham - Capt. Joseph Guild

Medfield - Mr. Oliver Ellis

Wrentham - Mr. Joseph Fairbanks

Brookline -

Needham - Mr. Nathl. Fisher

Stoughton - Elijah Dunbar Esqr.

Stoughtonham - Col. John Eddey

Medway - Capt. Moses Adams.

Bellingham - Stephen Metcalf Esqr.

Walpole -

Chelsea -

Hull -

Franklin - Mr. Peter Adams.

Foxborough -

2. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

County of Essex

Salem - Nathl. Goodale Esqr. Benja. Goodhue Esqr. Wm. Vans Esqr. Mr. Miles Greenwood.
Danvers - Israel Hutchinson Esqr.
Ipswich - John Patch Esqr. Dr. John Manning
Newbury - Col. Samuel Moody
Newburyport - Nathl. Tracy, Jonathan Titcomb and Israel Dalton Esqrs.
Marblehead -
Lynn - Capt. Holten Johnson
Andover - Capt. Joshua Holt.
Beverly - Larkin Thorndike Esqr., Mr. Nathan Dane
Rowley -
Salisbury - Benja. Evans Esqr.
Haverhill - Bailey Bartlett.
Gloucester - Peter Coffin Esq.
Topsfield - Amesbury -
Bradford - Daniel Thurston Esqr.
Methuen - Boxford -
Wenham - Nantucket -
Middleton -

County of Middlesex

Cambridge - Samuel Thatcher Esqr.
Charlestown - Hon. Nathl. Gorham Esqr.
Watertown -
Moburn - Dr. Joseph Johnson.
Concord - James Barrett Esqr.
Newton -
Reading - Capt. James Bancroft.
Marlboro - Mr. Simon Stow
Billereca - Major Edwd. Farmer.

3. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

Framingham - Dr. William Brown.
Lexington -
Chelmsford - Dr. Aaron Chamberlain.
Sherburne - Daniel Whitney Esqr.
Sudbury - Malden -
Weston - Dr. Samuel Fish.
Medford - Mr. Aaron Hall.
Hopkinton - Capt. Gilbert Dench.
Westford - Mr. Francis Leighton.
Waltham - Stow -
Groton - Israel Hobart Esqr.
Shirley -
Pepperell - Col. William Prescott.
Townshend - Mr. James Locke.
Dracut - Bedford - Holliston -
Acton & Carlisle - Francis Faulkner Esqr.
Dunstable - Lincoln - Wilmington -
Tewkesbury - Mr. William Brown
Littleton - Ashby - Stoneham -
Natick - East Sudbury -

County of Hampshire.

Springfield - Col. Gideon Burt.
- Mr. Moses Church
West Springfield - Col. Benjamin Ely.
- Justin Ely Esqr.
Wilbraham -
Northampton - Hon. Caleb Strong Esqr.
- Mr. Timothy Dwight.
South Hadley - Hon. Noah Goodman Esqr.
Amherst -

4. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

Granby - Mr. John Ayres
Hatfield - John Hastings Esqr.
Whately -
Williamsbury - Mr. Jesse Wilds
Westfield - Capt. Daniel Sackett
- Mr. Richard Falley
Deerfield -
Conway - Mr. Prince Tobey
Sunderland - Cap. Israel Hubbard
Brimfield - Mr. Aaron Mighill
South Brimfield -
New Salem -
Ashfield - Mr. Benj. Rogers
Worthington - Mr. Seth Silvester
Chesterfield Lieut. Russell Kellogg.
Chesd. Gore Lieut. Russell Kellogg.
Suffield -
Monson -
Pelham -
Hadley - Capt. Oliver Smith.
Palmer - Capt. David Spear.
Montague -
Northfield - Aaron Whitney.
Belchertown - Col. Caleb Clarke.
Colrain - Col. Hugh McClallan
Charlemont - Aaron Rice.
Shelburne - Mr. John Burdick
Southwick - Mr. Abner Fowler
Granville - Tirno Robinson Esqr.

Greenfield - David Smead Esqr
Greenwich -
So. Hampton - Capt. Tim Clarke
Warwick - Capt. John Goldsbury
Blanford - Warham Parks Esqr
Ware -
Leverett -
Murrayfield - Jesse Johnson
Benardston -
Shutesbury and
Ervingshire
Enfield -
Somers -
Ludlow -
Norwich - David Scott
West Hampton
Merryfield -
Buckland -
Cummington -

5. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

County of Plimouth.

Plimouth - Joshua Thompson Esqr.
Scituate - Israel Vinal Esqr.
Duxborough - Mr. John Peterson.
Marshfield - Mr. Daniel Lewis.
Budgwater - Hugh Orr Esqr.
Middleborough - Mr. Ebenezer Wood.
Mr. Isaac Thompson.
Rochester - Col. Ebenr. White
Plimpton - Capt. Francis Shurtliff
Pembroke - Kingston Capt. Ebenr. Washburn.
Abington - Mr. Samuel Browne.
Hanover - Halifax -

County of Barnstable.

Barnstable - Shearjashab Bourn Esqr.
Sandwich - Yarmouth -
Eastham - (no choice)
Harwich - Nathan Doane.
Wellfleet - Elisha Doane Esqr.
Falmouth - Mr. Jabez Swift.
Truro - Dr. William Thayer
Chatham - Provincetown -

County of Bristol.

Taunton - Job Smith Esqr. - Rehoboth - Capt. Stephen Bullock
Swanzey - Dartmouth Edward Pope Esqr.
Norton - Capt. Isaac Hodges.
Attleborough - Elisha May Esqr.
Dighton -
Freetown - Joshua H. Brett.
Rainham - Capt. Noah Hall.

6. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

Easton - Capt. James Perry.
Mansfield - Capt. John Pratt.
Berkley - (No Choice)

County of York.

York - Col. Edward Grow
Kittery - Charles Chauncey Esqr.
Wells - Nathl. Wells Esqr.
Berwick - John Hill Esqr.
Arundell - John Hovey Esqr.
Biddeford - Col. Joseph Morrill.
Pepperellborough -
Buxton - Jacob Bradbury -
Lebanon - Sanford -
Fryeburgh - Simon Frye
Cox Hall - Massabesech -
Limerick - Brownfield - Little Falls. -

County of Dukes County.

Edgarton - Chilmark - Tisbury -

County of Nantucket.

Sherburne -

County of Worcester.

Worcester - Samuel Curtis Esqr.
Lancaster - John Sprague Esqr.
Woodstock -
Mendon -
Brookfield - Capt. Phinehas Upham.
Oxford -
Charlton - Mr. Ebenz. Davis.
Sutton - Mr. Willis Hall.
Liecester - Hon. Seth Washbourne Esqr.

7. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

Spencer - Mr. Isaac Jenckes
Rutland - Mr. Asaph Shearman
Oakham - Hubbardston -
New Braintree - Southborough -
Westborough - Mr. Hannaniah Parker.
Northborough - Mr. John Ball.
Shrewsbury - Hon. Artemas Ward Esqr.
Lunenburgh - Capt. Josiah Stearns.
Fitchburg - Capt. Thomas Cowdin
Uxbridge - Northbridge -
Harvard - Bolton -
Sturbridge - Capt. Ralph Wheelock.
Hardwick - Mr. Ichabod Dexter.
Western - Leominster -
Holden - John Child Esqr.
Douglass - Grafton -
Petersham - Capt. Wing Spooner.
Royalston - John Frye Esqr.
Westminister -
Athol - Hiram Newell Esqr.
Templeton - Princeton.
Ashburnham -
Winchendon - Abel Wilder Esqr.
Upton -
Dudley -
Paxton - Capt. Adam Maynard.
Barre -
Ward - Capt. John Prentice.
Milford -
Sterling -

8. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

County of Cumberland.

Falmouth - Joseph Noyes Esqr.
North Yarmouth - Mr. John Southworth
Scarborough -
Gorham - Mr. Stephen Longfellow.
Cape Elizabeth - Brunswick -
Harpswell - Capt. Isaac Snow.
Windham -
New Gloucester - Mr. John Merrill.
Gray - Pearsonstown - Royalsborough.
Raymondstown - Parkerstown - Sylvester - Bridgetown -

County of Lincoln.

Pownalsborough -
George Town - Samuel Mc.Cobb Esqr.
New Castle - Mr. Jonathan Jones Jr.
Woolwich - Topsham - Bowdoinham.
Ballstown - Wales - Boothbay.
Bristol - Alexander Nicholas Esqr.
Vassalborough - Abiel Lovejoy Esqr.
Winthrop - Mr. Jona. Whiting.
Winslow -
Waldoborough - Capt. Jacob Ludwig.
Edgecomb - Hallowell - Belfast -
Warren - Mr. Patrick Pebbles.
Thomas Town - Mason Whealon Esqr.
Bath - Pitts Town - St. Georges -
Medurncook - Walpole - Howards Town -
Norwich walk - Sterlington -
Lewis Town -

9. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

County of Berkshire.

Sheffield & Mt. Washington - Theodore Sedgewick Esqr.
Great Barrington - William King Esqr.
Patridge Field - Mr. Ebenezer Perce.
Williamstown - Capt. Tompson - Jos. Skinner.
New Marlboro - Mr. Noah Church.
Lanesboro - Col. John Smith - Col. Asa Barnes.
Pittsfield - Lenox - Mr. Elias Willard.
Stockbridge - Samuel Brown Esqr.
Egremont - Mr. Oliver Pier - Tyringham Capt. Josi. Brewer.
Sandisfield - Mr. Jos. Ayrault - Beckett - Nathl. Kingsley Esqr.
Gageboro - - Hancock - Saml. Hand Esqr.
Richmond - Mr. Wm. Lusk - Louden -
Washington - Mr. John Nickols - West Stockbridge -
Alford - Mr. John Adams - Adams - Enos Parker Esqr.
Ashualet Equivalent - - New Ashford -
Windsor - William Clark Esqr. - Lee -

All of whom duly qualified for their seats according to the Constitution.

A Committee was then appointed to collect sort and count votes for a Clerk, and the members brought in their votes. The Committee having counted & sorted the same, reported that Andrew Henshaw Esqr, was chosen, who being informed thereof appeared upon the floor of the House, and signified his acceptance of the election, upon condition that he might be allowed to attend upon the Supreme Judicial Court as their travelling Clerk. Whereupon the House voted to proceed to a new choice; and a Committee being appointed to collect, count, & sort the votes, after attending the service

10. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

they reported that Mr. George Richards Minot was chosen.

Whereupon the following oath was administered to him by Stephen Metcalf Esqr. "Whereas you, George Richards Minot are chosen Clerk of this House of Representatives, you do swear that you will truly enter all the votes & Orders thereof; and in all things relating to your office, you will act faithfully, and impartially according to your best skill and Judgement. So help you God."

The House then proceeded to the choice of a Speaker and the same Committee being appointed to collect, count & sort the votes, reported that the Hon., Nathl. Gorham Esqr was unanimously chosen; and that Gentleman took their Chair accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Gill come down to inform the House that the Hon. Senate had made choice of the Hon. Saml. Adams Esqr, for their President, & of Mr. William Baker for their Clerk. - Whereupon Mr. Otis, General Ward Mr. Rowe, Mr. Sedgewick and Mr. Dalton were charged by the House with a message to His Excellency the Governor, & the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House had made choice of the Hon. Nathl. Gorham Esqr for their Speaker, and of Mr. George Richards Minot for their Clerk.

The Hon. Jeremiah Powell Esqr, brought down the following Order of Senate viz - "In Senate May 29th 1782 Ordered that Samuel Holten & Charles Turner Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall Join be a Committee to examine the returns of the number of votes of the several Towns in this Commonwealth for a Governor and Lieut. Governor. Sent down for concurrence. "Read & concurred & Mr. Goodale, Col. Dawes & Col. Thatcher are Joined.

11. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the report of said Committee as follows - viz - That His Excellency John Hancock Esqr, is appointed Governor, & His Honor, Thomas Cushing Esqr, Lieut. Governor of this Commonwealth.

Then the Hon. Ebenr. Bridge Esqr brought down a vote of Senate appointing Ebenr. Bridge, Moses Gill, & John Pitts Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House should Join a Committee to wait on His Excellency the Governor & His Honor the Lieut. Governor to inform them of their respective appointments and of the two Houses being ready to attend on Divine service. Sent down for Concurrence. - Read & Concurred, & Mr. Phillips, Mr. Dalton, Gen. Ward, & Dr. Manning are Joined. - The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the returns of the votes for Councillors & Senators from the several Counties in the Commonwealth - The Secretary came down to inform the House that His Excellency the Governor was in the Senate Chamber & ready to attend divine service; Whereupon Mr. Phillips was charged with a message to inform His Excelly. & the Hon. Senate that the House were likewise ready to attend on the same. When His Excelly. the Governor and the General Court attended on divine service - when a Sermon was preached by the Revd. Zabdiall Adams after which the House assembled in their own chamber & adjourned to 6 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon. The House met according to adjournment.

Mr. Sedgwick was charged with a message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House was ready to proceed to the choice of Senators for the vacant Counties agreeable to the Constitution & that the House proposed to make use of the room they set in for that purpose.

12. Wednesday May 29th 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Holten came down from the Hon. Senate and informed the House that the Senate were not yet ready to come to the choice of Senators for the vacant Counties as proposed, as they had appointed a Committee to examine into the votes who had not yet reported. - On motion Ordered that Col. Dawes, Col. Washburn & Mr. Tracy be a Committee to examine into the rules & orders of the late House of Representatives, and report what alterations, if any are necessary to be made therein. - Then the House proceeded to chose monitors by nomination & made choice of the following gentlemen, viz - Dr. Simon Stow, Samuel Curtis Esqr, the Hon. Seth Washburn Esqr, & Dr. William Brown.

Ordered that Mr. Otis, Mr. Sedgewick & Mr. Sprague be a Committee to examine into the regularity of the returns of Representatives from the respective towns.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts bought down a report of a Committee of the Senate appointed to examine the returns of the several Senators chosen for this Commonwealth, to report what deficiencies there are & who are candidates for a new choice, & - a verbal message that the Senate was then ready to proceed to the choice of Senators for the deficient Counties - Whereupon the two Houses assembled for that purpose & appointed John Pitts William Phillips & Sand. Barrett Esqrs a Committee to collect, count & sort the votes for two Senators for the County of Essex, who having attended that service reported that the Hon. Saml. Phillips Jr, & Elbridge Gerry Esqrs were chosen.

Then the further election of Senators for the vacant Counties was postponed until tomorrow & the Houses seperated.

13.[?] Wednesday May 29th 1782.

Ordered that Mr. Rowe, Capt. Stearns & Mr. Vans be a Committee to wait on the Revd. Zabdiell Adams who preached the election Sermon this day, return him the thanks of the House therefor & request a copy for the press. The House then adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Thursday May 30th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Prescott came down to inform the House that the Senate were ready to proceed to the choice of Senators, for the vacant counties - Whereupon Gen.
1 Ward was charged with a message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House was likewise ready to attend upon that business and proposed to meet in the room where the House set. The two Houses then assembled together & having appointed Gen. Ward upon the Committee for collecting, sorting & counting the votes in the room of Mr. Barrett who was absent, proceeded to chose the following gentlemen Senators for the following Counties, viz:-

The County of Middlesex - Hon. Eleazer Brooks and
Josiah Stone Esqrs.

Hampshire - Hon. Caleb Strong
Timothy Danielson and
Joseph Hawley Esqrs.

York. Hon. Nathl. Wells. Esqr.

Berkshire. Hon. John Bacon Esqr.

The two Houses then seperated.

14.[?] Thursday May 30th 1782.

Mr. Barrett was directed to prepare an Order of the House for their Clerk to lay before the Senate a list of such business as may come down from them and be acted upon by the House from day to day, which that gentlemen reported accordingly and the Order was Committed to Gen Ward to be carried to the Hon. Senate with a request that they would pass a similar Order respecting their Clerk for the information of the House - vide the Order at large entered this Day P. M.

1 Ordered, that Col Washburn, Col Dawes & Mr. Sprague be a Committee to report what Standing Committee are necessary the ensuing year. Ordered, that Mr. Dalton, Mr. Goodale & Mr. Wales be a Committee to consider of the expediency & manner of printing the Resolves of the General Court & Journals of the House.

The Committee appointed to wait on the Revd Zabdiall Adams, and to return him the thanks of the House for his sermon preached on Election day reported verbally that they had attended that service & that that gentlemen would transcribe a copy of his sermon for the press.

2 Then the House assigned 4 o'clock P. M. for coming to the choice of a Chaplain.

The Hon. Mr. Holten brought down a vote of Senate declaring the choice of Senators as recorded & the Hon. Mr. Gill then came down from the Hon Senate & requested the House to send up the following gentlemen who had been chosen Senators - viz: - the Hon Artemas Ward, Caleb Strong, John Bacon & Nathl Wells Esq.

The Hon. Artemas Ward Esqr declining to accept of his election, Dr. Phillips, Col. Washburn, Mr. Frazier Mr. Tracy & Mr. Ely were chosen to wait upon the

15. Thursday May 30th 1782.

other gentleman to the Hon. Senate who conducted them up accordingly. Precepts were then ordered to be sent to the Towns of Northampton, Wells & Stockbridge to elect Representatives in the room of their members who had been chosen Senators agreeable to the Constitution.

The Committee on the Rules & Orders of the late House reported the alterations necessary to be made therein & they were then delivered to the Clerk to be fairly transcribed.

The Committee appointed to examine into the regularity of the returns of Representatives from the respective towns reported verbally that they were all regular except that from Athol which was dated on the Sabbath, & that from Woburn which was represented as illegal by certain petitioners from said town. The first mentioned return was ordered to be filed, the date appearing to be a clerical mistake, & 3 o'clock P. M. was assigned for considering of the return from Woburn.

Gen. Prebble brought down a list of Candidates for Senators in the County of Worcester, & informed the House that the Senate were ready to proceed to the choice of a Senator, in the room of the Hon Artemas Ward Esqr who had resigned. - Mr. Dalton was then charged with a message to the Hon Senate, to inform them that the House were likewise ready to proceed to that choice & that the usual seats would be assigned for the members of the Hon. Senate. The Houses then met together & Dr. Holten, Mr. Phillips & Mr. Otis being chosen a Committee to collect count, & sort the votes they after attending that service reported that the Hon. Seth Washburn Esqr was chosen.

16. Thursday May 30th 1782.

The Houses then Seperated.

The Hon Mr Pitts came down from the Hon Senate & requested the House to send up the Hon. Seth Washburn Esqr who was chosen a Senator for the County of Worcester but that gentleman declining to accept of the appointment Mr. Otis was charged with a messages to Hon Senate to inform them thereof. The Hon Mr. Gill then came down with a list of the candidates for Senators for the County of Worcester &

1 informed the House that the Senate was ready to proceed to the choice of a Senator in the room of the Hon Seth Washburn Esqr. in the usual manner. Mr. Sedgwick was then charged with a message to the Hon. Senate to acquaint them that the House was likewise ready. Then the two Houses assembled together in one room & appointed Dr. Holten, Mr. Phillips, & Mr. Otis a Committee to collect, sent & count the votes who attended on that service, & reported that the Hon. Israel Nichols Esqr was chosen. The Houses then seperated. Then this House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The House met according to adjournment. On motion, ordered that Mr. Ward,

2 Mr Phillips, Mr Sedgwick, Mr Tracy & Mr Frazier with such as the Hon Senate shall join, be a Committee to wait on His Excelly. John Hancock Esqr & His Honor, Thomas Cushing Esqr. and acquaint them that the two Houses desire to be informed whether they accept of the offices of Governor

17. Thursday May 30th 1782.

and Lieut Governor of this Commonwealth to which they have been chosen and also to inform them that if they accept thereof, the two Houses are now ready to attend in the Senate Chamber that they may be qualified agreeable to the Constitution for the discharge of their respective offices. Sent up for Concurrence.

The parties concerning the return of the Representative from Wooburn not being ready, the House reconsidered their assignment for considering of said return, & assigned tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock for that business. Mr. Tracy was charged with a message to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House was ready to proceed to the election of nine Counselors, agreeable to the Constitution.

The Hon. Mr. Strong came down & informed the House, that the Senate were not yet ready to chose Counsellors, & proposed 5 o'clock for that purpose.

Col. [unreadable] Strong was then charged with a message to inform the Hon Senate that the House agreed to that hour. Then the House proceed to the choice of a Chaplin, & appointed Dr. Hall, Dr Snow and Dr. Chamberlain a Committee to collect sort & count the votes, who attended upon that service & reported that the Revd. John Clarke, was chosen. Whereupon the gentleman of the Boston seat were desired to inform that Revd. Gentleman of his bring chosen.

The Secretary came & informed the House that His Excelly the Governor, was ready to attend the two Houses this afternoon at any hour

18. Thursday May 30th 1782.

they would appoint to proceed on the business respecting his Excellys election. Then the Secretary left the House and returned to inform the House, His Excelly. the Governor was attending in the Senate Chamber & requested the presence of the House who assembled with the Senate accordingly. Then His Excelly, John Hancock Esqr. having taken the oaths & subscribed the declarations pointed out by the Constitution, was declared Governor of this Commonwealth, - and His Honor. Thomas Cushing Esqr. having likewise duly qualified himself, was declared Lieut. Governor of the same. And the Houses seperated.

1 Then the Hon. Mr. Holten came down to inform the House, that the Senate was ready to proceed to the choosing of nine Counsellors, agreeable to the Constitution. Mr. Sedgwick was charged with a message to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House was likewise ready.

Then the two Houses assembled together & appointed Mr Bacon, Mr Sedgwick & Mr Sprague a Committee to collect, sort & count the votes, who attended that service & reported the following gentleman chosen – viz:-

Hon. Jeremiah Powell	Hon. Saml. Holten
Williams Sever	Azor Orne
Benja. Chadbourn	Moses Gill
Walter Spooner	Joseph Hawley Esqrs.

and

James Prescott.

19. Thursday May 30th 1782.

The Houses then seperated.

Mr. Barrett, according to order, reported the following Order, of the House - viz.

Com. of Mstts. May 31st 1782 - Ordered that the Clerk of this House furnish the Clerk of the Senate every morning, with a list of such business as has come down from the Senate, and has been acted upon by the House in the preceding day. Gen. Ward was charged with a copy of the aforesaid Order to the Hon. Senate with a request that they would pass a similar Order on their part for the information of the House.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon came down and informed the House that the Hon. Senate were ready to proceed to the choice of a Secretary agreeable to the Constitution. Mr. Phillips was charged with a message to the Hon. Senate to acquaint them that this House was likewise ready.

Whereupon the two Houses assembled together in one room & chose Mr. Summer, Mr. Hastings, & Mr. Wales, a Committee to collect, count, and sort the votes for a Secretary; who attended that service and reported that John Avery Esqr., was unanimously chosen.

The two Houses then seperated and this House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

20. Friday May. 31st 1782.

The House met according to adjournment. On motion, Ordered that that the Secretary of this Commonwealth notify the Hon. Jeremiah Powell William Sever, Benja Chadbourne, Walter Spooner, James Prescott, Saml. Holten Azor Orne, Moses Gill and Joseph Hawley Esqrs, that they were yesterday chosen Counsellors of this Commonwealth agreeably to the Constitution, and that two Houses are ready to attend to their being qualified agreeable to the same.

Sent up for Concurrence. The Hon Mr. Greenleaf bought down the above order, with an order for altering the date. - Sent down for Concurrence.

Read and Concurred.

1 On Motion, Ordered that Mr Bartlett, Col. Washburn, Mr Sedgwick Gen. Ward and Mr. Sprague, be a Committee to consider of the clause in the last Tax Act, respecting the payment of specific articles & the letters of Gen. Washington & Robert Morris Esqr, and the requisitions of Congress, Concerning the Same.

The memorial of Samuel Ward, Agent on the estates of Michael Martyrs, James Eager & John Eager, absentees, praying for his pay in that capacity.

Read & Committed to Mr Curtis Col Dawes and Mr Greenwood.

The petition of Jehoiakim Naunukptonk [?] & others, Indians, praying leave to sell lands.

Read & Committed to Mr. Sedgwick, Gen Ward, & Mr Hall of Medford.

21. Friday May 31st 1782.

The petition of Elihu Parsons, praying for Confirmation of a deed of land purchased by him, of one Solomon an Indian. Read & Committed to Capt. Noyes Mr. Bourn & Mr. Robbins, - The petition of Ross Wyman praying to be paid for a common transported by him, from Shrewsbury to Cambridge - Read & Committed to Col. Coffin, Capt. Bancroft, & Capt. Cowdin.

The petition of Joseph Ridgway setting forth that he had gone away with the enemy, & praying leave to return again, for reasons set forth in sd. Petition - Read and thereupon Ordered, that Gen Ward and Mr Ely with such as the Hon Senate shall join, be a Committee to consider sd. petition & report thereon. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of the Selectmen of the town of Barnstable, showing that Benja. Goodspead, a Constable of said town was Committed to Goal on Execution, from the Treasurer for back taxes, and that his estate was not sufficient to satisfy the debt, & praying that he might be credited with a sum of money due from the Treasury to said town, & be thereby liberated - Read & Committed to Col. Thorndike, Dr Smead & Mr. Orr. - The Petition of Thomas Foster Keeper of the Powder House in Boston, praying to be allowed his pay in Powder - Read & Committed to Capt Wales, Col Coffin &, Mr Ball, who were directed to inquire into the State of all public powder. - The petition of the Town of Gorham, praying to be relieved in their taxes. Read & Committed to Capt. Noyes, Dr. Manning & Mr Whitney. - Two Petitions from Timothy Bigelow, one praying to be reimbursed his expenses, in the apprehending of one Caleb Green for counterfieting.

the paper currency, the other praying for pay for tools furnished the Army while at Cambridge - Read & Committed to Mr Smead, Mr Newell, & Mr Parker. - The Hon, Mr. Danielson brought down the following order of Senate - viz. In Senate May 31st 1782 - Ordered that conformable to an Order of the Hon. House of Representative, passed the 30th of May current, the Clerk of the Senate furnish the Clerk of the House, of Representatives every morning with a list of such business as may have come up from the House & been acted upon by the Senate on the preceding day.

The Petition of Wm Sailes, setting forth that he had been convicted of counterfieting the paper currency & was ordered to be imprisoned as part of his punishment & praying that further punishment might be remitted him - Read & Committed to Mr. Robbins, Mr Ely & Col. Thatcher.

The petition of John Hopkins Comy. of Prisoners praying the direction of the Court respecting the return of a Flagg, of Truce, arrived from the enemy - Read and Committed to Capt. Johnson, Mr. Tracy, & Col. Pope.

The petition of the Committee for leasing absentees estates in Duxborough, setting forth that the Lessee of some farms in that Town, was kept out of possession by a prior occupier, & praying that he might be put in possession by Government – Read & ordered to lie.

The Hon. Nathn. Cushing Esqr, came down from the Hon Senate & informed the House that the Hon. Jeremiah Powell, James Prescott Moses Gill & Saml. Hotten Esqrs, were ready to qualify themselves as Counsellors of this Commonwealth - Gen. Ward was charged with a

23. Friday May 31st 1782.

message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House was ready to attend that business. Then the two Houses met together, & the Gentlemen aforenamed in their presence took & subscribed the oaths & Declarations pointed out by the Constitution. Then the Houses seperated. - The House assigned 3 o'clock P. M. for taking into consideration the State of the New Emission Money.

Then the House proceeded according to assignment to consider of the return of Mr Joseph Johnson, as a Representative from the town of Woburn. The parties were admitted upon the Floor of the House. Mr Johnson laid upon the Table a certificate of the warning of the Town Meeting, at which he was elected, from a Constable of the Town of Woburn. Whereupon a question arose whether a certificate from the Constable of any Town of the warning of the Inhabitants for choosing a Representative, shall be considered as conclusive evidence of such warning. Which question was determined in the affirmative – Return of the House, 112 – when, after hearing the case in part, the House postponed the further consideration thereof, till the Afternoon.

The Hon. Mr Bacon came down & informed the House, that the Hon. Benja Chadbourne & Walter Spooner Esqrs, had accepted of their appointment as Counsellors, & were ready to be qualified for their offices.

Mr. Sedgwick was charged with a message to acquaint the Hon. Senate, that the House would attend to the qualifying of those Gentlemen at 4 o'clock, P. M.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock Afternoon.

24. Friday May 31st 1782.

Afternoon Session.

The House met according to adjournment. The Hon. Mr Bridge bought down a letter of resignation from the Hon Azor Orne Esqr., as a Counsellor of this Commonwealth. - In Senate read and sent down - Read & ordered to be sent up.

A Resolve for altering the sitting of Maritime Court for the Middle District, to be holden at Salem upon the 11th of June next, & adjourning the same to the 25th day of the same month. - Read & passed - Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of Robert Howes, praying for a Lottery to enable him to carry on certain Glass Works. - Read & Committed to Mr. Frazier, Capt. Dench & Col. Pope.

The Petition of Susanna Renkin, praying that her daughter Sarah Welch, with her children who went with her Husband to the enemy, might have leave to return - Read & Committed to Mr Bourn, Col. Prescott & Capt Prentiss.

The Petition of Bethuel Baker & others, belonging to a Class for raising a soldier, setting forth that the Petition has a full proportion for that purpose, & was fined notwithstanding, & praying some relief.

Read & Committed to Mr Hardings, Col. Coffin & Col. Prescott.

Ordered, that Mr. Tracy, Gen. Ward, Mr Otis Mr Sedgwick, & Mr Goodale be a Committee to examine & report what public business is necessary to be acted upon this session of the Genl. Court.

25. Friday May 31st 1782.

Ordered that Capt Wales, Col Dawes & Col. Washburn be a Committee to examine the files & report what matters it may be proper to revive. - The Petition of the sufferers in the Town of Falmouth, praying some Compensation for their losses by the burning of said Town by the enemy. - Read & Committed to Mr Vans, Mr Deane Mr Church, Mr Bartlett & Capt. Patch.

The House reconsidered their assignment for taking into Consideration the state of the new emission money, & assign 10 o'clock tomorrow morning for that purpose.

The Hon. Senate sent down & informed the House that the Hon. Benja Chadbourne & Walter Spooner Esqr, were ready to be qualified as Counsellors. The House returned by message that they were ready, and the two Houses assembled together in one room. The aforenamed Gentlemen then took the oaths and subscribed the declarations pointed out by the Constitution, in the presence of both Houses, who then separated. - The House proceeded in the examination of the return of Mr. Joseph Johnson as a Representative from the Town of Woburn. The Parties were again called in upon the floor of the House, & after a full hearing was given them, the House voted that Mr Joseph Johnson was duly elected a Member of this House for the Town of Woburn, & that Gentleman resumed his seat accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the following order of Senate viz: - In Senate, May 31st 1782. - Ordered that Jedediah Prebble, Timothy Danielson & Nathan Cushing Esqs with such as the Hon. House shall join be appointed a Committee

to wait upon the Governor to acquaint him that the Hon Jeremiah Powell, James Prescott, Saml. Holten Moses Gill, Walter Spooner & Benja. Chadbourne Esqs, have taken the oaths & subscribed the declarations to qualify them as members of the Council of this Commonwealth according to the Constitution thereof. - Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred, & Col Thatcher, Gen. Ward, & Mr. Sedgwick & Mr Tracy are joined.

Member from Spencer had leave of Absence - Also member from Reading till next Wednesday.

The Committee on the Petition of John Hopkins Comy. of Prisons, reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted – Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down a petition from John Temple Esqr. praying an examination into his conduct with the following order of Senate thereon viz. in the Order omited in the orig[unreadable] Read & thereupon Ordered that Nathan Cushing & Saml. Baker Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to consider this petition & the papers referred to therein & report. Sent down for Concurrence.

Read & Concurred, & Mr. Dalton, Col Orr & Col Thomas are joined.

Also a letter from the Hon Jona. Jackson Esqr, Dated Newburyport, 9th May 1782, declaring his acceptance of his election as a member of Congress. - In Senate, Read & Sent down. - Read & Sent up.

Ordered that Col. Coffin, Capt. Patch, Mr Dalton. Mr. Frazier & Mr. Thomas be a Committee to consider the State of the Seacoasts, and of the Guards necessary for their defence.

27. Friday, May 31st 1782.

The Petition of Warwick Palfray, late Naval Officer praying to draw his monies out of the Public Treasury – Read and ordered to lie.

Ordered that Mr. Barrett, Col. Washburn & Col. Dawes be a Committee to prepare a commission for the committee for paying accts. & Muster Rolls.

The Petition of Benja. Beckford & others, owners of certain Live-Stock, taken from the Island of Mouhegin, by a public committee to secure them from the enemy, and praying recompence therefore - Read & Committed to Col. Barnes, Mr. Sprague, & Col. Barrett.

Ordered that the Committee on the Petition of the Town of Gorham, take into consideration the State of the three Eastern Counties.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Saturday June 1st 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petitions of Rebecca Burton, Sarah Henderson, Mary Anziel, Naomi Bangs & Sarah Burrell, praying for leave to go in the next Flag of Truce to New York - Read & Committed to Col. Dawes, Mr. Bartlett & Capt. Cushing.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down a letter from Azor Orne Esqr. resigning his seat at the Senate and Council. - In Senate read & Sent down. Read and Sent up.

Two Petitions from the Inhabitants of the Town of Barnstable, praying for relief in their Taxes - Read and Ordered to be committed to the Committee appointed by the late Genl. Court, to view the circumstances

28. Saturday June 1st 1782.

of the County of Barnstable.

The Committee on the petition of Wm. Sailes reported that he have leave to withdraw his petition. Leave to withdraw accordingly.

Members from Middleboro & Salisbury had leave of absence.

Ordered that Mr. Ely, Mr. Spague, Capt Wales Col. Dawes & Capt. Stearns, be a committee to consider the state of the new emission money & report what is necessary to be done thereon.

The Committee on the Petitions of Sarah Henderson Mary Anziell, Sarah Burrell, Naomi Bangs and Rebecca Burton reported a Resolve granting them permission to go to the enemy. Read and accepted - Sent up for Concurrence.

The petition of the Town of Dartmouth, praying for some relief on account of their distresses by the enemy, - Read & Committed to Mr. Vans & others, a Committee on the Petition from the Sufferers at Falmouth.

Mr Holt had leave of absence till the next Wednesday.

The Petition of Benja. Kent, praying that his daughter might have permission to go to the enemy. Read & Committed to the Committee on the Petition of Susanna Renkin.

The Petition of Samuel Clarke, praying for his pay as a Captain in Col. Sears's Regiment - And the Petition of Ambrose Parker, in behalf of his son Giles Parker, praying for his pay as a Soldier in Col John Brown's Regiment - Read & Committed to Col Grow, Col. Childs & Mr. Prentiss.

29. Saturday June 1st. 1782.

The Petition of the town of Ward praying for a more just apportionment of their Taxes. - Read & Committed to Capt. Curtis, Mr. Hall of Sutton & Col. Lothrop.

The Petition of Benja. West, setting forth his losses as a Soldier in the American Army, & praying a compensation therefor. - Read & Committed to Dr. Stow, Dr. Hall & Mr. Farmer.

Mr. Dalton laid before the House accounts from the Town of Newbury-Port which were Committed to Capt Noyes, Mr Greenwood & Mr. Whitney.

The House proceeded to chose by nomination a Committee for Considering petitions for the Sale of Lands, & Mr Holt, Dr Stow, Mr Metcalf Mr Chamberlain & Capt. Curtis were Chosen. - The Petition of Achsah Ludden & Jona. Pettybon praying for Sale of Lands - Read & Committed to said Committee.

The Petition of Benja. Austin Esqr, setting forth that he had recovered a Judgement for £ 42:2:6. & Costs against the estate of Benja. Hallowell & others, absentees, whose estates had been deposited in the Public Treasury and praying a Warrant thereon for the aforesaid sum - Read & Committed to Mr. Barrett, Mr Sedgwick & Mr Hastings.

The House proceeded to Chuse Mr. Ely, Mr Sprague Capt. Wales, Col Dawes, & Capt. Stearns, a Committee to inquire into the State of the New Emission Money.

The House assigned Tuesday Morning, 10 o'clock for chusing a Committee for methodizing & Stating the public Accounts, & a Committee for sitting with the Army, & a message was sent to the Hon. Senate to acquaint them thereof. Mr. Bacon came down & informed

the House that the Senate agreed to the assignment.

The Committee appointed to consider what public business is necessary to be acted upon the present session of the Genl. Court, reported & thereupon the House passed the following Orders.

That the Secretary be directed to inform the House whether he has or has not forwarded the Import Act on to Congress.

That Thursday next at 11 o'clock be assigned for coming to the choice of Delegates for this Commonwealth in Congress. - of this Order the House informed the Hon. Senate, & the Hon. Mr Strong came down & informed the House that the Senate agreed to the Same.

That a Committee be chosen to be called the Committee of Finance, & that Monday next be assigned for that purpose.

That the number of Delegates to Congress be six - of this Order a message was sent to the Hon. Senate & Genl. Danielson came down & informed the House the Senate agreed to that number.

That a Committee be chosen to prepare a Fee Bill & Mr. Bourn, Mr. Noyes, Mr Orr, Col. Coffin & Col. Thomas were chosen for that purpose.

Then the Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Resolve on the Petition of Sarah Henderson & others, with an amendment at A. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also a Petition from the Town of Tauro - Read and sent down.

31. Saturday June 1st 1782.

The petition of Michael Cummingham & John Prescott late inhabitants of Nova Scotia, praying to be naturalised - Read & Committee to Mr Hall of Sutton, Mr Dalton and Mr. Phillips. - The petitions of Edwd. Raymond & Seth Heywood, praying for a rehearing, in certain causes mentioned in said petition - Read & Committed to Mr. Robbins, Mr Thomas, & Mr Childs.

The House proceeded to chuse a committee on Pensions by nomination & Col Prescott, Capt. Washburn and Mr Hobart were chosen.

The secretary attended the House agreeable to Order & informed the House that he had not sent forward the Import Act to Congress, & on being asked why he had not, replied that he had not seen it since its being returned with the Governor's objections.

The Hon Mr. Turner bought down the following Order of Senate - viz: In Senate June 1st 1782 - Ordered that Charles Turner & John Bacon Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join, be a Committee to consider what business is necessary to be transacted this Session & to arrange the several articles so that in their opinion the first in order shall require the most early attention, and report. - Sent down for concurrence.

Read and ordered to lie.

Ordered, that Capt Wales be a Committee to report the proper measures to be taken for binging the Committee of sequestration to a settlement of their accounts & to enquire of the Committee for binging Public Defaulters to account, if they are ready to Report -

32. Saturday June 1st 1782.

Genl. Danielson bought down the following order of Senate - viz: - In Senate June 1st 1782 - Ordered that Timothy Danielson & Caleb Strong Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join, be a Committee to wait on His Excelly. the Governor, & acquaint him that the two branches of the Genl. Court, are now met and have proceeded to business, and are ready to attend to any Communications His Excelly. may think proper to lay before them. - Sent down for Concurrence.

Read & Concurrence, & Genl. Ward, Mr. Tracy, & Mr Bourn are Joined.

The Committee for preparing a Commission for the Committee on accounts, & Muster Rolls, reported a Resolve for that purpose & the House voted the number of the members on the Committee on accounts should be three, & the votes might not be confined to members of the House. - They further assigned Tuesday next, 3 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of coming to the choice of said Committee.

The members from Westborough, had leave of absence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

33. Saturday June 1st 1782.

Afternoon Session.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Ebenezar Stores praying for leave to send to New York for a number of Books - Read & a Resolve directed to brought in granting the prayer thereof, which Resolve was brought in accordingly, and being read, was passed and sent up for concurrence.

The petition of Silas Newcomb setting forth that he was imprisoned upon a charge of High Treason, which was groundless & praying that he might be bailed,

Read & ordered to be dismissed.

The Committee on the petition of the two Stockbridge Indians reported, and their report was recommitted to Dr. Phillips.

The petition of Penelope Winslow praying to go to New York - Read & Col. Thomas was directed to bring in a Resolve granting the prayer thereof.

The petitions of Aaron Jewett, Joseph Aaron & Lemuel Bannister, Adm'er, on the estate of Isaac Walker, praying leave to sell lands in said petitions mentioned - Read & committed to the Committee of sale of Land.

The petition of the Town of Truro, praying for assistance against the Enemy - Read & committed to Col. Thorndike, Mr. Doane, & Mr Bourn.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday Morning.

34. Monday June 3rd 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

On motion, ordered that Mr Tracy, Mr. Otis & Mr. Sprague be a Committee to settle the accounts of Genl. Warner respecting the public monies forwarded by him to the Army.

The Committee on the petitions of Susannah Renken, & of Benja. Kent in behalf of his daughter reported a Resolve granting the prayer of their petitions. Read and not accepted, & thereupon Ordered that the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petitions.

On representations from the Court of Sessions in the Counting of Berkshire, that it was necessary to assess the sum of £645 in sd. County -

Ordered that Mr. Sedgwick bring in a Resolve giving leave to said Court to assess that sum accordingly.

The petition of Nathl. Phillips, of Marshfield, setting forth that he had been laid under Bonds as a person inimical to the liberties of his Country, in the year 1775, & that he had not broken them in any respect since, & praying to be discharged therefrom - Read & Committed to Col White, Mr Orr, & Mr Lewis.

The petitions of Mary Hathaway & Weltha Ruggles praying leave to go their Husbands at New York - Read & Committed to Mr. Ellis Mr. Ball & Capt. Brewer.

35. Monday June 3rd 1782.

Mr. Secretary came down & brought a message from His Excelly. the Governor informing the House of the birth of the Dauphin of France, & recommending some notice to be taken thereof in a public manner. (vide message on file.)

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down a similar message from His Excelly to the Hon Senate with the following Order thereon viz. - Order not in Origin

Read & thereupon Ordered that Timothy Danielson & Caleb Strong Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this message into consideration & Report. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Col. Dawes, Mr. Sedgwick Mr. Otis are joined.

On motion, Ordered that Genl. Ward, Mr Sedgwick, Mr. Otis, Mr Barrett & Col. Thomas be a Committee to wait on His Excelly. & request him to inform this House whether he hath informed Congress that on Act was passed in the last Session of the Genl. Court, empowering them to lay an import, not exceeding five percent, upon all goods wares and merchandize, imported into this State, upon condition upon condition the other States in the Union should pass similar Acts.

The Hon. Mr Bacon came down from the Hon. Senate & inquired whether the House had passed upon the Order for a joint Committee for the arrangement of the Public Business.

36. Monday June 3rd 1782.

Mr. Ely was charged with a message to the Hon. Senate, to inform them that the House having previously appointed a committee of their own for that purpose, had ordered the Order of the Hon. Senate to lie.

The Committee on the petition of Penelope Winslow reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted - Sent up for Concurrence.

The petition of the Town of Hadley, praying to be eased in their taxes - Read & Committed to Mr. Ely. Dr. Bailey, & Col. White.

The petition of John Pease, praying to be reimbursed for an House sold by him to an Indian since deceased, which was unpaid for out of said Indians estate - Read & ordered to be withdrawn.

The Hon. Mr. Wells bought down a petition from the Selectmen of the Town of Sanford, praying a Bill might be brought in for drawing a line between two Parishes in said Town, with the following Order of Senate thereon viz -

"In Senate Jane 3d 1782 - Read & thereupon Ordered that that the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The petition of Saml. Curtis in behalf of the Town of Worcester, praying for pay for cannon supplied the Army -

Read & Committed to Mr. Brown, Mr. Ball & Genl. Ward.

37. Monday June 3rd 1782.

The petition of Saml. Ballard praying for allowance for inspecting Cloathing sent on to the Army -

Read & Committed to Capt. Cushing, Mr Hall of Sutton & Col. Pope.

Mr. Sedgwick, agreeable to order reported a Resolve empowering the Court of Sessions for the County of Berkshire to assess £645. on sd. County. Read & accepted - Sent up for Concurrence.

A Bill, entitled "an Act in addition to an Act to provide for the payment of debts due from conspirators and absentees, & for the recovery of debts due to them," - In Senate, June 1st 1782. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. - Read a first time, & Tuesday 11 o'clock A. M., assigned for second reading thereof.

The Petition of Gideon Burt to sell the real estate of Electa Allis, a minor under his Guardianship. Read & committed to the Committee on Sale of Land.

The Secretary came down with a message from His Excelly. the Governor, in answer to the message of the House of this Morning, informing them that he had not sent forward the Import Act, which His Excelly called the Import Bill to Congress - Read and committed to Gen. Ward, Mr. Otis Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Barrett & Col. Thomas.

The Secretary likewise bought down another massage from His Excelly, accompanied with the following letters - viz. - one from Robt. R. Livingston Esqr Secretary for foreign affairs dated 2nd May

dated 2nd May, 1782, enclosing a Resolve of Congress respecting Foreign Affairs. - One from Genl. Washington, dated Head Quarters, May 4th 1782 enclosing returns of the Army - And one from Robt. Morris Esqr, dated 9th 1782 - Read & Sent up.

The petition of John Cunningham was again taken up, & recommitted to Mr. Rowe, Mr Hall of Sutton & Mr. Hall of Medford.

The Hon. Mr. Baker bought down the following order of Senate - viz. - "In Senate June 3rd 1782 - Ordered, that Nathan Cushing & Caleb Strong Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to examine the several Bills reported by the Committee for revising the laws & report from time to time such of them as they may suppose require the first attention of the Genl. Court to be Enacted. - Sent down for Concurrence." - Read and Concurred & Col. Thatcher, Capt. Patch, & Mr. Brown are joined.

Mr. Secretary bought down another message from His Excelly. The Govr., respecting the repairs of the Council Chamber, -

Read & Committed to Col. Dawes, Mr. Phillips, & Capt. Shurtliffe.

The House then adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

39. Monday June 3rd 1782.

Afternoon Session.

The House met according to adjournment.

+Pensioners. The representation of John Lucas, Comy. of +Prisoners in behalf of Joshua Gray - Read & committed to the Committee on Pensions.

The Committee on the petition of Ross Wyman reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted.

Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Speaker read a letter from the Rev. Mr. John Clark, signifying his resignation as Chaplain to the House, who then proceeded to the choice of a Gentleman in his room. Col. Thatcher, Mr. Phillips & Mr. Brown were chosen a Committee to collect count & sort the votes, who attended to that service & reported that the Rev. Mr Eckley was chosen.

Mr. Phillips, Col. Dawes & Dr. Brown were elected a Committee to inform the Revd. Gentleman of his being chosen Chaplain to the House.

Col. Coffin was charged with a message to the Hon. Senate to request them to send down the Fee - Bill; which the Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down accordingly, & it was ordered to be given to the Committee on that business.

The Petition of Saml. Hexson praying for leave to sell certain lands therein mentioned. Read & Committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

The Committee on the petition of Benja. Austin, reported by way of Resolve - Read &

accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the petition of Mary Hathaway, reported by way of Resolve. - Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The report of a Committee on the Petition of Capt. Amos Lincoln, in behalf of himself and a Regiment of Artillery in the service of this Commonwealth, praying to be paid their back rations and to be exempted from a Poll Tax, was taken up & after debate Committed to Capt. Stearns, Mr. Bartlett & Col. Barnes.

The Committee appointed to consider of the state of the Sea-Coasts, & of the Guards necessary to be stationed therein, reported a Resolve, establishing Guards on those Coasts, - Read and accepted - Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wells, brought down the message of his Excelly. of this day, communicating letters from Robt. Livingston Esqrs, & others sent up from the House. - "In Senate June 3rd 1782 - Read & thereupon Ordered, that Timothy Danielson Stephen Choate & John Bacon Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this message with the papers accompanying the same into consideration & Report. - Sent down for concurrence." Read & Concurred & Mr Phillips Genl. Ward, Col. Coffin, & Col. Thorndike are joined.

The Committee on the petitions of Michael Cunningham & John Prescott reported a Resolve for admitting them into & allowing the privileges of Inhabitants

of this state. Read and accepted.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Truro reported verbally that the petitioners appeared rather to state & ascertain certain Facts, than to pray for any measures to be taken by Government in consequence of them - and thereupon said Petition was Ordered to lie.

On motion, ordered that Col. Pope Mr. Ely, & Capt. Noyes, be a Committee to prepare a letter to the Delegates of this Commonwealth, in Congress, directing them to furnish three setts of the Journals of Congress for the Genl. Court.

On motion, Ordered that Capt Johnson Mr Weld & Capt. Dench be a Committee to settle with the Commissaries for supplying the Convention troops.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Tuesday June 4th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Sally Grant, praying to be permitted to go to New York, - Read & Committed to Mr. Brown of Abington, Mr. Bailey & Capt. Patch.

On motion, Ordered that a message be sent to the Hon. Senate, to inform them that the House have chosen the Revd. Mr. Eckley their Chaplain.

Mr. Otis

42. Tuesday June 4th 1782.

Mr. Otis was charged with the message.

The Petition of Larkin Thorndike, setting forth that he was part owner of the ships called the Black Prince & Defence, privateers lost at Penobscot, & that he was willing to loan part of the value thereof to Government, & praying that the other part might be received in payment for some lands he has purchased, out of John Lendall Borland an absentee his Estate, - Read & Committed to Col. Pope, Capt. Sanford & Mr. Church.

The Petition of John Webber, a Soldier, praying for an allowance for his time & cloathing while a prisoner with the enemy, - Read & committed to Col. Moody, Mr Vinal, & Mr. Smith of Taunton.

The House proceeded according to assignment to elect seven Gentlemen for a Committee of Finance; - Capt Curtis, Mr. Chamberlain, & Col. Prescott were chosen a Committee to collect sort & count the votes, who attended that service & reported that Seth Washburn, Artemas Ward, Theodore Sedgwick, John Sprague, Samuel A Otis Nathl. Tracy & Saml. Barret Esqrs, were chosen on the Committee of Finance.

On motion, Ordered that the Hon. Mr. Patridge and the Attorney General, be incorporated that chairs would be set for their accommodation whenever they might please to attend to the Business of the House.

43. Tuesday June 4th 1782.

The Committee on Pensions reported a Resolve upon the representations of John Lucas, in behalf of Joshua Gray, which was read & accepted & sent up for Concurrence.

The petition of Theophilus Eaton, praying to be allowed to carry some messages to Deer Island - Read & Committed to Mr. Dalton, Mr. Longfellow & Mr. Ball.

The Committee on the state of the Import Act, reported a Resolve to appoint a Joint Committee on that business. Col. Coffin, Genl. Ward, Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Otis & Mr. Dalton were appointed on the part of the House. The Resolve was then passed & sent up for Concurrence.

The House proceeded, according to assignment to chuse three gentlemen for a Committee on Accounts by Ballot. Capt. Curtis, Mr Chamberlain & Col. Prescott, were appointed a Committee to collect sort & count the votes, who attended that service & reported that Seth Washburn, Joseph Noyes & Miles Greenwood Esqrs, were chosen, whose names were accordingly inserted in the Resolve appointing said Committee & said Resolve was then sent up for concurrence.

The Petition of Thomas Hovey of Cambridge, setting forth that he was Captain of a Militia Company to reinforce the Army in 1779, & advanced monies to his soldiers taking their receipts therefor, & that the Pay Roll of said Company was made payable to the Individuals - And

their receipts were not received as orders so as to enable him to receive the monies he had advanced them, and praying to be assisted in reimbursing himself. Read & Committed to Mr. Hall of Medford, Mr. Locke & Col. Doane.

The Committee on the Petition of Saml. Ballard reported a Resolve, granting him and Benja. Brown £ 150:0:7.[?] - Read & accepted & sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of a Theophilus Eaton reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & sent up for Concurrence.

Col. Dawes was charged with a message to the Hon. Senate, to inform them that the House was ready to proceed to the choice of a Committee, for stating & methodizing the Public Accounts according to assignment. The Hon. Mr. Danielson came down & informed the House, that the Senate were likewise ready. The House then appointed Col. Coffin, Mr. Frazier & Mr Greenwood to collect, count & sort the votes, which were collected & carried up to the Hon. Senate, The Committee returned & made report that Messrs. John Demming, Peter Boyer, & Stephen Gorham were unanimously chosen.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller came down & brought the Petition of Edward Martin. praying that a small real estate, conveyed to him & others by Will, might be settled without a division, with a Resolve thereon - sent down for Concurrence - Read & Committed to the Committee on Sale of Lands.

45. Tuesday June 4th 1782.

Also the Resolve of the Resolve of the House on the Petition of John Hopkins, Comy. of Prisoners, with an amendment at A. & C. sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Petition of Samuel Fisk, praying to sell Land therein mentioned - Read & Committed to the Committee last named.

Mr. Secretary came down with a message from His Excelly. The Governor, respecting the Import Act. - Read and thereupon Ordered that this message be Committed to the Joint Committee appointed to consider of the state of the Import Act, & to report what further measures are necessary to be taken respecting the same. Sent up for Concurrence.

A message was sent to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House were ready to proceed to the choice of a Committee for settling with the Army. The Hon. Mr. Bacon came down & informed the House that the Senate were likewise ready. Whereupon Col. Coffin, Mr. Frazier & Mr. Greenwood, were appointed to collect, count, & sort the votes, who attended to that service & carried the same to the Hon. Senate. Upon the return of the Committee they reported that Messrs Loammi Baldwin, Thomas Walley, & Saml. Austin were chosen.

The Petition of the Nathan Waldens, a Soldier, praying for the payment of his wages - Read & Committed to Col. Clark, Mr. Smith of Hadley and Col. Mc.Clallan.

The Petition of Job Sumner, Captain

in the 3rd Massachusetts Regiment, in behalf of himself and men, praying for the payment of this deprecation notes - Read & Committed to Mr Bourn Col. Thomas, & Col. Edey.

The Hon. Mr Starkweather brought down the Representation of John Lucas, Comy. of pensioners, in behalf of Joshua Gray, & the Resolve of the House thereon with an amendment. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve respecting the Defence of the Sea Coasts, with amendments at A.C.E.F.H.K.L.M.N.P.Q. - Sent down for Concurrence - Read and Concurred as taken into a draught. - Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of Richard Fuller setting forth that there was a mistake in a mortgage given by him to Chas. W. Apthorp, an absentee, whose state was confiscated to Government, and praying that it may now be corrected.

Read & Committed to Mr Hastings, Col. Barrett & Mr. Spooner.

The Petition of the Town of Plimouth, praying to be relieved in their Taxes, - Read & Committed to Mr Smead, Mr. Bourn & Col. Orr.

The memorial of Nathl. Glover, shewing that there was misnomer in a Resolve of the late Genl. Court, passed in his favour, & praying that it might be corrected - Read & Committed to Col. Dawes.

47. Tuesday June 4th 1782.

On motion, Ordered that Col Thatcher, Mr Bartlett & Mr Hall of Sutton, Col. Thomas & Capt Noyes be a Committee to consider of the report of the Committee appointed to consider of the abatement of Taxes upon the several Towns to whom it was promised by the Genl. Court, & Report.

The House then adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee of the Finance reported "that it appears to them impracticable to provide for the exigencies of Government unless there be a previous reform in the method of doing business in the Treasury." The question was then put upon this part of their Report. The number of Members present were eighty-six, & sixty eight voted for accepting it.

Said Committee further reported that a Committee be appointed to point out the several matters which ought to be considered by the Committee on Finance. Thereupon the House Ordered that the Commission of said Committee be to consider so far as is necessary all money matters that concern this Commonwealth & report all such measures as they may think expedient to be adopted for providing for the exigencies of Government, and for restoring Public Credit.

The House

48. Tuesday June 4th 1782.

The House further Ordered that said Committee consider of & report such reform & alteration as may be necessary to be made in The Treasury of this Commonwealth.

The Committee on the Petition of John Cunningham reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down a report of the Joint Committee on the message of His Excelly. the Governor, announcing the birth of the Dauphin of France - In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. & D. - Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

The House reconsidered their Order on the Petition of Silas Newcomb, & Ordered the same to be committed to Mr Dawe, Mr. Bourn, & Mr. Goodale.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the following Order of Senate viz: - "In Senate June 4th 1782 - Ordered that Nathan Cushing & John Bacon Esqrs, be a Committee on the part of the Senate, to confer with such as the Hon House may appoint upon the Resolve of the 3rd instant, appointing guards for the Sea - Coasts of this Commonwealth & Report.

Sent down for Concurrence.

Read & concurred, & Col. Coffin and Col. Pope are appointed on the part of the House.

49. Tuesday June 4th 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Sumner brought down the Resolve of the House of the 3rd instant, appointing a Committee of Accounts. In Senate Read and concurred with amendments at A. & B. & Abraham Fuller & Ephraim Starkweather Esqrs are joined.

Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred. A Bill entitled an Act in addition to an Act entitled an Act to provide for the payment of debts due to conspirators & Absentees, & for the recovery of debts to them. - Read a second time & Friday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down an Order of Senate, appointing Mr Nathan Cushing Esqr & Jona. Greenleaf Esqr. with such as the House might join, a Committee to wait on His Excelly. the Governor, with the message reported by the Committee on the Governor's message, respecting the birth of the Dauphin - Sent down for Concurrence. - Read & Concurred & Capt Patch, Dr. Manning & Mr. Goodale are joined.

The Committee on the Petition of Timothy Bigelow reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted & Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the petition of Sally Grant reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & sent up for Concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Barrett, Mr Peterson and

50. Tuesday June 4th 1782.

and Mr. Frazier be a Committee to Consider & Report what measures can be taken for Government to avail itself of such estates as lie in other states and were formerly owned by Absentees, late Inhabitants within this Commonwealth.

The Petition of a superannuated Soldiers praying for a grant of money to relieve him - Read & Committed to Mr. Dunbar, Capt Wales, & Col. Doane.

The House then adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

51. Wednesday June 5th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of William Mc.Clain, one of the Collectors of the town of Bristol setting forth that he received a sum of the old emission money for Taxes after the passing of the Resolve prohibiting said money to be taken in Taxes, he being ignorant of the passing of said Resolve, & praying it may be received in the Treasury, - Read & committed to Mr. Locke, Col. Clarke, & Capt Wheelock.

The Petition of Thomas Russell, as agent to a number of the subjects of their most High Mightinesses, the Sates General of the United Provinces, praying for an appeal to be allowed them from the sentence of the Supreme Jud. Court to Congress, in a cause & for reasons mentioned in said Petitions - Read & Committed to Mr. Sprague, Col. Thomas & Mr. Rowe.

The Committee on the Petition of Capt Amos Lincoln reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted - Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of Joseph Titcomb, praying that a copy of his father John Titcombs will, may be established, the original being lost, - Read & Committed to Mr. Sprague, Mr. Lothrop & Mr. Dalton. - The petition of Richard Smith setting forth that her husband was a prisoner of war, & that she was in a poor & suffering condition & praying for some relief – Read & Committed to Mr Childs, Mr Spooner & Capt Clarke. - The Secretary Came down with a Message from his Excelly. the Governor communicating a letter from the Hon Mr Lovell, concerning the payment

-ment of The Continental Taxes enclosing a letter from Robt. Morris Esqr, on the same subject, dated May 14, 1782 Read & Sent up. - The Hon Mr Wells brought down the above Message from the Hon. Senate without order thereon.

The Committee on the part of the House on the letters of Genl. Washington, Mr Morris, & Mr. Livingston communicated in the Governors Message were enjoined to sit, & Mr Barrett Charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request them to enjoin the committee on their part to sit likewise.

The Committee on the Petition of Joseph Titcomb reported an Order for the petitioner to Serve Samuel Titcomb with a copy there of & notify him to show cause &c. Read & accepted - Sent up for Concurrence.

The Memorial of Zebedee Sprout, Agent on the estate of Peter Oliver Esqr, late of Middleborough, an Absentee praying leave to make use of the monies in his hands to pay taxes laid on said estate - Read & ordered to lie.

A Petition from the towns of Lanesborough & Williamstown & Petersham, with Resolves said to be passed in a Convention of Delegates from a large majority of the Towns in the County of Berkshire, & others passed in convention in Worcester stating certain public grievances, - Read & thereupon Ordered that Genl. Ward, Mr. Smead & Mr. Sedgwick with such as the Hon Senate shall join, be a Committee to take the same into Consideration & report thereon. Sent up for Concurrence. - The House took up the Governors last message & the letters therewith communicated & committed the same to the Committee on the clause of the Tax Act respecting the payment of Specific Articles.

52 & 53. Wednesday June 5th 1782.

52. [unreadable]iginal

The Secretary bought down a Message from His Excelly. the Governor, requesting the Court to point out some method for celebrating the birth of the Dauphine of France Read & Committed to Mr Dalton Mr Frazier & Mr Goodale with such as the Senate shall join, sent up for Concurrence.

The petition of the inhabitants of Cohasset, praying for an easement in their taxes - Read & committed to Mr. Vurial, Col. Mayo & Col. White.

[unreadable]53.

The Committee on the petition of Larkin Thorndike reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted & sent up for Concurrence. - The Committee on the petition of Capt. Job Sumner, reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted & sent up for concurrence.

The petition of Naomi Platt, setting forth that her husband was a Refugee, & left but little estate to a needy family which was forfeited & praying that said estate may be granted to her children - Read & Committed to Col. Barnes, Mr. Perce & Mr. Goldsbury.

The petition of the selectmen of Windsor in behalf of Nathl. Rawson for the allowance of an account, of said Rawson for boarding & nursing a Sick Soldier - Read & committed to Dr. Manning, Mr Faulkner & Mr. Kellogg.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon. - The House met according to adjournment.

On information that the parties on the petition of Chas. Le Ballister, referred over for the petitioners to show cause &c., were ready - Ordered, that Col. Pope, Mr Frazier & Capt Dench with such as the Hon Senate shall join be a committee to hear the said parties & to report - Sent up for Concurrence.

53 & 54. Wednesday June 5th 1782.

53. The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the Order on the petition of Joseph Titcomb, to shew cause &c., with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred. - The Committee on the petition of the Town of Barnstable reported by way of Resolve. Reads & accepted & Sent up for Concurrence. - The Committee on the petition of Thomas Hovey reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & sent up for concurrence.

54. The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down a letter to the Hon. Samuel Adam's Esqr, from the Hon. Elbridge Gerry Esqr, resigning his appointment as a Senator - In Senate Read & sent down. - Read & sent up. - The Hon. Mr. Bacon brought down the Report of the Committee to whom was referred the consideration of what was proper further to be done with respect to the Import Act, & His Excelly's Message of the 4th current respecting the same. - In Senate Read & accepted with amendments at A. C. & E. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, (In the Debates on this report a question arose whether the merits of the Import Act should be considered. Number of voters 95 - yeas 53. - A motion was then made for a reconsideration thereof, & question was put - Number of voters 107 - yeas 57. On the question for a concurrence - Number of voters 106 - Yeas 61.)

The House reconsidered their Order upon the representation of Zebedee Sprout, Agent on the Estate of the late Peter Oliver Esqr, committed the same to Capt Washburn, Col. Edey & Mr. Dench.

A petition of Ezra Fellows, praying the allowance of an account exhibited, for transporting two field pieces - Read & Committed to Mr. Chamberlain, Col May & Mr Dunbar.

54 & 55. Wednesday June 5th 1782.

54. Mr Sprague had leave of absence to attend the executive Count in the County of Worcester.

The Committee of Finance reported a Bill, entitled "an Act for the further regulating of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, for appointing an Assistant – Treasurer & for the more speedy consolidatory Depreciation notes & other Government Securities", - Which Bill was read a first time, and tomorrow morning, 10 o'clock assigned for a second reading of said Bill. The Bill was then committed (for the filling up the blank therein, fixing the rates at which the Depreciation Notes are to be established) to Mr. Bartlett, Col. Pope, Capt. Perry, Mr. Dunbar, & Mr. Child.

55. A letter from Richd. Devans, Comy. Genl. to His Excelly. the Governor praying for a supply of various articles - Read & committed to Col. Barrett, Mr. Prentiss & Col. Doane.

The Committee on the petition of Ambrose Parker reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted & Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee to consider the measures proper to be taken respecting Absentees estates lying in other Governments formerly owned by persons late inhabitants within this state, reported a Resolve for that purpose. Read & ordered to lie.

A Bill entitled "an Act establishing a Supreme Judicial Count over the Commonwealth" - Read a first time, & tomorrow 3 o'clock P. M. assigned for a Second reading there.

The petition of Chas. Cushing, Clerk to the Supreme Jud. Court, praying for a further allowance - Read & committed to the Committee on the Fee - Bill.

55 & 56. Wednesday June 5th 1782.

55. The petition of Wm. Torrey Lt. & Adjutant of the 2nd Massachusetts Regiment, setting forth that he had received great part of his pay in the old emission money, which had become useless in his hands & praying leave to return it to the Treasurer.

Read & committed to Mr Hubbard, Capt. Cushing & Mr. Longfellow.

A Petition from the Delegates of forty two Towns in the County of Hampshire, praying the redress of certain grievances stated in said petitions. Read & Committed to the Committee on the Petition of the Town of Lanesboro & others.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock, tomorrow morning.

56. Thursday June 6th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Robt Andrews Jr. Guardian to Gersham Flagg a distracted person, praying that the state of said Flagg may be conveyed to a person who stands ready to give bond for his support, during life - Read & Committed to the Committee on sale of land.

The Petition of the inhabitants of the Town of South Brimfield, praying said Town to be divided. Read & committed to Mr Hubbard, Mr Newell & Mr Davis to Charlton.

The Memorial of Stephen Longfellow in behalf of the town of Gorham, praying that the sheriff may be directed to stay his execution against said Towns for a + man said to be deficient, & the execution likewise for Beef - for reasons set forth in said petition - Read & Committed to Mr Hill, Mr. Willard & Capt. Parker.

The Committee on the petition of Zebedee Sprout, Agent on the estate of Peter Oliver Esqr, reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted and Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee appointed to consider of & report a Fee-Bill, reported a Bill, entitled "an Act for establishing & regulating the fees of the several officers & other persons hereafter mentioned". - Read a first time & tomorrow 11 o'clock assigned for a second reading thereof.

On motion, ordered that a message be delivered to his Excelly the Governor, requesting that he will be pleased to direct the Secy. to lay the Import Act, which his Excelly is pleased to denominate the Import Bill on the Speakers.

Thursday June 6th 1782.

Table of the House. Col. Coffin, Mr Ledgwick, Mr Frazier & Mr Ely were charged with the message.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down a petition from the Selectmen of Rehoboth praying that the execution from the Treasurer of this Commonwealth against said town for seventeen men ordered to be raised by said town for the Army, for reasons set forth in said petition - with a Resolve thereon - In Senate sent down for concurrence. (10th) Read & concurred.

Mr Barrett was charged with a message to the Hon Senate to request them to send down the petition of Benja. Austin & the papers accompanying the same, which the Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down accordingly.

The petition of Katherine Wendell of Cambridge, praying to be allowed to continue on the estate of Wm. Brattle Esqr, her father, an Absentee. Read & committed to Mr. Whitney of Sherburne, Col. White & Capt. Dench.

The House proceeded to the second reading of the Bill entitled "an Act for the better regulation of this Commonwealth - appointing an assistant Treasurer & for the more speedy consolidating Depreciation Notes & other Government Securities." - Return of the House 106. - ½ past 9 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

Col. White & Col. Thomas have leave of absence - Members from Scituate, Acton, & Lunenburg likewise.

Ordered, that the agent of this Commonwealth be directed to attend the House to inform them of the state of the Ship Tartar & a small armed vessel directed to be fixed out.

Mr. Secretary

58. Thursday June 6th 1782.

57. brought down the following Message from His Excelly the Governor with the Import Act. -

"Gentlemen of the House of Representatives - In consequence of your message this moment received, I have directed the Secretary to lay upon your Table the Import Bill, which the House are pleased to denominate the Import Act." John Hancock. "Council Chamber, Boston, June 6th 1782".

58. The Hon. Mr. Ward was changed with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House proposed to postpone the choice of Delegates to Congress till 4 o'clock P.M. - The Hon. Mr. Pitts came down to inform the House that the Senate agreed thereto.

The Hon. Mr. Don[?] brought down the report of the joint Committee, on the Governors Message Communicating Genl Washington's letter &c. - In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. - Read & concurred with amendments at A. & B. - Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Genl. Danielson came down to inform the House, that the Senate proposed 12 o'clock, tomorrow morning, for chusing two Senators for the County of Essex.

Mr. Sedgwick was changed with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House agreed to the proposal & requested a list of candidates to be sent them.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

58 (Contd.) Thursday June 6th 1782.

Afternoon. - The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of John Fisk, Guardian of the children of Isaac Fisk, late of Framingham, deceased, praying to sell the real estate of said children - Read & Committed to the Committee of Sale of Lands.

The petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Rowley, praying that execution may be stayed against said Town for reasons set forth in said petitions - Read & committed to Col. Coffin, Capt. Stearns & Major Shearman.

The petition of Edward Cary in behalf of himself and others, inhabitants of the Island of Nantucket, praying for a Navel Officer to be appointed in said Island. - Read & committed to Dr. Hall of Sutton, Mr. Bourne, & Mr. Goodale.

59. The Committee on the petition of Thomas Russell in behalf of some subjects of their High Mightinesses, reported an Orders thereon for the opposite party to show cause, &c., by way of Resolve.

Read & accepted & sent up for concurrence.

The Petition of Isaac Storey, praying a passport for a Mrs. Robey from Halifax, for reasons set forth in said petition - Read & ordered to lie - withdraw - Return of House 95. Voters 62.

A Petition of John Lane, as Agent to the Eastern Indians, praying for an allowance - Reads

& committed to Capt. Shurtliff, Mr. Hill & Mr. Chamberlain.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down the nomination list for Delegates to Congress, agreeable to the desire of the House & requested a nomination list from the House which was Sent up accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Deupee brought down the petition of Michael Cunningham & John Prescott with the Resolve thereon - Read & non-concurred & ordered that the petitions have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes in their petition mentioned. Sent down for Concurrence - (6th) Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr Pitts brought down a list of Candidates, for filling up the vacancy of two Senators in the District of Essex agreeable to a request of the House.

On Motion, ordered that Mr Rowe & Mr Bourn be a Committee on the part of the House to confer with such Committee as the Hon. Senate shall appoint upon the subject matter of the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Benja. Austin Esqrs.

The House took up the Petition of Wm. Andrews & committed the same to Capt Dench, Col Dawes and Capt. Cowdin.

Col. Washburn was changed with a Message to the Hon Senate, to inform them that the House were ready to proceed to choice of Delegates of Congress according to
60. assignment. The Two House then met, & the Hon. Nathl Wells Esqr Mr. Phillips & Genl. Ward were chosen a Committee to collect count & sort the votes, who returned that

the Hon Elbridge Gerry, George Patridge, John Lowell, Saml. Osgood, Jona Jackson, & Timothy Danielson Esqrs, were chosen.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a petition from the inhabitants of the extreme parts of the Towns of Stowe, Littleton & Harvard praying to be incorporated into a Town, District or Parish, agreeable to a plan exhibited with the following order of Senate thereon - viz. - "In Senate, June 6th 1782 - Read & thereupon ordered that Solomon Freeman Esqr. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a committee, to take this petition & the papers accompanying the same into consideration and Report thereon. - Sent down for concurrence." - Read and concurred and thereupon Ordered that said Petition lie until the second Wednesday of the next Session of the Genl. Court.

The Committee for considering of the expediency & manner of printing the Resolves, &c., of the Genl. Court, reported the rates at which the same Could be printed, & thereupon Ordered, that the said Committee procure the printing of the Acts & Resolves of the Genl. Court, but not of the Journals.

The Petition of Josh. Lee was taken off from the files, & Committed to Mr Smead, Mr. Otis, Mr Phillips Mr. Orr & Dr. Manning, to notify & hear the parties to said Petition.

The committee on the Petition of the Town of South Brimfield reported that the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill agreeable to the prayer of said Petition - Not accepted, & thereupon Ordered that the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

61. Thursday June 6th. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down the following Orders of Senate - viz. - "in Senate June 6th 1782 - Ordered that the Secretary be directed to notify the Hon. Elbridge Gerry, George Patridge, Samuel Osgood, John Lowell, Jonathan Jackson & Timothy Danielson Esqrs that they have this day been elected by Joint Ballot of the Senate & House of Representatives as Delegates from this Commonwealth to the Congress of the United States, to serve in Congress for one year to Commence on the first Monday of November next. Sent down for concurrence." - Read & concurred with amendments at A. & B. - Sent up for Concurrence.

Also the Petition of Eliza. Freeman, wife of Isaac Freeman, praying that she may be enabled to, make sale of three small pieces of Marsh, belonging to the estate of the said Isaac, with a Resolve of the Senate thereon. Sent down for concurrence (13th) Read & concurred.

A Bill was reported by the Committee for considering the clause of the Tax Act, respecting the payment of specific articles entitled "an Act to repeal a certain clause in an Act entitled on Act for apportioning & assessing a Tax of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds, & for certain other purposes hereafter mentioned," which Bill was read a first time & tomorrow, 11 o'clock A. M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Torrey reported by way of Resolve. - Read & accepted & Sent up for Concurrence. - Then the House Adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

62. Friday June 7th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

Member from Holden has leave of absence. On Motion Col Coffin was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate to request them to send down the Resolve appointing Guards on the Sea-Coast, which the Hon Mr. Wells brought down accordingly which was committed to Capt. Noyes for a new draught.

The Committee on the Sale of Lands reported on Petitions of Samuel Haven & Samuel Fisk by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Robt. Hewes reported a Resolve, giving said Petitioner leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes mentioned in said Petition - Read & accepted

The Committee on the Petition of Stephen Longfellow in behalf of the town of Gorham reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & sent up for concurrence.

The Agent attended on the floor of the House agreeable to order, & laid before the House the state of the Ship Tartar, & such other matters relating to the vessels of this Commonwealth as were proposed to him - Thereupon Ordered that Mr. Bourn, Col. Coffin & Mr. Dalton be a committee to take into consideration the state of the Ship Tartar & the other vessels of this Commonwealth & report thereon.

Mr. Bartlett on the Committee on the State of the new money, in the room of Mr. Sprague who is absent.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down the report

of the Joint Committee on His Excelly's Message respecting the mode of celebrating the birth of the Dauphin of France, - In Senate, Read & accepted as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. (8th) Read & concurred.

The Committee of Finance reported again, and thereupon Ordered that Capt Wales, Mr Goodale & Col. Dawes be a Committee to examine into the State of the purchases of Beef, & the accounts of Oliver Phelps Esqr, & report what furthers measures are necessary to be taken respecting the same.

And that the Secretary lay before the House the state of the returns of the several Towns respecting the state of the Old Emission Money in the possession of individuals through this Commonwealth.

The House then assigned three o'clock this afternoon to consider the following clause in the report of said Committee - viz. - "That the Secretary be directed to forward to Congress immediately on attested copy of the Import Act."

The Petition of Thomas Flint & others setting forth that they had bought many American Prisoners from Nova Scotia, & praying for an allowance therefor - Read & Committed to Col. Lothrop, Mr. Merrye[?], & Capt. Prentiss.

The Memorial of Timothy Edwards & others, Justices of the Peace for County of Berkshire, setting forth that James Harris Esqr, a Justice for said County was unworthy of holding that office any longer, for reasons set forth in said petition, & praying that proper measures may be taken to inquire into the truth of their al-

allegation, & that said James Harris may be impeached as by the Constitution is provided - Read & Committed to Mr Dunbar, Mr. Hill & Mr. Vans.

64. The Petition of Robt Jackson Setting forth that he had left the British army in Verginia, & praying to be admitted to the privileges of an Inhabitant of this Commonwealth, - Read & Committed to Col Prescott, Mr. Hall of Medford & Mr Johnson.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge came down to inform the House that the Senate proposed to postpone the chusing of two Senators for the County of Essex, till 4 o'clock this afternoon. Mr. Dawes was charged with a message to inform the Hon. Senate, that the House agreed to their proposal.

A Bill entitled "an Act to repeal a certain clause in an Act entitled an Act for apportioning & assessing a tax of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds & for other purposes" - Read a second time & tomorrow morning 10 o'clock assigned for a third reading of said Bill.

There the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoons.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down a Bill entitled "an Act for establishing County Courts in the Several Counties of this Commonwealth" - In Senate June 7th 1782 - Read a second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for Concurrence. - Also "an Act for establishing Courts of General Sessions of the Peace". In Senate, June 6th1782 - Read & Sent down - Read & First time.

Also a Bill entitled "an Act for establishing Counts of

65. Friday June 7th 1782.

Common Pleas. "In Senate June 7th 1782. Read & Sent down - Read at first time.

On Motion Ordered that the secretary by upon the Table of the House all the letters from Robt Morris Esqr. since his appointment as Financier General.

Col. Lathrop has leave of Absence.

The Committee on the Petition of Nathl. Glover reported by way of resolve. Read & accepted & sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Strong came down to inform the House that the Senate were ready to proceed to the Choice of two Senators for the County of Essex. Mr. Barrett was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House was likewise ready - Whereupon the two Houses assembled & proceeded to the choice by Joint Ballot. The Hon. Mr. Turner, Mr. Otis & Mr. Vans, were chosen a committee to collect, count & sort the votes, who reported that Aaron Wood Esqr had 88 votes, George Cabot Esqr. 68 & Jona. Jackson 66. - That the whole number of votes was 113, & 57 made a choice, - Thereupon the Houses voted that - A. Wood & George Cabot Esqrs, having the greater number of votes were chosen.

The Committee on the Petition of Benjamin Adams & others reported that Said Petition lie on file. Accepted & ordered to lie accordingly.

A Petition of Alexander Nichols in behalf of the town of Bristol, setting forth the distresses of said town & praying for an easement in their taxes - And a Petition from the Town of Newcastle to the same effect, - Read and committed to the Committee on the State of the (3) Three Eastern

65. contd. 66. Friday June 7th 1782.

65. Counties.

A Petition from Ebenezer Crosby, praying to pay a demand by the Commonwealth against his Fathers estate in Depreciation Notes - Read & Committed to Mr Barrett. Capt. Wales, & Mr Bourne

66. The Petition of Squire Haven, Collector of Taxes for the Town of Framingham, praying that a Treasurers certificate might be received in satisfaction for his Execution against the Petitioner. - Read & Committed to Mr. Dunbar Mr. Hall of Medford & Capt. Perry.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the report of the Committee appointed to examine and audit the Treasurers Accounts, according to a Message of the House by Mr. Barrett.

The Hon. Mr. Woodbridge brought down a Petition of Aaron Rowley late an acting Major in the Militia and rounded & praying his wages & subsistence till the 23rd day of May instant - In Senate June 7th 1782 - Read and thereupon Ordered that + (?)Jahleel woodbridge Esqr, with such as the Hon. House shall join, be a Committee to take this petition & papers accompanying into consideration, & make report thereon. Sent down for Concurrence - (11.) Read & concurred, & Capt Patch & Col Clarke are joined.

The Hon. Mr Stone brought down a Petition from the town of Wilbraham praying a division of said Town, with the following Order of Senate thereon - viz. - In senate June 7th 1782. - Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for the purpose mentioned in their Petition. Sent down for concurrence.

66. con 67. Friday June 7th 1782.

66. The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Petition of Thos. Russell - In Senate June 7th 1782 - Read & accepted as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence - Read & concurred.

67. A Bill entitled "an Act for the better regulation of the Treasury of this Commonwealth - appointing an assistant Treasurer, and for the more speedy consolidating Depreciation Notes & other Government Securities." - Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. - Return of the House 102 - Votes 73.

Members from Shrewsbury & Sutton with Mr. Bartlett have leave of absence.

The Secretary laid before the House the letters of Robt. Morris & Esqr. agreeable to order, which were read in part & the House proceeded to consider of the following clause in the report of the Committee of Finance - viz. "That the Secretary be directed to forward to Congress immediately an attested copy of the Import Act." - According to assignment, after Debate the Question was put for accepting this Clause of said Report, (by the votes of more than Fifteen members) by Yeas & Nays, & was determined in the affermative, as follows:-

Yeas.	Nays.
William Phillips	Thomas Dawes
Saml. A. Otis	John Rowe
Saml. Barrett	Elijah Dunbar
Nathan Frazier	William Vans
David Weld	Miles Greenwood
Ebenezer Wales	John Patch

67. contd. 68. Friday June 7th 1782.

		Yeas.	Nays.
67.	Theophilus Cushing	John Manning	
	Joseph Guild	Samuel Moody	
	Joseph Fairbanks	Nathl. Tracy	
	Nathl. Fisher	Tristram Dalton	
	Jona. Edey.	Holten Johnson	
	Moses Adams	Bailey Bartlett	
	Peter Adams	Peter Coffin	
	Joshua Holt	Saml. Thatcher	
	Nathans Dane	James Barrett	
	Joseph Johnson	Daniel Whitney	
	James Bancroft	Aaron Hall	
	Simon Stow	James Locke	
	Edward Farmer	Moses Church	
	William Brown	Aaron Mighill	
68.	Aaron Chamberlain	Benjamin Rogers	
	Samuel Fisk	Seth Silvester	
	Gilbert Dench	Russell Kellogg	
	Francis Leighton	Oliver Smith	
	Israel Hobart	Aaron Whitney	
	William Prescott	John Bardick	
	John Hastings	Timothy Clark	
	Israel Hubbard	John Goldsbury	
	David Spear	John Peterson	
	David Clarke	Hugh Orr	
	Hugh McClallan	Francis Shurtliff	
	David Smead	Shearjashub Bourn	
	Ebenezer Washburn	Elisha Doane	
	Nathan Doane	Job Smith	
	Elisha May	Stephen Bullock	

68. contd. Friday June 7th 1782.

68. Yeas.	Nays.
John Hill	Joshua H. Brett
Saml. Curtis	Edward Grow
Phinehas Upham	Ebenezer Davis
Willis Hall	Asaph Shearman
Seth Washburn	Thomas Cowdin
Hananiah Parker	Ralph Wheelock
John Ball	Ichabod Dexter
Artemas Ward	Jona. Jones
Wing Spooner	Alexander Nichols
Hiram Newall	Jacob Ludwig
Adam Maynard	Asa Barnes.
John Prentice	
John Southworth	Yeas 58
Stephen Longfellow	Mays 46
John Morrill	12 Majority.
Theodore Sedgwick	
Ebenr. Perce	
Noah Church	
Elias Willard	
Josiah Brewer	
William Lusk	
Enos Parker	
William Clarke.	

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Petition of Benja Austin, with the following Order of Senate thereon - viz - Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition - Sent down for concurrence 8th Read & concurred - Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

69. Saturday June 8th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Seth Barnes and others Inhabitants of the province of Nova Scotia praying protection against the ravages of privateers. Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Mr. Bourn, Mr. Hill, Col Thurston, & Col Doane.

A Bill entitled "an Act for establishing County Courts in the several Counties of this Commonwealth." Read a first time & Wednesday 10 o'clock A. M. next assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Bill entitled "an Act for naturalizing Michael Cunningham & John Prescott" - Read a first time and Monday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for a Second reading thereof.

A Bill entitled "an Act in addition to an Act to provide for the payment of debts due from the Conspirators & Absentees, & for the Recovery of debts due to them" - was read a third time & passed a Concurrence to be engrossed.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down a letters from the Hon. Timothy Danielson Esqr. resigning his appointment as a Delegate for Congress. In Senate read and Sent down.

The Petition of Levi Shepherd Esqr, praying for a further allowance to himself as Comy. & to his Deputies - Read & Committed to Mr. Church, Mr Smead & Mr. Noyes.

The Committee on the Petition of Silas Newcomb reported a Resolve, empowering a Justice of the Peace to bail him - Read & accepted -

Sent up for Concurrence.

70. Saturday June 8th 1782.

On motion, ordered that Mr. Parker Col Clarke & Col. Thurston, be a Committee to consider of the establishments for the Militia, that have been drawn out & not paid.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down the papers respecting Mr. Phelps, agreeable to the request of the House.

The Committee on the representations of Timothy Edwards Esqr. & others, reported a resolve for James Harris Esqr. to make his appearance on the second Tuesday of next session, & providing for the taking of depositions &c. - Read & accepted - Sent up for concurrence. The Committee on the Petition of Lt. William Andrews, reported by way of Resolve. - Read & accepted & Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the petition of Joseph Noyes & others sufferers in the town of Falmouth, Reported that, considering at some future time the losses of said Town with others in similar circumstances would be acted upon, they thought most proper said Petition should lie on file. - Ordered to lie accordingly.

Ordered that the Secretary be directed to forward to Congress immediately an [unreadable] attested Copy of the Import +Bill. - Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Don[?] brought down the Petition of the second Parish of Springfield, praying that sd. Parish may be made a separate Town, with an Order of Senate thereon for the Inhabitants of the Town of Springfield to appear the second Wednesday of next Session to shew cause &c. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

71. Saturday June 8th 1782.

The Petition of John Foster Williams late Commander of the Ship Protector, praying the assistance of the Court in discharging him of certain sums of money & for the wages due to said Ship's Company &c. Read & Committed to Mr. Rowe, Mr. Barrett, & Mr. Ball.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Falmouth, reported by way of Resolve. Read & ordered to lie.

The Committee on the Sale of Lands, reported on the Petition of Achsah Ludden, that the petitioner have leave to withdraw her Petition. - Accepted.

The Committee on the Petition of Ebenr. Crosby reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted & Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of John Lane in behalf of the Amassogin Indians, reported by way of Resolve. - Read & accepted & Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Richard Devens, Comy, reported a Resolve directing him to sell certain articles mentioned. - Read & accepted & Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Thos. Flint reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Bill entitled "an Act in addition to an Act, entitled a Act to provide for the payment of debts due from the Conspirators and Absentees, & for the recovery of debts due to them." In Senate June 8th 1782 - Read & concurred with an amendment at B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

72. Saturday June 8th 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down a Resolve, directing the Committee for settling with public Defaulters to discharge the towns of all fire arms in case &c. Sent down for Concurrence, - Read & concurred, with an amendment at A. - Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of the Town of Wilbraham praying for an Incorporation. - Read & the Order of Senate thereon to bring in a Bill concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of John Brock, reported by way of Resolve. - Read & accepted & Sent up for concurrence.

On Motion, Ordered, that Capt. Noyes, Col. Barrett & Capt Bancroft, be a Committee to inquire into the State of the public Beef, at Falmouth, & of the supplies to Col. Hunter in the County of Lincoln.

Members from Andover, Warwick, Col. Thurston & the members from Ward have leave of Absence, till next week.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday morng.

Monday June 10th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Allen Baker, setting forth that at an Inferior Court in the County of Essex, he recovered judgment against one Jona. Hunt by Default who appealed & by mistake of his attorney the Petitioner did not enter his complaint to the next Superior Court, & praying to be allowed still to do it - Read & Committed to Mr. Ely, Col. Washburn & Mr. Sedgwick.

A Letter from Jaber Hatch, D. L. M. praying for a compensation for Conductors & Teamsters - Read & Committed to Mr. Otis, Mr. Hastings, & Mr. Orr.

73. Monday June 10th 1782.

The Petition of the Town of Waldoborough, setting forth their distresses, & praying for relief, in their taxes - Read & committed to the Committee on the petition of the town of Falmouth.

The Petition of the Town of Sheffield setting forth that that town was valued at too high a rate, & suffered by a disproportion of Taxes - Read & committed to Capt Curtis, Mr. Smead & Col. Clarke.

The Representation of John Mayson & others, Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, was taken off file & recommitted to Mr. Bourn, Mr. Frazier, & Mr. Hubbard of Sunderland.

A Resolve was brought in for allowing the Committee on Accounts, Six Thousand Pounds, out of the Treasury according to Order - Read & Passed - Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Danielson came down with the reply of the two Houses to His Excelly. the Governor's Message respecting the birth of the Dauphin of France, proposing an amendment therein - & Mr. Tracy was thereupon charged with a Message to inform the Hon. Senate that the House agreed thereto.

A Bill entitled “an Act for naturalizing Michael Cunningham & John Prescott,” - Read a second time & tomorrow morning, 9 o'clock, assigned for a 3rd reading thereof.

The Committee appointed to consider of the expediency & manner of printing the Laws &c. laid before the House their agreement with the Printers, which were ordered to be filed & thereupon Mr. Brewer, Col. Barnes, & Mr. Hubbard were appointed to consider of proper measures for disposing Willis's News Papers thro’ the several Towns in the state.

Genl. Prebble brought down a fair copy of the reply of the two Houses, to the Governor's Message respecting the birth of the Dauphin of France

74. Monday June 10th 1782.

73.

Dauphin of France, with an Order of Senate appointing Jed. Pebble & Timothy Danielson Esqrs., with such as the House should join a Committee to deliver the same. The House Joined Mr. Dalton, Mr. Phillips & Mr. Tracy.

74.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down the Petition of Ambrose Parker, with the Resolve of the House thereon and the following Order of Senate - viz. - In Senate June 10th 1782, Read & Non-concurred, & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Sent down for Concurrence. (20th) Read & Concurred.

A Bill entitled "an Act to repeal a certain clause in an Act entitled an Act for apportioning & assessing a Tax of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds, & for Certain other purpose hereafter mentioned." - Read a third & Passed to be Engrossed - Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Thos. Flint & others - "In Senate June 10th 1782 - Read & Concurred with an amendment A. - Sent down for Concurrence". Read & Concurred. Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M. -

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

On Motion, Ordered that the Hon. Noah Goodman Esqr & others appointed by Resolve of the 30th of January last, to view the County of Barnstable & report the circumstances thereof, be discharged from that service & the Hon. Nathl. Gorham & Seth Washburn Esqrs, with such as the Hon. Senate shall join, be a Committee in their rooms for the purposes aforesaid - Sent up for Concurrence.

75. Monday June 10th 1782.

The Petition of Joseph Trumbull setting forth that he was owner of a moiety of a shop, the other half of which was owned by Dr. William Paine, an Absentee, & that he was ready to purchase the property of said Paine at an impartial appraisement, & praying that the Committee for selling Absentees estates might be empowered to give a deed thereof - Read & Committed to Mr. Vans, [?] Capt. Lusk & Col. Thurston.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon brought down a Petition from Rebekah Munro, setting forth that her Husband, Capt. Edmd. Munro - died in the service & praying for his wages with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: In Senate June 10, 1782 - Read and thereupon Ordered that Ebenr. Bridge Esqr, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to consider of this Petition at Large, & report what may be proper to be done in this & similar cases. Sent down for concurrence - Read & Concurred & Col. Dawes & Col. Thurston are joined.

The Committee on the Petition of Bethuel Baker and others reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of Robt. Orr as Guardian for the children of Stephen Whitman, praying for sale of their real estate. - Read committed to the Committee on sale of Land.

A Petition from a Committee of the Town of York praying to be paid for necessaries supplied a Cartel, - Read and committed to Mr. Longfellow, Mr. Hill, & Mr. Ludwig.

A Petition of Caleb Garrett & others in behalf of the first Parish in the Town of Cambridge, praying a sum of money to be refunded them from the 2nd Parish in said Town for men raised by said first Parish, more than their proportion - Read & Committed to Mr. Ball, Mr. Whitney of Northfield & Capt. Smith of Hadley.

76. Monday June 10th 1782.

A Petition of Elias Thatcher, praying that a Judgement of Court, which he had recovered against David Phips Esqr, an Absentee might be satisfied out of his estate - Read and committed to Mr. Hall, Col. Bourn & Mr. Doane.

On Motion, Ordered, that Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Upham & Mr. Church be a Committee, to consider & report the proper measures for preventing Indians & Negroes enlisting into the Army.

The Committee on the Petition of Richd. Fuller reported verbally, that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition - Accepted.

A Petition of William Taylor, setting forth that he had a Mortgage upon the estate of Thomas Milliken an Absentee & praying that his estate may be sold to discharge the same - Read & Committed to Mr. Otis Capt. Cowdin & Mr. Weld.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the report of the Committee on the Governor's Message communicating Genl. Washington's letters, with the amendments of the House thereon - In Senate, Read & non-concurred & the Senate adhere to their own Vote – Sent down for concurrence. (20th)

Read & Concurred.

The Secretary laid before the House a list of the Bills of the New Emission in the possession of the Individuals in the several Towns in the State according to Order.

The Committee appointed to report an establishment for the Militia that have been drawn out and not paid, brought in a Resolve for that purpose - Read & accepted & Sent up for Concurrence.

77. Monday, June 10th 1782.

A Resolve on the Petition of Eliza. Hall, giving her leave to sell certain land therein mentioned, Read & passed.

Sent up for Concurrence.

A Petition from Oliver Wett & Danl. Wett, setting forth that they were bound over to appear at a Superior Court held at Worcester in the year 1780 - & forfeited their recognizance, & praying to have liberty still to appear - Read and on motion for a commitment Ordered to be committed.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Tuesday, June 11th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

On Motion, Ordered, that the Secretary lay the Petition of John Jenkins, & the Order & Papers accompanying the same on the Table of the House.

A Bill entitled an Act for naturalising Michael Cunningham & John Prescott, - Read a third time & passed to be engrossed - Sent up for Concurrence.

Col. Orr had leave of Absence.

A Petition of David Strout & others, late Matrosses doing duty at Cape Elizabeth, praying for their wages - Read & Committed to Mr. Greenwood Col Thorndike & Mr. Royes, who were likewise directed to consider what is necessary to be done concerning the Guards at Falmouth Likewise.

A Petition of Elijah Easty, setting forth that he was drawn out in the Militia in the year 1780, & was taken sick, & praying his expenses for doctoring &c. might be paid – Read & committed to Col Washburn Mr. Newell & Col. Grow.

The Committee appointed to prepare a draught of a letter to the Delegates from this Commonwealth to Congress for the purpose of furnishing the Genl. Court with three setts of their Journals, reported a Resolve for that purpose.

Read & accepted & Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Mc.Clain reported verbally that he have leave to withdraw his petition.

Leave was given to withdraw his Petition accordingly.

Genl. Warner brought down the Petition of John Jenkins, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: "In Senate June 11th 1782. Read, & there being no answer thereon, Ordered that the Prayer of the Petition be granted, & that the Petition have leave to bring in a Resolve for the purpose of the same. Sent down for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the Petition of Gilbert Dench in behalf of the Tenants of Harvard College, in the Towns of Hopkinton & Upton with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz - In Senate, June 11th 1782 - Read & no answer appearing, Ordered, that Charles Turner with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to consider this Petition & make report thereon - Sent down for Concurrence - Read & Concurred & Mr. Brown of Framingham & Mr. Dalton are joined.

The Committee on the petition of Charles Cushing Esqr, a Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court reported a Resolve granting him the sum of sixty Pounds.

Read & Passed. - Sent up for Concurrence.

Mr. Smead on the Committee of Finance in the room of Col. Washburn who was excused.

79. Tuesday, June 11th 1782.

The Committee of Finance reported a Resolve, requesting the Governor to write to Robt. Morris Esqr, Superintendent of Finance, that it would be detrimental to his object to call on the people for taxes the present Sessions of the Genl. Court, & informing him that it should be the first business of the next setting.

Also that a Committee be appointed immediately to make application to the Delegates of this, Commonwealth that they use their influence in Congress, that this Commonwealth have credit for the surplus sums of the Old Continental emission now in the hands of the people of this State. –

Also that a Committee be immediately appointed to provide some means for the payment of the members of the Genl. Court during the present Session.

The Committee further reported that the estimate of the necessary sum to be raised for internal expenditures be taken up & considered - They likewise laid an estimate of those sums on the Table.

Thereupon the House Ordered that Mr. Otis & Mr. Dalton with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee on the Second article of said Report sent up for concurrence, & Mr. Hastings, Capt. Johnson & Mr. Dane on the third - And they likewise assigned Thursday next at 10 o'clock, A. M. for considering of the last part of the Report of their Committee.

On motion, ordered that Mr. Parker, Mr. Ball & Capt. Dench, be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for lengthening out the time for making returns from the several Towns of the Old Emission Bills.

80. Tuesday, June 11th 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Wells bought down a Bill entitled "an Act for dividing the Town of Sanford in the County of York into two Parishes." - In Senate, June 11th 1782. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed - Sent down for Concurrence.

Also a Bill entitled "an Act for dividing the town of Wilbraham into two Separate Parishes." - In Senate June 11th 1782. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed - Sent down for concurrence.

Also the Bill entitled "an Act for naturalising Michael Cunningham & John Prescott," with the following Order of Senate thereon - viz: "In Senate, June 11th 1782. Read & non-concurred & thereupon Ordered that the further consideration of this Bill be referred to the next Session of the Genl. Court. - Sent down for Concurrence - (13th) Read & non-concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather bought down the Resolve for making as establishment for the Militia which have been drawn out & not paid - In Senate read & concurred with amendment at A - Sent down for Concurrence - Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon bought down the report of the Committee appointed to prepare a letter to Congress, respecting the furnishing of the Genl. Court with three Setts of the Journals of Congress - In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A. & C. –

Sent down for concurrence. (24th) Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to & 3 o'clock P. M.

81. Tuesday June 11th 1782. (Afternoon.)

The House met according to adjournment.

Mr. Sedgwick was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate, to inquire what state the petition of Timothy Edwards & others, & the Resolve of the House thereon were in - The Hon. Mr. Bacon came down to inform the House that the Senate had not passed thereon.

Mr. Brown was then charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request them to send said Petition & Resolve down to the House, which the Hon. Mr. Woodbridge bought down accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts bought down the Resolve on the Petition of Nathl. Glover, - In Senate June 11th 1782 - Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. - Sent down for Concurrence - (14th) Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss. bought down a letter from the Hon. Wm. Sever Esqr, dated Kingston June 7. 1782, resigning his sent at the Council Board. - In Senate June 11th 1782 –

Read & Sent down.

Mr. Doane had leave of absence.

The House proceeded to the second reading of the Fee-Bill & after debate thereon, postponed the further consideration of said Bill to tomorrow morning.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.+ +(?)

Wednesday June 12. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The petition of Danl. Whiting, late a Lieut. Col. in Col. Nixon's Regt. praying for the payment of one of his depreciation Notes & Wages - Read & Committed to Major Bancroft, Mr. Brown of Framingham & Capt. Dench.

82. Wednesday June 12th 1782.

On Motion, Ordered that the Committee on Finance revise the law for calling public Defaulters to account, & in case any further measures are necessary to be taken respecting that matter to report the same.

The House took up the Petition of John Jenkins praying that the Judge of Probate of Wills &c of Suffolk Co. be directed to grant him letters of administration on the estate of Robt. Jenkins his Father, & for the establishment of a copy of his Father's Will, the original being carried away by the enemy, - Read & thereupon Ordered that Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Bourn & Mr. Rowe be a Committee to consider of the expediency of binging in a Bill on taking same other general measures in this & similar cases.

On Motion, Ordered that Mr. Ely, Mr. Church and Mr. Hastings be a Committee to consider of the State of the Public Beef at West Springfield & Springfield & Report.

On Motion, Ordered that the Secretary attend the House to inform them what Resolves, passed in the last Session of the Genl. Court, were laid before His Excelly the Governor, & not acted on by him.

The House proceeded to the Second reading of the Fee-Bill, & after debate postponed the further reading thereof till their next meeting.

The Secretary attended the House & laid a list of Resolves mentioned in the last Order on the Table – Whereupon, Mr. Otis, Mr. Ely, & Mr. Vans, [?] were appointed to wait on His Excelly the Governor to request him to direct the Secretary to lay the Resolve relating to Oliver Phelps Esqr, directing a quantity of Beef at Gt. Barrington to be delivered to him at a certain price on the table - Adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow

83. Thursday June 13th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment

The Members from Franklin & Westford & Mr. Ball have leave of absence.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down a letter from the Hon. Joseph Hawley Esqr, dated June 7th 1782, resigning his seat at the Council Board. In Senate Read & sent down.

Also the Bill entitled an Act to repeal a certain clause in an Act entitled an Act for apportioning and assessing a Tax of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds - In Senate June 11th 1782. Read the Second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with the amendments at A. B. D. & F. - Send down for concurrence - [20th.] Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller bought down the petition of Nathl. Gorham Esqr, praying for the sale of certain Land, with a Resolve of Senate granting the prays of said Petition –

Sent down for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Adams with the Order of the Court Thereon for the adverse party to Shew cause &c. passed in the last Session & the following Order of Senate - viz: In Senate June 13th. 1782 –

Read and thereupon ordered that Nathl. Wells Esqr with such as the Hon. House shall join, be a Committee to consider this Petition, hear the parties & report what is proper to be done thereon. –

Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred & the answer of said Town committed to the same Committee - Sent up for Concurrence.

On Motion, Ordered that Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Dalton & Mr. Tracy be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for appointing & commissioning a Committee to settle the accounts of the Committees for selling Absentees estate in the several Counties in this Commonwealth.

On Motion, Ordered that Mr. Ely, Col. Hutchinson & Capt. Dench^ a Committee to consider of the services of certain persons employed last summer in teaming by a requisition of His Excelly. the Governor.

The letters from the Hon. Joseph Hawley & others, resigning their appointments as Councilmen were read & thereupon the House assigned tomorrow at 3 o'clock P.M. for chusing three Councellors in the place of those Gentlemen who have resigned. Mr. Sedgwick was then charged with a message to the Hon. Senate inform them of this assignment & with the letters above mentioned - Genl. Prebble came down to inform the House that the senate agreed thereto.

The House reconsidered their assignment of 10 o'clock this morning, for considering of the estimates of the sums necessary to be raised for the internal support of Government the present year agreeable to the Report of the Committee of Finance - & assigned 4 o'clock P.M. for considering that Subject.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts came down to request the House to send up the reports of the Committee for examining & auditing the accounts of the Treasury, which were sent up accordingly.

The House proceeded on the Second Reading of the Fee-Bill, & after consideration thereof referred the Same to the afternoon.

85 Thursday, June. 13th 1782.

The Secretary came down & bought the Resolves of the last Session of the Genl. Court, not passed upon by His Excelly. the Governor, agreeable to the request to the House to His Excelly.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

The petition of Thomas Stickney, setting forth that a class in the Town of Bradford, had hired a recruit whom Col. Badlam had agreed to Muster, but who was refused by major Pettingell, his successor, in Office and praying the interference of the Court, as the said Class had advanced a Bounty to said Recruit, which they could not recover - Read & committed to Capt. Stearns.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller, Brought down a letter from Charles Thompson Esqr, dated May 23rd 1782 enclosing a Resolve of Congress passed May 21. authorizing the Executives of the several States to suspend the commissions of Captions of private armed Vessells, & a Resolve of the 10th of November, 1780. In Senate, Read & sent down.

A petition from the Town of Buxton, praying to be exempted from the fine for their delinquency of one Man to recruit the Army - they having exerted themselves to procure him - Read & committee to Mr. Longfellow, Mr. Nichols & Col. Dawes.

A Petition of Joshua Blanchard, setting forth that he was a creditor of the estate of Isaac Royall Esqr, an Absentee & praying his debt to be paid out of the public Treasury, when said Royall's effects should be sold - Read & Committed to Mr. Frazier, Mr. Bancroft & Capt. Curtis.

86. Thursday June 13th. 1782.

The Petition of Fras. Green, Caption in the first Massachusetts Regt. praying for his second depreciation Note to be paid - Read & Committed to Mr. Fowler, Col. Thurston & Mr. Merrill.

A Bill entitled "an Act for establishing & regulating the Fees of the several Officers & other persons hereafter mentioned" - Read a second time & tomorrow morning 10 oclock assigned for a+ second reading of said Bill +(3rd?)

The Petition of Ezekiel Price, Clerk of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the County of Suffolk, praying that his fees may be raised in the Fee Bill - Read & committed to the Committee on said Bill.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Friday June 14th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Bill entitled "an Act for dividing the Town of Wilbraham into two separate Parishes" - Read a first time & tomorrow morning, 10 o'clock assigned for a second reading of said Bill.

Mr. Sedgwick was charged with a message to the Hon. Senate to inquire if they had passed upon the Bill for the better regulation of the Treasury of this Commonwealth &c.

Genl. Danielson came down to inform the House that the Senate had non-concurred the a foresaid Bill. –

Then the following order passed, viz: - that Whereas this House have solemnly resolved that it is impracticable to provide for the exegencies of Government, unless there be a previous reform in the method of doing business in the Treasury, and whereas a Bill for that purpose having passed

passed this House hath been non-concurred by the Senate, - Ordered that Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Phillips Mr. Ely, Mr. Dalton, & Mr. Chamberlain deliver a Message to the Hon. Senate, requesting a conference of the two Houses immediately on the subject matter of the Bill entitled "an Act for the better regulation of the Treasury of this
87. Commonwealth, appointing an Assistant Treasurer & for the more speedy consolidating Depreciation notes and other Government Securities," - The vote were taken for the passing of this Order by Yeas & Nays & were as follows-

[See next page]

On motion, ordered that Capt Parker, Mr. Newell & Col. Hutchinson be a Committee to consider of the Petition of Silas Cutler referred to the Second Wednesday of this Session, hear the parties & Report.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss bought down the report of the joint Committee on the Petition of Rebeckah Munro granting her the payment of two depreciation Notes given to her late Husband, Capt Edmd. Munro, who died in the service & making provision for the payment of all notes given to officers & Soldiers since deceased in the same manner as though they were still alive. In. Senate, June 13th 1782 - Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

On Motion, Ordered that Col. Thatcher, Capt Dench & Mr. Brown of Framingham be a Committee to consider and report an establishment for the Militia that went to Rhode Island.

87 cont. Friday June 14th 1782.

87. Yeas and Nays on the last mentioned Order for a Conference of the two Houses, on the Bill "for the Better Regulation of the Treasury &c."

88.

Yeas.	Yeas.
William Phillips	Benja. Evans
Saml. A. Otis	Saml. Thatcher
Thomas Dawes	Joseph Johnson
John Rowe	James Barrett
Samuel Barret	James Bancroft
Nathan Frazier	Simon Stow
Ebenz Wales	Edward Farmer
Theophilus Cushing	William Brown
Thomas Lothrop	Daniel Whitney
Joseph Guild	Saml. Fisk
Oliver Ellis	Aaron Hall
Nathl Fisher	Gilbert Dench
Elijah Dunbar	Francis Leighton
Jona. Edey	William Prescott
Moses Adams	James Locke
Nathan Goodale	Moses Church
Miles Greenwood	Justin Ely
Israel Hutchinson	John Hastings
John Patch	Jesse Wilds
John Manning	Daniel Sacket
Saml. Moody	Israel Hubbard
Nathl. Tracy	Aaron Mighill
Tristram Dalton	Seth Silvester
Joshua Holt	Russell Kellogg.
Larkin Thorndike	David Spear
Nathan Dane.	Aaron Whitney.

Yeas, contd.

Caleb Clarke
Hugh Mc.Clallan
Timothy Clarke
John Goldsbury
Stephen Bullock
Edward Poke
Isaac Hodges
John Pratt
John Hill
Phinehas Upham
Ebenr. Davis
Seth Washburn
Asaph Shearman
Hannaniah Parker
Thomas Cowdin
Ralph Wheelock.
Wing Spooner
Hiram Newall
Abel Wilder
Adam Maynard
Joseph Noyes
John Southworth
Stephen Longfellow
John Merrill
Jona. Jones
Alexr Nichols
Jacob Ludwig
Theodore Sedgwick
Ebenr. Perce

Yeas, contd.

Noah Church
Asa Barnes
Elias Willard
Josiah Brewer
James Ayrault
William Lusk
Enos Parker
Jacob Bradbury
Simon Frye
Abner Fowler
Prince Tobey
Daniel Thurston
William Clarke. 94,

Nays.

Aaron Chamberlain
John Burdick
David Smead
Ebenr. Wood
Saml. Curtis
Josiah Stearns
Ichabod Dexter - 7

Majority, 87

The Hon. Mr. Cushing came down to inform the House that the Hon. Senate were ready to attend the conference upon the subject matter of the last Order of the House. And the two Houses assembled together accordingly, and after a conference upon the subject matter aforesaid separated again.

Mr. Dalton and the Member from Westboro have leave of absence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled "an Act in addition to an Act entitled an Act to provide for the payment of debts due from Conspirators & Absentees & for the Recovery of debts due to them," read a third time & passed to be enacted.

The Committee on the Petition of Col. Thomas Marshall reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Benja. West reported a Resolve granting the prayer thereof. –

Read & accepted. Sent (?)

The Committee on the Petition of first Parish in Cambridge reported a Resolve for the Petitioners to warn the opposite party to shew cause &c. - Read and accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Washburn was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate, to inform them that the House were ready to proceed according to assignment to the choice of Three Councillors. The two Houses then met & chose John Pitts, S. A. Otis, & N. Frazier Esqrs.

to collect, count, & sort the votes, who returned that the Hon. Timothy Danielson, Jona Greenleaf and Nathan Cushing Esqrs, were chosen.

The Petition of Andrew Reed of Boothbay setting forth that he was a Lieut. in the public service in the Penobscot expedition in which capacity he took a Boat for which he was afterward sued & praying that as the Boat was taken for public service he might be reimbursed his expenses & costs out of the public Treasury, - Read & Committed to Col. Hutchinson Mr. Hill & Col. Patch.

The Petition of William Gray, tertius praying the liberation of one William Arnold, found with the enemy alledging him to be in fact a native of Providence, Read & Committed to Mr. Dane, Mr. Greenwood & Mr. Ellis.

The House took up the Petition of Thos. Crane & others praying for the removal of certain obstructions across Neponset River, & after reading the report thereon Ordered that the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes mentioned in said Petition.

Col. Moody, Mr. Dunbar, & the Member from Medway have leave of absence.

On motion, Ordered that Col. Thatcher, Col. Prescott, & Col. Hutchinson be a Committee to revise the Militia Act.

Upon a motion made & seconded for inquiring into the qualifications of the Member from Hopkinton a question was put whether it was the minds of the members of the House to enter into the consideration of the qualification of any member or members of this House in consequence of a motion for that purpose, upon the member declaring that he stands ready to prove the disqualification, - and determined in the
(18) affirmative. The motion then subsided

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down the following Order of Senate - viz: In Senate 14, 1782 - Ordered that the Secretary of the Commonwealth notify the Hon. Timothy Danielson, Nathan Cushing & Jona. Greenleaf Esqrs, that they have this day been chosen Counsellors of this Commonwealth agreeable to the Constitution, and that the Two Houses are now ready to attend to their being qualified agreeable to the same. - Sent down for Concurrence - Read & Concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Squire Haven reported that said Petition lie on the Table. - Ordered to lie accordingly.

A Bill entitled "an Act for regulating & establishing the fees of the Several Officers & other persons hereafter mentioned" - Read a third time & passed to be Engrossed.

Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of Edward Tuckerman and John Jenkins praying for their pay for flour supplied J. Richardson, a Commissary - Read & Committed to Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Otis & Capt. Wales.

The Petition and Account of John Hooker, presenting an account for transporting the Baggage of a Regiment.

Read & leave given to withdraw.

The Petition of the Town of Chesterfield praying that Chesterfield Gore might be obliged to pay its proportion of Taxes, previous to the division of said Towns - and the Petition of Chesterfield Gore & Goshen on the same subject, Read & Committed to Mr. Ely, Col. Clarke & Mr. Church of New Marlborough.

The Committee on the Petition of Joseph Lee reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & Sent up for Concurrence.

92. Friday, June 14th 1782.

The House took up the Petition of Thomas Williston & others of Springfield & West Springfield, referred to the third Thursday of the present Session with Order to shew cause &c. - & Thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill agreeable to the prayer of their Petition –

Sent up for Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Saturday June 15th. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Samuel Curtis in behalf of the town of Worcester, reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted & Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durphy brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the petition of Gilbert Dench in behalf of certain Inhabitants of the Town of Hopkinton, Tenants to the Trustees of Harvard College. In Senate Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence (17th) Read & Concurred.

Also

The Petition of John Hunt with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: In Senate June 14. 1782. Read and no answer appearing - Ordered that Increase Sumner Esqr. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a committee to consider this Petition & make report thereon. Sent down for Concurrence.

93. On motion, Ordered that Mr. Frasier, Capt. Bancroft & Mr. Holt be a Committee to consider of the allowance to be made to Towns for supplies to the Soldiers Families.

The Hon. Mr. brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate June 15th 1782. Ordered that Timothy Davidson Esqr. & Jonathan Warner Esqr be a Committee on the part of the Senate, with such as the Hon. House may appoint to confer upon the subject matter of the Resolve for filling up this State's quota of the Continental Army. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred & Mr. Sedgwick & Col. Grow are appointed on the part of the House.

On Motion, Ordered that Mr. Otis Mr. Hill & Col. Grow be a Committee to enquire of His Excelly. the Governor, why the Sloop Winthrop which the Agent has represented to be fit for sea, has not sailed. The Committee reported that they were informed that said Sloop waited for the Orders of His Excelly. The Governor - Thereupon said Committee were directed to inquire of His Excelly. the reason of said Sloop's not going to Sea.

The Committee appointed to report a Resolve for preventing Negroes & Indians entering into the Army reported a Resolve for that purpose - Read & ordered to lie.

The Bill entitled "an Act for dividing the town of Wilbraham into two separate Parishes" - Read a second time & Monday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading of said Bill.

The House assigned Tuesday next, 11 o'clock, for reading the Bill establishing the County Courts.

94. Saturday, June 15th. 1782.

The House proceeded to consider the report of the Committee concerning the new money. Recommitted to Capt. Dench, Mr. Bancroft & Mr. Dane.

On motion, Ordered that Theodore Sedgwick, William Phillips & Samuel A Otis Esqrs, be a Committee on the part of the House to confer with such Committee as the Hon. Senate shall appoint, upon the subject matter of the Bill entitled "an Act for the better regulation of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, appointing an Assistant Treasurer & for the more speedy consolidating depreciation Notes & other Government Securities." Sent up for Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Easter Bacon, widow of Simeon Bacon setting forth that her Husband died in the Army, & praying for some relief. Read & committed to Mr. Spear, Mr. Smead & Col. Clarke.

The Petition of Sarah Clary, praying leave to sell Land. Read & Committed to the Committee on that business.

The Petition of Nathan Coolidge praying for the payment of his securities in the Treasury. Read and Committed to Mr. Frye, Mr. Fowler & Capt. Stearns.

The Petition of Jona. Easton praying that the Report of references upon action between him & the first Parish of the Town of Reading might be considered - Read and Committed to Mr. Rogers, Capt. Dexter & Mr. Church of New Marlboro.

On Motion, Leave was given to Col. Thatcher to bring in a Resolve for altering the present form of Cambridge Bridge.

The Petition of Elijah Stone, Physician praying for an allowance for medicine & attendance on one James Gray, a sick Soldier -

Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

The Petition of the Town of Southwick setting forth their inability to raise seven men apportioned them in the last requisition & praying to be relieved - Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

Col. Thatcher brought in a Resolve granting leave to the Selectmen of Cambridge to alter the public Bridge in said Town –

Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday morning.

95 contd. Monday June 17th. 1782.
96.

95. The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of David Strout & others Mattrosses at Cape Elizabeth allowing them the same pay as other Soldiers under the Command of Genl. Wadsworth - Read & Passed - Sent up for Concurrence.

96. The Committee on the Petition of Francis Greene, reported by way of resolve – Read & Passed –

Sent up for Concurrence.

The Secretary came down with a message from His Excelly. the Governor, communicating several letters from the Sheriff and other gentlemen of character in the County of Hampshire respecting an insurrection in that place.

Read & Committed to Mr. Sedgwick, Col. Washburn, Mr. Hall of Medford, Mr. Otis & Col. Barnes.

The Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Palmer praying that a Bridge in said Town might be supported at the charge of the State or County. - Read & Committed to Mr. Southworth Capt. Evans & Capt. Hubbard.

The Bill entitled “an act for dividing the Town of Wilbraham into two separate Parishes” - Read a third time & passed a concurrence to be Engrossed.

The Committee on the Petition of Lewis Marasquell reported a Resolve allowing him his usual annuity from Government during his absence in France - Read & accepted - Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Seth Barnes & others Reported by way of Resolve Read & accepted - Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Robt. Orr reported a Resolve granting him leave to sell certain Lands therein mentioned - Read & accepted - Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Sale of Lands, reported on the petitions of Jonathan Pettibone, Saml. Hexon, & Prudence Gilbert, by way of Resolves –

Read & accepted –

Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of Stephen Symond & others, a Committee of the Town of Boxford, praying an easement in their Taxes –

Read & Committed to the Committee on the State of the New Money.

The Committee on the Petition of Nathan Coolidge reported that said Petition lie for want of evidence. –

Ordered to lie accordingly.

The Petitions of Reuben Turner & Jacob Van tasel praying a compensation for two Horses lost in the Service –

Read and Ordered to lie.

The Committee on the Governor's Message of this day reported verbally, that a Committee be appointed to bring in a Bill to suspend the privileges of the Writ of Habeas Corpus, - Thereupon Mr. Ely was appointed for that purpose.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of John Webber reported by way of Resolve –

Read & Passed –

Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of Certain Inhabitants of Sudbury, Canada, praying for Guards to be stationed in said Town - Read & Committed to Capt. Noys, Mr. Wilder & Mr. Capt Stearns.

98. Monday June 17th., 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of William Taylor reported that said Petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition - He having his remedy at Common Law. Leave given him to withdraw his petition accordingly.

On Motion Ordered that Mr. Frye, Col. Grow & Mr. Stow be Committee to inquire into the Cause of the Indians at Col Brewers not returning home.

Mr. Ely brought in according to Order a Bill entitled "An Act to suspend the privilege of the Habeas Corpus for Six Months" - Read a first, second, & third times & passed to be engrossed - Sent up for concurrence.

Genl. Prebble brought down the report on the Petition of Caleb Gannett & others in behalf of the First Parish of the Town of Cambridge - In Senate June 17th 1782.

Read & Concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence - (18th)

Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Resolve for altering the great Bridge in Cambridge, - In Senate June 17. 1782.

Read and Concurred as taken into a new draft. - Sent down for Concurrence. -

Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks brought down the report on the Petition of John Webber, In Senate June 17, 1782.

Read & Concurred with amendment at A. - Sent down for concurrence. - (20.)

Read & Concurred.

99 The Committee on the Governor's Message of this morning, & the letters from the Sheriff & other Gentlemen in the County of Hampshire respecting the insurrection

there reported a resolve requesting His Excelly. the Governor to pursue certain measures therein pointed out. Read & passed, & Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Elijah Easty reported a Resolve granting him Fifteen Pounds of the Public Treasury. -

Read & Ordered to Lie.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Tuesday June 18th. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Nathl. Jenison setting forth that he was deprived of ten Negro Servants, by a judgement of the Supreme Judicial Court on the following clause of the Constitution "That all men are born free and equal," & praying that if said judgement is approved of that he may be freed from his obligations to support said Negroes - Read & committed to Col. Pope Mr. Stow, & Dr. Manning.

The Hon. Mr. Turner came down to inform the House that two Gentlemen had arrived from Congress on business of importance, which they desired to open verbally, & that the Senate proposed 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, for the two Houses to assemble together for the purpose of receiving their communications. Mr. Tracy was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House agreed to their proposal & that the usual seats would be assigned for Members.

100. The Committee on the Petition of Thos. Foster, Keeper

of the Powder House in Boston directing the Commissary to sell seven hundred weight of powder for the purpose of paying the said Foster his wages to the first of June instant, -

Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Also a Resolve for examing the Powder of the Commonwealth. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon brought down the Petitions from the County of Hampshire & other places stating certain grievances, with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: In Senate June 18th. 1782 - Ordered that Caleb Strong Esqr. be added to said Committee, on said Petitions. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Hastings & Col. Barnes are added on the part of the House. –

Sent up for concurrence.

General Warner brought down the Resolve on the Petition of S. Hexon, with an amendment at A.

Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down a Petition from Saml. Sewall & Abigail, his wife praying leave to sell Land - with a Resolve granting the prayer thereof - Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The House proceeded to consider of the Petitions from the Town of Dorchester & Chelsea, according to assignment and, after Debate, Committed the same to Mr. Hall, Mr. Davis & Mr. Smead.

The answer of Stephen Cleveland & Saml. Cabot to the Petition of Thomas Russell in behalf of certain Dutch subjects –

Read & Committed to Mr. Rowe, Mr. Sedgwick & Mr. Otis, with such as the Hon. Senate shall join. Sent up for Concurrence.

101. Tuesday June 18. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the Report of a Joint Committee on the Petition of a number of Inhabitants of the Town of Adams granting them leave to bring in a Bill for repealing on Act, annexing the Plantation of New Providence to said Town - In Senate Read & not accepted and thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred & Col Barnes, Mr. Ely & Mr. Otis a Committee of conference.

The Committee on the Petition of William Grow & others reported a Resolve for paying them for necessaries supplied a cartel, & charging the money to John Hopkins, Comy. Prisoners. - Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Joshua Blanchard reported that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition, he having a remedy already provided by Law. –

Order to withdraw accordingly.

Ordered, that Col. Washburn inform the Treasure that it is the sense of the House that he use his discretion respecting issuing his discretions against delinquent Towns for the first moiety of the Tax.

The Bill entitled “an Act for establishing County Courts in the several Counties of this Commonwealth” - Read a second time & on the question for a time to be assigned for a third reading, it was determined as follows yeas 29, nays 61. - Number of voters 90.

Genl. Prebble brought down the petition of Jona Pettibon & the Resolve of the House thereon. In senate June 18. 1782. Read & Concurred with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence.

101. Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock. P. M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

A petition of George Stillman setting forth that the public stores proposed to be sent to Machias under the Convoy of the Sloop Winthrop were waiting with that vessell & praying that measures might be taken to forward them –

Read & Committed to Mr. Otis & others the Committee on the Message of His Excelly. respecting said Sloops tarry in Boston Harbour.

A Resolve granting thirteen Pounds, one penny to David Brewer for the support of certain Indians, & four pounds for a Doctor's Bill - Read & passed - Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the petition of Col. Rowley, with a report thereon granting him thirty-five Pounds, for his services as a Major in the Service - In Senate, Read & not accepted, & thereupon Ordered, that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Sent down for concurrence.

Also the petition of Prundence Gilbert, with the Resolve of the House thereon, - In Senate, June 18. 1782. Read & Concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. (24th) Read & Concurred.

The House took up the Report on the petition of the Town of Beverly, & voted to take the sum of One Pound five shillings & ten pence in the Thousand from the valuation of said Town, & to apportion said sum on some other towns in the County of Essex, & assigned Tuesday next 10 o'clock A. M. for chusing a Committee to make sd. apportionment on such of said Towns as to them shall seem proper. Return of the House 72 - Voters 38.

102 cont. Tuesday June 18. 1782.
103.

102 A Bill entitled an Act for incorporating certain interval lands, belonging to certain Inhabitants of Springfield & West Springfield, lying on the West side of Connecticut River & on both sides of Agawam River, into a Common Field - Read a first time & tomorrow, 3 o'clock P. M. assigned for a second reading of sd. Bill.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

103 Wednesday June 19th 1782. 103.

The House met according to adjournment.

On motion Ordered, that Mr. Ely, Mr. Sedgwick & Mr. Frazier, with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to wait on the Gentlemen from Congress who arrived yesterday & to inform them when the two Houses, are to be assembled for the purpose of receiving their communications, & to introduce those Gentlemen to the Senate & House of Representatives, when they shall have met together upon that business.

Sent up for Concurrence.

Dr. Manning, Mr. Longfellow, Mr. Southworth, Mr. Locke, & the Member from New Gloucester have leave of absence.

On motion the following Order passed, viz - In the House of Representatives June 19. 1782. Whereas their being now no Council, several members of the Genl. Court duly elected & now attending cannot be qualified - Ordered that the Secy. be directed forthwith to call on the Hon. Timothy Danielson, Nathan Cushing & Jona. Greenleaf Esqrs, Councillors elect to be informed by them if they accept their said office, & if they should accept the same, to inform then that the Genl. Court are ready to attend to their being qualified as by the Constitution is provided.

103.

The Hon. Mr. Miles brought down the Bill for naturalizing Michael Cunningham & John Prescott - In senate Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. C. & E. - Sent down for Concurrence - Read & Concurred.

104.

Also a petition of Zebedee Sprout, Agent on the estates of Peter Oliver & Peter Oliver Jr. praying for a settlement of his accounts, with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: - In Senate June 19th 1782. Ordered that Thomas Durfee Esqr, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take their Petition into consideration & make report thereon. - Sent down for concurrence - Read & concurred & Mr. Hastings & Col Grow, are joined.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon came down to inform the House that the Senate were ready according to assignment to assemble together for the purpose of receiving the two Gentlemen yesterday from Congress. Mr. Ely was charged with a Message to acquaint them that the House were likewise ready, The two Houses then assembled together & the Gentlemen being introduced by the Committee appointed for that purpose made their communications verbally and retired. Thereupon Ordered that the Committee of Finance take into consideration the aforesaid matters & report, & that the Speaker be added to said Committee.

A Petition from William Warner, praying that a Note given him by the Commonwealth might be paid - Read & Committed to Mr. Wilder, Mr. Jenckes & Mr. Brown of Abingdon.

The secretary came down from His Excelly, the Governor to acquaint them that from the daily intelligence he

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he had received he thought it unfit to send the Sloop Winthrop to Sea - & that he would send them a written Message on that subject, as soon as his indisposition would permit him.

105 = 105.

The Hon. Mr. Strong came down to inform the House that the Hon. Timothy Danielson & Nathan Cushing Esqrs, had accepted of their seats at the Council Board & that the senate proposed immediately to meet with the House for the purpose of qualifying those Gentlemen, Mr. Sedgwick was thereupon charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House agreed thereto. Then the Houses assembled together in one room, and the Gentlemen were, before them, qualified as Councellors agreeable to the Constitution.

The Committee appointed to wait on the Revd. Mr. Adams, to thank him for the Sermon preached on the Election day, & request a copy thereof for the press, presented a copy & were thereupon directed to take proper measures for the printing of the same.

Genl. Brooks brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate June 19. 1782. Ordered that John Pitts & Caleb Strong Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join, be a Committee to wait upon His Excelly. the Governor, to acquaint him that the Hon. Timothy Danielson & Nathan Cushing Esqrs, have taken the oaths & subscribed the Declarations to qualify them as Members of the Council of this Commonwealth, to which they have been chosen agreeable to the Constitution. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Tracy

106.

Col. May & Col. Washburn are joined.

The Hon Mr. Durfee brought down the following Order of Senate - viz: In Senate June 19. 1782. Ordered that Caleb Strong Esqr, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take into consideration a Resolve of Congress, recommending the confiscation of British Goods & Manufactures imported into this Commonwealth & prepare a Bill for that purpose & report. - Sent down for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petitions of Dorchester and Chelsea reported a Resolve abating fifteen shillings in the valuation on said Towns & placing the Same on other Towns in the County of Suffolk. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence. 64-33.

106.

Mr. Kellog asked leave of absence. The question was put & 71 members voted. Yeas 32.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

On Motion, Ordered that Mr. Stow, Col White, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Hastings, & Capt. Wales, be a Committee to consider what public business is necessary to be acted upon previous to a recess.

The Committee on the petition of Nathl. Rawson reported that said Petition lie - Ordered to lie accordingly.

A Bill entitled "an Act for dividing the Town of Wilbraham into two separate Parishes" having had three several readings passed to be enacted. Sent up.

The petition of Thomas Airey praying a confirmation of his title to certain lands he had purchased of Indians

in the Island of Chapaquidock. Read & committed to Col. May, Col. Pope & Mr. Cushing.

The Committee on the Petition of Levi Shephard reported a Resolve granting him the sums of two hundred & six Pounds, ten shillings & four pence - One Hundred Pounds, sixteen shillings & five pence - & seventy five Pounds, sixteen shillings & four pence, in full of his account. Reads & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Gorham, reported a Resolve for abating two Shillings on the thousand pounds in the last valuation –

Read & passed.

Sent up for Concurrence.

 107

The Committee on the Petition of William Gray reported a Resolve for liberating him. Read & accepted.

Sent up for Concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act for incorporating certain interval lands, belonging to certain Inhabitants of Springfield & West Springfield lying on the West side of Connecticut River & on both sides of the Agawam River into a Common Field" –

Read a Second time & 9 o'clock tomorrow morning assigned for a third reading of said Bill.

A resolve empowering either two of either of the Committees for selling Absentees estates in the respective Counties to execute Deeds of said estates & confirming all deeds so executed. Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

An Account of the Charges attending the Lottery for cloathing the Massachusetts Line of the Army was presented to the House in behalf of the Managers of said Lottery, which

was read & committed to Mr. Whitney, Dr. Frye of Fryeburg & Mr. Hall.

On motion Ordered that Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Whitney & Capt. Dench, be a Committee to inquire into the State of the lottery institution, for repairing the roads in the Greenwoods & report.

The Committee on the Petition of Edwd Tuckerman & John Jenkins reported a Resolve for paying to said Tuckerman Four Hundred & Ninety Pounds 8/- & to said Jenkins two Hundred & twenty six Pounds 12/- in full for a quantity of flour lent by them to the Continent. Read & accepted. Sent up foc Concurrence.

The representation of Caleb Davis praying the direction of the Court respecting certain Articles now in his hands as Agent for the Commonwealth. Read & committed to Mr. Otis, Capt Wales, & Col. Thatcher.

The Petition of Wm. Wells & others in behalf of a Class in the Town of Lenox, praying execution to be stayed against said town for a deficient man for reasons set forth in said Petition. Read & Committed to Major King, Capt. Prentiss & Capt. Stearns.

A Petition from Prince West, setting forth that he was indebted by Bond to John Murray Esqr, an Absentee & had paid part of the sum due, but not the whole, & was unable to tell with certainty what part he had paid, & praying the Com. for selling Absentees estates in the County of Worcester to be directed in their proceedings respecting the same - Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition the law already provided being express as to this case.

Wednesday, June 19. 1782.

A Petition of Daniel Brown Junior, Admr, on the estate of Jacob Brown, late of Sandisfield deceased, praying leave to sell land, part of said estate. Read & committed to the Committee on that head.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Buxton reported a Resolve, for staying execution against said Town for a deficient Soldier - Read and accepted - Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of George Christy in behalf of his son who was taken going to Halifax, setting forth his youth and the arts used to delude him, & praying that he may again be liberated & restored to his Country –

Read & Committed to Mr. Snow, Mr. Cushing & Dr. Frye.

On Motion, Ordered that Capt. Wales, Capt. Noyes & Mr. Greenwood be a Committee to consider of the expediency of appointing some Gentleman to sign the Soldiers depreciation Notes in the room of Mr. Cranch, who is sick.

Then the Speaker being out of the Chair, it was voted that when this House adjourn, it be adjourned by the Clerk.

Then the House was adjourned to 9 o'clock, tomorrow morning.

 Thursday, June 20. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Esekiel Price reported verbally that he have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Lewis De Marasquell. In Senate, Read & concurred, with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

A Petition from the Proprietors of the Long Wharf in Boston, setting forth that the Mangers of the Lottery instituted for the purpose of repairing said Wharf could not serve & praying others to be appointed in their room -

Read & Committed to Mr. Rowe, Mr. Davis & Col. Moody.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down a letter from John Hanson Esqr. to His Excelly. the Governor dated Philadelphia, 28th May, 1782. - In Senate, Read and Sent down - Likewise a Resolve of Congress, of May 27. 1782. recommending to the several States to keep up a constant representation in Congress,

The Committee on the Petition of Thomas Airey reported verbally, & said Petition was Ordered to lie on file for want of evidence to support it.

The Committee on the Petition of John Hall reported by way of Resolve - Read & Passed - Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve on the Petition of Levi Shepherd - In Senate, Read & concurred, amendment at A. Sent down for Concurrence.

110. Thursday June 20. 1782.

A Bill entitled “an Act for raising by Lottery the sum of Three Thousand Pounds, for the purpose of building a Glass House & Promoting the Manufacture of Crown & other Glass in Boston,” & tomorrow 10 o’clock assigned for a Second Reading thereof.

The Committee of George Christy’s Petition reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted - Sent up for concurrence.

On Motion, Ordered that - Col. Wilder, Mr. Barrett & Mr. Vans be a committee to prepare a Resolve requesting the Governor to take proper means for procuring a return of the Massachusetts line every three months.

The Petition of the Town of Watertown against discontinuing the present construction of Cambridge Bridge - Read & Committed Capt. Cowdin, Col. Prescott & Mr. Church.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o’clock P. M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

On the Petition of Sarah Gardner, praying the last Will & Testament of her late Husband to be confirmed tho’ not executed according to Law through the necessity of his situation - Read & leave given to bring the following Bill entitled “an Act for establishing & confirming the last Will & Testament of Nicholas Gardner,” which was read a first and second time & tomorrow morning 9 o’clock assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of George Stillman Reported that Said Petition lie. -

Ordered to lie accordingly.

111. Thursday. June 20. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the report of a Joint Committee on the Petition of Charles Le Ballister, being a Resolve repealing a Resolve therein mentioned. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act for incorporating certain interval lands belonging to certain Inhabitants of Springfield & West Springfield lying on the West side of the Connecticut River, & on both Sides of the Agawam River into a Common Field" - This Bill having had three several readings, passed to be engrossed - Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of William Warner reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Templeton, Reported an Order further to notify to shew cause &c, Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Petition of Juniper Bartheune in behalf of certain Penobscot Indians, - Read & committed to Capt. Johnson, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Kingsbury.

The Petition of John Hopkins Commissary of Prisoners praying to draw cloathing from the public stores for his pay - Read & Committed to Mr. Whitney, Mr. Bailey & Mr. Vinal.

A resolve appointing either of the Committee appointed to sign depreciation Notes to do that business in case of sickness &c - Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

112. Thursday, June 20. 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of Katherine Wendall reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted -

Sent up for concurrence.

The Petition of John Konkassot in behalf of certain Indians, praying that they may be furnished with Books, Read & committed to Mr. Willard, Mr. Rogers & Capt. Snow.

The petition of Ebenr. Prout, praying for an adequate allowance for writing for the Committee on Accounts. Read & Committed to Mr. Greenwood, Col. White & Dr. Weld.

The Petition of the Selectmen & Assessors of the Town of Dighton praying that they may be discharged of a Warrant issued against said Town, from the Treasurer for reasons.

On Motion, Ordered that Mr. Sedgwick, Capt. Curtis & Mr. Smead be a Committee to examine the circumstances of the Persons on the Pension List.

Gen. Prebble brought down the following Order of Senate viz: In Senate June 20. 1782. - Ordered that John Pitts Caleb Strong & Stephen Choate Esqrs, with such as the Hon. Senate (?) shall join be a Committee to consider & report the most speedy & effectual measures to bring the accounts of the Treasurer of this Commonwealth to a fair & full Settlement. And that the Committee be instructed to confer with the Treasurer & the Committee appointed to audit the Treasures accounts, upon the subject matter of their Commission. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Phillips Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Ely & Mr. Smead are joined.

113. Thursday. June 20. 1782.

A Resolve lengthening out the time for making the return of the old Continental Bills to the Secretary's Office, from the several Towns to the 15th of Sept. next - Read & Passed - Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Edward Cary reported a Resolve that a Naval Officer be chosen for the Island of Nantucket - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Katherine Wendall reported a Resolve, permitting her to remain on the estate late of her Father Wm. Brattle an Absentee.

Read & Accepted - Sent up for concurrence.

The Member from Brimfield & Capt. Cowdin have leave of absence.

Then the Hon. Nathl. Gorham Esqr, being out of the Chair, the House voted that when the House was adjourned, it should be adjourned by the Clerk. - And was accordingly adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Friday, June 21. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Caleb Davis Esqr, reported a Resolve directing certain articles to be sold for the fixing out the Ship Tartar and payment of the Members of the Genl. Court. Read & Accepted.

Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Sarah Clary reported by way of Resolve. Read & Accepted -

Sent up for concurrence.

114. Friday, June 21. 1782.

Mr. Sedgwick was charge with a Message to the Hon Senate to inquire the situation of the Bill for regulating the Treasury &c. The Hon. Mr. Brooks came down to acquaint the House, that after the Committee of Conference of said Bill had reported, the Senate took it up again & still adhered to their own vote of Non-Concurrence.

The House reconsidered the Assignment of 10 o'clock this morning, for considering of the estimates for a Tax and assign 4 o'clock, P.M. for that purpose.

On Motion, Ordered that Col. Edey Col. Barnes & Capt. Hodges be a Committee to consider of the measures to be adopted with such Towns as have hired Men for the Army, for nine or Six Months, whose times are now out & report what is proper to be done with such of said Towns as may be found delinquent.

The representation of John Lucas in behalf of John Duncan praying a Soldier, praying to be put on the Pension List - Read & Committed to the Committee on Pensioners.

The Petition of Andrew Henshaw praying the depreciation of his pay as Clerk to the Sup. Jud. Court to be made up, - Read & Committed to Col. Barrett Capt. Tracy & Mr. Cushing.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House empowering one of the Committee appointed to sign Soldiers depreciation Notes, - In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence - Read & Concurred.

Genl. Prebble brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of Thos. Russell in behalf certain

Dutch subjects, & the Answer, viz - "That a law complying with the prayer of the Memorialist will have a retrospective View as to constitute the same an "ex post facto Law" & that therefore the said Russell have leave to withdraw his said Memorial. In Senate, Read & accepted –

Sent down for Concurrence.

Genl. Brooks brought down the Petition of James Nichols praying for sale of Land & a Resolve of Senate granting the prayer thereof. Sent down for concurrence (28th) Read & Concurred.

A Bill entitled "an Act for establishing & confirming the last Will & Testament of Nicholas Gardner" - This bill having had three several readings passed to be engrossed - Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the Bill entitled "an Act for establishing & regulating the Fees of the several Officers & others persons hereafter mentioned" –

In Senate June 20. 1782 –

Read & concurred with amendments at A.C.D.E.F.G.H.I.L.N.P.R.T.W.X.Y.Z. &. I. - Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred as to all the amendments excepting at I., & non-concurred as to that amendment. - Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather, brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of John Stone, & others. In Senate Read & concurred with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence - 24th Read & Concurred.

A Bill entitled "an Act for establishing Counts of Common Pleas." Read a second time & tomorrow, 10,o'clock assigned for a Second reading thereof.

A Bill entitled "an Act for establishing Courts of General Sessions of the Peace." Read a Second time &

tomorrow morning, 10 oclock, assigned for the second reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the following letters directed to His Excelly the Governor, viz: One from General Parks, dated June 18, 1782. - Another of the same date from Elisha Porter Esqr, & a third of the like date from the Same Gentleman. - with the following Order of Senate thereon - viz: In Senate June 21. 1782 - Read & thereupon Ordered that Jedediah Prebble Eleazar Brooks, and Increase Sumner Esqr, with Such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this letter together with two letters of the 18th. instant, and the accompanying papers from Col. Elisha Porter into consideration & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr. Hall of Medford, Mr. Brown of Framingham, Mr. Hastings, & Col. Barnes are joined.

The report on the Petition of the Town of Chesterfield being an Order to shew cause &c, -

Read & Passed –

Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Chesterfield & Goshen, reported a Resolve for taking one quarter of the valuation from Chesterfield & setting the same on to Goshen. - Read & Accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

On Motion, Ordered that Mr. Greenwood & Capt. Curtis with such as the Hon Senate may join be a Committee to make such alterations in the Valuation as shall be Ordered by the Resolves of the Genl. Court. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wills brought down the Resolve for lengthening out the time for making returns of the Old Continental Money. In Senate, Read & considered

as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence; Read & Concurred.

Member from Sunderland has leave of Absence.

The Committee on the Petition of Nathl. Phillips reported a Resolve for liberating him, he taking the oath of allegiance –

Read & accepted –

Sent up for Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee on Pensioners reported a Resolve for pensioning John Duncan, a sick Soldier. - Read & accepted –

Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from John Nichols in behalf of himself & others praying that certain public lands might be sold to them –

Read & Committed to Capt. Parker, Capt. Dench & Mr. Davis.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate June 21. 1782 –

Ordered that Thomas Durfee Esqr. be & he hereby is appointed on the Committee of both Houses, by a Resolve of the 30th Jany. last, to repair to the County of Barnstable & view the circumstances thereof, in the room of Increase Sumner. Esqr who is excused. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concd.

A Bill for erecting a Town within the County of by the name of Read a first time & 10 o'clock tomorrow morning be assigned for the Second Reading of said Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down a Petition from Thos. Russell Esqr, in behalf of Certain Dutch Subjects praying a new trial of a part of the Cargo of the Ship Netherlands

In Senate read & thereupon Ordered that Increase Summer Esq^{r} with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to take this Memorial into consideration & report. Sent down for concurrence. (24) Read & Concurred & Mr. Ely & Mr. Sedgwick are joined.

The Petition of Jacob Davis praying that a debt due from him to the Commy. General may be discharged in public certificates. - Read & Committed to Mr. Hall of Sutton, Col White & Mr. Chamberlain.

A Bill entitled "an Act repealing an Act entitled an Act relating to Molatto & Negro Slaves" –

Read a first time & referred to the next Session of the Genl. Court.

A Petition from Richard Devans, Commy praying to purchase a House of Mrs. Margaret Draper with government securities –

Read & committed to Mr. Barrett, Vans, & Capt. Dench.

A Resolve postponing the payment of interest on the new Money, until the Tax assessed in April 1781 be paid, &c. Read & Passed - Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Phillips brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate June 21. 1782. Ordered that Saml. Phillips Junior & Nathl. Wells Esq^{r} with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to inquire & report what business of a public nature, will be necessary to be translated this Session & Report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr. Stow, Col. White & Dr. Phillips are joined.

On Motion Ordered that Mr. Orr, Capt. Upham & Capt. Dench be a Committee to consider of the Several Resolves giving encouragement to persons to team for Government, & to confer with Col. Hatch and report what measures may be expedient to be taken to pay such persons as have served in consequence thereof.

+? The House assigned 10 o'clock tomorrow morning +9 o'clock, for considering of Staying the Treasurers executions against delinquent towns.

The Petition of the town of Stoughton was taken off file, & committed to Mr. Brown of Abington Mr. Bailey & Mr. Bancroft.

A Memorial of Isaac Snow & others in behalf of the Town of Harpswell praying the valuation of said Town to be altered. Read & Committed to Capt. Noyes, Mr. Greenwood, & Capt. Dench.

Ordered that Mr. Stow, Capt. Prentiss & Mr. Frye be a Committee to make up the Pay Roll for the travel & attendance of the Members of the House the present Session.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The House met according to adjournment.

+Not Senate [?] A Memorial from Silas Cutler setting forth that the +House had non-concurred the proceedings of the House on the Petition of the Town of Templeton & praying for their relief –

Read & Committed to Mr. Wilder, Mr. Stow & Mr. Furbanks.

120 120

The Committee on the Petition of Christopher Bannister reported by way of Resolve, read & accepted & Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the sale of land reported verbally on the Petition of Danl. Brown, that he have leave to withdraw his Petition. Leave to withdraw accordingly.

On Motion Ordered that Col. Dawes, Capt. Wales & Capt. Johnson be a Committee to wait on His Excelly the Governor to inquire into the State of the Ship Tartar, and other Armed Vessells of this Commonwealth.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of William Warner. In Senate June 21. 1782. Read & concurred with amendment at A.

Sent down for Concurrence (24th) Read & Concurred.

The Bill entitled "an Act establishing Courts of Common Pleas," & the Bill entitled "an Act for establishing Courts of General Sessions of the Peace" –

Read a third time & Passed to be Engrossed –

Sent up for Concurrence.

Ordered that Col. Dawes, Capt. Wales, & Capt. Johnson be a Committee to wait on his Excelly the Governor to inquire into the State of the Ship Tartar & other Vessells of this Commonwealth. Who reported verbally, that His Excelly the Governor said that the Ship Tartar was not manned & that she wanted several Cannon, & that as soon as she was properly fixed, he would send her, with the Sloop Winthrop to

to Sen. Thereupon Ordered, that the Agent of this Commonwealth be directed to attend the House to give information respecting those vessells.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Saml. Curtis Esqr, in behalf of the Town of Worcester. In Senate, June 22nd. 1782. Read & concurred as taken into a new drought. Sent down for concurrence. Com. to Capt Wales. 28th Read & non-concurred & the House adhere to their own Vote.

The Committee of Finance reported on the business of the Gentlemen late from Congress verbally, & thereupon the House instructed said Committee to prepare the proper measures, to be taken for anticipating the Tax of Three Hundred Thousand Pounds.

The House reconsidered the assignment for considering the estimates for a Tax and assigned Tuesday next 10,o'clock for that purpose.

On Motion Ordered that Capt. Johnson, Mr. Dane & Mr. Patterson be a Committee to frame a Tax Bill.

The Hon Mr. Turner bought down the petition from the North Parish of the Town of Lyme, with an answer thereto & the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: -

In Senate June 22nd. 1782. Read again & revised & thereupon Ordered, that the Petrs. have leave to bring in a Bill for the purpose mentioned in their Petition. Send down for Concurrence. 26th Read & Concurred.

The Committee on the petition of John Concopot reported a Resolve. Read & not accepted, & thereupon Ordered that the Petr. have to withdraw his Petition.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Representation of

of John Lucas in behalf John Duncan. In Senate, Read and concurred with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

On Motion Ordered, that Mr. King, Mr. Rogers & Col. Barnes be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for altering the time for holding Courts in the County of Berkshire.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House on the Representation of Capt. Davis Esqr, In Senate the read & concurred as taken into a new draught.

Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred with an amendment at A. - Sent up for concurrence.

Genl. Prebble brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of Zebadee Sprout. In Senate June 22nd. 1782. Read & accepted. Send down for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to suspend the sending executions against delinquent Constables and Collectors for the New Emission Money, till the Second Wednesday of the next sitting of the Genl. Court.

The Petition of Timothy Lyman praying an allowance for riding express from the County of Hampshire with letters from Sheriff Porter –

Read & Committed to Mr. Hastings Capt. Hubbard & Capt. Noyes.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Simon Frye, in behalf of the Town of Fryburg, praying relief from an Execution issued by the Treasurer against said Town for Taxes - Also another Petition from the same Petitioner in behalf of sd. Town praying relief from an execution issued against them by the Treasurer for a deficiency in Men. Read & Committed to Mr. Wood. Capt. Bancroft and (Mr. Gou [unreadable]

123. Saturday, June 22nd. 1782.

The Petition of the town of New Ashford praying that said town may be credited with a Soldier mentioned in said Petition. Read & Committed to Col. Clarke of Windsor, Capt. Wheelock, Mr. Burdick.

A Bill entitled an Act for erecting the Town within the County of by the name of was taken up, & the question being put for a second reading thereof passed in the negative.

The Committee on the Petition of Richd. Devens reported a Resolve granting the prayer thereof. Read & Accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act for the more effectually preventing unlicensed persons selling spirituous liquors contrary to law." - Read a second time & Tuesday, 11,o'clock, A.M. assigned for a third reading of said Bill.

The Committee on the Petition of Juniper Bartheune [?] reported a Resolve leaving His affairs to the Consideration of His Excelly. The Governor, & the Council. Read & accepted Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock, Monday Morng.

Monday, June 24. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of the Assessors of the Town of Dighton, reported a Resolve for staying the Treasurers Exeon. against said Town, for deficient men - they paying the charges already arisen thereon. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence. –

The Committee on the Petition of Theo. Sedgwick in behalf of the town of Sheffield, reported a Resolve appointing a Committee to repair to the County of Berkshire & view the same. Read & accepted - Sent up for concurrence &

 Monday June 24. 1782.

Ordered that Capt. Curtis, Capt. Spear & Mr. Smead be a Committee to inquire into the valuation of the Town of Sheffield as it stands in the Books, & report.

Ordered that the Secretary lay before the House the petitions from the towns of Boston & Salem, & from the town of North Yarmouth in Nova Scotia, respecting the ravages of privateers on that Coast, &c.

The Committee on the Petition of Timothy Lyman reported a Resolve, granting him Six pounds, nine shillings in full for the services mentioned in said Petition. Read and Accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Kellogg, Mr. Ball & Mr. Wheelock be a Committee to enquire into the towns deficient in raising the three years men, & to find the average price of said men & report.

A Bill entitled "an Act to repeal a certain clause in an Act made & passed, A.D. 1781, entitled an Act for apportioning & assessing a tax of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds, & for certain other purposes hereafter mentioned" - This Bill having had three several readings passed to be Enacted.

The Petition of Juniper Bartheune & certain papers from Col. I. Brewer respecting the Same, - Read & committed to Col. Prescott, Mr. Nichols, & Capt. Washburn.

The answer of Ahimaz Easton Esqr, to certain charges exhibited against him the last Session - Read & Committed to Mr. Hubbard, Col. Pope & Capt. Upham.

A Representation from the Committees for Stating and methodizing the public accounts, & the Committee for settling with the Army &c., - of the inconveniences attending their

their sitting in their present office by reason of part of the House being in possession of another person - Read & Committed to Col Dawes.

Genl. Danielson's letter of resignation as a member of Congress. Read & thereupon Col. Thatcher was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House propose Wednesday next, 12 oclock for the coming to the choice of a Member of Congress, in the room of Hon. Timothy Danielson Esqr. The letter was returned to the Hon. Senate. Mr. Pitts came down to inform the House that the Senate agreed to the proposal of the House.

The Secretary agreeable to order laid before the House the Petitions from Boston & other places relative to the ravages of privateers on the Nova Scotia Coast.

The Petition of James Nichols to sell land read & committed to the Committee on that head.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down a Bill entitled an Act for the better regulation of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, for appointing an Assistant Treasurer & for the more speedy consolidating depreciation notes & other government securities. In Senate, Read & sent down - Read a first time & 4 o'clock P.M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

Genl. Warner brought down a letter from John Concopot, an Indian, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate June 24. 1782 - Read & thereupon Ordered that Jahleel Woodbridge Esqr, With such as the Hon. House shall join be a committee to take this letter into Consideration & make report thereon - Sent down for concurrence.

Read & non-concurred.

125 conMonday June 24. 1782.
126

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A Bill entitled an Act for granting certain privileges to the Inhabitants of the Town of Yarmouth in the province of Nova Section, -

Read a first time & tomorrow morning 10 o'clock, A.M. assigned for a second reading of said Bill

126

The Committee on the Petition of Silas Cutler reported by way of Resolve - Read and accepted & sent up for concurrence.

The Committed on the Petition of Joseph Trumbull reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Gideon Burt reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted & Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve for altering the times of holding the courts in the County of Berkshire. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Evans, Mr. Chamberlain & Mr. Lusk be a Committee to examine the Resolves respecting the fines for towns delinquent in raising five & three months men, & report such as are delinquent & the measures to be taken with them.

A Bill entitled "an Act for dividing the town of Sanford in the County of York into two parishes" - Read a second time & Tuesday 10 o'clock assigned for a third reading of said Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts bought down a Bill entitled "an Act to create & erect a Corporation by the name of the Trustees of Dummer Academy, in the County of Essex. In Senate Read a second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for Concurrence. Read a first time & Committed to Mr. Otis Mr. Bartlett & Mr. Sedgwick –

Then the House adjourned to 3. P.M.

127 Monday, June 24.1782. Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

Mr. Kellogg had leave of Absence.

The Hon. Mr. Strong came down to inquire if the House had passed upon the Bill for establishing a Superior Judicial Court. Mr. Sedgwick was charged with a Message to inform the Hon. Senate, that the House had not passed thereon.

Genl. Prebble bought down the Bill entitled "an Act for establishing Courts of General Sessions of the Peace." In Senate June 24. 1782. Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendment at B.

Sent down for concurrence. July 2nd Read & non-concurred.

Genl. Warner brought down the Bill entitled " an Act for establishing Courts of Common Pleas." In Senate June 24. 1782. Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be Engrossed with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. 26th Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Durphy brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Richd. Devens, Esqr. In Senate June 24. 1782. Read & concurred with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon Mr. ____ brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Gideon Burt. In Senate Read & concurred with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

A Bill entitled "an Act for the better Regulation of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, for appointing an Assistant Treasurer, & for the more speedily consolidating depreciation Notes & other Government securities" - Read a second time & tomorrow morning 9 oclock assigned for a 3rd reading thereof.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

128 Tuesday June 25. 1782.
129

The House met according to adjournment.

Member from Westfield has leave of absence.

A Bill entitled on Act for dividing the Town of Sanford in the County York, into two Parishes, Read a third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

The Hon Mr. Wells brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Juniper Bartheune. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill entitled an Act for the better regulation of the Treasury of the Commonwealth, for appointing an Assistant Treasurer, & for the more speedily consolidating depreciation Notes, & other Government Securities" - Read a third time and passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence by a com. of five.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down a Bill entitled "an Act for apprehending & sending for trial persons charged with having committed crimes & in some other State - and to authorize the Officers of Justice of the other states to continue the execution of their precepts within this state, when necessary" - In Senate, June 25. 1782. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence.

Genl. Prebble brought down a Bill, entitled "an Act for directing & regulating the process of outlawry. In Senate, Read a second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence.

129 129

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petitions of the Towns of Chesterfield & Goshen. In Senate , Read & concurred as taken into a new draught.

Sent

Sent down for Concurrence. 26th. Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down a Resolve on the Petition of Sylvia Morgan, granting her £7.6.0.d for nursing & doctoring her late Husband, Phineas Morgan, a Continental Soldier. Sent down for concurrence.

Members from Hardwick & Col. Mc.Clallan & Mr. Burdick have leave of Absence.

Then the House adjourned to 1/4 past 12 o'clock for the purpose of chusing Commissioners agreeable to a Resolve for anticipating the Tax & met again according to adjournment.

Ordered that Mr. Barrett, Mr. Sedgwick & Mr. Otis be a Committee to draught a letter to the Commissioners for receiving the Tax agreeable to the Resolve for the purpose of anticipating the same, & also the form of a letter from those Gentlemen to their respective Counties or Towns.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P.M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Sumner brought down a Memorial from a Committee of the Overseers of Harvard University praying all retailers &c. within two miles of that University may receive the approbation thereof as well as that of the Selectmen. In Senate Read & thereupon Ordered, that Joseph Dorr & Charles Turner Esqrs, with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to consider this Memorial & report what is proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred & Genl. Ward, Mr. Kingsley & Mr. Ely are joined.

 Tuesday June 25. 1782.

A Bill entitled an Act for more effectually preventing unlicensed persons, selling spirituous Liquors contrary to law - Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Justin Ely in behalf of the Town of West Springfield, praying that a clerical mistake in the valuation of said Town may be corrected - Read & committed to the Committee on the Petition from the Town of Hadley.

The Committee appointed to bring in a commissioner for settling the accounts of the Committees for selling Absentees estates in the different counties reported a Resolve appointing the Committee for settling and methodizing the public Accounts for that business, & empowering them accordingly. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve for anticipating the payment of the late Tax and appointing Committees in the respective Counties for receiving the same - Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

Mr. Sedgwick was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inquire if they had passed upon the Bill for the better arrangement of the Treasury &c. The Hon. Mr. Pitts came down to inform the House that <u>that</u> Bill was under consideration in the Senate.

The House proceeded to take into consideration the estimates for a Tax reported by the Committee of Finance amounting to Two Hundred Thousand Pounds & voted that they would not lay a Tax for that sum and

and assigned 10 o'clock to-morrow Morning for considering the expediency of granting a Tax for any Sum.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of David Strout and others. In Senate June 25. 1782. Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow Morning.

131 Wednesday June 26. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Robert Jackson reported a Resolve, allowing him to become an Inhabitant of the state be taking the oath of fidelity & allegiance - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Andrew Reed reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Simon Frye reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

On Motion Ordered that Mr. Frye of Fryburg & Mr. Hill with such as the Hon Senate shall join be a Committee to consider of the proper measures to be taken with respect to the Indians from the Eastern Counties who are now in the Gaol in Boston & report, & that said Committee sit on the business of their Commission immediately. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the following Order of Senate viz: In Senate June 25, 1782 - Whereas it appears to this Board that a speedy settlement of the public accounts with the Hon. Henry Gardner Esqr, Treasurer of this Commonwealth is absolutely necessary & that that the same cannot be effected while the said Treasurer is incumbered with the business of sd. Office & that therefore it is necessary that the said Treasurer be excused from the said Office, that he may have leisure to settle said accounts, - Therefore Resolved that Caleb Strong & Increase Sumner Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall Join be a Committee to bring in a Bill to

to remove the said Treasurer from his Office aforesaid & to enable him notwithstanding such removal to do and perform all acts that shall be necessary to the collection of such public taxes as were granted before the first of March last. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred & Genl. Ward, Mr. Sedgwick & Capt. Patch are joined.

The House proceeded according to assignment to consider of the expediency of issuing a Tax upon the Polls & estates of the Inhabitants of this Commonwealth the present Session & after Debate determined in the negative 103 Members - Voters 43.

A Petition from Wm. Smith praying to be paid for certain flour delivered the Board of War upon contract.

Read & Committed to Mr. Frasier, Mr. Hubbard & Dr. Manning.

A Complaint from certain Officers in the Militia & certain Freeholders of the Town of Bristol, against Alexander Nichols, Representative of said Town, suggesting his character to be such as renders him unfit for a seat in the House, Read & committed to Col. Barrett, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Bartlett & Capt. Stearns.

A Bill entitled “an Act establishing a Supreme Judicial Court within this Commonwealth.” Read a second time & tomorrow morning 10 o’clock assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the report of the Committee appointed to consider of the measures, to be taken with respect to the Indians in Boston Gaol, reported a Resolve for liberating John Vincent. Read in Senate & sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Turner came down to inform the House

that the Senate proposed to postpone the choice of a Delegate to Congress, in the room of Genl. Danielson until Friday next, 3 o'clock P.M. Genl. Ward was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House agreed to that proposal.

Members from Sheffield have leave of absence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Miles brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate June 26. 1782. Ordered that John Pitts & Joseph Don Esqrs with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to consider the expediency of taking measures to procure a subscription of the plate in the possession of Individuals of this Commonwealth for a fund on which to borrow money for the public exigencies. And as a testimony of their sincerity in adopting the principles, that the Members of the Genl. Count begin the subscription before they rise to be binding upon them if adopted by their constituents, - And to consider such other ways & means as may be practicable to be adopted for the purpose of carrying on a War that involves in it not only our Property but our Liberty our lives & everything dear & sacred to a People. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Tracy, Mr. Brown of Framingham & Col. Dawes are joined.

A Resolve for staying executions from the Treasurer for delinquent men & repealing the Resolve before passed for that purpose. Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence. A Petition from Waterman Thomas praying to discharge a

a note of hand given by him & his Brother to the Committee on selling Absentees estates, in the County of Plimouth in bills of credit of the old emission, for reasons set forth in said Petition –

Read & Committed to Col. Doane Mr. Hastings & Capt. Thurston.

The Committee on the Petitions of the Towns of Hadley & West Springfield reported. Read & ordered to lie.

The Committee appointed to settle with the Committee of sequestration &c, reported, which report was read & committed to Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Bartlett, & Col. Thomas.

A Bill entitled " an Act for establishing & regulating the Fees of the Officers & other persons hereafter mentioned." This Bill having had three several readings, passed to enacted.

A Bill entitled "an Act to suspend the privilege of the writ of Habeas Corpus for six months" - This Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

A Bill entitled "an Act for incorporating certain interval lands belonging to certain Inhabitants of Springfield & West Springfield, bring on the West side of Connecticut River & on both sides of Agawam River, into a Common Field" This Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

A Bill enacted "an Act for naturalizing Michael Cunningham & John Prescott" - This Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

The Committee on the Petition of Jno. Hopkins reported that he have leave to withdraw his Petition - Ordered to withdraw accordingly. –

A Committee from the fourth class for raising men in the Town of Methuen praying to enlist their men for six months instead of three years - Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow Morning.

135. Thursday June 27. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Nathl. Wells Esqr. setting forth that he was a Member of the House of last year, & that there was a mistake of forty shillings in the sum allowed him in the pay-roll, & praying it may be rectified - Read & Committed to the Committee on the Pay Roll.

A Memorial from Abel Wilder praying that the transportation of the baggage of Capt. John Boynton's Company, might be paid for by Government - Read & committed to Major Farmer Mr. Brown of Framingham & Mr. Hall of Sutton.

The Committee on the Petition of Andrew Henshaw Esqr reported a Resolve allowing him seventy five pounds in full. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Strong came down with the Bill for incorporating certain interval lands, belonging to certain Inhabitants of Springfield & West Springfield &c. & proposed that the word “aforesaid” should be inserted at the end of the first section of the enacting clause of said Act. Mr. Ely was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House agreed to the amendment.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down a Bill entitled “an Act for erecting a District in the County of Essex by the name of Lymefield.” In Senate June 27. 1782. This Bill having had two several readings passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence - Read a first time, 28th Read a second & third time & passed to be engrossed with an amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

On Motion voted that the House will resolve itself into a Committee at 4 oclock this Afternoon to hear the Committee

Committee of sequestration upon the subject matter of the Settlement of their accounts upon the floor of the House - and thereupon Ordered that said Committee with their Clerk & William Greenleaf Esqr, be directed to attend the Committee of the whole House at that time for the purpose aforesaid.

The Hon. Mr. Phillips came down with the Bill for regulating the fees of certain Officers &c. & proposed to dele the following words from said bill - "For a summons upon a capias or attachment, six pence." Mr. Sprague was thereupon charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House agreed to the amendment.

The Hon, Mr. Turner brought down the Petition of Saml. Patridge praying to be secured against damages on account of his having received Government Securities, with Resolve of Senate thereon. Sent down for concurrence, 28th Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Beverly reported a Resolve abating said Town sixteen shillings and sixpence upon the thousand pounds in the valuation, & placing the same upon several towns mentioned in said Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Ward reported a Resolve, abating said town four shillings upon the thousand pounds in the valuation & placing the same upon several towns mentioned in said Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A resolve giving directions respecting the Beef at Springfield & West Springfield. Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Sprague, Col. Pope & Mr. Barrett

be a Committee to inspect the accounts of the Committee for supplying the Army & report the proper methods for settling the same.

The Committee on the Representation of Timothy Edwards Esqr, & others against James Harris Esqr reported a Resolve for said Harris to appear on the Second Tuesday of next Session to shew cause &c. - Read & accepted and Order issued accordingly.

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A Petition from George Fechem praying that certain government securities in hands may be paid - Read & Committed to Col. Dawes, Mr. Locke & Mr. Sprague.

The Committee on the Petitions of Seth Heywood & Edwd. & Hepzibah Raymond reported a Resolve to shew cause &c. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P.M.

Afternoon.

The House met accordingly to adjournment.

The Committee on the Memorial of Abel Wilder reported a Resolve that the Committee on Accounts examine and allow the accounts mentioned in said Petition. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Justices of the Sessions to try and examine Pensioners as to their inability in case, &c. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled “an Act establishing a Supreme Judicial Court within this Commonwealth” - Read a third & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

The Messenger informed that the Committee of sequestration were at the Door, & thereupon Mr. Sedgwick was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request

request them to permit the Hon Jno. Pitts & Increase Sumner Esqrs, to come before the Committee of the whole House, who then resolved themselves into a Committee according to assignment for the purpose of conferring with the Committee of Sequestration on the subject matter of a settlement of their accounts, & after examination of said Committee dissolved themselves as a Committee & the House met again & received a Report from a Committee of the whole House by way of

Resolve directing the Committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Committee of Sequestration to take the most speedy methods for effecting the business of their commission & report on the second Tuesday of the next Session. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve for staying the Treasurers Execution against the three eastern Counties - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Committee for settling with the Army to settle the accounts of Jona Warner & John Ashley Esqrs, relative to the money by them carried forward to the Army, - And also a Resolve directing the Committee for methodizing & settling the public accounts, to settle the accounts of the Committee for supplying the Army - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the petition of John Marys reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Leave to withdraw accordingly.

The Petition of James Ayrault in behalf of the town of Sandisfield setting forth that said Town had

raised their quota of men & had been fined for a man supposed to deficient - notwithstanding - and praying relief in the premises. Read & committed to Mr. Jenckes, Mr. Wood & Capt. Tobey.

There the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow Morning.

Friday June 28th 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled "an Act to remove the obstructions & open passage ways for the fish called Alewives, Shad & other fish up Neponsit River - Read a first time, & tomorrow morning, 10 oclock assigned for a second reading thereof.

29th Read a second time.

The Committee on the Petition of certain Inhabitants of the Town of Bristol, against Alex Nichols Esqr Representative of said Town reported verbally that they have leave to withdraw their Petition.

A form of a letter to the Commissioners for receiving the Tax in the respective Counties & of another from said Commissioners to the people, was reported by the Committee chosen for that purpose. Read & accepted

Sent up for Concurrence.

On Motion Ordered that the Speaker inform the French Consul in this town that whenever he pleases to attend the Debates of the House a Chair shall he assigned him.

Ordered that the Committee on the Pay Roll consider

of the Pay for the Members of the different branches of Government & report, & Mr. Hill, & Col. Barrett are added to said Committee.

A Petition from Andrew Samson Jr. praying that an assessment made by the South Company in Duxborough might be ratifyed, so as to enable him to collect the same.

Read & Committed to Col Thomas, Capt. Patch & Col Thurston.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of New Ashford reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve requesting His Excelly the Governor to procure a return of the Massachusetts Line of the Army every three months. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve for granting & paying to the Hon James Lovell Esqr, Receiver of the Continental Taxes the Sum of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds specie out of the Public Treasury, being the sum granted by the Genl. Court to the United States. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Brought down a letter from James Lovell Esqr, to His Excelly the Governor, dated June 26. 1782. In Senate June 28, 1782. Read & Sent down.

Also a letter from Jabez Hatch Esqr. D.Q.M. to the Hon. James Lovell Esqr, dated June 26, 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of John J. Williams reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted Sent up for concurrence.

A List of the Officers of the Massachusetts Line of the Army who received three months pay for the year 1780 in

in Bills of the New Emission after the same became subject to depreciation by an Act of this Commonwealth

Read & Committed to Col. Dawes.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the Bill for the better regulation of the Treasury & for the more speedily consolidating depreciation Notes and other Government securities, - In Senate June 28. 1782. Read a second time & passed to be engrossed with amendments at A. C. D. F. G. I. K. - Sent down for concurrence. Read a first time. Read a second time & on motion for an assignment for a 3rd reading, it was determined in the negative. Votes 98. Yeas. 37.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss brought down the report of the Joint Committee appointed to consider what public business is necessary to be transacted the present session. In Senate June 28. 1782. Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

A Return of the House being called for and made there appeared to be 105 Members, - Whereupon a Motion was made to reconsider the vote of the House passed on the 26th instant, not to issue a Tax upon the Polls & Estates of the Inhabitants of this Commonwealth the present Session. after Debate the motion was determined by yeas & nays as on the following page.

A Petition from the Town of Plymouth, praying that that the Guard at the Gurnet may not be discontinued.

Read & Committed to Mr. Otis, Col. Lothrop and Mr. Peterson.

Yeas.	Yeas.	Nays.
Wm Phillips	Joshua Thomas	Thomas Lothrop
Saml. A. Otis	Eben Washburn	Joseph Guild
Thomas Dawes	Elisha Doane	Oliver Ellis
Saml Barrett	Edward Pope	Joseph Fairbanks
Nathan Frazier	John Sprague	Moses Adams
Ebern. Wales	Phinehas Upham	Peter Adams
Nathl. Bailey	Seth Washburn	Israel Hutchinson
Theoph. Cushing	Hannaniah Parker	John Manning
Nathl Fisher	John Ball	Edwd Farmer
Elijah Dunbar	Artemas Ward	Aaron Chamberlain
Jona. Edey	Hiram Newall	Samuel Fiske
Wm. Vans	Abel Wilder	James Locke
Miles Greenwood	John Prentice	Moses Church
John Patch	Theodore Sedgwick	John Hastings
Saml. Moody	Elias Willard	Jesse Wilds
Nathl Tracy	Josiah Brewer	Israel Hubbard
Joshua Holt	James Ayrault	Benja Rogers
Nathan Dane	Nathl Kingsley	Seth Silvester
Benja. Evans	William Lusk	Russell Kellogg
Saml. Thatcher	Enos Parker	Oliver Smith
Joseph Johnson	John Frye	David Spear
James Barrett	Daniel Thurston	Aaron Whitney
James Bancroft	Oliver Pier	Caleb Clarke
Simon Stow.	John Nichols.	Hugh McClallan
Wm. Brown	54.	John Burdick
Aaron Hall		David Smead
Gilbert Dench		Timothy Clark
Francis Leighton		John Goldsbury
Israel Hobart		John Petersen
Wm. Prescott.		Ebenr. Wood

Nays. Contd.

Ebenr. White	Isaac Jenckes	Patrick Pepbles	
Francis Shurtliff	Asaph Shearman	Wm. King	
Job Smith	Josiah Steams	Ebenr. Perce	
Elisha May	Ralph Wheelock	Noah Church	
Edwd. Grow	Wing Spooner	Asa Barnes	
John Hill	Adam Maynard	Wm. Clark	
Saml. Curtis	Jona. Jones	Simon Frye	
Ebenr. Davis	Alex Nichols	Prince Tobey	
_Willis Hall.	Jacob Ludwig.	Snow	57.

54 Yeas, 57 Nays - Whole number 111. 3 Majority [vs.]

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The Committee on the sale of land reported on the Petition of Robert Andrews, by way of Resolve. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A letter from Saml. Osgood Esqr to the Senate dated Phila. June 12. 1782. Read & committed to Dr. Manning, Mr. Sprague & Col. Thorndike.

Col. Washburn was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House were ready to proceed to the choice of a Deligate of this Commonwealth in the room of Genl. Danielson. Then the two Houses assembled together & chose Mr. Fuller, Mr. Strong & Mr. Otis a Committee to collect, count, & sort the votes who reported that the Hon. Increase Sumner Esqr was chosen.

A Memorial from Thomas Popkins Esqr, setting forth the circumstances of the recruits in Boston, and praying they may be cloathed. Read & committed to the Committee on that business.

The House assign the first Thursday of the next Session of the Genl. Court for considering of the time of Payment for the next moiety of the Continental Tax, & providing for the paying of interest on the consolidated Securities.

Genl. Prebble brought down the following Order of Senate. In Senate June 28. 1782 - Ordered that the Secretary be directed to notify the Hon Increase Sumner Esqr, that he has this day been elected by Joint ballot of the Senate & House of Representatives a Delegate to represent this Commonwealth in the United States in Congress, for one year to commence on the first Monday in November next. Sent down for concurrence. 29th Read & concurred.

Ordered that Genl. Ward, Mr. Phillips & Mr. Sprague be a Committee to consider of the expediency of raising monies from licensed Houses, & what measures may be proper for the purpose & Report.

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Ordered that Mr. Otis, Genl. Ward & Col Dawes with such as the Hon Senate shall join be a Committee to wait on His Excelly The Governor, to request a recess of the Genl. Court as soon as may be. Reconsidered, & ordered to lie for the present.

Ordered that Genl. Ward, Mr. Sprague & Mr. Otis be a Committee on the part of the House to confer with such Committee as the Hon. Senate may appoint on the subject matter of the Treasury Bill. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Seth Barnes & others Inhabitants of Yarmouth in Nova Scotia reported a Resolve granting them the liberty of appearing & claiming their property when captured, in the Courts of this Commonwealth.

Read & accepted - sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock, tomorrow morning.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Juniper Bartheune against Col. Josiah Brewer & his answer, reported a Resolve for discharging the said Bartheune from the service of Government. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The committee appointed to consider of the Pay of Members of different branches of the Government reported a Resolve allowing to the Members of the Council eight shillings per day; of Senate seven shillings and six pence; of the House seven shillings. Read and Accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Pay Roll was then directed to make up the Pay of Members of the House to Wednesday next including that day.

The Committee on the letter from Geo. Patridge Esqr reported a statement of facts - Whereupon said letter was ordered to lie.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down a Bill entitled "an Act directing the appraisement of certain articles of personal estate, when taken to satisfy Executions at the suit of any private person or persons" - In Senate June 28th 1782. Read a second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. - Read a first time & Monday next, 4 o'clock assigned for a second reading on Said Bill.

Also a Bill entitled "an Act in addition unto an Act entitled an Act for laying certain duties of excise on certain articles therein mentioned for the purpose of paying Government Securities & for altering an Act entitled an Act in addition unto & explaining & for amending the Act made in the year 1780, and laying certain duties of

Excise on certain Articles therein mentioned for the purpose of paying the Interest on Government Securities. In Senate June 29, 1782. Read a second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. Read a first time & Monday 11 o'clock assigned for a second reading thereof. Monday July 1st 1782. Read a second & third time & passed to be engrossed.

The Hon. Mr. Miles brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Representation of John Temple. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for Concurrence. July 1. Read & non-concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss brought down a Bill entitled "an Act, for the repealing of one Act of this Commonwealth made & passed on the third day of May last entitled an Act providing a speedy method of recovering debts & for preventing unnecessary costs attending the same & for making other provision which may better answer the ends designed by said Act. In Senate June 29. 1782. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. July 1st.

Read a first time & referred to next Session.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Resolve for paying to the Hon. James Lovell £200.000. granted to the Continent. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. –

Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3 oclock P.M.

145. Afternoon. 145

The House met according to adjournment.

A Resolve excusing Joseph Jackson, Oliver Wendall, Saml. Austin Esqrs, & Mr. Henry Hill as Managers of the Lottery for the purpose of repairing the Long Wharf in Boston,

and appointing Thomas Crafts Esqr, Messrs John Simpkins Samuel Ruggles & John Lowell in their room. Read and passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the Resolve of the House directing the Committee for methodizing and settling the public accounts, to settle those of the Committee of Supplies - In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of the House to procure returns from the Army. In Senate Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Waterman Thomas reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of Thomas Shaw, praying for a new appraisement of a Vessell, which was his property & was lost in the Penobscot expedition. Read & ordered to lie.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of Watertown reported a Resolve directing the Leaves of Cambridge Bridge to be continued. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Andrew Sampson reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of John Popkins reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Petition of Micajah Harthorn praying the repeal of a Resolve therein mentioned - Read & committed to Col.

Dawes, Mr. Ely & Mr. Hall of Sutton.

The Committee on Pensioners reported a Resolve for pensioning George Bacon. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the new Money reported on the Petition of the Town of Buxton verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. Ordered to withdraw accordingly

The Committee on the Petition of Ebenr. Prout reported & leave was given him to withdraw his Petition.

Then the House adjourned to Monday morning 9 o'clock.

Monday July 1st. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

A Bill for dividing the Town of Sanford in the County of York into two Parishes - This Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

On Motion, Ordered that Genl. Ward & Mr. Sprague with such as the Senate shall Join be a Committee to consider of the mode & time of publishing the laws as reported by the Committee for revising the Laws of this Commonwealth, after they may be acted upon & passed by the Genl. Court. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Naomi Platt reported verbally that said Petition lie on file. Ordered to lie accordingly.

A Petition form the Towns of Fryeburg, Bridgton & Sudbury Canada, praying for some assistance to be given them against the Indians. Read & Committed to Capt. Noyes, Capt. Grow & Mr. Frye.

Member from Lenox has leave of absence.

147. Saturday June 29. 1782.

A Petition from the Selectmen of Warren, praying to be delivered from an Execution issued against said Town for deficient Men, for reasons set forth. Read & committed to Capt. Snow, Col. Orr & Col. Dawes.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House, appointing Commissioners for settling the accounts of the Committees for selling Absentees estates in the different Counties. In Senate Read & concurred, with the amendments at A. B. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Seth Barnes praying leave to return to Nova Scotia - Read & Committed to Mr. Barrett, Col. Pope & Col. Moody.

On Motion voted that the further consideration of the arrangement of the Treasury be referred to the next Session of the Genl. Court.

The letter from James Lovell Esqr, dated Boston, June 26. 1782. inclosing a letter from Col. Hatch - Read & committed to Col. Thurston, Capt. Dench & Mr. Newall.

The Committee on the Petition of Micajah Harthorne reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Committee on accounts to allow no accounts for supplies to Soldiers families, but agreeable to Resolves passed for that purpose. Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Seth Barnes, reported a Resolve permitting him to return home with some small stores.

Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve the Petition of John Jenkins granting the prayer thereof. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P.M.

The House met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Capt. Stearns, Col. Grow & Capt. Upham be a Committee to enquire what provision has been made to stay Executions for the Continental Tax.

Ordered that Capt. Prentiss, Major King & Mr. Hastings be a Committee to consider of the rate of consolidating the pay of the Militia who marched in 1780 & were put upon an establishment to be paid in new money at $1^{7/8}$ for 1, but who did not receive their warrants for the same till it had depreciated below that rate.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down the Resolve of the House empowering the Justices of the Sessions to try & determine the inabilities of Pensioners. In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Strong came down from the Hon Senate to inform that they had directed the Committee on their part, on the Treasury Bill to sit immediately, & to request the House to enjoin the Committee on their part to sit likewise. The Committee were accordingly directed by the House to sit immediately.

On information that ___ Porter Esqr, Sheriff of the County of Hampshire was in Town - Ordered that he attend the House to give an account of the state of the people in that County - That Gentlemen attended the House accordingly.

A Bill entitled “an Act to remove the obstructions & open passageways for the fish called alewives, Shad & other fish up Neponsit River” - This Bill having had three several readings passed to be engrossed. Sent up to be engrossed.

The Hon. Mr Dorr brought down the following Order of Senate viz = In Senate July 1, 1782. Ordered that Increase Sumner

Sumner & Saml Phillips Jr Esqrs with such as the Hon House shall Join be a Committee to consider of the expediency of endeavoring to hire money for the public use by mortgaging part of the Tax of £200.000. last granted –

Also to consider of, & report any other measures for supplying the public Treasury that may appear feasible & report.

Sent down for concurrence. July 2nd. Read & concurred & Genl. Ward, Mr. Smead, & Mr. Sprague are joined.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of John Jenkins. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the Bill entitled "an Act for the better regulation of the Treasury of this Commonwealth - for appointing an Assistant Treasurer, & for the more speedy consolidating depreciation Notes & other Government Securities" - In Senate July 1st. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Tuesday July 2nd. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Strong came down to inform the House that the Senate proposed 4 o'clock. P.M. for coming to the choice of Senator in the room of the Hon. Mr. Hawley who had resigned. Col. Washburn was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House agreed to their proposal.

A Bill entitled an Act for determining the sums to be paid for licenses granted to Innholders, Taverners &

& Retailers of Spirituous Liquors & how the same shall be disposed of - Read a second & third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Phillips came down from the Hon Senate to request the House to send up the Bill for the better regulation of the Treasury &c. in case they had not acted thereon. Capt. Wales was charged with a message to the Hon Senate with said Bill

The Hon. Mr. Bliss brought down the resolve determining the pay of the members of the different branches of Government. In Senate July 1st, 1782. Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred & the House adhere to their own Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Bill for the better regulation of the Treasury &c. In Senate July 1. 1782 Read & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendments at A. C. & E. Sent down for concurrence. Read and Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Bill for removing obstructions for the fish called Alewives up Neponsit River &c. In Senate July 1st 1782. Read & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with the amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill entitled an Act directing the apprisement of certain articles of personal estate when taken to satisfy executions at the suit of any private person or persons - Read a third time & upon the question of a concurrence with the vote of Senate on said Bill, that it pass to be engrossed, it was determined by yeas & nays as follows.

150 conTuesday July 2nd. 1782
151.

Yeas	Yeas	Nays	
Jona. Edey	Isaac Tompson	Wm. Phillips	
Moses Adams	John Pratt	Saml. A. Otis	
Peter Adams	Edward Grow	Thomas Dawes	
Israel Hutchinson	John Hill	John Rowe	
John Patch	Saml. Curtis	Nathan Frasier	
Larkin Thorndike	Willis Hall	Ebenr. Wales	
Joseph Johnson	Seth Washburn	Theoph. Cushing	
Simon Stow	Isaac Jenckes	Thos. Lothrop	
Edward Farmer	Asaph Shearman	Jos. Guild. = Oli. Ellis	2
Aaron Chamberlain	Hannaniah Parker	Nathl. Fisher	
Samuel Fisk	Ralph Wheelock	Elijah Dunbar	
Francis Leighton	Wing Spooner	Wm. Vans	
Israel Hobart	Hiram Newall	Miles Greenwood	
William Prescott	Abel Wilder	Holten Johnson	
John Locke	Adam Maynard	Joshua Holt	
Francis Faulkner	John Prentice	Saml. Thatcher	
John Hastings	Joseph Noyes	James Barrett	
Jesse Wilds	Alex. Nichols	James Bancroft	
Benja. Rogers	John Ludwig	Wm. Brown	
Nathanl. Silvester	Patrick Pepbles	Aa. Hall - Moses Church	
Russell Kellogg	Ebenr. Perce	Aaron Whitney	
Oliver Smith	Noah Church	Caleb Clarke	
David Spear	Asa Barnes	Danl. Lewis = Hugh Orr	2
Hugh Mc.Clallan	James Ayrault	Ebenr. White	
John Burdick	Enos Parker	Ebenr. Washburn	
David Smead	Wm. Clark. - Jno. Frye	Elisha Doane. = Job Sprague	2
Timothy Clarke	Prince Tobey	Ebenr. Davis	
Jno. Goldsbury	Oliver Pier	John Ball	
Jno. Peterson	Jno Nichols	Artemas Ward	
Ebenr Wood	Isaac Snow 61	Nathl Kingsley	34

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P.M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Mr. Phillips, Mr. Vans, Mr. Brown of Framingham, Col. Barrett & Capt. Curtis be a Committee to report a nomination list for an Assistant Treasurer.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House postponing the payment of the interest on the new Money (so called). In Senate July 2. 1782. Read & Concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. 4th. Read and Concurred.

Mr. Otis was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House were ready to proceed to the choice of a Senator, for the County of Hampshire - Whereupon the two Houses assembled together & chose A. Fuller Esq., Col. Dawes & Saml. A. Otis Esqr, a Committee to collect sort & count the votes, who returned that the Hon. John Hastings Esqr, was chosen.

The Hon. Mr. Strong came down to request the House that they would permit John Hastings Esqr, to go up to the Hon. Senate to take his seat as a member there. Whereupon Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Cushing & Col. White were chosen a Committee to wait upon John Hastings Esqr, to the Hon Senate, who conducted him to that Board accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Fryeburg and other Towns, reported a Resolve for raising a Company of men to be stationed on the frontiers of the County of York.

Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act for establishing a Supream Judicial Court within this Commonwealth." This engrossed

Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Bill entitled on Act for erecting a District in the County of Essex by the name of Lynnfield. This Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

A Bill entitled "an Act establishing Courts of Common Pleas." This Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

A Bill entitled "an Act against Blasphemy". This Bill having had three several Readings, passed to be enacted.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the letters from Col. Porter & Sheriff of the County of Hampshire. In Senate July 2nd. 1782. Read & accepted as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the Petition of Seth Heywood, praying a mistake in a Resolve therein mentioned to be corrected, & a Resolve of Senate thereon. Sent down for concurrence. 4th. read & Concurred.

A Bill entitled "an Act directing the apprisement of certain articles of personal estate when taken to satisfy Executions at the suit of any private person or persons." This Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted. Return of the House, Members 71, Voters 36.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot bought down the following Order of Senate – Viz: In Senate July 2. 1782. Ordered that Jabez Fisher & Saml. Niles Esqr, with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to examine the number and amount of the Several Tax Acts that have been passed by the Genl. Court., since the first day of Jany. 1780. For what purposes the Taxes were raised, how the money has been applied

& for what particular services, grants, or debts payment has been ordered & to what amount & make report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr. Greenwood Col. Thatcher & Col. Dunbar are joined.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Wells & others in behalf of the Town of Lenox, Reported by way of Resolve –

Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Jas. Ayrault in behalf of the town of Sandisfield reported by way of resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committees on the Petition of Wm. Smith & the Committee for stating & methodizing the public accounts, reported that said Petitioners have to withdraw their Petition. Leave to withdraw accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Smith reported that said Petition lie on file. Ordered to lie accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Plimouth reported a Resolve stationing a Guard at the Gurnett. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Sale of Land reported on the Petitions of Aaron Jewit & John Fisk by way of Resolve –

Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Repn. of Oliver Philps reported that said Petition lie. Ordered to lie accordingly.

Member from Ward, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Smith of Hadley have leave of absence.

The Committee on the petition of Jona. Eaton reported and Order to shew cause &c. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Capt. Holt, Mr. Shurtliff & Mr. Lewis be a Committee to examine into the Pay Roll for the Staff Officers

in Col. Mc.Cobbs Regiment & report.

Mr. Barrett moved that as he was absent at the time of the question being put for a concurrence with the Senate in their vote to engross the Bill entitled an Act directing the apprizemen of certain articles of personal estate when taken to satisfy executions &c., on the third reading of said Bill, he might be permitted to enter his name among the nays on that question. Whereupon the question was put & passed in the negative.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

 Wednesday. July 3rd. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Petition of Col. John Popkins praying for the pay of his depreciation notes. Read & committed to Col. Barnes Col. Dawes, & Mr. Rowe.

The Committee on the Petition of Danl. Whitney reported a Resolve for paying the interest on his depreciation Notes. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled “an Act for the better regulation of the Treasury of this Commonwealth & for appointing an Assistant Treasurer, This Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted. Members 86. Voters 52.

A letter from John Temple Esqr to the Speaker relative to the late Vote of the House, on the report of the Joint Committee relative to his affairs, was read. Whereupon Col. Dawes was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request them to send down the report of the Committee & other papers relative to Mr. Temple, which the Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down accordingly. Whereupon the House

reconsidered their vote of non-concurrence with the vote of Senate on said report, & concurred therewith.

The Bill entitled "an Act in addition to an Act entitled an Act for laying certain duties of excise on certain articles therein mentioned for the purpose of paying interest on Government Securities, & for altering an Act entitled an Act in addition unto & for amending & explaining the Act made in the year 1781, & laying certain duties of excise on certain articles therein mentioned, for the purpose of paying the interest on Government Securities. - This Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down a Resolve of Senate directing Stephen Choate Esqr, to pay into the Treasury Twelve Pounds for rent of Thatchers Island for the year 1781, & for allowing him eighteen shillings for his service in collecting the same. Sent down for concurrence - 4th. Read & concurred.

A Bill entitled an Act to remove the obstructions & open passageways for the fish called Alewives, Shad and other fish up Neponsit River. This Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

Members from Conway & have leave of absence.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate July 3rd. 1782. Ordered that the Hon Samuel Adams Esqr with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to repair to the County of Hampshire for the purposes expressed in a Resolve of the Genl. Court of the second instant, & to report as in the Resolve is mentioned.

Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & the Hon.

Nathl. Gorham & Artemas Ward Esqrs are joined.

A Bill entitled “an Act for establishing Courts of General Sessions of the Peace.” This Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Petition of John Nichols Representative of the Town of Bristol, relative to the Petition of certain Inhabitants thereof against him. Read & ordered that this petition be committed to the Committee on the last mentioned Petition which was ordered to be taken off file & Mr. Dane added to said Committee.

Representation of Charles Knowles in behalf of the Massachusetts Line of the Army. Read & Committed to Col Prescott, Mr. Otis, & Col. Lothrop.

Voted that all private business except the Petition of Col. Popkins be referred over to the next Session of the General Court. - And likewise the Bill for establishing Trustees of Dummer School.

Col. Dawes was then charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House had passed upon all public business & proposed to have a recess tomorrow.

Then the House adjourned to 3rd o'clock P.M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Niles came down to inform the House that the Senate proposed to dele the words “of the Commonwealth aforesaid” in the first enacting clause of the Bill to remove the obstructions & open passageways for the fish called Alewives, &c, in Neponsit River &c. Mr. Dunbar was charged with a Message to the [line incomplete in the Original. H.]

Ordered that Col. White Capt. Washburn & Mr. Bishop be a Committee to consider of the wages for the Clerks in the Secretarys & others Offices.

The Committee on the Petition of Col. Popkins reported way of Resolve. Read & ordered to lie.

The Committee on Accounts asked the opinion of the House upon an account of a Muster Master for settling disputes between town & town respecting enlisted Soldiers & for maintaining three and five months men. Whereupon the House directed said Committee not to allow a change for either of those services.

Mr. Phillips was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House were ready to proceed to the choice of an Assistant Treasurer. Whereupon the two Houses met together & chose A. Fuller, Artemas Ward & Nathan Frasier Esqrs, a Committee to collect, count and sort the votes, who reported that the number of Votes was 91, & that Mr. Thomas Ivers was unanimously chosen.

Members from Egremont & Westford have leave of absence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of Bristol reported that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. Leave to withdraw accordingly.

Ordered that Col. Dawes, Mr. Otis & Col. Washburn be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for a grant to the President & Clerk of Senate & the Speaker & clerk of the House of Representatives.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Petition of Mr. Wells & others in behalf of the town of Lenox & the Resolve of the House thereon. In Senate, Read & Concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also a Resolve of the Senate on the Petition of Nathl. Jemison granting the prayer thereof. Sent down for concurrence.

A Resolve making a grant to the President & Clerk of Senate & the Speaker & clerk of the House of Representatives, was brought in according to Order & Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

On Order to the Committee on Accounts for allowing seven shillings per diem to the Clerks in the Secy's & other offices. Read & passed.

Mr. Whitney was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate to inquire if the state of their business would admit of a recess this evening. Whereupon the Hon. Mr. Wood come down from the Senate to inform the House that there was so much business in the hands of their Committees, as would not admit of a recess tonight.

The House reconsidered their Vote for not accepting the report of the Committee on the Petition of John Popkins, & passed the same. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Pay Roll of the Staff Officers of Col. Mc.Cobbs Regiment reported a state of facts that Saml. Duncan was made up in the Pay Roll of the House of Representatives as a Member, while in the service as a Surgeon for a time set forth in said Report. The Pay Roll of the Regiment & report were ordered to lie till next Session.

A Resolve directing the Agent for receiving Beef in the County of Cumberland to deliver what Beef he has in store to the Commissary General to be sold by him -

And a Resolve directing the Committee for stating &

& methodizing the Public Accounts to report what Taxes have been granted service Jany. 1780, & for what purposes & to report to the Committee appointed to repair to the County of Hampshire - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Thursday July 4th. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

A Petition form certain Inhabitants of the town of Tewksbury & other towns praying liberty to cut timber from Borlands farm for the purpose of building a Bridge over Concord River &c. Read & Committed to Col. Thorndike Mr. Greenwood & Capt. Holt.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Andrew Henshaw Esqr Clerk of the Supream Judicial Court. In Senate July 3. 1782 Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A petition from Nathaniel Bosworth setting forth that he was employed by the Comy. General to carry public stores to the Eastward by water, & was detained by the States Sloop Winthrop not being ready to convoy him & therefore praying to be allowed for his time while detained. Read & committed to lie till next Session.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down a Resolve reported by the Committee of the letters of Genl. Washington, Robert Morris Esqr, & Robt. R. Livingston Esqr, protesting against a treaty with the enemy in a partial & seperate capacity &c. In Senate July 4. 1782. Sent down for concurrence - Read & unanimously concurred.

Also a Resolve requesting His Excelly the Governor to transmit an account of the proceedings of the Court on the matters touched upon in said Resolve to the Gentlemen aforementioned. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Col. Moody has leave of absence.

Mr. Secretary came down with the following message from His Excelly the Governor respecting an amendment in a Bill entitled "an Act for apportioning and assessing a Tax of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds &c". (vide Message on file, July 3rd. 1782.) Ordered that Capt. Wales, Capt. Patch & Capt. Johnson be a Committee to wait upon His Excelly the Governor to request him to direct the Secretary to lay said Bill on the Table of the House which Bill the Secretary brought down accordingly. Then Genl. Ward, Capt Wales, & Mr. Otis were appointed a Committee to return the aforesaid Bill to His Excelly. the Governor, & to inform him that it was the opinion of the House that the manner in which the aforesaid Bill came into the House was not constitutional.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to appropriate the sums of money paid into the Treasury by the Agent for certain articles by him sold, according to Order. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

On Representation from the Committee on the Pay Roll that several Members had arrived very late in the Session from a distance, & requesting the direction of the House whether they should be allowed their travel Voted that Messrs. Patrick Pepbles, John Nichols Mr. Kingsley & Capt King be allowed their travel for reasons those

Gentlemen have offered, their late attendance notwithstanding.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down a Message from His Execlly the Governor similar to the one last mentioned.

The Committee on the Petition of certain Inhabitants of Tewkesbury & other towns Reported a Resolve, giving them Leave to cut timber as prayed for. Read & ordered to lie.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P.M.

Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee reported a Pay Roll according to Order which was read, & passed & thereupon voted that His Excelly the Governor, be & he hereby is requested, by & with the advice & consent of the Council to grant his warrant upon the Treasurer of this Commonwealth for the aforegoing sum of £1711:5. to be paid to the Members of the House agreeable to the Roll aforesaid, & the said Rolls were transmitted to His Excelly the Governor.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the Bill entitled an Act determining the Sums to be paid for licenses granted to Innholders &c. In Senate July 4. 1782. Read the Second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed, as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down Resolves for anticipating the Continental Tax of £200.000. appointing Commissioners in the Several Counties for that purpose & forms of a circular letter to said Commissioners & of a letter to them from the people with the following Order of Senate thereon, Viz. In Senate July 4th 1782. Read & accepted together with the circular letters accompanying the Same & Ordered that the President of

of Senate & Speaker of the House of Representatives be & they hereby are jointly directed to subscribe the letters directed to the Commissioners aforesaid. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a Bill entitled an Act to appreciate Forty Thousand Pounds of the Continental Tax of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds, for obtaining a Loan of Twenty Thousand Pounds & for the security & payment of the same. In Senate July 4, 1782 Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. Read a first, second & third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

A Resolve directing the Assistant Treasurer to appropriate the money arising from the excise to the payment of the interest on governmental securities in the same manner as the Treasurer was heretofore directed to do - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House stationing certain Guards on the Sea Coasts. In senate July 4. 1782. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill entitled an Act directing certain sums to be paid for licenses granted to Innholders, Taverners or retailers of spirituous liquors & how the same shall be disposed of. This Bill having had three several readings, passed to enacted.

The House reconsidered their vote ordering the Muster Roll of Col. Mc.Cobbs Regiment to lie on file, & committed the same to the Committee on Master Rolls to be examined.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down the Resolve of the House directing the Treasurer to appropriate the monies arising from the sale of certain articles sold by the Agent & paid into the Treasury to the payment

of the members. In Senate. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred.

Voted, that the next session of the General Court begin on the third Wednesday of September next.

Mr. Rowe has leave of absence tomorrow.

The Hon. Mr. Phillips brought down the following Orders of Senate, viz: In Senate July 4th 1782. Ordered that Samuel Adams Esqr, Nathl. Gorham, Wm. Phillips, Jas. Sullivan George Cabot, Stephen Higginson & Leonard Jarvis Esqr, be a Committee to consider what measures can be taken to reduce the expenses of Government, & the best method for supplying the Public Treasury & reforming the state of our Finances- who are requested to sit when they can do it conveniently & report at the next setting of the General Court. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down a Resolve of Senate empowering the Judges of Probate in the several Counties to settle with Public Agents in manner therein directed. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 8 oclock tomorrow Morning.

The House met according to adjournment.

A Resolve allowing out of the Public Treasury the sum of forty pounds to Samuel Adams Esqr, & others appointed to repair to the County of Hampshire. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Smead was charged with a message to the Hon. Senate to request them to send down the Resolve respecting the payment of interest on the new money, which the Hon Senate sent down accordingly. Then the House, after debate, adhered to their own vote & sent the said Resolve again to the Senate.

The following vote passed, viz - Commonwealth of Massachusetts, In the House of Representatives July 5. 1782. His Excelly, the Governor having by Message of the 3rd. instant expressed to this House certain objections to a Bill passed to be enacted at the present Session, entitled an Act to repeal a certain clause in an Act made & passed in the year of our Lord 1781, entitled an Act apportioning & assessing a Tax of £200.000. & for certain other purposes hereafter mentioned without returning the said Bill to the House in which the same originated, with his objections entered thereon conformably to the rules prescribed in the Constitution & the House having Ordered that a Committee wait on His Excelly. requesting that he would direct the secretary to lay the said Bill on the Table of the House, which Bill was brought down by the Secretary accordingly - And whereas this House on a revision of this procedure, appointed Genl. Ward, Capt. Wales & Mr. Otis a Committee to return said Bill to His Excelly, with the opinion of the House that the manner in which said Bill came into the House was unconstitutional - Voted that

the aforesaid message & the vote of the House consequent thereon, directing a Committee as aforesaid to apply to His Excelly. for the said Bill, & in this way introducing it into the House, were unconstitutional, & shall not in further be drawn into precedent. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act to appropriate forty thousand pounds of the Continental Tax of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds for obtaining a Loan of Twenty Thousand Pounds & for the security & payment of the same. - This Bill having had three several readings, Passed to be enacted.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Micajah Harthorne & others - In Senate, Read & concurred, with amendments at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Resolve of the House directing the Assistant Treasurer to appropriate the monies arising from the excise to pay the interest on Government securities. In Senate Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks brought down the Resolve of the House the Petition of John F. Williams late Commander of the Ship Protector. In Senate July 5. 1782. Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Ordered that Col. Washburn, Col. White & Mr. Peterson be a Committee to wait on his Excelly. the Governor & to request him to direct the Secretary to lay upon the Table of the House the Bill entitled an Act for repealing a certain clause in an Act made & passed in the year of our Lord 1781, &c.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Resolve of the

House on the Memorial of the town of Bridgetown & other towns. In Senate, July 5. 1782. Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Petition of Joseph Ridgway for enlarging him he recognizing to appear, - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Secretary brought down the Bill entitled an Act to repeal a certain clause in an Act made & passed in the year of our Lord 1781, &c. Whereupon it was ordered that a Message should be sent to the Hon. Senate, proposing the erasement of all that part of said Bill which makes the Note of Oliver Phelps Esqr & Company receivable in manner as therein directed. The Bill was then committed to Mr. Barrett, Col. Pope & Mr. Otis, to point out the clauses proposed to be erased - more particularly; who reported the same & Mr. Barrett was charged with the Message aforesaid.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to apportion the monies in hand among the Members present. Read & passed & sent up for concurrence. Mr. Dunbar, Capt. Washburn & Col. Lothrop a Committee to take a list of the Members present, who reported a list which was conveyed with the Resolve to the Governor.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down the Resolve apportioning certain sums for the Pay of the Members of the Genl. Court. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A. Sent down for concurrence.

A Resolve appointing Wm. Phillips, Isaac Smith & Edward Payne Esqrs, a Committee for the purpose of advising the Assistant Treasurer. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P.M.

165. Friday, July. 5. 1782. Afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks brought down a Resolve of Senate directing Caleb Davis Esqr & others appointed by the Act for procuring £20.000. to receive the same, to take American Bank Notes in payment therefor, &c. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

Ordered that Col. Washburn, Capt. Wales & Mr. Phillips be a Committee, with such as the Hon. Senate may join to wait on His Excelly, the Governor, & request him to adjourn the General Court, until the third Wednesday in September next.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to appropriate certain monies therein mentioned to the Pay of the Members of the General Court of the Council. Read & passed & sent up for concurrence, with the last mentioned Order.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the Bill entitled an Act to repeal a certain clause in an Act made & passed in the year of our Lord 1781, &c. - informed the House that the Senate proposed to dele the word “one” in the title of that Act, & insert the word “two”. Col. Washburn was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House agreed to that proposal.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the Resolve of the House providing the pay of the Members of the General Court. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A & B. Read & non-concurred.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to pay the Monies in hand appropriated to the Pay of the Hon. Council, Senate & House of Representatives, to such of them as are present in the proportion of the sums due to them on the Pay Roll. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Brown was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inquire if their business was in such a situation as to admit of a recess tonight. The Hon. Mr. Wood came down to inform the House that the Senate excepted to finish the public business, so as to be prepared for a recess this evening.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate July 5. 1782 - Ordered that the Committee for revising the laws be & they hereby are directed to take into consideration a Resolve of Congress, recommending the confiscation of British Goods & Manufacturers imported into this Commonwealth. To prepare a Bill for that purpose & report it at the beginning of the next session of the General Court. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also, the Resolve of the House on the Petition of the Town of Watertown, respecting the repairs of Cambridge Bridge - In Senate read & non-concurred.

Also a Resolve for the said Petitioners to cite the Selectmen of Cambridge to shew cause &c., next session and for continuing the said Bridge till that time in its present form. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred.

Col. Washburn was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to enquire if they had passed upon the Order of the House appointing a Committee to wait on His Excelly. the Governor, to request a recess. The Hon. Mr. Woodbridge came down to inform the House that they had Joined a Committee on that Order.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petitions from the Town of Yarmouth in Nova Scotia & other towns. In Senate read & concurred with amendment at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Phillips brought down a Resolve for delivering

the money paid into the Treasury for Quaker's fines, to J. fellows Esqr, for the purpose of filling up the Continental Army. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Mr. Phillips likewise informed the House that the Senate had passed upon all matters of a public nature before them, and were ready for the Committee on their part to wait on His Excelly, the Governor, to request a recess. And requested that the House would do so likewise. Gen. Ward was then charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House were likewise ready for a recess, having passed upon all matters before them of a public nature.

The Secretary then came down with the following Message from His Excelly. the Governor, informing the House that he could not consent to the General Courts having a recess unless they chose to refer the papers not passed upon by him, to the next Session. (vide Message on file.)

Then the House adjourned to 10 o'clock, tomorrow morning.

Saturday, July 6. 1782.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the following Order of Senate viz: In Senate, July 6. 1782. Ordered that Eleazar Brooks & Joseph Dorr Esqr, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to consider what directions are necessary or propose to be given to the Treasurer, with regard to the bills of the New Emission, which are now outstanding. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Col. Washburn, Mr. Smead & Col. Faulkner arejJoined.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to compleat the payment of the members of the General Court, by receipts or Constables

on the Tax in October last, when they desire it. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Secretary came down with the Resolves for placing Guards at Plimouth & other places with the following Message, viz:

"Gentlemen of the Senate & House of Representatives -

The Secretary has laid before me two resolves of the two Houses, for raising Guards at Plimouth & other places in several Counties. I am prevented giving my sanction to them as by the tenor of them, the command of the Guards & Forts is taken from me, which I cannot submit to without violating the Constitution. Should the two Houses be pleased to conform the Resolves to the principles of the Constitution, I will most cheerfully sign them; although in two or three instances in the Resolves I cannot think there is a necessity for Guards.

Council Chamber July 6th 1782.} John Hancock."

Then the House proceeded to reconsider the said Resolve & the Question was put by yeas & nays, whether notwithstanding His Excelly's objections, the House would agree to pass the same & was determined in the negative, as follows.

Nays.	Nathl. Fisher	Nays.
Wm. Phillips	Elijah Dunbar	James Bancroft
Samuel A Otis	Jona. Edey	Edward Farmer
Thomas Dawes	Joshua Holt	William Brown
John Rowe	Nathan Dane	Samuel Fisk
Saml. Barrett	Danl. Thurston	William Prescott
Nathan Frazier	Nathl. Gorham	James Locke
Ebenr. Wales	Joseph Johnson	Aaron Mighill
Theoph. Cushing	James Barrett	David Spear
Thomas Lothrop		Aaron Whitney
Oliver Ellis		Hugh Mc.Clellan.

Nays.

Joseph Fairbanks

Nays.	Nays.	Nays.
John Burdick	John Hill	Asa Barnes
Timothy Clarke	Ebenr Davis	James Ayrault
John Goldsbury	Seth Washburn	Nathl. Kingsley
Israel Vinal	Artemas Ward	Wm. Lusk.
David Lewis	Ralph Wheelock	Enos Parker
Francis Shurtliff	Hiram Newall	John Frye
Ebenr. Washburn	Joseph Noyes	Simon Frye
Samuel Brown	Jacob Ludwig	Prince Tobey
John Pratt	Patrick Pepbles	John Nichols
-Edward Grow	William King.	Saml. Mc.Cobb.

Then a Resolve passed, stationing Guards on the Sea Coasts. Sent up for concurrence.

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The Secretary brought down the Resolve appointing Wm. Phillips Esqr, & others a Committee to advise the Assistant Treasurer, with the following Message from His Excelly. the Governor viz:

"Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

I have signed that Bill for the appointment of an Assistant Treasurer, & the General Court have made choice of a Gentlemen who is universally allowed to be fully competent to the Execution of the business. By a Resolve of the 5th instant which is laid before me three respectable Gentlemen are appointed for the purpose of advising the Assistant Treasurer in the arrangement of the business assigned him & conducting the Books & Entries necessary thereto. As I am of opinion that the Gentlemen appointed Assistant Treasurer is fully conversant in & competent to every purpose mentioned in the Resolve, I feel myself unwilling to create any additional expences to the good people

of this Commonwealth when I cannot see the necessity of it. I therefore cannot sign the Resolve. John Hancock.

Council Chamber, Boston July 6. 1782.

Ordered that the Secretary lay upon the Table of the House the Act referred to in said Message, which he laid upon the Table accordingly.

Then the House proceeded to reconsider the said Resolve & the Question was put by year & nays, whether, notwithstanding His Excelly's objections the House would agree to pass the same, & was determined in the negative as follows: -

Yeas.

William Phillips	Aaron Mighill	Joseph Johnson
Thomas Dawes	Israel Vinal	Edward Farmer
John Rowe	Ebenr. Washburn	Israel Hobart
Nathan Frazier	Saml. Browne	James Locke
David Weld	Elisha May	Prince Tobey
Ebenr. Wales	John Pratt	Seth Sylvester
Theophs. Cushing	Edward Grow	David Spear
Thomas Lothrop	Artemas Ward	Aaron Whitney
Joseph Guild	Joseph Noyes	Hugh Mc.Clallan
Joseph Fairbanks	Wm. King	John Burdick
Elijah Dunbar	James Ayrault	David Smead
Joshua Holt	Nathl. Kingsley	Timothy Clarke
Nathan Dane	Wm. Lusk	John Peterson
Danl. Thurston	Wm. Clarke	Ebenr. White
James Barrett	Isaac Snow	Ebenr. Davis
Wm. Brown of F.	Saml. Mc.Cobb.	Seth Washburn
Samuel Fisk	Nays. [35 yeas]	Ralph Wheelock
Wm. Prescott	Oliver Ellis	Hiram Newall
Francis Faulkner	Nathl Fisher	John Frye - 23.
	Enos Parker	

Nays.

Yeas	Jona. Edey

The Secretary also brought down the following Message from His Excelly. The Governor.

"Gentleman of the Senate and Gentleman of the House of Representatives.

I am very far from wishing to continue the Session of the General Court, Contrary to the inclination of the Members.

I have this moment perfected all the papers laid before me, excepting a Considerable file which respects Mr. John Temple & which I have not had opportunity to act upon. I have perused some of papers and find that this matter has for many days taken up the attention of the Two Houses, & that a variety of opinions took place; under these circumstances & considering the nature of the papers, I am reduced to the necessity of improving more time to ripen me for a determination on the subject.

I shall be ready, however, to comply immediately with the request of the General Court, for a recess, if they shall be pleased to send for the papers & refer them to the next Session.

John Hancock.

Council Chamber
Boston July 6. 1782.

171. Saturday. July. 6. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Resolve passed this morning, for stationing Guards on the Sea-Coasts. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also a Resolve requesting His Excelly, the Governor, to lay the Resolve & other papers relating to John Temple Esqr, which are before him, on the Table. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks brought down a Resolve of Senate directing the Treasurer to suspend his Executions for the Tax in May 1781, till the second Wednesday of next sitting of the General Court. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Mr. Secretary then came down to inform the House that His Excelly the Governor, had passed upon and approved of the of the following Bills to be enacted, viz: (See list on file.) and that it was His Excelly's pleasure that this Honorable Court should be adjourned to the third Wednesday of September next, being the eighteenth day of the Month, then to meet at the State House in Boston at 10 o'clock, before noon, and the same was

Adjourned,

Accordingly.

First Recess, by adjournment from the Sixth of July to the Eighteenth of September, 1782.

173. Wednesday, September 18. 1782.

A Quorum of House met, according to adjournment by His Excelly the Governor on the 6th day of July last. And the House then adjourned to 10 o'clock, tomorrow morning.

Thursday September 19. 1782

Met According to Adjournment.

The Secretary laid on the Table a sett of the Journals of Congress, agreeable to the direction of the Court to their Delegates the last Session.

On Motion, Ordered that Genl. Ward, Mr. Lowell & Col. Washburn be a Committee to report the proper measures to be taken for the punctual attendance of the Members of the House.

A Petition from Peter Fabre, praying to be licensed to sell spirituous liquors - Read & thereupon ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

A Petition from Shuball Taylor, setting forth that he had suffered by sickness, while a Soldier in the Army which was like to afflict him for life - Read & it appearing that he ought to petition though the Commissary of Pensioners, Leave was given to withdraw his Petition.

Ordered, that Col Orr, Col. Dalton & Mr. Lowell, with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to wait on His Excelly. the Governor, and acquaint him that the two Branches of the General Court are now met,

and have proceeded to business, and are ready to attend to any communications His Excellency may think proper to lay before them.

Sent up for Concurrence.

Ordered that Gen. Ward, Col Washburn & Col. Dawes with such as the Hon Senate shall join, be a Committee to enquirer whether the communications made to the enemy, respecting the business of the Commissioners from Congress, to the Genl. Court the last session, were effected by any Member of the Two Houses.

Sent up for Concurrence.

On Motion Ordered, that no Petition concerning matters of a private nature be received by the General Court in their present Session, and that all private business now pending before the Court, be referred to the next Session. Sent up Concurrence. 50-56.

A Petition from certain Inhabitants of the County of Essex praying that a Bridge over the River Parker in Newbury may be repaired by Toll or otherwise - Read & Committed to Col. Coffin, Mr. Phillips & Capt. Wales.

Ordered that Mr. Lowell, Genl. Ward and Mr. Dalton with such as the Hon. Senate shall join, be a Committee to report the proper measures to be taken for preventing any trade that may be carried on with the enemy.

Sent up for Concurrence.

Mr. Barrett had leave of absence to attend to the business of settling the Treasurer's accounts.

A Report of the Committee on that business was read and thereupon ordered, that Mr. Phillips, Mr. Greenwood & Mr. Dalton, with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to examine into the proceeding of said Committee, & report the progress said Committee have made in the execution of their Commission. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled “an Act directing & regulating the Process of Outlawry” - Read a first time & tomorrow morning 10 o'clock assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Bill entitled an Act for apprehending & sending for trial, persons charged with having committed crime in some other state, and to authorize the officers of Justice of the other States, to continue the execution of their Precepts within this State when necessary,” - Read a first time, & Friday 11 o'clock A.M. assigned for a second reading of said Bill.

A Resolve discharging Richard Cranch Esqr from further service on the Committee for auditing the Treasurer's accounts, was read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of certain Inhabitants of the County of Essex, reported that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for instituting a Lottery for the purpose of repairing the Bridge mentioned in their Petition

Leave given to bring in a Bill accordingly.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P.M.

176. Thursday, September 19. 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered, that Col Thatcher, Col. Faulkner, Col Prescott Col Barrett & Major Farmer be a Committee to revise the laws for the regulation of the Militia & report such amendments as may be necessary to be made therein.

Ordered, that Mr. Barrett of Concord, Capt Wales, & Col Grow, be a Committee to report what towns are deficient in filling up their quota of men in the Continental Army.

A Bill entitled “an Act for granting a Lottery for repairing the Bridge over the River Parker in the County of Essex” Read a First time & Friday 3 o'clock P.M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Petition from James Avery, Agent of the Town of Machias, praying a Naval Officer to be appointed at that Port. Read & Committed to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Frazier, & Capt. Dench.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock, Friday morning.

Friday September 20th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled “an Act directing & regulating the Process of Outlawry” was read the second time according to assignment & Tuesday 10 o'clock A.M. assigned for a third reading thereof.

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The Hon Mr. Prebble brought down a letter from Ephraim Fairbanks, one of the Commissioners appointed to receive the Tax in the last Session, giving an account of his proceedings. In Senate Sep. 20. 1782. Read & Sent down.

177. Friday September 20. 1782.

Read & ordered to be returned.

Also a letter from the Hon. Thos. Rice Esqr, resigning his seat in Senate, with the following Order thereon, viz: In Senate, Sep. 20. 1782. Whereas the Hon. Thos. Rice Esqr, has by his letter of the 12th of June last declared his resolution not to accept his appointment to a seat in Senate, Ordered that 10 o'clock tomorrow morning be assigned to proceed to the choice of a Senator for the County of Lincoln. –

Sent down for Concurrence. Read & sent up & Mr. Lowell was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform then the House proposed Tuesday next 11 o'clock, for the above mentioned choice.

A Bill entitled an Act for apprehending & Sending for trial, person charged with having committed crime in some other State, and authorize the Officers of Justice of the Other States to continue the execution of their precepts within this state when necessary, was read according to assignment a second time & Tuesday next 10, o'clock, assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Bill was then committed to Mr. Lowell for revision.

Genl. Warner brought down a letter from Samuel Osgood, Esqr, dated Philadelphia, August 16. 1782.

In Senate, Read & sent down.

Read & sent up.

The Secretary came down with the following Message from his Excelly., the Governor, viz:

Gentlemen of the Senate and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives.

I have directed the Secretary to lay before you three letters which I received this morning, containing intelligence respecting the movement and destination of the British Fleet and Army at New York. I have thought it my duty to communicate this intelligence to you previous to the introduction of the business I have to lay before you. I recommend the subject matter of these letters to your immediate consideration, and shall be ready to concur with you in such measures as shall be judged necessary to advance the safety of this Commonwealth. John Hancock.

Council Chamber, Sep. 19. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down a similar Message with the above mentioned letters, being one from Gen. Washington, dated 18th September, 1782. - Another from Governor Bowen dated Sep. 16. 1782. & a third from Gen. Varnum of the same date. - In Senate Sep. 20. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that Eleazar Brooks & Jonathan Warner Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this Message with the letter from Gen. Washington of the 18th, from Gov. Bowen of the 16th & Gen. Varnum of the 16th inst, accompanying the same into consideration & report what is proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred & Mr. Lowell, Gen. Ward & Mr. Phillips are joined.

179. Friday September 20. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks came down to acquaint the House that the Senate did not agree to the last mentioned time for coming to a choice of a Senator for the County of Lincoln & offered as their reason that there was but one candidate for said County, & the Senate were in want of Members.

Whereupon Gen. Ward was charged with a Message to inform the Hon. Senate that the House agreed to their first proposal.

Ordered that Capt. Wales & Mr. Frazier, be added to the Committee on Pensions.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P.M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled "an Act for granting a Lottery for repairing the Bridge over the River Parker, in the County of Essex - Read a second time according to assignment & Tuesday next, 9 o'clock A.M. assigned for a third reading of said Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the vote of the House for postponing private business. In Senate, read & concurred as taken into a new draught.

Sent down for Concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

Also a Petition from the Town of Coxhall, praying that fines laid upon said Town for deficient men may be taken off for reasons therein set forth. In Senate Sep. 20. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered, that Nathl Wells Esqr with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee

to take this Petition into consideration & report what is proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred & Col. Grow & Mr. Barrett of Concord are joined.

The Secretary brought down the following Message from His Excelly. the Governor.

"Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives;

The several letters & papers which I have directed the Secretary to lay before you, contain every material occurrence during the recess of the General assembly. I submit them to your consideration & shall at all times be ready to adopt with you such measures as shall be judged most conducive to the public welfare.

John Hancock."

Council Chamber
Boston Sep. 20. 1782

A Resolve for appointing the times holding the Supream Judicial Court in several Counties in the State. Read & passed.

Sent up for Concurrence.

Ordered that John Hopkins Esqr, Commissary of Prisoners be directed to attend on the Floor of the House tomorrow morning, at 11 oclock, to give information respecting the number & situation of the Prisoners under his care.

Voted that a time be assigned to consider the propriety of issuing a Tax the present Sessions of the General

Court, to compleat the requisitions of Congress for the year 1782. And Tuesday next, 3 o'clock P.M. was assigned for that purpose.

A Petition of William Greenwood an Inhabitant of Nova Scotia, setting forth that he had brought several American Prisoners from that Province & that his vessell was seized, & praying that she might be ordered to be restored to him.
Read & Committed to, Mr. Dalton Capt. Johnson & Dr. Chamberlain.

A Resolve directing Joseph Titcomb to notify Saml. Titcomb that the consideration of the said Joseph's Petition is deferred until the Second Tuesday of the next Session. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Theophilus Cushing, praying leave to Sell land therein mentioned, Read & Committed to the Committee on Sale of Land.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the report of the Committee on the Governors Message, communicating Gen. Washington's & other Letters. In Senate, Read & accepted with amendments at A. B & E. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the following Resolve of Senate, viz: In Senate Sep. 20. 1782. Resolved that Nathaniel Wells Esqr, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee

to examine whether the laws already in force are sufficient in all cases respecting the choice of Officers & the assessment & Collection of Taxes in Plantations, & report any further provision which may be found necessary for those purposes. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr Bartlett & Capt Holt are joined.

Also, several letters which accompanied the Governor's Message this Afternoon which were referred over to tomorrow morning.

The Committee on the Petition of Shubell Taylor reported a Resolve making up his pay as a Soldier & allowing him a Pension. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Col. Thorndike, Major Goodman, Capt Patch, Major Farmer & Col. Coffin be a Committee to consider the state of the Militia & report the necessary regulations for bringing them into the field.

Then the House adjourned to 9 oclock tomorrow morning.

Saturday, September 21. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Ezra Putnam, setting forth that he had been unequally taxed, by the Town of Middleton for raising Soldiers, & praying that he may be relived –

Read & Leave given the Petitioner to withdraw his Petition.

The Committee appointed to report the proper measures for effecting the punctual attendance of the members, Reported the following Resolve; - Whereas it is of great im-

-portance that the Members of the House of Representatives give their punctual attendance in the House on the day to which the General Assembly stands adjourned, or prorogued & so from day to day during the Session, or Sessions of the same, therefore

Ordered, that the Clerk of the House be and hereby is directed on the first day in each Session at 5 o'clock in the Afternoon to call over the list of the Members of the House. And every Member, which shall be absent shall not be entitled to receive any pay for his travel during that Session. And the list of such absent Members shall be delivered to the Committee that shall be appointed to make up the Pay Roll, who are hereby directed to make them up accordingly, unless the House shall upon hearing the excuse by them respectively made, judge the same to be sufficient. And it is further ordered that the said clerk, is hereby further directed to call over the said list at the several times to which the House shall adjourn on each day during the several Sessions; Also, at all times when by the return of the House there shall not appear to be a Quorum, and at all such other times as the House shall order. And each Member absent at such call of the list shall forfeit one half day's pay for each time he shall be so absent and the same shall be stopped out of his pay by the Committee that shall be appointed to make up the Pay Roll accordingly; unless the House upon hearing the excuse by each of them made, shall judge the same to be sufficient. Which Order being read, was accepted, & a Message directed to be sent to the Hon. Senate with a copy of the said Order & a request that they would adopt such measures for the purposes therein mentioned as may appear to them most eligible.

184. Saturday, September 21. 1782.

The Committee appointed to consider the State of the Militia &c, reported verbally that they had seen His Excelly. the Governor on that subject, who informed them that tho' the Militia were not fully organized, he had no doubt of bringing them into the field when requisite. Said Committee were then discharged.

Mr. Dalton was charged with a message to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House, were ready to proceed to the choice of a Senator for the County of Lincoln, according to assignment. The Hon. Mr. Phillips came down & informed the House that the Senate were likewise ready, & proposed at the same time to attend to the qualifying of Jona. Greenleaf Esq as a Councillor. Mr Washburn was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to acquaint them that the House agreed thereto. Whereupon the two Houses met together in one room & appointed Mr. Phillips Col. Pope & Mr. Robbins to collect sort & count the votes who reported that William Lithgow Esqr was chosen.

The Hon. Jona. Greenleaf Esqr then, in the presence of both Houses subscribed the declarations & took the oaths pointed out by the Constitution as a Councillor of this Commonwealth.

The two Houses then separated.

A Petition and account from the Selectmen of the town of Bolton, Read & committed to the Committee on accounts.

A Petition from Col. Thos. Chace, late Deputy Dr, Master General of the united States, Setting forth that for want of his accounts being settled he was reduced to want, & praying for some relief. Read & Committed to Mr. Otis, Mr. Lowell, & Mr. Hall of Sutton.

185. Saturday. September 21. 1782.

The Hon. Mr Prebble brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate Sep. 21. 1782. Ordered that Increase Sumner & Ebenz Bridge Esqrs, be & they hereby are appointed a Committee with such as the Hon. House shall join, to attend the Hon Jona. Greenleaf Esq to the Council Board & to inform His Excelly. the Governor, that having accepted the office of Councillor he has this day been qualified for that office, according to the directions prescribed in the Constitution. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr Peterson, Mr. Bartlett & Mr Frazier are joined.

John Hopkins Esq attended on the floor of the House & gave information respecting the prisoners under his care agreeable to Order, & thereupon Ordered that Mr. Lowell Gen. Ward & Col Goodman be a Committee to consider of the measures necessary to be taken respecting the Prisoners of War going of large.

The House proceeded to consider of the papers yesterday transmitted from the Senate, with a Copy of the Governors message and their Order thereon, which was as follows, viz: In Senate Sep 20. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that Jabez Fisher Esq, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee, to take this message together with the letters & papers accompanying the same into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon.

Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Lowell & Mr. Otis are joined.

Col. Thurston had leave of absence for the ensuing week Mr. Holt to attend the Court at Newbury & Capt. Cushing till Monday. Mr. Brown of Tewksbury till Thursday, Mr Barnett of Concord.

186. Saturday Sep. 21. 1782.

A Petition from William Gould, a Creditor to the estate of Troutbeck, an Absentee, & praying that such estate might be sold to pay his debts. Read & committed to Col. Pope Mr Robbins & Mr Ellis.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of a Gore of Land laying South of Oxford in the County of Worcester praying to be separated therefrom, Read & Committed to Dr. Stow Mr Davis & Mr Wilder.

Ordered that Mr Robbins, Capt. Wales & Mr. Greenwood be a Committee to consider of the Tax Act & report whether any measures are necessary, to be taken to authorize assessments to be made, to such towns as may not have received the act in the usual time.

The House then adjourned to 10 oclock Monday Morning.

Monday, September 23. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

On motion, Ordered that Mr. Phillips, Mr Dalton and Mr. Rowe, with such as the Hon Senate shall join be a Committee to consider the state of the old emission Money, & report such measures as are necessary to be taken respecting the same. - Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the town of Fitchbury praying that a fine laid upon said town, for not raising men may be taken off for reasons set forth, in said Petition; Read & committed to Col. May, Capt Curtis & Capt. Steams.

The Petition of Wm. Smith was taken off the files & recommitted to Mr. Frasier, Mr. Bartlett & Col. Washburn.

Ordered, that Mr. Phillips, Gen. Ward, & Col. Pope be a Committee to consider & report the measures proper to be

taken with respect to the Notes issued by the late Treasurer Grey.

Petition of Oren Smith, praying to have a Deed of certain Lands belonging to the public. Read & Committed to Gen. Ward, Col. Dawes & Mr. Wilder.

A Petition from Joseph Trueman & others owners of a Saw - Mill in Duxborough, praying that the steam on which said mill stands may not be opened according to law, in the spring season. Read & committed to Capt Snow, Mr. binal [?], & Col. Moody.

A Petition from John Fogg & others, rejected Soldiers praying for their pay, Read & committed to Capt Wales, Col. Washburn & Mr. Hill.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down a Petition from Martha Oxnard of Falmouth, praying leave to go to Penobscott - to see her Husband, with a Resolve of Senate thereon granting her request. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Petition of Aaron Clap was taken from the files & read again; Thereupon, Ordered, that he have leave to withdraw his Petition.

A Petition from Willis Hall, in behalf of the town of Northbridge, setting forth that they had sent forward a Pay Roll, for the Soldiers raised in said Town, which was lost & that another could not be made, out for want of original papers & praying relief under these circumstances. Read & committed to Capt. Cowdin, Mr. Metcalf & Mr Wilde.

Ordered, that Mr. Phillips, Mr. Lowell & Gen Ward be a Committee to prepare a Resolve to request His Excelly. the Governor, to issue his proclamation for & public fasting & prayer.

188. Monday, September 23. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate Sep. 23. 1782. Ordered that John Pitts Esqr. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to examine how far the Collectors of Excise for the Several Counties, of this Commonwealth have pursued the directions of Law, for collecting the duties of excise which became due to the Government, on the 10th of June last; what sums of money they have received, & what sums they have paid into the treasury; whether they have completed their collections for the first six months & rendered an account on oath to the Treasurer as the law directs & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, and Mr. Rowe & Mr. Bartlett are joined.

Also, the report of the Committee on the Petition of the Town of Coxhall, granting the prayer thereof. In Senate read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred.

The House assigned 4 o'clock P.M. for considering the Act for the due observance of Sabbath.

Ordered, that Mr Metcalf procure a Sett of the Laws & Resolves for the use of the House.

The committee appointed to bring in a Resolve to desire His Excelly. the Governor, to issue his proclamation for a fast reported, which was read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The House then adjourned to 3 o'clock P.M.

189. Monday, September 23. 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from a place called Massabeseck, praying to be incorporated. Read & committed to Mr. Goodhue, Mr. Hill & Mr. Thompson.

The Committee on a Petition of the Inhabitants of a tract of Land lying South of Oxford made report - Read & not accepted & thereupon Ordered, that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

An Act to create & erect a Corporation by the name of the Trustees of Dummer Academy, in the County of Essex, Read a first time & Tuesday 3 o'clock P.M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Bill entitled "an Act for the due observance of the Lord's Day." Read a first time & Tuesday 4 o'clock P.M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate Sep. 23. 1782, Ordered that Eleazar Brooks & Nathl. Wells Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House, shall join, be a Committee to consider whether it is expedient for the General Court, in their present sessions to enter into a further consideration of certain Bills reported by the Committee for revising the laws. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Lowell Col. Pope & Genl. Ward are joined.

A Resolve granting to the Messenger of the General Court, the sum of Fifty Pounds, to enable him to provide Stationary & the other necessaries for the General Court, Read & Passed.

Sent up for concurrence.

 Monday, September 23. 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of William Greenwood reported a Resolve, granting the prayer thereof. Read & Accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

An estimate for a Tax for the County of Plimouth was laid upon the Table, & Committed to Mr. Shurtliff Capt. Cushing & Mr. Locke.

The House then adjourned to Tuesday Morning 9 o'clock.

Tuesday, September 24. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Andrew Oliver Esqr, setting forth that the Commissioners on the estate of Thomas Brattle Esqr had allowed his claim against said estate for the sum of £699:4:2., that new Commissioners had been since appointed on said estate, but that he has never received his papers from the hands of the late Committee, in order again to prove his claim, said papers being lost, & praying relief. - Read & committed to Col. Dawes, Mr. Hall of Sutton & Mr Dalton.

A Petition from John Smith, Lieut. in the 3rd Mass. Regiment praying for payment of certain Government securities given him. Read & leave given the Petitioner to withdraw his Petition.

A Bill entitled "an Act for repealing one Act of this Commonwealth made & passed on the third day of May last, entitled an Act providing a speedy method of recovering debts, & for perverting unnecessary costs attending the Same," & for making other provision which may better answer the ends designed by said Act. Read a first time & Wednesday 10 o'clock assigned for a second reading thereof.

191. Tuesday, September 24. 1782.

Ordered that Mr. Barrett, Mr. Robbins & Mr. Sprague be a Committee to take into consideration the operation of a Resolve of February last, admitting Depreciation Notes so called to be paid by the Possessor, in certain cases for the real Estates of Absentees purchased by them, at public Sale. Also some just & proper mode of indemnity to such persons as may discharge debts due from them to Absentees on Mortgage. And the expediency of receiving Government securities in payment, where it shall appear that the Mortgager at an early period deposited the money in the State Treasury, for the security of the Government or his Creditor, & report what is proper to be done on each.

A Bill entitled "an Act directing & regulating the Process of Outlawry". Read & third time & passed a concurrence, to be engrossed.

A Bill entitled "an Act for apprehending & sending for trial, persons charged with having committed crimes in some other state; and to authorize the Officers of Justice of the other States, to continue the execution of their precepts within this State when necessary"; - Read a third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

A Resolve directing the Justices of the Inferior Count of Common Pleas, for the County of Suffolk, to errace the record of default in certain complaints against Sylvester Gardner & others, & to continue the same one Term. Read and passed. Send up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to receive the Notes issued by the late Treasurer Grey, on loan, was reported by the Committee on that business. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

192. Tuesday, September 24. 1782.

A letter from Lt. Governor Cushing, to Commissary Devens directing him to supply rations for a thousand men for one month, at the Castle in Boston Harbour, & the Commissarys reply thereto. Read & Committed to Capt Wales, Mr. Dalton & Col. Doan.

A Petition from the Plantation called West Bowdoinham, praying to be incorporated into a town; - Read and Committed to Col. Mc. Cobb, Mr. Robbins & Mr. Greenwoods.

A Petition from Jermima Hardy, praying payment of certain Government securities; Read & leave given to withdraw said Petition.

A petition from Elisha Hedge, praying that the Agent on the estate of Danl. Murray Esqr. an Absentee, may be directed to pay his demand aganst said estate of £11:11/. - Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Col Washburn & Mr. Hall of Sutton.

A Bill entitled "an Act for granting a Lottery for repairing the Bridge over the River Parker in the County of Essex." Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Anna Prentice, Admrx. of the estate of Samuel Harrington, praying leave to sell real estate therein mentioned. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land. - A Petition from Mary Robbins to the same purpose. Read & committed to the same Committee.

A Petition from Isaac Bassett, praying to be reimbursed £50. lent to Shubael Peck, Esqs. an account of Government - Read & committed to Capt Bancroft, Capt Goodhue & Col. Lothrop, who were directed to consider the matter at large.

Col. Prebble brought down the report of the Committee

to consider what measures can be taken to reduce the expenses of Government & the best method of supplying the public Treasury, & reforming the State of our Finances. In Senate Sep. 24. 1782. Read & sent down. Read & the Clerk directed to make inquiry of the different printers the price of printing 120 copies thereof & referred to the afternoon.

Gen Warner brought down a letter from the Secretary to the Hon. President of Senate, inclosing a Copy of a Bond given him by Thomas Ivers Esqs as Assistant Treasurer, in Senate Read & sent down. Oct. 2. Read & Sent up.

The Hon Mr. Bridge brought down the Resolve of the House requesting His Excelly. to issue his Proclamation for a fast. In Senate read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a Petition from Saml. Goodwin, praying power of Government to bring actions of ejectment against certain Tresspassers therein mentioned, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate Sep 24. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered, that Joseph Dorr Esqr with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition together with the papers accompanying the same into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. 25th Read & concurred & Mr. Lowell & Mr. Goodhue are joined.

The House then adjourned to 3 o'clock P.M.

Afternoon

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Smith reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The House upon report of the Clerk, with respect to the printing of the report of the Committee, on the Publick Finances &c, Voted not to print the Same, & Wednesday next, 10 o'clock assigned for considering said report.

The House proceeded according to assignment, to consider the expediency of issuing a Tax, upon the poles & estates of the Inhabitants of this Commonwealth for £200.000. according to the requisitions of Congress. Whereupon it was voted to issue said Tax, & Mr. Sprague, Mr. Droight, Mr Hall of Medford, Mr Holt & Mr. Metcalf were chosen a Committee to prepare a bill for that purpose.

Col. Bridge brought down the Petition of Micah Hathorn & others, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate, Sept. 24. 1782. Read & Thereupon Ordered, that Thomas Durfee & Ephraim Stockweather Esqr. with such as the Hon House shall join, be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration, to hear the parties who are attending for the purpose & report what is proper to be done thereon. Sent down for Concurrence.

A Petition form the Officers of the Massachusetts Line of the Army, requesting to be informed whether the Court adopted the measures, taken by Congress, for allowing them half pay during life. Read & Thereupon Ordered that M. Otis, Capt. Dench, & Capt Wales with such as the Hon Senate shall join be a Committee to consider said Petition

& report such measures as may be proper to be taken thereon. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Dove, brought down the report of the Committee on the Governor's Message, communicating Genl. Washingtons & other letters; In Senate, Read & accepted and the following Orders of Senate were made on the following letters & papers, viz: -

The letter from Robt. Morris Esqs, Read and Ordered, that this letter & those respecting the collection of the Continental Taxes, & the letter of Sep. 5th respecting suits against Quarter Masters, be committed to Increase Sumner Esqr with such as the Hon. House shall join, to consider & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr Robbins & Mr. Sprague are joined.

Letter from Hon John Hanson Esq. In Senate, Ordered that this Letter, together with the letter of the 20th July, concerning illicit trade with the enemy & the letter from Robt. Morris Esq. of July 17th on the same subject be committed to the Committee appointed on the 20th instant to report proper measures for preventing any trade in future with the enemy.

Sent down for concurrence, Read & Concurred.

The report of the Committee of the General Court appointed to repair to the County of Hampshire to enquire into the Grounds of dissatisfaction there, correct misinformations, & remove groundless, jealousies; In Senate Ordered that this report together with papers accompanying the Same

be committed to Eleazar Brooks Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join to consider & report, what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred, & Mr. Dwight & Col. Clarke are joined.

Letter from Genl. Health - Ordered that this letter together with the letter of the 11th Sep. inst. & the returns accompanying be committed to Ebern, Bridge Esq. with such as the Hon House shall join, to consider & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Major Bancroft & Mr. Brown of Framingham are joined.

Letter from Col. Allen with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: Ordered that this letter with the letter from John Lithgow be committed to John Pitts & Nathl Wells Esqrs. with such as the Hon. House shall join to consider and report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Otis & Capt. Steans are joined.

A Bill entitled "an Act to create & erect a corporation by the name of the Trustees of Dummer Academy in the County of Essex; Read a second & Wednesday, 12 o'clock assigned for a third reading thereof.

The House reconsidered their assignment of this Afternoon, for the second reading of the Bill for due observance of the Lord's Day, and assigned Wednesday morning, 9 o'clock for that purpose.

Mr. Dwight & Messrs. Parkers offered their excuses to the House for not arriving the first day of the Session which were accepted. - Then the House adjourned to Wednesday next - 9 o'clock A.M.

Met according to adjournment.

A letter from the Selectmen of Bellingham to Stephen Metcalf Esq. informing him of certain Droves of cattle supposed to be moving on to the enemy. Read & thereupon Ordered, that Col. Pope & Genl. Ward with such as the Hon Senate shall join be a Committee to consider said letter and report.

A Petition from Zebedee Sprout, Agent on the estates of Peter Oliver, Senior & Junior, praying to be directed where to pay a balance of his accounts, which he received in paper currency. Read & committed to Mr. Orr, Mr. Shurtliff & Mr. Bailey.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher came down & informed the House that the Senate had enjoined their Committee to sit immediately on the letter from the Selectmen of Bellingham to Stephen Metcalf Esq. & requested the House to order their Committee on said letter to sit likewise. Said Committee on the part of the House were ordered to sit accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down the Petition of the Inhabitants of the extreme parts of Stow, Littleton & Harvard, which was referred over to the second Wednesday of the present session of the Genl. Court, with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: In Senate, Sep. 25. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered, that Saml. Baker Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition & the Papers accompanying the same into consideration, & report thereon. Sent down for Concurrence.

Read & concurred, & Mr Whitney of Northfield, & Col. Faulkner are joined.

 Wednesday September 25. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Dove brought down the Petition of Caleb Gannett, & others a Committee in behalf of the first Parish in Cambridge, referred over to this day. In Senate, Sep. 25. 1782. Read again & Ordered, that Jedadiah Prebble Esq with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration, hear the parties & report what is proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence - Read & concurred, & Col Washburn & Col. Hutchinson are joined.

Also a Petition from Jonathon Boardman & William Bartlett praying the judgment of a debt out of Joseph Goldthwait Esqrs estate, a late Banck Master, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate Sep 25. 1782. head again & revived & thereupon Ordered that Samuel Baker Esq with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr. Whitney of Northfield & Col. Faulkner are joined.

The House proceeded according to assignment to the second reading of the Act "for the due observance of the Lord's Day." & after debate postponed the further consideration thereof to the Afternoon.

Genl. Warner bought down the Petition of Jona. Eaton of Reading praying that certain Referees in an action therein mentioned may be empowered, to sit again, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate Sep. 25. 1782. Read again together with the answer & thereupon ordered that Jonathan Warren Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take the same into consideration, hear the parties & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

& Capt. Prentiss & Col. Grow are joined. Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P.M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Winslow Parker, Admrx. on the estate of Nathl. Parker late of Groton, setting forth that there was an error in the letters of Administration granted him which would nullify his proceedings, unless they are ratifyed - Read & committed to Col. Pope, Dr. Manning & Mr Sprague.

The House proceeded to the second reading of the Bill entitled "an Act for the due observance of the Lord's Day - " which being finished they committed the same to Genl. Ward, Mr. Dwight & Mr Greenwood, & assigned 11 o'clock Thursday morning for the third reading thereof. Return 80. Voters 49.

The Hon. Mr Miles brought down the report of the joint Committee appointed to take into consideration the letter from the Selectmen of Bellingham, to Stephen Metcalf Esq being a Resolve for preventing Live Stock being carried to the Island of Nantucket, Elizabeth Islands or Martha's Vineyard. In Senate. Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence. 28th Read & concurred as taken into a new Draught. Sent up for concurrence.

Also Petition from the Committee of correspondence &c, in the town of Framingham, setting forth that they had taken into their hands the estate of Nathl. Brinley, by virtue of a Resolve of the General Court, respecting Tries estates, & praying a satisfaction therefor &c. with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate Sep 25. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to consider this Petition & report what measures are necessary

to be taken thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr Otis & Col Goodwin are joined.

The House proceeded to the further consideration of the report of the Committee appointed to consider what measures can be taken to reduce the expenses of Government &c. And thereupon it was voted, that it is indispensably necessary for the further well being of this Commonwealth, that the public credit should be restored & maintained by the punctual payment of the interest upon public consolidated securities.

The House then adjourned to Thursday Morning 9 o'clock.

Thursday, September 26. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Representation from John Lucas Commissary of Pensioners in behalf of Saml. Bradish, a wounded Soldier, Read and committed to the Committee on Pensions.

Mr Ellis & Col. May have leave of absence for a few days.

A Resolve granting a Tax of four hundred & twenty pounds to be assessed on the poles & estates of the Inhabitants of the County of Plimouth, to depay the charges thereof. Read & passed.

Sent up for concurrence.

The Petition of Oliver Phelps Esq. with the report & papers accompanying the same, were ordered to be taken from the files & committed to Mr Otis, Capt. Wales & Capt. Upham.

Representation from John Lucas, Commissary of Pensioners

in behalf of Benjamin Moody. Read & committed to the Committee on Pensions.

A Petition from the Town of Rowley, praying the interference of the Court, to settle certain disputes betwixt the classes in said Town, respecting a delinquent Soldier. Read & committed to Col Hutchinson, Genl. Parks & Capt. Steams.

A Petition from the Town of Wenham setting forth their distresses & praying to be relinquished from the fine laid upon them for not providing [?] three men agreeable to the last requisition of Court. Read & thereupon ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

The Committee on the letter of Lt. Gov. Cushing respecting the want of provisions, at the Castle in Boston Harbour reported a Resolve for paying five hundred pounds, to Comy. Devens (on a former warrant) out of the fines from the Quakers. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The House reconsidered their assignment of 10 oclock this morning, for the third reading of a Bill for the due observance of the Lord's Day, & assigned 3 o'clock P.M. for that purpose.

On representation from Mr. Shurtliff that Thomas Mayhew Esq. late Naval Officer for the County or District of Plimouth was deceased, the House assigned Saturday morning 11 o'clock, for choosing another Gentleman for said office, & Mr. Goodhue was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate, to inform them thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Don, came down & informed the House that the Senate agreed to that assignment.

202. Thursday, September 26. 1782.

A Resolve empowering Thomas Ivers Esq. assistant Treasurer, to sign all government securities & receipts for monies which may be paid into the Treasury during the sickness of the Treasurer, Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The House then proceeded to the further consideration of the report of the Committee, appointed to consider what measures can be taken to reduse the expenses of Government, &c. & agreed first to consider that part of said report respecting an Excise. Whereupon it was voted, that as this House have solemnly Resolved, that it is essential to the welfare of this Commonwealth, that the public credit should be restored & maintained, by the due payment of the interest upon and public securities, so likewise it is the opinion of this House that the raising money for that purpose by Excise, is the most eligible & ought to be carried so far as the nature of our circumstances will admit. The following articles were then agreed upon as articles of excise, viz: New England Rum West India Rum, Wine, Brandy & other spirits, Green Tea, Cyder Loaf Sugar, China Ware, Tobacco & Snuff, Oranges, Lemons & Limes, Dried Fruit. The House postponed the consideration of said report to the Afternoon. Return of the House 89, Voters 78.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the Petition of John Temple Esq, and the papers relative to the same with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: In Senate Sep 26. 1782. Read again [?] & thereupon Ordered, that Stephen Choate Esq, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take into consideration the subject matter of this Resolve the papers accompanying the same & report. Sent down for concurrence, 27th, Read & concurred & Gen. Ward & Col. Washburn are joined & a letter from Jas. Sullivan Esq
337 w. on the same Subject - Read & committed to the same Committee. Sent up for concurrence. The House then adjourned to 3 oclock P. M.

203. Thursday September 26. 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Elizabeth Belcher, praying leave to go to her relatives in England, Read &c. Resolve granting the prayer thereof read & passed & sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the Proprietors of Plumb Island in Ipswich - way, praying to put certain Live Stock thereon, a Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding. Read & Committed to Mr. Smith, Mr. Johnson & Mr. Bartlett.

On Motion a Message was ordered to be sent to the Hon Senate to request them to send down the Petition of Nathl. Jemison with the Resolve thereon - Mr. Sprague was charged with said message; The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down said papers accordingly.

The House reconsidered their assignment of 3 o'clock this Afternoon for the third reading of the Act for the due observance of the Lord's Day, & assigned 10 oclock Friday morning for that purpose.

The Hon. Mr. Don brought down a letter from the Hon Elbridge Gerry Esq. to the Hon President of Senate, & Speaker of the House dated Marblehead, Sep 23. 1782, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate, Sep. 26. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered, that William Sever Esq with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this letter into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon.

Sent down for concurrence.

Oct. 1st. Read & concurred & Mr. Lowell & Genl Ward are joined.

Also the report of the joint Committee on the Petition of Micah Hathorn; In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. 27th. Read & concurred.

A Resolve for adjourning the Supreme Judicial Court to be holden at Great Barrington in the County of Berkshire, on the first Tuesday of October next to the first Tuesday of May next. Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

Ordered, that Col Goodman, Mr. Robbins & Col. Moody be a Committee to consider what measures may be necessary to be taken respecting the public lands at Oxford.

On motion, Ordered, that the Secretary lay upon the Table of the House, the Petition of Waterman Thomas Esq, with the Order passed thereon the last session of the General Court.

The House proceeded on the report of the Committee appointed to consider what measures can be taken to reduce the expenses of Government &c., & agreed to the additional articles of, Iron, Steel, Window Glass, Looking Glasses & Glass Ware to be excised. They then proceeded to affix the prices to the several articles & after debate, they postponed the further consideration of said report till the Morrow.

Then the House adjourned to Friday Morning, 9 o'clock A.M.

 Friday, September 27. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Don brought down the Resolve of the House empowering Thomas Ivers Esq, to sign government securities &c, during the sickness of the Treasurer. In Senate, Read & concurred, with amendments at A. B. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill entitled "an Act to create & erect a Corporation by the name of the Trustees of Dummer Academy, in the County of Essex". Read a third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

The Committee on Pensions reported a Resolve entitling Saml. Bradish to 1/3^{d} part of a Soldiers pay. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the Committee of correspondence of the Town of Boston, setting forth the danger of prisoners going at large in said Town, & praying that some measures may be taken for restraining them. Read & committed to Col. Dalton, Col. Orr & Mr. Goodhue.

Petition from Ebenezer Crafts, with sundry papers respecting Warwick Dick, a Soldier, disputed as to the class for which he was enlisted. Read & committed to Col Orr, Capt Guild & Mr. Brown of Abington.

A Memorial from Samuel Mellish, Pay Master to the third Massachusetts Regiment, respecting the discharge of their wages. Read & committed to Col. Goodman, Mr. Rowe & Major. Bancroft.

206. Friday, September 27. 1782.

Ordered that Mr. Fisk, Capt Cowdin & Col. Orr be a Committee to consider of the propriety of receiving into the Treasury of this Commonwealth, Bills. of credit issued by the State of New Hampshire, from Leml. Kollock & others a Committee for transporting Ordnance Stores.

The Secretary brought down the Resolve on the Petition of Waterman Thomas agreeable to the Order of the House which was read & thereupon Ordered, that Mr Johnson & Col. Washburn with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee, to consider the aforementioned Petition hear the parties & report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Tax Bill requested the sense of the House as to the Sum to be established as a Poll Tax therein. Whereupon it was voted that the Poll Tax be fixed at the same rate as in the last Tax Act for £200,000, agreeable to the requisitions of Congress.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the Resolve of the House adjourning the Supreme Court to be held next in the County of Berkshire. In Senate, Read & concurred, with amendments at A & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Order of the House for committing the letter from James Sullivan Esq. respecting John Temple Esq. In Senate, Read & non - concurred, & that James Sullivan Esq. be & he hereby is directed to state in writing the grounds & facts upon which the information contained in the foregoing letter is founded, & lay the same before the General Assembly. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Galleries were ordered to be opened.

207. Friday, September 27. 1782.

The House proceeded to consider the report of the Committee on the expenses of Government, & having finished the rate of excise on the several articles it was Ordered that the Committee last mentioned be desired to frame a Bill agreeable thereto & to consider what other articles may be the proper objects of excise & report the same to the House.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the report of the joint Committee on the Petition of Silas Taylor & others, Inhabitants of Stow & Harvard, granting them leave to bring in a Bill for incorporating them into a District, with an Order of Senate for accepting said Report. Sent down for concurrence. Read and Concurred.

Also the Petition of Jonathan Eaton with the report of the joint Committee thereon, that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. In Senate, Read & accepted & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Sent down for concurrence.

Oct 2nd. Read & Concurred.

Also a Petition from Mary Ferguson praying liberty to sell a certain piece of land lying in Dartmouth, with a Resolve of Senate enabling her to sell the same agreeable to her prayer. Sent down for concurrence.

Oct 2nd. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3 oclock, P.M.

208. Friday, September 27. 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down a petition from John Preble setting forth that he was put on board the ship Mars as a Pilot while in the Continental service & praying for his pay retained on that account with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate Sep. 27. 1782. Read & thereupon ordered that John Bliss Esq, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration together with the papers accompanying the same & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. 28th Read & concurred & Col. Grow and Mr. Longfellow are joined.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the following Resolve of Senate, viz: In Senate, Sep 27. 1782. - Whereas much of the public business necessary to be acted upon & compleated the present Session (great part of which requires immediate despatch) has been committed to a member [?] of Joint Committees of both Houses, to consider & report thereon, but said Committees have not been able for want of proper time being allowed to compleat the business, to each of them severally assigned -

Therefore, Resolved, that on Monday next, at One o'clock P.M. Each branch of the General Court will adjourn to the hour of 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning, in Order to give the said Committees opportunity to sit in that interval, of time, & the said Committees are hereby Ordered & directed to sit accordingly, & report as soon as may be. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

 Friday, September 27. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down a Resolve of Senate reporting a Resolve, establishing the holding of a Supreme Judicial Court at Taunton, on the 2nd. Wednesday of Novr. next, & postponing the said Court to the 2nd. Tuesday of said November. Sent down for concurrence. 28th Read & concurred.

Mr Child offered his excuse for not arriving earlier earlier in the Session which was voted to be satisfactory.

The House again took up the report of the Committee on the expenses of Government &c. & having considered the first Method proposed by said Committee for defraying the same, viz: that of excise, the question was put whether they would proceed then to consider of the second method proposed, that of a forced Loan, which question passed almost unanimously in the negative. The House then proceeded to the third mode which was direct taxation, & thereupon it was voted to raise such sum of money by direct taxation, to pay the interest on Government securities as may not be raised by the excise for that purpose. And it was further voted that such certificates as might be issued for interest money, agreeable to said report, should not be upon interest.

The House then adjourned to Saturday morning, 9 o'clock.

Saturday September 28. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on Pensions reported a Resolve entitling Daniel Hickey to half pay. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Wm. West, praying to send off a Boat with a British Prisoner, to a ship of War, in the Bay, in order to redeem his son now on board her. - Also a Petition from a number of

Inhabitants of Salem praying leave to send a Flagg to the enemy. Read & committed to Mr. Goodhue.

A Resolve requesting His Excelly. the Governor to write to the Governor of Rhode Island, to prevent provisions being carried to the enemy, Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Goodhue reported two Resolves on the Petitions last mentioned granting the prayers thereof. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wells, brought down the report of the Committee on the Petition of the first Parish in Cambridge, which was that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Oct 3rd. Read & concurred.

Also a letter from the Hon Increase Sumner Esqr. dated 28th September, signifying that having accepted on office under the Government incompatible with the Duties of a Delegate to Congress, he was necessitated to resign the last mentioned employment. In Senate, Read & sent down Oct. 2d Read & Sent up.

The Hon. Mr. Sever came down & informed the House that the Senate were ready to proceed to the choice of a Naval Officer for the Port of Plimouth according to assignment. Mr Dalton was thereupon charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House were likewise ready. Then the two Houses assembled together & appointed Mr Sever, Genl. Ward & Mr. Otis a Committee to collect, sort, & count the votes, who attended that service. A return of the House being made there appeared to be 85. Members present. The Committee reported the whole number of votes to be 85, & that Wm. Watson Esq. had 53 & was chosen. The Houses then separated.

211. Saturday September 28. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the report of the Committee on the Petition of Jonathan Boardman & William Bartlett. In Senate. Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

A Resolve accepting of the resignation of Oliver Phelps Esq as Superintendent of the purchases of Beef, allowing him £100. for his several journies & one per cent on all Beef received by him in full for his services &c. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Edward & Hepzibah Raymond & others reported by way of Resolve. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of Murrayfield, praying an easement in their Taxes, & another praying to be incorporated, Read & committed to Col. Goodman, Mr. Child & Mr. Cushing.

The Committee on public lands at Oxford reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition from the Town of Northbridge reported a Resolve granting them £82:18:8^{d}, out of the public Treasury. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Paul Jewet & others reported a Resolve for George Jewet to shew cause &c, on the second Wednesday of next Session. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Andrew Oliver Esq reported by way of Resolve. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on Pensions reported a Resolve entitling Benja. Moody to half pay for life. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

212. Saturday, September 28. 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of Jona. Titcomb reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Thomas Williams & Caleb Kimball praying a reward for apprehending Zechariah Laurence & John Dawson, suspected of having counterfeit money, Read & committed to Mr. Church, Mr. Child & Mr. Bartlett.

The Committee on a Representation from John Avery Esq presented to the late General Court, reported a Resolve directing the Treasurer to charge himself with four Notes therein mentioned. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Sever came down & informed the House that by the acceptance of the Hon. Increase Sumner Esq as a Judge of the Supream Judicial Court there had become a vacancy in the Senate, & that they had proposed 11 oclock Tuesday next for coming to a choice of a Senator in the room of that Gentleman. Col. Dawes was charged with a Message to inform the Senate that the House agreed to said Assignment.

A Resolve granting to Benja. Austin & Saml. Barrell Esq a Committee for examining & auditing the accounts of the Treasurer, the sum of One Hundred Pounds - Read & passed Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the Selectmen of Marlborough praying that certain Gunpowder, purchased by them of the public might be exchanged. Read & Committed to Mr. Chamberlain Capt. Cushing & Mr. Wilde.

A Resolve appointing a Committee in the County of Bristol to carry into effect the Resolve passed to prevent Live Stock being carried to the enemy from that part of the Country. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

213. Saturday, September 28. 1782.

Mr Smith of Hadley, Mr Southworth, Mr. Burdick & Mr Lusk, offered their excuses for not arriving earlier in the session which were voted to be satisfactory.

A Petition from Mary Bernard praying leave to sell Land therein mentioned. Read and committed to the Committee on that business.

A Petition from Margaret Scott to the same purpose. Read & committed to the same Committee.

A Petition from Thomas Porter & Stephen Longfellow Jr., praying that the Town of Gorham may be discharged of a Soldier, the petitioners having procured one Timothy Bacon for said - Read & committed to Capt. Snow, Mr. Frye & Mr. Hill.

The House proceeded on the report of the Committee on expenses of Government &c. and a Motion being made the question was put whether the House would reconsider the last vote passed the last evening which was determined in the negative & thereupon it was ordered that Mr. Phillips Capt Noyes & Mr Dunbar be a Committee to bring in a Bill for raising by a Tax such sum as may not be raised by the excise for the purpose of paying interest on government Securities. And it was further Ordered that Genl. Ward, Mr. Rowe & Mr Otis, with such as the Hon Senate may join be a Committee to consider the letter part of said report, respecting the reform in several of the Offices of Government & report. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 10 o'clock Monday Morning.

 Monday Sep. 30. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

Mr. Hill had leave of absence during the Session. The Hon Mr Wells brought down a letter from James Sullivan Esq, relative to Mr. Temples affairs, with a Resolve of Senate directing the Secretary & Clerks of the Senate & House to furnish the said Jus. Sullivan Esq, with such papers concerning the subject matter of his former letters as he may require. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Resolve repealing a Resolve of the 11th of February last making Soldiers depreciation Notes receivable in payment for Absentees estates, Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr Otis be on the Committee on the Report of the Committee appointed to repair to the County of Hampshire &c., in the room of Mr. Dwight who is excused. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Isaac Phillips praying to be allowed and paid for certain Articles supplied the State Agent. Read & Committee to Mr. Church, Col Doane & Mr Otis.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of the District called Shapleigh Town praying to be incorporated. - Read & committed to Mr. Longfellow, Mr Prentice & Mr Nichols.

An account from Joseph Clarke for ammunition & other articles supplied in the late disturbances in the County of Hampshire.

Read & committed to the same Committee.

A petition from the Inhabitants of the town of Fryeburg praying to be allowed for a Guard furnished to Sudbury Canada in a late alarm. Read & committed to Mr. Longfellow & others.

A Representation from Caleb Davis Esq, Agent for the Commonwealth requesting leave to resign &c. Read & thereupon Ordered, that this representation be committed to the Committee of both Houses, appointed the 28 inst on the latter part of the report of the Committee appointed to consider what measures can be taken to reduce the expenses of Government, & to examine & report. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Phillips, Mr. Smead & Mr. Hall of Sutton be a Committee to consider of & report a proper allowance for the civil List & other exigencies of Government the present year.

A Petition from Nathl. Heath late Commander of the Troops in & about Boston, praying that his Roll might be paid. Read & committed to Mr. Shurtliff Capt. Cowdin & Mr. Ball.

A Resolve providing for 30/- per month being added to the pay of Surgeons & Surgeons Mates in the Army. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Lewis, Mr. Frazier & Capt Dench with such as the Hon Senate shall join be a Committee to consider of the propriety of appointing a Naval Officer for the Port of Machias. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Daniel Day & others praying to purchase public lands in the County of Berkshire, Read & committed to Dn. Smead, Mr. Frye & Mr. Weld.

 Monday September 30. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Choate brought down a Report of a joint Committee respecting the further consideration of the Bills reported by the Committee appointed to revise the Laws. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. 2nd. Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Don brought down a petition from Juniper Baerthiaunie complaining of Col. Brewer at Machias, &c, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate Sep 30. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that this letter with the papers accompanying the same be committed to the Committee appointed by both Houses, from Col Allan, & Col. Lithgow. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Wells, brought down the Resolve of the House for preventing Live Stock being carried to the enemy. In Senate, Read & non-concurred & thereupon Ordered that the consideration of this Resolve be referred to the Committee appointed the 19th instant to report the proper measures, to be taken for preventing any trade in future with the enemy, and the said Committee are directed to sit immediately. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred.

A Petition from John Sprague in behalf of the town of Lancaster setting forth that the Constable of sd. town had refused to receive certificates in discharge of the Tax of October last, & praying Order of Court thereon. Read and Committed to Col Pope, Col. Doane & Mr. Wilder.

A Petition from John Prentice in behalf of the town of Ward, praying an abatement of a Tax imposed on them by means of an error in the valuation. Read & Committed to Mr. Locke, Mr. Upham & Mr. Newell.

217. Monday September 30. 1782.

A Memorial from the first parish in the Town of Scarborough, praying to be enabled to give a Deed of certain lands therein mentioned. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

A Petition from Zadock Leonard in behalf of certain Soldiers whose pay was delivered to their Captain & afterwords lost to them. Read & committed to Capt Cowdin, Mr. Noyes & Mr. Frye of Royalston.

A Petition from the Selectmen of Hadley praying a more ample compensation than they had received for teaming from Springfield to Great Barrington. Read & leave given the Petitioners to withdraw their Petition.

A Petition from Isaac Thompson in behalf of the Town of Middleborough praying that the Treasurers Execution against said town might be stayed, untill their accounts with the Commonwealth were liquidated - Read & committed to Col Dawes, Mr. Jenckes & Mr. Hall of Medford.

A Petition from the town of Rutland praying the repeal of a Resolve, passed the 20th of Feby. last, directing said town to pay to the town of Sterling the sum of Ninety Pounds. Read & committed to Mr. Hall of Sutton, Mr. Prentice & Mr. Smead.

A Petition from Comfort Johnson, praying for a licence - Read & thereupon Ordered, that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down a Petition from the second Parish in Springfield praying to be incorporated into a town, with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: - In Senate Sep. 30th 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that John Harding Esq, with such as the Hon House

shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration, hear the Parties & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Otis & Capt Noyes are joined.

Also a Petition from the first parish in Springfield relative to the same subject, with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: In Senate Sep 30. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that this Petition be committed to the Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition from the second parish in Springfield & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to Tuesday Morning, 9 o'clock.

Tuesday October 1. 1782

Met according to adjournment.

Samuel Browne Esqr, made his appearance in the House as a Member from the town of Stockbridge in the room of John Bacon Esq, who was chosen a Senator, agreeable to the Precept issued for the purpose, & the said Samuel Browne Esq, was qualified according to the Constitution.

A Petition from Michael Humble, Captain of a Flag of Truce, from England, praying leave to sell some of his Slops & others stores for the purpose of refitting his Vessell -

Read & committed to Col. Thorndike, Col Pope & Capt. Peterson.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Resolve for preventing the transporting of Live Stock to the Island of Nantucket, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: - In Senate, Sep 30, 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that Samuel Niles & Samuel Baker Esqrs, be a Committee on the part of the Senate, with such the Hon. House may appoint, to confer upon the subject matter of this Resolve. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Ordered to lie for the present.

Also, the report of a joint Committee on the Petition of Samuel Goodwin, being a Resolve for Asa Smith & others to shew Cause &c, on the second Wednesday of the next Session, - In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

2nd. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Andrew Oliver. In Senate, Read & concurred with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence.

Oct 2. Read & concurred.

Also a Petition from James Avery in behalf of the Artillery Company at Machias, praying for their Cloathing with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: - In Senate Sep. 30. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that this Petition be committed to the Committee of both House appointed on the Petition of John Preble, to consider the same with the papers accompanying the same & report what is proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence.

Oct. 7. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Order of the House for a joint Committee to consider of the propriety of appointing a Naval Officer for the Port of Machias - In Senate Read & non-concurred, & thereupon ordered that the subject matter of the above order, be referred to the Committee of both Houses appointed on the letters from Col Allan & Col. Lithgow. Sent down for concurrence. 2nd. Read and Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down the Resolve of the House respecting the public land at Oxford; In Senate Read & concurred with an amendment at A. - Sent down for concurrence. 2nd. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Sever came down & informed the House that the Senate were ready to proceed to the choice of a Senator for the county of Suffolk, in the room of Increase Sumner Esqr, according to assignment, Mr. Dalton was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House were likewise ready. Whereupon the two Houses assembled together in one room & chose the Hon. Mr. Wells Col. Dawes & Mr. Frazier a Committee to collect, sort & count the votes. The Houses being returned there appeared to be 84 Members present, & the Committee having attended their service, reported that the number of Votes were 84 - 43 made a choice & that the Hon. Cotton Tufts Esq had 72, & was chosen.

The Hon. Senate then withdrew.

Ordered, that Genl. Ward be on the Committee on the Petition of Waterman Thomas, & to hear the parties therein concerned in the room of Capt. Johnson who is absent.

Sent up for concurrence.

221. Tuesday, October 1. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: - In Senate Oct. 1. 1782, Ordered that the Secretary be directed to notify the Hon Cotton Tufts Esq that he has this day been elected by joint ballot of the Senate & House of Representatives, a Senator for the County of Suffolk. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred.

A Bill entitled "an Act for the due observance of the Lords Day" - Read a second time & recommitted for amendments.

The House then adjourned to 3 o'clock. P.M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Caleb Ammidown, Collector of Excise for the County of Worcester, setting forth that there were many persons in said County who sold spirituous Liquors without licence with impunity & praying government might take some measures for the effectual prevention thereof. Read & committed to the Committee appointed to prepare an Excise Act.

A Petition from William Baker, Messenger to the General Court, praying some further allowance for his services. Read & committed to Mr. Dalton, Col Thacher & Mr. Bartlett.

The Committee on the Petition from the Committee of correspondence &c. of the Town of Boston, reported by way of Resolve. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Col. Dawes Mr. Rowe, & Mr. Barrett be a Committee to consider of the expediency of continuing the establishment at Castle William & Report.

 Tuesday, October 1. 1782.

Ordered that Mr. Noyes, Mr. Brown of Stockbrige [?] & Col Goodman, be a Committee to consider of the state of the Act for consolidating government securities & report.

An Engrossed Bill entitled "an Act to create & erect a Corporation by the name of Trustees of Dummer Academy in the County of Essex." Read & third time & passed to be enacted.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Petition of Edward Raymond & others with the Resolve of the House thereon. In Senate, Read & there being no evidence adduced to support this Petition, non-concurred. Sent down for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Paul Jewet & others Selectmen of Rowley. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence.

The Petition of R. Woodbridge was taken from the file & committed to Mr Greenwood, Mr. Dwight & Capt. Bancroft.

A Petition from Gamaliel Bradford praying for the payment of his wages, as a Col. in the Continental Army, Read & committed to Major Church, Col Dawes & Dr. Brown of Framingham.

A Petition from certain Inhabitants of the South East Corner of Warwick & others setting forth that they had raised a sum of money for establishing a Learned Protestant Congregational Minister which they had placed in the hands of certain Trustees, whom they prayed might be incorporated. -
Read & committed to Mr. Hall of Medford, Col Washburn & Col Thatcher [?].
Then the House adjourned to Wednesday Morning 9 o'clock.

223. Wednesday October 2nd. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Col Washburn, Dn. Smead & Mr. Johnson be a committee to consider of the state of the land called Green and Walkers land.

A Petition from Rebecca Carmon praying for a Divorce from her Husband. Read & committed to Mr. Goodhue, Mr Robbins & Mr. Kellogg.

An Engrossed Bill entitled" an Act for granting a Lottery for repairing the Bridge over the River Parker in the County of Essex." Read three several times & passed to be enacted.

An Engrossed Bill entitled "an Act directing & regulating the Process of Outlawry." having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Petition from Lemuel Bannister praying to sell land therein mentioned.
Read & committed to the Committee on the Sale of Land.

A Petition of Zephaniah Perkins in behalf of the town of Plympton, praying releif in their Taxes -

Read & committed to Mr. Hall of Medford, Col Hutchinson & Mr. Brown of Stockbridge.

224. Wednesday October 2nd. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of the Committee of the town of Boston. In Senate Read & concurred with amendments at A.C.D.F.I. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred as to the amendments at A. & C, & non-concurred as to the amendments at D.F. & I. Sent up for concurrence.

Also the report of the Committee on the report of the Committee appointed to repair to the County of Berkshire &c. In Senate Read & Accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

A Petition from Col. Hunter, praying for supplies for the Regiment stationed at Broad Bay; Read and Committed to Col Mc.Cobb, Col Wheaton, & Col. Dawes.

The Committee on the Petition of Rebecca Carmon reported a Resolve, authorizing & requesting the Governor & Council to try her case. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petitions of Joseph Freeman & Thomas Porter & Stephen Longfellow, reported by way of resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Paul Jewet & others, Selectmen of Rowley. In Senate, Read & concurred, as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

Also a report of the joint Committee on the Petition of Waterman Thomas. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Committee on the sale of land reported verbally on the Petition of Mary Barnard, that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw her petition. Leave to withdraw accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of Zadock Leonard made a like report. Leave to withdraw accordingly.

The Committee on a Petition from a Plantation called Massabeseck, reported verbally that said Petition lie on file. Ordered to lie accordingly.

A Bill entitled an Act for the repealing of one Act of this Commonwealth made & passed on the third day of May last entitled an Act, providing a speedy method of recovering debts, & for preventing unnecessary costs attending the same; and for making other provision which may better answer the ends designed. Read a second time & Thursday 10 oclock assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Petition of Michael Humble reported by way of Resolve. Read & Accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Isaac Hathaway praying to be paid for certain Articles supplied the Army.

Read & committed to Mr Parker, Mr Brown of Stockbridge & Mr. Swift.

226. Wednesday, October 2nd. 1782.

A Petition from Huldah Tupper praying for an Order on the Committee on Absentees estates, in the County of Hampshire to discharge a debt due to her Husband, Col. Benjamin Tupper. Read & committed to Capt. Curtis, Dn. Frye & Mr. Ball.

A Petition from the Guardians of the Punkapoge Indians relative to their affairs, Read & committed to Mr. Dunbar, Mr Robbins & Mr Parker.

The Hon. Mr Wells brought down the Resolve of the House for continuing the Libells exhibited against certain Absentees Estates; In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Nov. 11th Read & Concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Zebadee Sprout Agent on the estates of Peter Oliver, Senior & Junior, reported a Resolve appointing a Committee to repair to Middleborough, to inspect the conduct of the Petitioner Read & Accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from William Warner a Soldier, praying that his Depreciation Note might be paid. Read & committed to Col. Hutchinson, Col Browne & Capt Cowdin.

A Petition from Silas Cutler in behalf of the town of Templeton, relative to Dr. Dunsmore; Read & committed to Mr. Prentice, Mr. Jenckes & Mr. Wheelock.

Ordered that Mr. Greenwood be on the joint Committee on Mr. Morris's letters communicated with the Governor's Message, in the room of Mr. Sprague who is absent. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of James Short and others, Proprietors of Plumb, Island, reported by way of Resole, to notify the adverse party &c. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P.M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Petition from the town of Cohasset, relative to their Taxes was taken off file, & committed to Col. Doane Mr. Prentice, & Mr Vinale.

Genl. Prebble brought down the report of the Committee for ascertaining the unappropriated lands of the Commonwealth, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate Oct. 2nd. 1782, Ordered that Abraham Fuller & Nathl Wells Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this report into consideration & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr. Bartlett, Mr Vans & Col. Grow are joined.

A Memorial from the town of Dedham, & other towns in the County of Suffolk, and a Petition from the town of Northfield relative to the abatement of their Taxes.

228. Wednesday, October 2nd. 1782.

The Representation of Charles Knowles in behalf of the Massachusetts Artillery was taken up & committed to Mr Goodman & others on the Petition of Lieut. Mellish.

A Petition from Zechariah Smith & Mary his wife praying to sell certain land therein mentioned -

Read & committed to the Committee on that head.

A Bill entitled an Act to prevent + prophane (?) + [unreadable] Cursing & swearing. Read a first time & the morrow morning 10 oclock assigned for a second reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss brought down the Resolve of the House relative to Oliver Phelps Esqr. In Senate Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Oct. 3rd. Read & concurred as to the amendment at A & non-concurred as to the amendment at [blank in original.]

The Committee on the Petition of Isaac Snow in behalf of the Town of Harpswell, abating said town five shillings on the thousand pounds of the last valuation & placing the same on the Plantation called West Bowdoinham. Read & Accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of West Bowdoinham reported a Resolve allowing a Bill to be brought in for incorporating that Plantation. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down a Petition from Edwd. Raymond in answer to one from Seth Heywood with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate Oct. 2d 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that John Hastings Esqr, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee, to consider this Memorial, hear the parties & report.

Sent down for concurrence. 3rd. Read & concurred & Capt Curtis & Col. Thorndike are joined.

A Petition from John Gamsby setting forth that he was joint owner of a Mill with one John Willson in Great Britain, who was indebted to the estate of William Knutting an Absentee, & praying that said Willsons right in said Mill might be sold to him, he paying the value thereof to the creditors of said William Knutting

Read & committed to Mr Goodhue, Col Thorndike and Mr. Newell.

The Hon. Mr Niles brought down the report of the Committee on the Memorial of the Officers of the Army. In Senate Read & sent down. Read & Thursday 3 oclock P.M. assigned for consideration thereof.

Ordered That Mr. Bartlett & Capt. Curtis with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to fix the value of the Notes given to the Officers & Soldiers of the Army, for the depreciation of their wages, in order for their being consolidated. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act defining the powers & privileges & regulating the Office of Sheriff. Also,

A Bill entitled an Act defining the powers of Justices of the Peace in civil actions - And

A Bill entitled an Act defining the duty & power of Coroners - were read a first time & Thursday, 4 & 5 oclock P.M, assigned for the second reading of said Bills.

Two petitions from Ezra Hendall & others praying to sell land, & a Petition from Samuel Muns to the same purpose read & committed to the Committee on that Head. Then the House adjourned to Thursday morning, 9 oclock.

Met according to Adjournment.

Ordered, that no Gentleman lay any private petition on the Table without special leave, from the House first obtained for that purpose.

The Committee on the Petition of William Warner reported verbally that said Petition lie. Ordered to lie accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of Winslow Parker, reported an order for Jacob Lukin Parker to show cause &c, on the second Wednesday of the next Session. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the town of Granby praying the repeal of an Act setting off part of said town to South Hadley Read & committed to Mr. Dunbar, Col. Orr & Mr. Barrell of Concord.

The Committee on the Petition of William Baker Messenger of the General Court reported a Resolve granting him fifty pounds for a Quarters service & directing the Agent to deliver him a piece of Linnen. Read & accepted Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Oliver Smith, Clerk of the late Convention in the County of Hampshire, praying for an act of indemnity to pass for all persons concerned, in the disturbances there except for Samuel Ely. Read & committed to Mr. Dane, Mr. Parks, & Mr. Frye of Fryeburg, to bring in a Bill for that purpose.

A Petition from Aaron Holden, & Prisoner on parole praying for his discharge & for his wages, in order to discharge his debts contracted while with the enemy. Read & committed to Mr. Frye, Capt. Cowdin & Col. Thurston.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the report of the Committee on the Petition of John Prebble. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. 4th Read and Concurred.

The committee appointed to consider of the establishment at the Castle in Boston Harbour, reported a Resolve for renewing the same. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act for the repealing of an act of this Commonwealth, made & passed on the third day of May last, entitled an Act providing a speedy method of recovering debts, & for preventing unnecessary costs attending the same, & for making other provision which may better answer the ends designed by the said Act - Read a third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed, with amendments at A & B.

Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act describing the power of Justices of the Peace in civil actions."

Read a second time and Friday morning, 10 oclock assigned for a third reading thereof.

232. Thursday October 3rd. 1782.

A Petition from the Town of Shelburne praying an easement in their Taxes according to the promises made previous to the valuation. Read & committed to the Committee on that business.

A Petition from Thomas Cowdin in behalf of the Town of Fitchbourg praying to be excused from raising one of the Men for the Army, required of them. Read and committed to Mr Vans Capt Johnson & Capt Guild.

A Petition from Hiram Newell in behalf of the Town of Athol, praying an easement in their Taxes - Read & committed to Mr Whitney of Northboro, Col Thorndike & Mr Jenckes.

A Petition from Ichabod Dexter in behalf of the Town of Hardwick to the same effect. Read & committed to the same Committee.

A Petition from William Dennie [?] praying a Warrant on the Treasurer, for certain Articles sold to the Board of War. Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Mr Locke & Capt. Wheelock.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of Ervingshire praying to be incorporated. Read & committed to Mr Hall of Medford, & others, a Committee on another Petition from said town.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of Bernardston, praying that the Parishes in said town may be taxed separately. Read & committed to Mr. Lusk, Mr Smead & Mr. Whitney of Northfield.

A Petition from James Lyman praying for a reward for apprehending a Deserter. Read & committed to the same Committee.

233. Thursday. October 3rd. 1782.

Ordered that Capt Upham, Mr. Dane, & Col Thurston be a Committee to consider of the measures that may be necessary to be taken with respect to such towns against which Executions have issued & which have sums to money due to them from the Treasurer & Report.

A Petition from Jona. Melvin & Simeon Bigelow praying that Mary Foster may have leave to return from New York. Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Resolve on the Petition of Michael Humble. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A letter from the Selectmen of Salem to the Representatives of that town requesting them to make application to the General Court, that Guards may be stationed there. Read & committed to Mr Evan's, Capt Wheelock & Capt Johnson.

Also a Petition from Stephen Webb setting forth that he had served as a Sergeant of the Guards at Salem & praying for his pay. Read & committed to the same Gentlemen.

Then the House adjourned to 3 oclock P.M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment

The House reconsidered their assignment of 3 oclock this afternoon for considering the report of the Committee on the Representation of the Officers of the Army & assigned nine oclock, Friday morning for that purpose.

234. Thursday October 3rd. 1782.

A Bill entitled “an Act describing the duty & power of Coroners” Read a second time & Friday 11 oclock assigned for a third reading thereof.

A Bill entitled “an Act defining the powers and privileges & regulating the Office of Sheriffs”. Read a second time & the same time assigned for a third reading of said Bill.

A Bill entitled “an Act establishing the process in Replevin”. Read a first time, & Friday 4 o’clock P.M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Petition from John Williams praying to go to New York, for the purpose of obtaining certain papers therein mentioned. Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Mr. Wilder was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate to request them to send down the papers relating to the affairs between Dr. Dunsmore, & the Town of Templeton, which the Hon Mr. Stone brought down accordingly. Said papers were then delivered to Mr. Prentice.

The House then adjourned to Friday morning 9 o’clock.

Friday, October 4th. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down a letter from Robert Morris Esq. Dated Office of Finance Sep 12. 1782. with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: In Senate, Oct 3rd. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that this letter & the papers accompanying the Same be committed to the Committee of both Houses appointed the 24. Sept. last, respecting the settlement of public accounts &c.

Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr Bourn added to said Committee.

Also a letter from Robt. R. Livingston Esq. Secretary for Foreign Affairs, dated, Phila. 15. Sept. 1782. In Senate, Read & sent down.

Also another letter, from the same Gentleman dated Phila. 12. Sept. 1782, with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate October 3rd. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered, that Ephraim Starkweather with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this letter with the Resolve accompanying into consideration, & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Nathl Gorham Esq & Col. Pope are joined.

Also the following Order of Senate viz: In Senate Oct. 3. 1782. Ordered that Solomon Freeman Esq with such as the Hon. House shall join, be a Committee to consider & report what is proper to be done with respect to towns, which are delinquent in procuring Beef, & returning certificates to the Secretary of Beef delivered, agreeable to the Resolves & requisitions of this Court. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Col. Snow & Col. Dawes are joined.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the report of the joint Committee on the Memorial from the Officers of the Army & after debate thereon, Ordered that said report & memorial be recommitted for a further conference with the Memorialists on the subject matter thereof; and that Mr Lowell & Genl. Ward, with such as the Hon Senate may Join be added to the Committee.

Sent up for concurrence.

236. Friday, October 4th. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a Petition from Col. Phineas Whitney & Zabdiel Adams, Guardians &c. praying to sell land the property of their Minors, with a Resolve of Senate granting the prayer thereof. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Resolve on the Petition of Richard Derby Esq was taken from file, passed &c. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act to prevent prophane cursing & swearing." Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Col. Thacher, Col. Bart & Mr Banell of Boston, be a Committee to consider of the measures proper to be taken for discharging the Probate & other fees arising from the settling of Absentees estates insolvent.

A Bill entitled "an Act describing the power of Justices of the Peace in civil actions." Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act defining the power & privileges & regulating the Office of Sheriffs". Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act describing the duty & power of Coroners." Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act to incorporate the East Parish of South Brimfield in the County of Hampshire, into a Town by the name of Holland. Read a first time and Saturday, 10 o'clock assigned for a second reading of said Bill.

Genl. Prebble brought down the report the Joint Com =

mittee on the latter part of the report of the Committee on the expenses of Government & the Representation of Caleb Davis Esq. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. 18th Read & concurred, with amendments at A. B. C. & D. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Caleb Hyde in behalf of a Deficient class in the town of Lenox praying the fine to be remitted from said class. Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

A Resolve directing in what manner Executions now issued shall be paid in certain cases. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Jude Foster, praying for a licence to sell spirituous Liquors. Read & committed to Mr. Robbins, Mr. Ellis & Capt Johnson.

A Petition from Russell Kellog in behalf of the Town of Chesterfield, praying the remission of a fine laid on said Town, Read & committed to Dn. How Col. Clark, & Mr. Chamberlain.

A Petition from Mary Foster praying leave to go to New - Read & Mr Dawes appointed to bring in a Resolve granting the prayer thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Jude Foster reported a Resolve empowering the Court of Sessions in the County of Hampshire, to licence the Petitioner at their next Session. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Col. Dawes agreeable to order reported a Resolve permitting Mary Foster to go to New York. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P.M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition from the Inhabitants of Merryfield reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes mentioned in their Petition. Accepted.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Tax Bill for paying the interest on Government Securities &c., Reported two draughts for that purpose, which being read the House assigned 9 o'clock Saturday Morning for considering a proper sum to be inserted therein.

Mr. Dench was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request if they had not passed upon the Resolve providing an establishment at the Castle in Boston Harbour, that they would send the same down to the House. Mr. Fisher brought said Resolve down accordingly, which was delivered to Mr. Dench.

A Bill entitled "an Act for repealing an Act entitled an Act laying certain duties of Excise on certain articles therein mentioned for the purpose of paying the interest on Government Securities & for repealing another Act, entitled an Act in addition unto & for amending and [unreadable] an Act made in the year One Thousand Seven Hundred & Eighty one, laying certain duties of Excise on certain Articles therein mentioned for the purpose of paying the interest on Government Securities,"

and for raising a revenue by Excise on certain articles therein mentioned for the payment of interest on Government securities." Read first time & Tuesday next, 3 o'clock. P.M. assigned for a second reading thereof.
The House then adjourned to Saturday 9 oclock A.M.

Saturday, October 5. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

On Motion Ordered that the Secretary be directed to lay before the House the Bill "directing & regulating the Process of Outlawry" if in his possession.

Ordered that Col. May, Genl. Parks & Capt. Dench with such as the Hon. Senate shall join, be a Committee to repair to the Castle in Boston Harbour, view the situation thereof, & report the number of Men necessary to be stationed there.

Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from William Hudson praying to set up a House of entertainment on the public land, in the highway through Almsbury. Read and committed to Col. Thurston, Mr. Evans, & Mr. Dane.

A Petition from the town of Goshen respecting the settling of the Beef Tax, between that town and Chesterfield. Read & Committed to the Committee on the Petition from the last mentioned town.

240. Saturday, October 5. 1782.

The Secretary brought down the Bill as last ordered & thereupon Col. Washburn, was charged with a message to the Hon Senate to propose the erasing of the words “declared and“ in the last enacting clause but one in said Bill.

A Bill entitled “an Act for regulating the Militia of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, & for repealing all Laws heretofore made for that purpose,” Read a first time & Monday next 3 oclock P.M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Bill “directing & regulating the Process of Outlawry,” & informed the House that the Senate agreed to their proposed amendment therein.

The Hon. Mr. Sever came down & requested the House that in case they had not acted upon certain Resolves respecting the expenses of Government, they would return the same to the Senate. Said Resolves were returned accordingly.

On Representation from Mr. Bourn that there was no Judge appointed to sit on the trial of certain cases in the Southern District & that the sickness of His Excelly the Governor prevented his attention to that business, Ordered, that Col. Pope, Mr. Dane & Mr Lowell be a Committee to report the measures necessary to be taken for the trial thereof.

On Motion from Col. Washburn the Petition of James Harris Esq. relative to the Representation of Timothy Edwards Esq. & others against him was considered & thereupon Ordered that the said James Harris Esq

be discharged from any further attendance on the House. The said Timothy Edwards Esq & others not appearing, nor any evidence being adduced to support their charges against him.

Mr. Dwight was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request them, in case they had not passed upon the Resolve for abating the valuation of Dorchester, to send the same to the House. The Hon. Mr. Baker came down & informed the House that the Senate had non - concurred said Resolve. Mr. Dunbar was then charged with a Message to the Hon senate to request them to send down said Resolve, notwithstanding. The Hon. Mr. Hastings then brought the same to the House, & thereupon a Resolve passed taking 12/ from the Town of Dorchester, on the thousand pounds, & placing 6/ on the Town of Dedham, 3/ on the Town of Medfield & 1/6 on the towns of Milton & Walpole each. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee appointed on the Petition of the Town of Granby, reported a Resolve for suspending the Act for setting off certain lands to the Town of South Hadley, untill the first day of April next. Read and Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down the Resolve of the House directing the mode in which Executions against towns shall be discharged in certain cases. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a letter of resignation from Cotton Tufts Esqr. as a Senator for the County of Suffolk. In Senate, Read & sent down. Read & sent up.

A Petition from John Beverly, praying for payment of a Pension granted him. Read & Committed to Mr Holt, Mr. Thurston, & Mr Locke.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge bought down the Bill to prevent prophane cursing & swearing. In Senate, read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed, with amendments at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. 17th. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Mary Foster. In Senate Read & concurred with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Oliver Phelps Esqr reported a Resolve allowing him One Hundred pounds besides his expenses, as a compensation for his services. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Dunbar had leave of Absence.

Then the House adjourned to Monday Morning, 10 o'clock

243. Monday, October 7. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

Col. Washburn was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate to request them to send down the Petition from the Town of Chesterfield which the Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down accordingly, & they were then committed to Col. Goodman, Dr. Manning and Mr Davis of Charlton.

A Petition from the Town of Thomastown, another from Bristol, & a third from the town of Waldoborough praying easement in their respective Taxes. Read & Committed to Mr Greenwood, Col. Clark & Mr. Smead.

A Petition from James Nickols, praying direction from the Court, as to any allowance being made on public securities in his hands, in the payment of public debts, Read & Committed to Capt. Wales, Capt Upham & Mr. Dench.

A Petition from Eli Root & Wm. Walker Esqrs, who were appointed to take Depositions in the case of Jas. Harris Esqr, setting forth that they had not received their appointment for that purpose in season. Read & committed to Mr. Brown of S. Col. Clark & Mr. Lusk.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to discount thirty five pounds in the Oct. Tax 1781, with the Plantation of Merryfield. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act to incorporate the East Parish of South Brimfield in the County of Hampshire into a town by the name of Holland.

Read a second time & Tuesday 10 o'clock assigned for a third reading thereof.

 Monday October 7. 1782.

Ordered that Genl. Ward & Mr. Stowe, with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to consider what public business is necessary to be acted upon the present session, by the Genl. Court, to methodize the same & report. Sent up for concurrence.

A letter from Col. Manasseh Kempton respecting the live stock carried to the Elizabeth & other Islands, Read & thereupon ordered that Col Pope & Mr Bourn, with such as the Hon Senate shall join be a Committee to consider the subject matter of this letter & report the necessary measures to be taken respecting the same. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Eben, Mitchell praying to sell land. Read & committed to the Committee appointed on such Petitions.

A Petition from Adam Maynard in behalf of the town of Paxton praying their taxes to be abated. Read and Committed to Mr Davis of Charlton, Col. Ely, & Mr. Brown of Stockbridge.

A Bill entitled an Act for erecting a town within the County of by the name of Read a first time & Friday 10 o'clock assigned for a second reading thereof.

The Committee on the sale of land reported Resolves on the following Petitions, viz: One from the first parish in Scarboro, another from Lemuel Billings, Guardian to Benjamin Billings, a third from Lemuel Bannister Adam, on the estate of Isaac Walker, & a fourth on the Petition of Anna Prentice granting the prayer thereof - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Cornelius Lynde, Excise Master for the County of Berkshire, setting forth that his expenses were greater than his commissions. Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Dr. Manning & Col. May.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of the north part of Sandisfield & others, praying to be incorporated. Read & committed to Mr. Metcalf, Mr. Southworth & Capt. Maynard.

A Petition from Anna Buck & Aaron Buck praying to sell lands. Read & committed to the Committee appointed to consider petitions of that sort.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of the Town of Worthington praying to receive receipts on their Constables from the Treasury, for teaming & other services done by them for the public. Read & committed to Genl. Parks Mr. Scot & Col. Edey.

The Committee on the Petition of Russell Kellog in behalf of the town of Chesterfield, reported a Resolve remitting to said town a fine therein mentioned. Read & accepted sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve on the Petition of Thomas Cowdin in behalf of the Town of Fitchburg, praying Execution against said Town. Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

The House then adjournment to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Genl. Ward & Col. Thacher with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to consider of the state of the Cartel in Boston Harbour commanded by Capt. Michael Humble & of the propriety of her leaving Port. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to receive seventeen hundred & forty five Dollars of the new emission money of New Hampshire of Lemuel Kollock Esq. and others a Committee for transporting Ordnance & others to the North River. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Memorial from Mary Thompson setting forth that the committee for selling Absentees estates in the County of Worcester had called upon her for the fulfilling of a contract made by her late Husband, with John Murray Esq. an Absentee, which through poverty she was unable to fulfil. Read & committed to Mr. Cranch. Brigr. Parks & Mr. Johnson.

The Committee on the Petition of Silas Cutler reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Leave to withdraw accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the report of the Committee on the letter of Robt. R. Livingston Esq. Minister for foreign affairs. In Senate, Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read and Concurred.

 Monday, October 7. 1782.

The Committee on the petition of the Selectmen of Marlboro, reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Samuel Mr. Cobb & others, owners of a small boat which was lost in the public service praying a compensation therefor. Read & committed to Capt. Patch Dr. Hall & Capt Hall.

A Petition from Jonas Howe praying to sell real estate. Read & committed to the Committee appointed for the sale of land.

A Petition from the Selectmen of West Springfield praying to be rectified in the valuation. Also Another Petition from the same persons praying for an allowance out of the public Treasury, for the repairs of a large Bridge erected over Agawam River in said town. Read & committed to Col. Dawes, Mr. Barrett of Concord & Col. Goodman.

A Petition from Charles Cotton praying that his depreciation Notes might be paid. Also

A Petition from Samuel Moor & others, Artificers who have been in the American Service during the war praying for the gratuity allowed to Soldiers who enlisted during the war into the Army. Also

A Petition from John Shephard & others, Soldiers doing duty at Springfield & praying for the same allowances to be made to them as are made to Soldiers doing duty at camp.

And a Petition from Capt. John Carpenter praying that the amount of the Pay Roll for his company might be paid to him he having advanced the same to the Soldiers. Read & Committed to Mr. Johnson of Woburn, Capt. Adams & Col. Burt,

 Monday October 7. 1782.

A Petition from Nathan Davis setting forth that he was indebted in a Sum of Money by Bond to John Murray Esq an Absentee, for which he likewise gave him a Mortgage Deed which is in the hands of the Committee for Absentees estates, in the County of Worcester, the Bond being lost which was his only evidence of interest money he had paid, on said debt, & praying that the same may be allowed by said Committee. Read & committed to Mr. Robbins, Capt. Patch & Mr. Dane, to be taken up at large.

The Committee on the Petition of Nathl. Heath reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the Plantation of Canaan praying relief in their Taxes. Read & committed to Capt. Snow, Col. May & Mr. Frye of Fryeburg.

A Petition from James Thompson, praying to sell real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on sale of land.

A Petition from John Usher praying to be enabled to give a Deed of Land therein mentioned. Read & committed to Mr. Robbins, Capt. Goldsburg & Capt. Frye.

A Petition from Saml. Leonard setting forth that he had contracted debts on account of the public in paper money, which at the time of provision being made for the discharge thereof, by Congress, were calculated at less than their value in hard money, according to the Commonwealth's scale of Depreciation, & praying the Courts direction in discharging the same.

Read & committed to Mr. Dwight, Mr. Bartlett & Col. Pope.

 Monday October 7. 1782.

A Petition from Simon Bartlett & others in behalf of several deficient classes for raising men, praying the remission of their fines. Read & committed to Mr Evans Col. Moody & Col. Thurston.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss brought down a Bill entitled an Act, prescribing forms of Writs in civil causes, and directing the mode of proceeding therein. In Senate, Oct 7. 1782, Read a second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. Also a Bill entitled an Act for hearing & determining cases in equity. In Senate Oct 7. 1782. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. 19th Read a first time.

Tuesday, October 8th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Mr. Phillips Genl. Ward & Mr. Otis with such as the Hon Senate shall join, be a Committee to consider what measures are necessary to be taken in consequence of the decease of Henry Gardner Esq the late Treasurer, & Report. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Dr. Stow, Col. Dawes & Mr. Longfellow be a Committee to report the measures proper to be taken with the land lying in Stow & owned in England which was under the care of H. Gardener Esq deceased.

Ordered,

Ordered that Major Goodman & Mr. Whitney of Northfield, with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to consider of the measures proper to be taken for the more effectually preventing of desertion from the Army, & report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of certain Inhabitants of the Town of Bernardston, reported a Resolve, giving the Petitioners leave to bring in a Bill for incorporating a town according to the boundaries therein described. Read & accepted.

A Bill entitled "an Act to incorporate the East Parish of South Brimfield, in the County of Hampshire into a town by the name of East Brimfield." Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

On Motion voted that 3 o'clock P.M. be assigned for considering the propriety of reconsidering the vote passed for issuing a Tax of £200.000, according to the requisitions of Congress for the year 1782.

A Bill entitled "an Act for regulating the Militia within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts & for repealing all laws heretofore made for that purpose," was taken up & read in part the second time & adjourned for further consideration to Wednesday Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday morning 9 o'clock.

[Note. Pages 251 & 252. of the original will be found following page 276 of the Copy, where they evidently belong. See Original.]

See note, at foot of previous page.
 Wednesday October 9. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Beciah Norton reported a Resolve allowing him to go to New York, to bring away the pay for live stock taken from Martha's vineyard, he giving Bond &c. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Dane, Genl. Parks & Mr. Bourn be a Committee to prepare a Bill for the prevention of Riots.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the report of the Joint Committee appointed to fix the value of Notes given to the Officers & Soldiers of the Army for the Depreciation of their wages, in order for their being consolidated being an estimate thereof. In Senate Read and accepted & thereupon Ordered, that the Treasurer be & hereby is directed to observe the foregoing Rules in consolidating the notes above mentioned when presented for that purpose. Sent down for concurrence, 23rd Read & concurred with an amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

(October 8. P. M.) The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down a letter from James Sullivan Esq, inclosing the fact & grounds of the information contained in the letter of that Gentleman of the 26th ult. which he was ordered to prepare & lay before the Court with the following Order of Senate thereon; viz, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in Senate October 8th. 1782. Read & ordered that the foregoing representation be committed to the same Committee of both Houses appointed to consider the Memorial of John

Temple Esq & the papers accompanying it at large. Sent down for concurrence. (vide Oct. 12. A. M.

The Hon Mr. Durfee brought down a Resolve of Senate for preventing Live Stock being carried on to Martha's Vineyard & for removing from said Island all such as may exceed the quantity of their necessary use & consumption. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred with an amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

The House proceeded in the second reading of the Militia Bill which being finished, said Bill was committed for amendments to Col Thorndike, Genl. Parks & Mr. Dane & the morrow 3. P. M. assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the report of the Committee, appointed to consider the means necessary to be taken on account of the decease of the late Treasurer, being a Resolve for the choice of a New Treasurer &c.
In Senate Read & accepted with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

The House then adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Joseph Ward late Conrg. General of Musters, praying that the Mustering Officers might be settled with agreeable to the Resolves of Congress, for that purpose, Read & Committed to Col Dawes, Major Bancroft & Mr. Holt.

A Petition from John Avery Jr. Secretary of the Commonwealth, praying that a grant might be made him for his last years services. Read & committed to Mr Rowe, Dr. Manning & Capt Cowdin,

A Memorial from Ebenr. Wales & Amasa Davis praying for an allowance as a Committee of Supplies, Read & Committed to Mr Goodhue, Dr Thayer & Mr Brown of Framingham.

Mr. Phillips was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate to acquaint them that the House proposed Thursday 11 oclock for coming to the choice of a Treasurer, in the room of the late Hon. Henry Gardner Esq. deceased -

The Hon. Mr. Sever came down & informed the House that the Senate agreed to their proposal.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the report of the Joint Committee appointed to consider the State of the Cartel commanded by Capt Michael Humble being a Resolve to prevent said vessells leaving Port, till further order of the General Court or Governor and Council. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for Concurrence. 10th Read & concurred, with amendments at A & B. Sent up for concurrence.

256. Wednesday October 9. 1782.

The House proceeded on the consideration of the Bill for the due observance of the Lord's Day, & after debate referred the further consideration thereof to the next morning.

A Petition from Aaron Holden in behalf of Andrew Garritt a Prisoner, with the enemy, praying to receive three Months wages due to him, for his relief. Read and committed to Mr. Johnson, Mr Smead & Capt Guild.

A Petition from William Lamont a wounded Officer praying for assistance for himself & for his family. Read & committed to the same Gentlemen.

The Committee on the Petition of John Gamsby reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

The House then adjourned to 9 o'clock Thursday morning.

Thursday October 10, 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Bill entitled an Act for the due observance of the Lord's Day. Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence. 92 Members, 56 Voters.

A Petition from William Baker Jr. praying for a grant as a Clerk in the Secretary's Office. Read & committed to Col. Moody. Mr. Hall of Sutton & Mr Frazier.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Col. Beriah Norton, In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A.C.D. & F. Sent down for concurrence. 11th Read & non-concurred.

Mr. Goodhue was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House were ready to proceed to the choice of a Treasurer according to assignment & that the usual seats would be assigned for their Members. The Two Houses then assembled together & chose Mr. Cabot, Mr. Dawes & Mr. Robbins a Committee, to collect count & sort the votes who attended that service. A return of the Houses being made there appeared to be 118 Members present. The Committee reported that the number of votes were 118, that 60 made a choice; that Thomas Ivers Esq had 113 & was chosen.

The Hon. Senate then withdrew.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate Oct. 10, 1782, Ordered that William Sever Esq be a committee on the part of the Senate, with such as the Hon House shall join to confer with Benjamin Austin & Saml. Barrell Esqrs, a Committee for examing & auditing the accounts of the Treasury, & to report a proper stipend for their services.

Sent down for concurrence.

Read and concurred & Mr. Vans, & Major Goodman are joined.

 Thursday, October 10. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a Resolve of Senate, directing the Secretary to give Thomas Ivers Esq. immediate notice of his being chosen Treasurer of the Commonwealth. Sent down for Concurrence -
Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Sever came down & informed the House that the Senate proposed to come to the choice of a Senator for the County of Suffolk, in the room of Cotton Tufts Esq, who had declined accepting his election, on Friday at 11 oclock A. M. Whereupon a Message was sent to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House agreed to their proposal.

The House proceeded in the second reading of the Excise Bill & after debate postponed the further consideration thereof till the Afternoon. And it was Ordered that Mr. Dwight, Mr. Barrett of Concord & Dr. Manning be a Committee to fix the rate at which clocks & Watches are to be excised & the mode of collecting the same.

Then the House adjourned to 3 oclock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Col. Thatcher, Mr. Smead & Col Barrett be a Committee to consider the measures proper to be taken respecting the Public Beef at Springfield & report.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Thomastown & other places reported a Resolve for staying the Treasurers Executions against said Towns.

Read & accepted.
Sent up for Concurrence.

259. Thursday, October 10. 1782.

The Hon. Mr Cabot brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of the 2nd Parish in Springfield for referring the same to the first session of the next General Court, with an Order of Senate accepting said report. Sent down for concurrence - Nov 5th. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Samuel Mc Cobb & others reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw his Petition. Leave to withdraw accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of Jesse Eames & Samuel Gammage reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petitions. Leave to withdraw accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of Oren Smith reported a Resolve appointing a Committee to execute a Deed to him of the land mentioned in his Petition. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The House then adjourned to 9 o'clock, Friday morning.

Friday, October 11th. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from the Proprietors of the Town of Lunenburgh, praying the reversal of a judgement of a Judicial Court, against one Joshua Martin. Read & committed to Capt Stearns, Mr. Whitney of Northfield & Mr. Ball.

260. Friday October 11. 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of Gamaliel Bradford reported verbally, that said Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition, Leave to withdraw accordingly.
Col Washburn was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House were ready to proceed to the choice of a Senator for the County of Suffolk & that the usual seats would be assigned for their Members, according to assignment. The two Houses then assembled together in one room, & made choice of the Hon. Mr. Fuller, Mr. Bancroft & Mr Goodman to collect, count, & sort the votes, who having attended that service reported that the number of votes were 98; that 50 made a choice & that the Hon. Caleb Davis Esq had 90 & was chosen. (Return of the Members 100.

The Hon. Senate then withdrew.

The House proceeded in the second reading of the Excise Bill & a question being put for reconsidering a vote passed yesterday fixing the rate of Excise for Cyder at 4^{d} per Barrel, it was resolved in the affirmative. Thereupon it was suggested that the number of Members were less than at the time of passing of the vote reconsidered, which was contrary to the 10^{th} Order of the House, viz: "No vote shall be reconsidered unless there are as many Members present at the time of reconsideration as there were when the vote was passed." The House then Ordered the following addition to said Order, viz: "Provided the return of the House is called for before the vote of reconsideration is determined." (88.52.

The Committee on the Petition of Sarah Gardner, reported verbally that the same be referred to the next sitting of the

General Court. Accepted.

The House then adjourned to 3 oclock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate, Oct 11, 1782. Ordered, that the Committee of both Houses to who whom was referred the consideration of the letters from Robt. Morris Esq, and papers accompanying the Same, be directed to take into consideration some proper measures for the more speedy collection of Taxes for the use of the Continent. Sent down for concurrence. 12th Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down a Resolve of Senate directing the Treasurer to send forward to the Secretary's Office accounts of all movies paid to the Army. Sent down for concurrence. 12th Read & Concurred with an amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

Also the opinion of the Committee on the letter of Robt. Morris Esq, respecting the collecting of the Continental Tax. In Senate read & accepted with amendment at A. Sent down for Concurrence. 12th. Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a Resolve of Senate allowing the accounts of the Treasurer of Middlesex County for the year 1782. Sent down for concurrence. 12th Read & committed to the Committee on Treasurers Accounts - 15th Read again & Concurred.

The Committee on the Petitions of the Towns of Chesterfield & Goshen reported verbally that the Petitions lie to next Session.

Accepted.

 Friday, October 11. 1782.

The Committee on the Petitions from the town of West Springfield reported verbally, that the first of said Petitions praying for an easement in the Taxes of Said Town be referred to the Members of the County of Hampshire and that the other of said Petitions praying for a Lottery for the purpose of repairing the Bridge in said Town over Agawam River be granted & that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for that purpose, provided said Lottery be not opened till the one already granted for repairing the Bridge in Springfield be brought to a close. Accepted.

The House proceeded in the second reading of the Excise Act & after much debate thereon, committed the same to Col Dalton, Mr Goodhue & Mr Greenwood for amendments.

Capt. Hall had leave of Absence for the remainder of the Sessions.
Then the House adjourned to 9 oclock Saturday Morning.

263. Saturday, October, 12. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The account of the expenses of the Hon George Patridge Esq as a Member of Congress, was Committed to Col Pope Col. White & Col. Dawes.

The Committee on the Petition of Benjamin Redington in behalf of the Proprietors of Lunenburg, reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petiton of Elijah Hodges, reported verbally that said Petition lie on file. Ordered to lie accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of Joseph Ward reported a Resolve directing the Committee for settling with the Army to settle the accounts of the Mustering Officers therein mentioned. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Petition of the town of Foxborough with an answer from the Inhabitants of Wrentham. Read and committed to Mr Skinner, Mr Whitney & Capt Wales.

A Petition from Reuben Mc.Farland, Captain of a Flagg of Truce, setting forth that having put into the Island of Nantucket for the purpose of refitting his vessell, she was seized & taken from him & praying that said vessell may be restored to him. Read & committed to Mr. Bourn, Capt. Snow & Col. Pope.

A Petition from Tristram Bernard, praying for reasons set forth that a public security in his hands may be consolidated as tho' for an earlier date than the time

when it was delivered. Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

The Committee on the report respecting the accounts of the Treasurer of Booth Bay, reported verbally that sd. report lie on file. Accepted.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate Oct. 11. 1782.

Whereas the Hon. Caleb Davis Esq has this day been elected a Senator for the County of Suffolk, by Ballot of the Senators & Members of the House of Representatives agreeable to the Constitution, Resolved, that the Secretary be directed to give the said Caleb Davis Esq immediate notice of the said election. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The House took up the facts and grounds of the allegations of Jos. Sullivan Esq against John Temple Esq communicated from the Hon. Senate on the 8th. instant & the same being read, with vote of Senate thereon the House voted a nonconcurrence with said Vote and Ordered Mr. Barrett to bring in an Order appointing a publick hearing of the Parties before both Houses, which that Gentleman reported accordingly, & the question being put for accepting the same, it was resolved in the negative. The number of votes were 32. Number of Members 85.

The Committee on the Petition of Col. James Hunter reported a Resolve for discharging the men under his command after the 20th instant. Read & Accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

 Saturday, October 12. 1782.

A Bill entitled an Act for erecting a town in the County of by the name of . Taken up & after debate referred to the next Session.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported by way of Resolve on the following Petitions, viz: two from Ezra Kendall, one from Isaac Hathaway, another from Margaret Scott & another from Jonas How. Read & accepted. - Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of James Nichols reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence. 64.37.

The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down a letter from Thomas Ivers, Esqr. signifying his acceptance of his election as Treasurer of this Commonwealth. In Senate, Read & Sent down. Read & Sent up.

A Petition from Zacheus Fisk, praying for the sale of real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of land.

The Committee on the Petition of John Fogg & others reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Resolve making provision that Thomas Ivers Esq Treasurers of this Commonwealth give bond for £30,000. - previous to his entering upon the duties of his Office. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Joseph Ward. In Senate, Read & accepted with an amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down a Resolve of Senate providing for the Treasurers giving Bond previous to his entering upon the duties of his Office. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of the North Port of Sandisfield, reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Paul Bigelow praying for an allowance for nursing & doctoring his son, an enlisted soldier - Read & leave given the Petitioner to withdraw his Petition.

Then the House adjourned to 10 o'clock Monday Morng.

Monday, October 14th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from William Whiting in behalf of the town of Great Barrington, praying for the suspending of the assessments made on two Classes in said town for reasons set forth. Also

A Petition from the Selectmen of the town of Washington of a similar nature.

Read & Committed to Mr Brown of Stockbridge, Capt. Bancroft & Mr. Frye.

Ordered that the Committee appointed to prepare a Pay Roll, consider of an allowance for the travel & attendance of Members of the Genl. Court & Council.

On Representation from Col. Dawes that the House in which the Committee for settling with the Army sit, was out of repair - Voted that that Gentleman be empowered to make such repairs therein as may be necessary.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down a Bill entitled “an act to compel executors living without the Commonwealth to settle their accounts." In Senate Oct 12. 1782. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. 15th. Read & first time - 16th read a Second time - 18th Read & third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with an amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Capt Dench, Mr Hall of Sutton & Mr Hall of Medford be a committee to consider of the measures proper to be taken with such Collectors against whom the Treasurer has issued his executions, but who have not discharged the receipts drawn upon them & report.

A Resolve permitting Ann Willis to go to New York not to return again without permission from the General Court. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Gawen Brown praying leave to sell Land. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of land.

A memorial from the Court of Sessions, setting forth that it was necessary to assess the sum of £500. upon the County

County of Lincoln, for the discharge of the expenses thereof. Read & committed to Capt Curtis, Mr. Barrell & Major Farmer.

A Petition from Dr. Elijah Stone, praying for the payment of his account, for attending on certain sick Soldiers. Read & committed to Col Doane, Gen. Parks & Mr. Davis.

A Resolve allowing Naval Officers to go on board Flaggs of Truce, without permit from the Governor, the Resolve of the 8th of May last notwithstanding. Read & Passed - sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the accounts of George Patridge Esqr, reported a Resolve allowing him the sum of Three Hundred and One Pounds, nineteen shillings, four pence in full for his expenditures as a Member of Congress. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr Bartlett, Capt Curtis & Dr. Frye of Royalston be a committee to consider of the sense & extent of the Resolve of May 1777, making provision for defraying of the expenses of sick Soldiers.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Worthington, reported a resolve for staying execution against sd. town which being read was not accepted & thereupon Ordered that said Petition lie on file.

A Resolve empowering the Court of Sessions for the County of Lincoln, to assess £500 upon the Polls & estates of the inhabitants of said County, agreeable to the Memorials of said Court. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Nathl. Greene, in behalf of Col. Saml. Aborn praying for the pay of a vessell of said Aborns which

was in the public service. Read & committed to Col Pope, Major Goodman & Mr. Bourn.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the report of the Committee of both Houses appointed to repair to the County of Barnstable being a Resolve for abating the Beef Taxes (deficiencies of &c.) laid upon the towns therein &c. In Senate, Read & recommitted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The House took up the Facts & grounds of the allegations of Jas. Sullivan Esq, against John Temple Esqr, & thereupon Ordered, that the same be committed to the Attorney General, to be acted upon as to law & justice appertaineth.

The House then adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported a Resolve on the Petition of Joseph Aaron giving him leave to sell land agreeable to his petition. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Seth Howland praying for a licence to sell spirituous liquors. Read & leave given the Petition to withdraw his petition.

The Committee on the Petition of Nathl. Greene reported verbally that he have leave to withdraw his Petition - Order to withdraw accordingly.

Ordered that Mr. Phillips, Mr Lowell, & Mr. Cranch be a Committee to prepare a Bill empowering the Treasurer to transact all business which the assistant Treasurer is authorized to negotiate.

 Monday October 14. 1782.

The Hon Mr Prebble brought down a Resolve of Senate, appointing a Committee to receive of the Executors or Administrators of the late Treasurer Gardner, all public property in his hands at his decease & for conferring with the present Treasurer, as to the method of proceeding in his office. Sent down for concurrence. 15th Read & Concurred.

The House proceeded to the question of reconsidering the vote passed the 24th ult. - granting a Tax of £200,000, to complete the requisition of Congress for the year 1782, as had been assigned, & after debate it was determined in the negative. Number of Members 85. Number of Voters 32.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the report of the joint Committee on the Memorial from the Officers of the Massachusetts Line of the Army, In Senate, Read and Sent down.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down a letter from the Hon Cotton Tufts Esq, relative to his commission for anticipating the Continental Tax.

A Petition from Francis Trayner, praying for his wages as a Soldier, Read & committed to Mr. Smith of Hadley Mr. Burdick & Mr Whitney of Sherburne.

On representation from the Clerk of the Sessions for the County of Middlesex, a Resolve passed giving authority to said Court for assessing six hundred pounds, on said County for discharging the expenses thereof. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Ball & Col Prescott be a Committee to inquire into the Conduct of Muster Masters & report.

Then the House adjourned to Tuesday Morning 9 o'clock.

 Tuesday October 15. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Thomas Durfee & Seth Washburn Esqr a Committee for viewing the circumstances of the County of Barnstable, praying a compensation for that service Read & Committed to the Members from that County.

On information from the Messenger that one John Knap, a teamster had taken down the chains & passed by the State House with his team since the assembling of the Members of Court, said Knap was ordered upon the Floor of the House, & being examined respecting said offence was committed to the Custody of the Messenger, & the House having considered of his case, ordered that he be reprimanded at the Bar, which was done accordingly & the said Knap was then discharged.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down the report of the Committee on the report of the Committee for ascertaining the public lands in the eastern Counties being two Resolves, one respecting the Proprietors of Lands claimed under Richard Shapleigh.

Sent down for Concurrence.

Another respecting the Proprietors of Lands claimed under William Phillips.

Sent down for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down a Bill entitled

 Tuesday October 15. 1782.

"an Act in addition to an Act entitled an Act in addition to an Act entitled an Act, for preventing all commerce & illegal correspondence with the enemies of the United States of America. In Senate, Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. 18th. Read a first time. 26th. Read a second time. 29th Read a third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendments at A & B. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a letter from David Mosely one of the Commissioners assigned to anticipate the Continental Tax at Westfd. In Senate Read & Sent down.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down a letter from Caleb Hyde Sheriff for the County of Berkshire giving information of certain disturbances having arisen in that County, with a Resolve of Senate for altering the time of holding the Supreme Judicial Court at Great Barrington.
Sent down for Concurrence. 16th Read & Concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled an Act for regulating the Treasury. Read a first time & Wednesday 9 o'clock A. M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

273. Tuesday, October 15. 1782.

A Petition from William Burgess, late a citizen of London, praying to be allowed the rights & privileges of an American Subject. Read & thereupon Ordered that Mr. Rowe, Mr. Dalton & Mr. Goodhue with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to consider this Petition & report the measures proper to be taken thereon. Sent up for concurrence.

The House proceeded to the consideration of a Sum to be raised for defraying the charges of the civil list & other exigencies of Government. Whereupon the Committee appointed to consider of the abatements to be made to the several towns according to the last valuation were called upon & reported & after debate sd. report was recommitted for a distinction to be made between such of said towns as had paid into the Treasury the Taxes due from them & such as had not.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday Morning 9 o'clock.

Wednesday October 16. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Samuel Swan praying that his Son may be permitted to go to the Island for the recovery of his health. Read & committed to Mr Guild Mr. Barrett of Concord & Capt Patch.

A Resolve empowering the Agents on Absentees Estates to deduct a sum not more than 3 per cent for discharging Probate Fees, & other expenses in settling the same. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

274. Wednesday, October 16. 1782.

A Bill entitled an Act for regulating the Treasury. Read a second time, and a third time & passed to be Engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Nathl. Heath. In Senate Read & Concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Jude Foster. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred. Also the Report of the joint Committee on Mr. Gerry's letter, & a Resolve of Senate directing the Delegates from this Commonwealth in Congress, to make inquiry respecting the breach of priviledge complained of in said letter &c. Sent down for concurrence. 18th read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down a Bill entitled an Act for erecting a District in the County of Middlesex, by the name of Boxborough. In Senate October 15. 1782, Read the second time & passed to be engrossed Sent down for concurrence.

Read a first time. - 17th Read a Second time and the further consideration thereof postponed till the Selectmen of Littleton are notified thereof.

The House took up the report of the joint Committee

on the Memorial from the Officers of the Massachusetts Line of the Army, & after debate it was Ordered that the same be referred to the third Wednesday of the next sitting of the General Court. Number of Members 91. Voters 76. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Col. Washburn & Genl Ward be a committee to confer with such Committee as the Hon Senate may appoint, on the subject matter of the Resolve of the House abating twelve shillings to the town of Dorchester on the thousand pounds in the valuation & placing the same on the several towns therein mentioned. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act for apportioning & assessing a Tax of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds." Read a first time & Thursday 3 o'clock P. M. Assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Petition from Robert Stone & others Inhabitants of Nova Scotia setting forth certain ravages committed there by American Privateers. Taken up & committed to Capt Peterson, Capt. Snow & Mr. Longfellow.

The Committee on the Memorial of Thomas Durfee & Seth Washburn Esqrs, reported a Resolve for allowing seventeen pounds & eighteen shillings & 8^{d}. to said Washburn & £ 13:1:1, to said Durfee to be paid by the County of Barnstable. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Col Ruggles Woodbridge reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

276 Wednesday, October 16. 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from William Gray Administrator on the estate of William Lander, Jr. praying leave to sell real estate, Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of land.

The Committee on the Petition of Col. R. Woodbridge reported by way of Resolve. Read & ordered to lie.

The House then took up the excise Act and proceeded in the second reading thereof, & after Debate postponed the same till the morning. (Q. whether Cyder shall be raised from 4^{d}. to 6^{d}. Excise per Bbl. 101 Members, voters 43.)

The Committee on the Petition of Samuel Swan reported a Resolve permitting his Son to go to Bermudas. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The House then adjourned to Thursday Morning 9 o'clock.

Thursday, October 17th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The House took up the report of the Committee on the Petition of George Williams & others, Owners of certain vessells lost at Penobscot & the Question being put upon that part of said report which directs a new apprizement, of said vessells, it passed in the negative. And thereupon it was Ordered that Capt Job Prince and others, the Committee for apprising said vessells be requested to attend the House on the second Wednesday of their next Session, to give information respecting the same. Members 93. Voters 47.

Page 277. over Thursday October 17th 1782.

{Original Page - 251. see Note at bottom of page 250 ante. The pages are so arranged to agree with Index. See, also, Original Journal.

Abiel Lovejoy Esqr was returned as a Member from the town of Vassallborough, in the County of Lincoln & Mr Patterson was directed to see him qualified for his seat according to the Constitution, who reported that he had attended that service.

The Hon Mr Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of James Nichols. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. 18th Read & Concurred. [Marginal notes in original, relating to licences, cannot be deciphered.]

A Bill entitled an Act for repealing an Act entitled an Act, laying certain duties of excise &c. as entered Oct 4th P. M. Read a second time & 10 o'clock Friday morning assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the report of the Committee on Col. Allyn's letter &c. being a Resolve directing the Commissary to supply certain Indians with necessary cloathing &c. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Nov. 6. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Genl. Prebble brought down the Bill for the due observance of the Lord's Day. In Senate read a second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed, with amendment at A. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. & L. - viz: at L dele the title of the Bill & insert "an Act for making more effectual provision for the due observation of the Lord's Day, & for repealing the several laws heretofore made for that purpose. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Stephen Cooke, setting forth that the French Admiral had consented to a Flagg of Truce going to Bermuda & praying the concurrence of the Court therewith. Read & committed to Mr Bartlett, Mr Frazier & Major Farmer.

A Petition from James Howard praying to be allowed an appeal from a Justices Judgement therein mentioned, the time prescribed by law therefor being elapsed, notwithstanding. Read & committed to Col Mc.Cobb, Capt. Snow & Mr. Dane.

A Bill entitled an Act for erecting a District in the County of Middlesex by the name of Boxborough. Read a second time & thereupon Ordered that the third reading of said Bill be postponed till the Second Wednesday of the next Session & that the Selectmen of the Town of Littleton be notified thereof. A Notification issued accordingly.

A Bill entitled an Act for apportioning & assessing a Tex of £200.000. Read a second time & Friday 3 o'clock P. M. assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Turner, bought down a letter from the Hon. Jona. Jackson Esqr, dated at Philadelphia 30th August 1782. resigning his appointment as Delegate to Congress. In Senate Read & Sent down. Read & sent up. - Also a letter from Robt Morris Esqr, dated office of Finance 20th Sept. 1782. Read & Sent down. Read & Sent up. - Also a letter from the Hon. John Lowell Esqr resigning his appointment as a Delegate to Congress. In Senate read & sent down read & Sent up. - Then the House adjourned to Friday 9 o'clock A. M.

277. Friday October 18. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition from the Town of Hadley reported a Resolve for abating to said town three shillings and sixpence in their valuation. Read and accepted & thereupon ordered that said report be recommitted to the Members of the County of Hampshire to apportion said sum on the proper towns in said County.

Mr. Dwight was charged with a message to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House proposed coming to the choice of three Gentlemen as Delegates to Congress from this Commonwealth, in the room of the Hon Mr. Sumner, Mr Jackson & Mr. Lowell who have resigned on Wednesday next at 11 o'clock & the Hon. Mr. Cabot came down & informed the House that the Hon. Senate agreed to the proposal. Leave was given for any Member to put a nomination List.

The Committee on the Petition of Stephen Cooke reported a Resolve permitting his vessell to sail - Read & accepted.

Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Robert Stone and others reported a Resolve permitting him to carry provisions to Deer Island. Read & accepted.

Sent up for concurrence.

278. Friday, October 18. 1782.

A Resolve authorizing the Committee appointed to receive the public effects from the late Treasurer's Administrators, to burn the Bills of credit issued on the Resolve of Nov. 2. 1782. - Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the letters of R. Morris Esqr being an opinion that provision should be made by law directing towns to appoint collectors specially for the purpose of collecting the Continental Tax &c. - In Senate, Read & not accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

Genl. Prebble brought down the following Order of Senate viz: In Senate October 17. 1782. Ordered that the Secretary be directed to notify Wm. Watson Esq that he was chosen Naval Officer for the Part of Plimouth on the 28th day of September last by joint ballot of the Senate & House of Representatives. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Ordered that Mr. Cranch, Mr Dalton & Capt Peterson be a Committee to consider of & report the proper measures to be taken with the Men stationed at Nantasket in Boston Harbour.

A Bill entitled an Act for repealing an Act entitled an Act laying certain duties of Excise &c. as entered Oct. 4th P. M. Read a third time & committed to Mr Lowell & others to prepare an amendment. (92 Watches in possession of the Importer or Maker to be excised.)

279. Friday, October 18. 1782.

The Hon. Mr Stone brought down a Bill entitled an Act in addition unto an act entitled an Act providing for the levying & collecting of Taxes in Plantations that are not incorporated. In Senate, Read the second time and passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence - 19th Read a first time & committed to Mr. Lowell 21st. Read a second time. 23rd Read a third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

The Hon. Mr Cabot brought down a letter from the Hon. Gen. Patridge Esq. resigning his appointment as a Delegate to Congress. In Senate, Read & sent down. Read & thereupon ordered that a message he sent to the Hon Senate to acquaint them that the House propose chusing a Delegate in the room of Mr. Patridge at the time assigned for chusing three others. Mr. Lowell was charged with the message.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Representation from Lt. Danl. Jackson of the Massachusetts Regiment of Artillery praying for buttons for certain cloathing of forwarded to Camp by the Committee of Supplies, Read & committed to Mr Rowe, Mr Church, & Capt Wales.

A Petition from Denes Getchell praying that Abiel Lovejoy Esq Representative of Vassalborough may not hold his seat, in the House, Read & Committed to Dr. Hall, Col Dawes & Major Farmer.

280. Friday, October 18. 1782.

The House reconsidered their assessment of 3 oclock this Afternoon for the third reading of a Bill apportioning & assessing the sum of £ 200.000. & assign Tuesday next, 11 oclock A. M. for that purpose.

A Bill entitled an Act for hearing & determining certain Cases in equity. Read a first time and Saturday Morning 10 oclock assigned for a second reading thereof.

Ordered that Col. Dawes, Mr Bartlett & Col. Thacher be a Committee to prepare a Resolve allowing the abatements promised to the several towns out of such Taxes as they may be deficient in, & on which the abatements are due, - And where they have paid their Taxes in full, out of the tax that is now to be issued.

Ordered that Mr. Wilder, Capt Upham & Mr Guild be Committee to send the average price of the hire of the men raised for filling up the Continental Army, according to the Resolve passed in December in the year 1780, find the deficiencies & prepare the same for the Tax Bill.

Then the House adjourned to Saturday 9 o'clock A. M.

Saturday, October 19. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Petition of Saml Goodwin & proposed a proviso to be added to the Order of Court thereon, Col Washburn was thereupon charged with a Message to the Hon Senate, to inform them that the House agreed thereto.

281. Saturday, October 19. 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Cohasset made report, which being read & debated it was thereupon Ordered, that four shillings on the valuation in the thousand pounds in the valuation be abated to said town, to be laid on such part of the County of Suffolk as the Members thereof should agree upon, & that said town be excused from raising one of the men quoted upon them for the filling up of the Army.

The Committee on the Petition from Denes Getchell reported a state of facts verbally - Whereupon said Petition was recommitted & it was Ordered, that the Secretary lay before the House the record of the Resolutions and advice of Council.

The Committee on the Petition of Lieut. Daniel Jackson reported a Resolve granting the prayer thereof. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr Stone brought down the Resolve of the House empowering the Committee for receiving public effects from the Administrator of the late Treasurer Gardner, to burn certain Bills of Credit. In Senate read & concurred with amendments at A. B. C. D. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred as to the amendment at A., & non-concurred as to the rest of the amendments.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock. P. M.

282. Saturday, October 19. 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled “an act to prevent prophane cursing & swearing;” This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

Ordered that a Message be sent to His Excelly the Governor to request him to direct the Secretary to lay before the House a Petition from the Inhabitants of Vassallborough against Abiel Lovejoy Esq and also a Petition from the Selectmen & Com. of said town respecting the said Lovejoy.

A Bill entitled an Act for repealing one Act of this Commonwealth made & passed on the third day of May last, entitled “an Act providing a speedy method of recovering debts, & for preventing unnecessary costs attending the same,” & for making other provision which may better answer the ends designed by said Act.

This engrossed Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

A Bill entitled “an Act for confirming certain Lands lying in the County of York, to certain persons claiming the same under William Phillips & Bridget Phillips.” Read a first time & Monday at half past 3 o'clock assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Bill entitled “an Act for confirming certain Lands in the County of York, to certain persons claiming the same under Nicholas Shapleigh” - Read a first time & Monday next half past three o'clock assigned for a second reading thereof.

283. Saturday October 19. 1782.

Ordered that Mr. Stow & Mr. Metcalf with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to revise such temporary laws as are near expiring & report a Bill for reviving such of them as it may be expedient to continue in force. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Davis came down & informed the House that the Senate proposed inserting the words “or returning such process” in the Bill last passed to be enacted, which Bill that Hon. Gentlemen brought down to the House.

Genl. Ward was then charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House agreed to their proposed amendment.

The Secretary brought down the Petitions of the inhabitants & Selectmen of Vassalboro', respecting Abiel Lovejoy Esq according to the last Order for that purpose. The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the Bill for preventing of prophane cursing & Swearing, & said the Senate proposed an enacting clause to be added to said Bill, repealing all laws made for that purpose, which clause he read.

Col. Thacher was charged with a Message to inform the Hon. Senate that the House agreed to the proposed amendment.

Then the House adjourned to Monday morning 10 o'clock.

284. Monday, October 21. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolve appointing Michael Hodge Esq and Mr. Moses Hoyle managers of the Lottery for repairing the Bridge over the River Parker in the County of Essex in the room of Messrs Samuel Tufts, Moses Frazier & Edmund Sawyer who had declined that trust. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve allowing to the members of the Council eight shillings, to the Senate seven shillings and sixpence & of the House seven shillings per diem wages for their services the present session. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve on the Petition of Samuel Mellish directing the Treasurer to discharge the Warrants drawn in favour of the 3rd. Massachusetts Regiment. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Bill entitled an Act for regulating the Militia within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and for repealing all laws heretofore made for that purpose, was reported in a fair draught & having had three several readings passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr Dorr brought down the Bill for regulating the Treasury; In Senate, Read & passed a concurrence to be engrossed, with amendments at A. B. D. E. F. & G. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred.

285. Monday, October 21. 1782.

A Resolve appointing the Members of the Genl. Court from the County of Hampshire, a Committee for adjusting the valuation of said County, & empowering them to receive all papers in the possession of the Legislature necessary for that purpose. Read and Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down an account of donations received by Samuel Adams & others from the several towns of the Commonwealth by virtue of a Brief from the Governor for the suffering Inhabitants of South Carolina & Georgia, with the following Resolve of Senate thereon, viz: In Senate Oct. 21st. 1782. Resolved that this Court approve of the proceedings of the Committee aforenamed, & that this account be lodged in the Office of the Secy. of this Commonwealth. Sent down for concurrence. Nov. 6th Read & Concurred.

The Secretary laid before the House the record of proceedings of Council agreeable to order.

A Report from Thomas Walley & others the Committee for methodizing & Stating the public accounts on the accounts of Messrs. Warner & Ashley. Read & committed to Capt Noyes, Dr. Manning & Col. Burt.

Gent. Prebble brought down the Resolve of the House for discontinuing the office of Agent &c. In Senate Read & concurred with an amendment. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred.

Also the Bill entitled an Act to compel executors living without the Commonwealth, to settle their accounts. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at B. C & X., viz: at X in the title insert "& oblige Administrators & Guardians not being Inhabitants of this Commonwealth to give bonds with proper Sureties, for the performance of the duties of their trust. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition from Dr Elijah Stone reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of Edward & Hepzibah Raymond, with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: In Senate Oct. 21. 1782. Read & accepted & Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition accordingly. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the following Order of Senate, viz: in Senate Oct. 19. 1782. Ordered that Josiah Stone & Charles Turner Esqrs with such as the Hon. House shall join be a committee to consider & report what allowance shall be made to the Delegates representing this Commonwealth in Congress for the future. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr Otis Mr Smead & Mr. Barrett of Concord are joined.

287. Monday October 21. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the report of the Joint Committee on Genl. Heaths letter & the returns from the Army with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: In Senate Oct. 21. 1782. Read & accepted, & Ordered that the said returns be lodged in the Secretarys Office accordingly. Sent down for concurrence. 22nd Read and concurred.

The Bill entitled an Act for erecting a town within the County of Hampshire by the name of Middlefield was read again & Tuesday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of James Avery in behalf of the town of Machias, reported a Resolve directing the Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts, to settle the accounts of said town with the Commonwealth. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the town of Westboro' praying that a fine imposed upon said town for not sending a Representative to the Genl. Court, might be remitted for reasons therein set forth. Read & committed to Col. Ely, Col. Washburn & Col. Clark.

The Committees on the Petitions of Zephaniah Parker in behalf of the town of Plympton & of Francis Trayner reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petitions. Order to withdraw accordingly.

288. Monday October 21. 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of Elisha Harrington reported a Resolve, appointing a Committee to apprise & sell the land therein mentioned. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The House assigned Thursday next for considering of Grants to civil Officers & 3 o'clock P. M. for considering of the measures proper to be taken with such towns as have neglected to chase Representatives.

A Resolve empowering Eli Root & Wm. Walker Esqrs, to take depositions in the case of James Harris Esq. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Denes Getchell reported verbally that it was their opinion that Chas. Mc.Cobb should be called upon to relate such conversation as had passed between him & Abiel Lovejoy Esq, relative to public affairs. - which that Gentlemen was directed to do in the Afternoon.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Col. McCobb related to the House the conversation which had passed between him & Abiel Lovejoy Esq., according to the Order of the House - Whereupon it was ordered, that the Committee on the Petition last mentioned prepare an Order for assigning a time in the next Session, for hearing the said Dennis Getchell in support of his petition & for giving leave of

absence to the said Lovejoy till that time in order to prepare himself for his defence.

A Petition from Jonathan Kimball & other Soldiers in Col. Nathan Wades Regiment, praying for the payment of their wages. Read & committed to Col. Burt, Capt Curtis & Mr. Child.

Ordered that Col. Clark, Capt Stearns, Capt. Greenwood, Capt Wales & Mr. Longfellow be a committee to apportion the fines on the several towns that have not sent Representatives taking for a Rule the sum of £ 20. on every of said towns that stand at 40/- in the valuation & in that proportion upwards.

A Bill entitled "an Act for confirming certain lands in the County of York to certain persons claiming the same under Nicholas Shapleigh." Read a second time & Thursday 10, o'clock A. M. assigned for a third reading thereof.

A Bill entitled an Act for confirming certain lands lying in the County of York, to certain persons claiming the same under William Phillips & Bridget Phillips. Read a second time & Thursday 10 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Dennis Getchell reported the following Order agreeable to the direction of the House, viz: In the House of Representatives Oct. 21. 1782. Whereas by a Memorial presented the 18th instant by Dennis Getchell of Vassallboro' in the County

of Lincoln it is represented that Abiel Lovejoy Esq the Representative from said town who has now a seat in this House is supposed to be inimical to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, & the United States, and that said Getchell can obtain full evidence to said purpose, so that his seat ought to be vacated. Therefore it is now ordered that said Abiel Lovejoy Esq, withdraw from the House of Representatives. And said Getchel is directed to bring forward his evidence against said Lovejoy, in support of his Memorial aforesaid on the second Wednesday of the next sitting of the General Court, and the said Lovejoy has leave in like manner to produce evidence to invalidate said Representation, and it is further Ordered, that said Lovejoy & Getchel be furnished with a copy of this Order.

A Resolve on the Petition of the town of Stoughtonham, abating their taxes. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act for regulating the Treasury & for repealing certain parts of an act, entitled an Act for the better regulation of the Treasury of this Commonwealth & for appointing an Assistant Treasurer. - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Bill entitled an Act for making more effectual provision for the due observation of the Lord's Day and for repealing the several laws heretofore made for that purpose. This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Bill entitled an Act for granting a Lottery

for repairing & supporting a Bridge over Agawam River so called in West Springfield. Read a first time & Tuesday 4 o'clock P. M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

The Hon. Genl. Prebble brought down a letter from the Marquis De. Vadreuil, respecting the men stationed at Nantasket with a Resolve of Senate for discharging said Men. Sent down for concurrence. 22nd. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Benja. Goodwin setting forth that he was a Creditor to the estate of Wm. Brattle Esq, an Absentee & that his accounts had been submitted to, & passed by Commissioners appointed on said estate but new Commissioners being appointed, who had no respect to the doing of the old. A return was made to the Judge of the debts without his Knowledge & from which he was excluded, & praying for the interference of the Court in the premises - Also a Petition from Elisha Thatcher of Barnstable to the same effect. Read & committed to Mr. Smead Mr. Bourn & Mr. Hodges.

The Committee on the Petition of Hiram Newell in behalf of the town of Athol, reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock Tuesday Morning.

292. Tuesday, October 22. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down the Resolve of the House making an establishment for the Troops doing duty at the Castle & other places, under the command of Capt. Amos Lincoln. In Senate Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. C. D. E. F. - Sent down for concurrence. 24th Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down a Memorial from the Inhabitants of the Island of Nantucket with the following order of Senate thereon. viz: In Senate Oct. 22. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that Geo. Cabot Esq, with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to take the Memorial into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. 23rd. Read & concurred and Genl. Ward & Col. Mc.Cobb are joined.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the Bill for making more effectual provision for the due observance of the Lord's day, &c. and proposed to dele the words “divine worship” & insert the word “or” in said Bill. Capt Wales was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate, to inform them that the House agreed thereto.

The House proceeded in the consideration of the sum to be inserted in the Tax Bill, for paying the civil list & for defraying the other charges of Government, & after debate a Motion was made & the question was put, “whether a Tax for that purpose should be issued the present session, which was determined in the affirmative. Number of Members 73. Votes 51. The House then voted the following sums, for the following purposes. -

Governors Salary £1,100. Secys. Office 20,200 1,000 Aneacoyes [?] of 50,700 Pay for the Gen. Assembly 9,000. lomy Gens. Office 500. Warrants drawn
Govt. of College 900. Com. on Accts. 10,000 or lodged in
Members of Congress 3,000. Muster Rolls Treas. Office 40,000
Council 1,000. Armed Vessells Militia Rolls for
Treasures Office 4,000. Contingent &c. 25.000,5 & 3 mos. men 20,000
Support of Judges 1,2,00 £20,200 56,700 £116,700 Total
Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

On Motion Ordered that Mr Dane Capt. Washburn & Col. White, be a Committee to apportion the 4/- in the valuation, & the 12/- taken from the towns of Cohasset & Dorchester, on some other towns in the County of Suffolk & likewise to consider of the Petition from the town of Athol.

A Petition from Timothy Fuller in behalf of the third Class in the Town of Middleton, praying to be credited for one Prince Dana, a disputed Soldier. Read & committed to Col Faulkner, Mr Stowe & Mr Chamberlain.

Ordered that Dr. Manning, Col. Browne & Mr. Nichols be a Committee to apportion the sum taken from the valuation of the Town of South Hadley on Some other towns in the County of Hampshire.

The Hon. Mr. Stone

brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Lt. Col. Danl. Whiting. In Senate Read & concurred, as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Nov. 1. Read & concurred.

Also the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of James Avery, being a Resolve of Senate directing the Comy. General, to pay £ 34:3/- 4, for the use of Lt. Wm. Albee, together with 7 suits of cloaths for the use of the Soldiers at Machias. Sent down for Concurrence. Nov. 4. Read & Concurred.

Also a Bill entitled an Act, describing the duty & power of Coroners, In Senate, Read the second time & passed to be engrossed with amendments at A. & B. - Sent down for concurrence.

The House proceeded to the further consideration of the sum to be inserted in the Tax Bill, & thereupon Ordered that the sum of eighty three thousand & three hundred pounds, be raised in addition to the sums already Voted, for the purpose of paying interest on Government Securities, And the Committee on the said Tax Bill were directed to make provision therein that the monies raised be appropriated to the use & designed, that the towns be charged with the average price of men raised for the Army, & those that raised men receive the average paid & be charged with, & be charged with the fines for deficiency where deficient. And that the towns be entitled to draw the bounty money from the Treasury.

The Committee appointed to apportion the fines in the several towns that have not sent Representatives made Report; Whereupon it was ordered that the following be fined the sums set against their respective names, viz:-

Suffolk.		Hampshire.	
Brookline	£ 35. 5.	Wilbraham	£ 31. 3. 4
Walpole	28.	Hatfield	29. 10.
Chelsea	28. 5.	Deerfield	34. 0. 10
Essex.		New Salem	26. 0. 0
Rowley	59. 5.	Granville	36. 19. 2
Topsfield	31. 5. 10.	Pelham	20. 8. 4
Almsbury	46. 14. 2.	Plimouth.	
Methuen	37. 13. 4.	Pembroke	45.
Boxford	39. 2. 6.	Hanover	24. 5.
Middletown	26. 2. 6.	Halifax	20. 8. 4
Middlesex.		Barnstable.	
Watertown	36. 0. 10.	Sandwich	40. 10.
Lexington	32. 8. 4.	Yarmouth	37. 14. 2
Sudbury	37. 15.	Harwich	28. 8. 4
Malden	28. 8. 4	Bristol.	
Waltham	31. 17. 6	Swanzey	53.
Stow	29. 17. 6	Deighton	30. 18. 4
Dracut	25. 5. 10	York.	
Bedford	22. 5.	Kittery	64. 15.
Holliston	29. 18. 4	Biddeford	23.
Dunstable	24. 8. 4	Pepperellboro.	21.
Lincoln	23. 12. 6	Worcester.	
Littleton	31. 1. 8	Mendon	36. 5.
East Sudbury	27. 14. 2	Oxford	26. 2. 6
		New Braintree	23. 4. 2
		Uxbridge	33. 14. 2

	Harvard	£ 37. 10. 10.
	Bolton	37. 1. 8.
	Western	27. 10.
	Leominster	28. 10.
	Douglass	20. 10
	Grafton	29. 11. 2.
	Westminster	32. 5.
	Princeton	27. 10.
	Templeton	30.
	Westboro'	
	Upton	23.
	Dudley	26. 10.
	Barre	49. 0. 10.
	Milford	26. 10.
	Sterling	38. 17. 6.
Cumberland.	Scarboro'	37. 3. 4.
Lincoln.	Pownalboro'	21. 17. 6.
Berkshire.	Pittsfield	36. 2. 6.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the resolves of the Senate on the Petition of Stephen Cook, one permitting the Sloop Union to sail for Bermudas. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred.

Another permitting John Esten to go in said Sloop. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock Wednesday Morning.

297. Wednesday October 23. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to find the average price of the Men hired for the Army, requested the direction of the House whether the deficient Towns against which executions have issued were to be credited with the average price, which was determined in the affirmative. Return of the House 98. Voters 55.

The Hon. Mr. Davis brought down a Petition from Bevy. Jacques & others, Inhabitants of West Bowdoinham praying to be incorporated & a Resolve of the Senate directing the Proprietors of the lands mentioned to show cause on the 2nd. Wednesday of next Session &c. Sent down for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down a letter from Joseph Nye a Commissioner for anticipating the Continental Tax, dated Sandwich Sept 29. 1782. In Senate Read & sent down.

A Petition from a number of Merchants, praying that seizures of illicit Goods may be confined to some proper officers of Government, & praying that British Goods may be allowed to be imported from Ports of powers in alliance with America, & at war with her enemy. Read & Committed to Col. Pope, Mr. Dwight & Mr. Brown of Stockbridge.

A Bill entitled an Act to compel executors living without the Commonwealth to settle their accounts & to oblige Administrators & Guardians, not being Inhabitants of this Commonwealth to give bonds with proper sureties for the performance of the duties of

their trust. This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted. Ordered that Mr Hall of Medford, Col. Coffin & Mr. Child be a Committee to confer with the Treasurer on the propriety of receiving the Quarter Masters certificates into the Treasury & report.

The Hon. Mr. Lowell was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House were ready to proceed to the choice of four Delegates to Congress, according to assignment. Whereupon the Hon Mr. Davis came down & said that the Senate were not yet ready to come to said choice but proposed Friday next, 11 o'clock to be assigned therefor, & that the Hon Senate had directed their Committee on the pay of the Delegates aforesaid to sit & requested the House to enjoin the Committee on their part upon said business to sit likewise. Then Mr. Dalton was charged with a Message to inform the Hon Senate that the House did not agree to their proposal for a new assignment & were ready immediately to proceed on the choice aforesaid. The Hon. Mr. Davis then came down & informed the House that the Senate were not yet ready to proceed in said choice & proposed the morrow, 11 o'clock, for that business. Mr. Phillips was charged with a Message to inform the Hon. Senate that the House agreed thereto.

A Bill entitled an Act for apportioning & assessing a Tax of two hundred thousand Pounds. Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

299. Wednesday October 23. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate Oct. 23rd 1782. Ordered, that John Bliss & Caleb Davis Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to revise the laws relative to Divorce & report such amendments as they may judge proper. Sent down for concurrences. Read & concurred, & Mr. Otis, Mr. Lowell & Genl. Ward are Joined.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Timothy Fuller reported a state of facts. Whereupon after debate it was Ordered, that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

A Bill entitled an Act for preventing & suppressing Routs, Riots, & unlawful assemblies. Read a first time & Thursday 9 o'clock, assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Resolve for renewing the Commissions for settling the estates of Absentees, & continuing the same for three months. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Representation from John Lucas, Comy. of Pensioners, praying for an establishment for his office.

Also, a Petition from Col. Aaron Rowley with the Resolve of Senate thereon. Read & Committed to Capt. Wales, Col. Prescott, & Mr. Greenwood.

300. Wednesday October 23. 1782.

A Petition from Ruth Gay praying that the tools of her Husband Martin Gay, an absentee, might not be sold, Read & Committed to Mr. Frye of F. Col. Faulkner & Dr. Manning.

A Petition from William Walker, Manager of the Lottery granted for the repairing of the Roads in the Green Woods, setting forth the great improbability of vending the Tickets, & praying to be indemnified against the expenses of printing them &c. Read & committed to Mr. Brown of Stockbridge, Mr Robbins & Mr. Nichols.

Col. Bridge brought down the Resolve of the House on the Representation of Timothy Edwards & others; In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. 29th Read, & non-concurred.

A Bill entitled an Act respecting the process in replevin; Read the second time & Thursday 9 o'clock assigned for a third reading thereof.

A Petition from Ziphion Thayer, a Creditor of the Estate of Elisha Hutchinson an Absentee, praying that as the proceeds of said estate were put into the public Treasury, he might have a warrant thereon for the payment of his account. Read & committed to Col. Dawes, Mr. Newell & Capt. Bancroft.

A Petition from Bartlett Coffin praying to be allowed his adventure on board the Brigt. Temple, prize to the State Ship Tartar, in consideration of his services in bringing her into Port. Read & committed to Mr Adams Mr. Frazier & Mr. Church. Then the House adjourned to Thursday Morning 9 o'clock.

301. Thursday October 24. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Samuel Gammage praying leave to go to England to receive a legacy of £ 20.000 Sterling, left to him there. Read & thereupon Ordered, that Col Thacher & Col. Burt, with such as the Hon. Senate may Join be a Committee to consider the Petition & report. - Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act establishing the process in Replevin. Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act for preventing & suppressing Riots, Routs & unlawful assemblies. Read a second time & Friday Morning 10 o'clock assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down the report of the Committee appointed to consider of an allowance for the Delegates to Congress. In Senate, Read & not accepted & ordered that the subject matter of the Order appointing the said Committee be reconsidered - Sent down for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Thomas Porter and Stephen Longfellow Jr. in behalf of the Town of Gorham. In Senate, Read & concurred, as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence.

Nov. 1st Read & Concurred.

302. Thursday, Oct. 24. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Report of the Committee appointed to repair to the Towns of Marshfield & Scituate & settle the boundaries thereof. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Nov. 8th Read & concurred.

Also a Resolve of the Senate settling said Boundaries. Sent down for concurrence.

The Records of the Hon. Council were ordered to be delivered again to the Secretary & were delivered accordingly.

The Secretary brought down a Resolve of Congress, dated Oct. 4. 1782, declaring against a peace with the enemy, Separate from France &c.

The Hon. Mr. Turner came down & informed the House that the Senate were ready to proceed to the choice of four delegates for this Commonwealth in Congress according to assignment. Gen. Ward was then charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House were likewise ready. The two Houses then assembled together & made choice of the Hon. Caleb Davis Esq, Nathl. Wells Esq, James Barrett Esq & Samuel Allyne Otis Esq, to collect count & sort the votes who attended that service. By return of the House there appeared to be 127 Members present. The Committee reported that the number of votes were 127. - 64 made a choice. - That the Hon. Nathl. Gorham Esq, had 101. Saml. Holten Esq, had 73 & the Hon. James Warren Esq, 68 & were chosen, but that there was a choice of one Gentleman wanting. Whereupon the House proceeded to the choice of a fourth Gentleman. Return of the House 125.

303. Thursday October 24th 1782.

The Committee reported that the number of votes were 124; that 63 made a choice; that Stephen Higginson Esq, had 96 & was chosen - The Hon Senate then withdrew.

A Bill entitled an Act for repealing an Act entitled "an Act for laying certain duties of Excise on certain Articles therein mentioned, for the purpose of paying the interest on Government Securities" & for repealing another Act entitled an Act, in addition unto & for amending & explaining the Act made in the year 1781, laying certain duties of Excise on certain Articles therein mentioned for the purposes of paying the interest on government securities & for raising a revenue by excise on certain articles therein mentioned for the payment of interest on government securities," being taken into a fair draught passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from James Freeland, praying the rectifying of a Judgement of the Supream Judicial Court, which was erroneous by the miscasting of their Clerk, Read & Ordered that Col. Thomas bring in an Order for notifying the opposite party to shew cause the 2nd. Wednesday of next Session.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Mr. Bourne was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request them if they had not acted upon the papers relative to the County of Barnstable, to return the same to the House which the Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down accordingly.

 Thursday October 24. 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Hadley reported Resolve adding two shillings & sixpence to the valuation of the Town of Westfield & one shilling to that of Amherst. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Genl. Prebble brought down the following Order of Senate, viz: In Senate October 24. 1782. - Whereas the Hon Samuel Holten Esq, the Hon James Warren Esq, the Hon. Nathl. Gorham Esq, & Stephen Higginson Esq, have this day by joint ballot of the Senate & House of Representatives, assembled in one room, been elected Delegates to represent this Commonwealth in the United States in Congress, assembled, agreeable to the Constitution to serve for one year to commence the first Monday of November next, - Resolved that the Secretary be, & he hereby is directed to give the several Gentleman above mentioned immediate notice of said election. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill entitled “an Act determining at what times & places the several Courts of General Sessions of the Peace & Courts of Common Pleas shall be held within & for the several Counties of the Commonwealth.” Read a first time & Friday Morning 10 o'clock assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Bill entitled “an Act appointing the times and places for holding the Supream Judicial Court. Read a first time & Friday 11 o'clock A. M. assigned for a second reading thereof - Then both of said Bills were committed to Mr Dwight, Col. Thomas, Col. Thacher, Mr. Smead. & Barrett of Concord for further consideration.

305. Thursday, October. 24. 1782.

The House assigned Friday morning 9 o'clock for considering the report of the Committee appointed to view the circumstances of the County of Barnstable.

The Committee on the Petition of Aaron Holden in behalf of Andrew Garrett reported a Resolve for paying him 3 months wages. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from William Dennison setting forth that he had recovered judgement for a sum of money against the estate of Edward Goldstone Lutwick which had been nullified by a Resolve of the General Court and the proceeds of said estate put into the public Treasury, & praying to be relieved. Read & committed to Col. Hutchinson, Mr. Cranch & Col. Coffin.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer not to receive any of the Certificates issued from the Quarter Masters department on loan; Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an act for granting a Lottery for repairing & supporting a Bridge over Agawam River so called in West Springfield. Read a second time and Friday 3 oclock, P. M. assigned for a third reading thereof.

A Bill entitled an Act for erecting a town in the County of Hampshire by the name of Middlefield. Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A petition from Oliver Greenleaf praying that he might be allowed nine shillings per diem, for his services as Clerk to the Committed for settling with the Army. Read & committed to Mr Bartlett Mr. Longfellow & Capt. Clarke.

306. Thursday October 24. 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of Bartlett Coffin, reported by way of Resolve granting the prayer thereof. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Simon Bartlett & others, reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted.

The Committee on the sale of land reported verbally on the Petitions of Samuel Mun & the Selectmen of Sturbridge, & James Thomas that they have leave to withdraw their Petitions.

The Committee on the Petition of Ebern. Crafts reported a Resolve but it appearing that there was no necessity for the Courts interference, it was ordered to subside.

Then the House adjourned to Friday Morning 9 o'clock.

Friday October 25th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

Genl. Prebble brought down the report of the Joint Committee appointed to consider the state of the old emission money. In Senate Oct. 21. 1782. Read & not accepted; and Ordered that the letter No. 1, herewith exhibited, addressed to the President of Congress be immediately transmitted to him & that a copy thereof be also forwarded by the same conveyance to the Delegates of this Commonwealths in Congress, accompanied with the letter No. 2. directing them to urge the attention of Congress to a subject so important in itself, & in which the particular interest of this state is so essentially concerned.

Sent down for concurrence.

307. Friday October 25th 1782.

The House reconsidered their Resolve passed the last evening on the Petition of Simeon Bartlett & others & ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petitions.

The Committee on the Petition of William Jennison reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Ordered to withdraw accordingly.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the report of the Committee appointed to view the County of Barnstable, & after debate committed the same to Mr. Dalton, Mr. Bartlett & Mr. Frazier.

The Hon. Mr. Choate brought down a Petition from William Burgess, praying leave to withdraw a Petition by him lately presented to the General Court, praying to become a subject of the State & to be allowed personal protection untill he can return to England, with a Resolve of Senate thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled "an Act for preventing and suppressing, Riots, Routs and unlawful Assemblies."

Read & third time & passed to be Engrossed.

Sent up for concurrence.

308. Friday, October 25. 1782.

A Petition from Samuel Williams & others praying leave to be furnished with proper authority for exchanging by land one Henry Dean a British Sea Captain, for Thomas Benson, a prisoner at New York. Read & committed to Mr. Dalton, Mr. Greenwood & Capt. Patch.

A Bill entitled "an Act for granting a Lottery for repairing & supporting a Bridge over Agawam River so called in West Springfield." Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

Genl. Warner brought down the Resolve of the House, making an establishment for the troops stationed at the Castle. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A. B & C. - Sent down for concurrence. Nov. 5. Read & concurred.

A Resolve directing the Agent to deliver Capt. Aaron Holden cloath & other articles sufficient for a suit of Cloaths. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Memorials of the Officers of the Massachusetts line of the Army, with the Order of the House thereon. In Senate read & non - concurred.

A Resolve abating twelve shillings in the valuation of the town of Dorchester, from shillings on that of the town of Cohasset, & three shillings that of the town of Chelsea, & adding the same to the valuation of the several towns in said County therein mentioned - Also a Resolve abating one of the men assigned to the Town of Cohasset to be raised for the Army - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

309. Friday, October 25. 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of the town of Rutland, reported a Resolve for the Petitioners to notify the town of Sterling to appear & shew cause &c., on the third Tuesday of next sessions. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of the town of Foxborough reported a Resolve for the Petitioners to notify the Town of Wrentham to appear on the first Tuesday of next session to shew cause, &c. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to Saturday 9 o'clock A. M.

Saturday, October 26th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

Mr. Kellogg & Mr. Paterson added to the Committee on the Tax Bill.

A Petition from Ezra Lunt praying for a licence to keep an Inn. Read & committed to Mr. Dalton.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher came down & inquired if the House had passed upon the Bill for preventing illicit trade. Whereupon Mr. Smead was charged with a Message to inform the Hon. Senate that it was now in the Second Reading.

Ordered that the Committee appointed the 3rd. instant to report what measures is proper to be taken with respect to the towns which are delinquent in procuring Beef, & returning Certificates to the Secretary of Beef delivered - consider likewise of the measures necessary to be taken with the Certificates issued by the Treasurer for that article. Sent up for concurrence.

310. Saturday October 26. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of Framingham being a Resolve directing the Petitioners to notify Nathl. Brinley to shew cause on the second Wednesday of next session &c. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

Nov. 1st Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss brought down a letter from the Hon. Samuel Holten Esq. In Senate, Read & sent down.

Also a Resolve of Senate declaring the reasons of the General Court for postponing the further consideration of the Memorial presented by the Officers of the Massachusetts Line of the Army. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with an amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Dalton, & Mr. Otis be a Committee to consider of the measures to be taken for the paying of the Creditors to the Absentees estates from the Treasury, & of the value of their debts & likewise of due bills, loans, new money, & the necessary repairs of the Treasurers office, & report.

The Committee on the Petition of Samuel Williams & others reported a Resolve for effecting the Exchange of Thomas Benson, as prayed for. Read and accepted.

Sent up for concurrence.

311. Saturday October 26. 1782.

A Resolve making abatements to the several towns in the County of Barnstable for Beef & men in full of all engagements of Court to that effect. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Capt Wales, Capt Snow & Col Moody be a Committee to examine into the abatements it may be proper to make to the County of Lincoln, of the men ordered to be raised for the Army.

Then the House adjourned to Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

Monday, October 28th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

Col. Coffin presented an account from the town of Gloucester, for supporting certain men who arrived there in a Cartel from Halifax. Committed to Col. Grow, Col Thorndike & Capt. Curtis.

The Committee of the Petition of Ezra Lunt reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Mary Thompson reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Bartlett, Col. Thomas & Col. Clarke be a Committee to consider of the measures, to be taken for supporting the Poor of the Town of Charlestown.

Ordered that Mr. Greenwood be added to the Committee for settling the accounts of Commissary Baker, in the room of Leonard Jarvis Esq, who is excused.

The House took up the report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to repair to & consider the state of Marblehead & committed the same to Mr Skinner Col. Coffin & Mr. Dwight.

A Memorial from the Officers of the Massachusetts Line of the Army, relative to their pay &c.; Read & thereupon Ordered that Genl. Ward, Mr. Lowell & Mr. Hall of Sutton with such as the Hon. Senate shall Join be a Committee to consider this Petition & report. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Solomon Freeman & others setting forth that they had advanced monies to a Committee appointed to view the circumstances of the County of Barnstable, who did not attend that business & praying such money might be refunded them. Read & committed to Col. Burt, Mr. Dane & Mr. Smead.

A Memorial from Nathl. Wells & others in behalf of the towns in the County of York, praying for reasons set forth that they might be exempted from any fines incurred for not raising soldiers for the Army. Read & committed to Mr. Dane, Mr. Baily & Mr. Brown of Stockbridge.

Ordered that Mr. Pebbles [?], Capt Lusk, & Col. McCobb be a Committee to find the sums of money paid on the pay rolls of the House which are to be charged to the several towns, & prepare the same for the Tax Bill.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Washington reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

313. Monday, October 28. 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Sale of Land reported a Resolve on the Petition of Aaron of Anna Buck. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Samuel Moody & Samuel Noyes, Guardians of three children of one Joel Weed, praying to be put in possession of an House & Land therein mentioned. Read and committed to Mr. Dane, Mr. Bourn & Mr Goodhue.

The Committee on the Petition of Messrs. Wales & Davis reported a Resolve for allowing them the sum of Seven Hundred & ninety two pounds, 4/-5 for their services. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

On Representation from John Hopkins Esq, a Resolve requesting His Excelly. the Governor to permit the Flaggs of Truce belonging to the enemy now lying in Boston Harbour to sail, was read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the account of Joseph Clark reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from George Coley praying leave to sell Land mentioned in said Petition. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Lands.

The Hon. Genl. Prebble brought down the Resolve of Senate assigning the reasons for postponing the consideration of the first Memorials from the Officers of the Army & the amendments of the House thereon. In Senate read & concurred with a further amendment at C. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Ruth Gay reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Gould reported by way of Resolve. Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the report of the Committee on the state of the old emission Money, with the amendments of the House. In Senate, read & concurred at A. & C. & non-concurred at B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss brought down the Resolve of the House on the Accounts of Joseph Clarke. In Senate read & concurred with amendment at A & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Report of the Committee on the Petition of the town of Worthington was taken up again & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Adam Maynard in behalf of the town of Paxton reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Order to withdraw accordingly.

 Monday October 28. 1782.

A Resolve directing the Assessors of the towns of Charlemont & Merryfield, in which the Land commonly called Green & Watkins land lies to assess the same according to the valuation thereof, compared with the Lands of their respective towns. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act for indemnifying all persons, except Samuel Ely, concerned in the late disturbances in the County of Hampshire. Read the First time & Tuesday, 11 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Oliver Greenleaf reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted & thereupon ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Mr. Longfellow, Mr. Vans & Mr. Greenwood added to the Committee on the Tax Bill. Mr. Bartlett on the Committee for settling the accounts of the Messrs. Austins in the room of Major Goodman.

A Petition from John Prentice in behalf of the town of Ward, setting forth that a penalty was assessed on them for the delinquency of two men on the requisition for 1500, but they afterwards procured them & therefore praying to be credited, for the same, and that an Order may pass directing the Constable not to collect said penalty. Read & committed to Capt. Patch, Col. White & Col. Edey, to be taken up at large.

A Petition from Samuel Lammond praying for a grant of a tract of Land on Hoosuc [?] Mountain. Read & committed to Capt. Skinner, Mr. Smead & Capt. Falley.

316. Monday October 28. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down a Petition from the Committee of the Army, praying leave to withdraw a Petition lately presented by them. In Senate Oct 28th. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered, that the Memorialists have leave to withdraw the Memorial within mentioned. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House making the abatements in Men & Beef to the County of Barnstable. In Senate Oct. 28. 1782. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to Tuesday morning 9 o'clock.

Tuesday, October 29th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Accounts of the Treasurer of the County of Plimouth for the years 1781 & 1782, were presented to the House and committed to Col. Thomas, Capt. Upham & Mr. Nichols.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Ruth Gay. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee appointed to consider of ways & means for the payment of the Members of the General Court reported the several sums of + lying in the Treasury. Whereupon it was ordered that the sums of £800. & 271=3=4d. Money received upon Taxes granted in the year 1781, & the further sum of £13:10/- received on the Tax of 1780, be appropriated for that purpose & that the Clerk furnish the Committee at the Treasury with a list of the names of the members

of the House who are present.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of the Island of Nantucket. In Senate Read & Accepted & thereupon Ordered that a copy of said Memorial be transmitted to the Delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress, & that the said Delegates be requested to use their utmost endeavor to impress the minds of Congress with just ideas of the high worth and importance of the Fisheries to the United States in general, & this State in particular. Sent down for concurrence. 31st Read & concurred.

A Bill entitled an Act for confirming certain Lands in the County of York, to certain persons claiming the same under Nicholas Shapleigh. Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act for confirming certain lands lying in the County of York to certain persons claiming the same under William Phillips & Bridgett Phillips. Read & third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Ebenr. Parsons & others praying to seize upon the effects of British subjects within the Commonwealth to the amount of their effects taken by the British at the Island of St. Eustatia. Read & committed to Capt. Bancroft, Mr. Dane & Mr. Cranch. Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a Resolve of Senate empowering & directing Caleb Davis Esq to collect & state the accounts of the Commonwealth against the United States to lay the same before the General Court at their next session. Sent down for concurrence.

Col Brown of Stockbridge, Col. Ely & Mr. John Ayres made their excuses to the House for not coming on the first day of the session which were voted to be satisfactory. And thereupon it was Ordered that the Committee on the Pay Roll hear and determine all excuses of that nature.

A Bill entitled an Act for indemnifying all persons, except Samuel Ely, concerned in the late disturbances in the County of Hampshire. Read a second time & Wednesday 9 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

On the Representation & Memorial of the Hon. Timothy Edwards Esq & others setting forth the mal conduct of James Harris Esq, a Justice of the Peace for the County of Berkshire, Ordered that Eli Root & William Walker Esqrs, be and they hereby are empowered & required to subpena before them or either of them all such persons as shall be pointed out to them by any of the said Memorialists as Witnesses. And shall notify the said James Harris Esq, together with said Memorialists to meet at the time & place of taking said captions if they see cause; and that they transmit the Depositions so taken to this House on or before the second Tuesday of its next sitting.

319. Tuesday, October 29. 1782.

A Bill entitled on Act determining at what times & places the several Courts of General Sessions of the Peace & Courts of Common Pleas shall be held within and for the several Counties of the Commonwealths, - Read the Second time & Wednesday morning 9 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

A Bill entitled an Act for appointing the times & places for holding the Supreme Judicial Court. Read the second time & Wednesday morning 1/2 past nine o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

The House assigned 10 o'clock, Wednesday morning for considering of grants to civil Officers, & Thereupon Ordered that Ebenezer Storer Esqr, Treasurer of Harvard College, lay on the Table of the House on account of the whole estate and income of said College, with an account of the expenditure of the Same.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Dermie reported by way of Resolve. Read & ordered to lie.

A Resolve directing Messrs. Church & Williston to deliver to Comy., Devins on his Order three Hundred Barrels of Beef at Springfield - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Metcalf Dn. Brown & Mr. Hall of Sutton be a Committee to examine the Resolve passed June 16th & 30th 1781, respecting the three Eastern Counties proportion of three & five months men.

A Petition from the Selectman of the town of Barnstable

praying that the Sheriff might return the Treasurers Executions against said town not satisfied. Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

A Resolve empowering Thomas Ivers Esq. the present Treasurer, to issue certain Executions the time for paying which was expired, but which were not issued by means of the death of the late Treasurer Gardner. Read & passed Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve for calling in certain Notes issued by the late Treasurer called Due Bills. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down a Resolve of Senate directing the letters to the President of Congress and the Delegates of this Commonwealth, dated the 21st. instant to be signed by the President of Senate & Speaker of the House. Sent down for concurrence. 30th Read & non-concurred & Ordered that Mr. Dalton, Genl. Ward & Mr. Lowell, with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to consider of the persons by whom said letters ought to be signed.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of Samuel Gammage referring the same to the Governor & Council. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. 30th Read & concurred.

A Resolve empowering Such persons as hold the Treasurers receipts on Collectors to recover the same by an action with double costs. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday morning 9 o'clock.

321. Wednesday October 30th 1782

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Samuel Whittemore & Samuel Chandler Executors to the Will of Samuel Chandler of Gloucester deceased praying to sell real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on sale of Land.

A Memorial from Dr. John Sprague praying for the payment of an a/c. for medicine & attendance furnished to certain solders, wounded in the fight at Bunker's Hill. Read and ordered to lie till the next Session.

The letter from S. Holten Esq was taken up, Read & committed to Mr. Sprague, Col. Barrett & Mr Goodhue who were likewise directed to prepare a Resolve for making a grant of money to the Delegates who were about going forward to Congress.

A Bill entitled "an Act for indemnifying all persons except Samuel Ely concerned in the late disturbances in the County of Hampshire," Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act determining at who times & places the several Courts of General Sessions of the Peace & Courts of Common Pleas shall be held within and for the Several Counties of the Commonwealth," read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act for appointing the times & places for holding the Supreme Judicial Court."

Read the third time & passed to be engrossed.

Sent up for concurrence.

322. Wednesday October, 30th 1782.

The Committee appointed to consider of the Resolve of the 16th & 30th of June 1781 respecting the three and five months as relating to the eastern Counties reported verbally that they were excused from raising any number of said men, & therefore ought to be excused from all fines for delinquency, which was accepted and directions given to the Committee on the Tax Bill accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down a Petition from James Bowdoin and others praying the repeal of a resolve for transferring part of the valuation of the Town of Harpswell to West Bowdoinham &c., with the following Order of Senate thereon viz. In Senate Oct. 30, 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that Samuel Baker Esq, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this Memorial into consideration & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Nov. 1st. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down a letter from Robert Morris Esq, dated October 5. 1782, inclosing a Resolve of Congress dated Oct. 1. 1782, relating to the pay of the Army, with a Resolve of Senate directing the Treasure to issue his executions against all delinquent Collections of the Continental Tax granted in March last, on the first day of January next. Sent down for concurrence.

The House proceeded to the consideration of Grants to civil officers, & thereupon a motion was made that a Committee be appointed to consider of some further allowance to the Judges of the Supream Court than is by law already provided which was put & passed in the negative - Thirty eight members voting against thirty one.

323. Wednesday October 30th 1782.

It was then Ordered that Mr. Hall of Sutton, Col Brown of Stockbridge & Mr Chamberlain be a Committee to consider of the grants that have been made to the secy. for his services the last year & to confer with that officer respecting the same - Also, to consider of & report a suitable sum for the Assistant Treasurer & the Comy. General.

The Treasurer of Harvard College not being able to furnish the House with an account of the estate &c., of said College according to the Order of the last evening, so early as the time assigned for considering of the grants to be made to the Officers of said College, The House assigned Thursday morning, at 10 o'clock for that purpose.

The House proceeded to the consideration of a Grant to the late Treasure, & it was ordered that a sum of the rate of four hundred pounds per annum, be granted to the Admr. on the estate of Henry Gardner Esq. for his services from the 1st of June last to the 8th inst. the time of his decease.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Bill for preventing illicit trade, with the amendments of the House thereon; In Senate, read & non-concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from the town of Wilbraham praying to be exempted from a fine for not sending a Representative to the General Assembly for reasons set forth. Read and committed, to Col. Clarke, Dr. Smead & Capt. Guild.

 Wednesday, October 30th, 1782.

Ordered that Mr. Sprague be on the Committee on the Memorial of the Officers of the Army, in the room of Mr. Hall of Sutton who is excused.

An Engrossed Bill entitled on Act for confirming certain lands lying in the County of York to certain persons claiming the same under William Phillips and Bridget Phillips, having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

An Engrossed Bill entitled an Act for confirming certain lands in the County of York, to certain persons claiming the same under Nicholas Shapleigh, having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

An Engrossed Bill entitled "an Act for granting a Lottery for repairing & supporting a Bridge over Agawam River so called in West Springfield, having had three Several readings passed to be enacted.

An engrossed Bill entitled "an Act in addition Unto an Act providing for the levying & collecting of Taxes in Plantations that are not incorporated," having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Petition of John Buffinton praying to use certain depositions in a case wherein he and one Charles L. Ballister were parties, said depositions having been taken for another case between the same parties, & the Deponents having left the Country. Read & Mr. Goodhue was chosen to bring in a notification for said Le Ballaster to shew cause &c. on Saturday next, which that Gentleman reported, & the same being read was passed & Sent up for concurrence.

325. Wednesday, October 30th 1782.

The Committee on the Sale of Land reported by way of Resolve the Petitions of Zacheus Fisk, George Cooley and Samuel Whittemore & Samuel Chandler giving them leave to sell lands as requested. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House empowering & directing Thomas Ivers Esq, to issue executions delayed by means of the late Treasurer's death. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for Concurrence. 31st Read & concurred with an amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

A letter from Jabez Hatch Esq., D. Q. Master, dated 29th inst. praying for an allowance of £630, to enable him to discharge his debts in his said capacity. Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Capt. Wales & Mr. Otis, who were directed to inquire into the advances made by Government towards the requisitions of Congress for the year 1782.

A Petition from John Eber Mayer, setting forth that he was a subject the Emperor of Germany, & had come to America with a view of becoming a subject thereof, but was taken a prisoner on his passage, & praying to be naturalized - Read & committed to Col. Grow. Dr. Manning & Cap. Guild.

A Bill entitled an Act for apportioning and assessing a Tax of -

Read a first time & Thursday 3 o'clock P. M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

Then the House adjourned to 9 o'clock Thursday Morning.

 Thursday October 31. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from the town of Lancaster praying that an execution which had been issued against them by mistake for a deficient man might not be served. Read & ordered that Mr. Sprague bring in a Resolve for excusing said town from said fine.

The Committee on the Petition of Isaac Basset reported verbally that it be referred to the Committee on accounts for allowance & payment. Accepted and ordered to be referred accordingly.

(Oct 30th.) the Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Ezra Lunt. In Senate Read & concurred, with amendment at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Resolve making abatement of Taxes to the several towns therein mentioned according to the promises made them by the late General Court, Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Sprague reported a Resolve on the Petition from the Town of Lancaster, according to Order. Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Nathl. Wells Esq & others in behalf of the County of York reported by way of Resolve read & not accepted and said Petition Ordered to lie.

327. Thursday October 31. 1782.

The Committee appointed to consider of the abatement to be made to Country of Lincoln reported the following abatement to the following towns, viz: - Warren 3 Men

Thomas Town 3

Madumcook 2

St. Georges, Plantation 3

Bellfast 1

12. which was delivered to the Committee on the Tax Bill.

The Treasurer of Harvard College laid an estimate of the estate &c. of said College upon the Table of the House, agreeable to the Order for that purpose. Read & Ordered to lie for the Present.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Representation in from John Lucas Esq, Comy. of Pensioners in behalf of Peris Bradford, Read & Committed to the Committee on Pension's.

The House took up the Bill for preventing illicit trade as sent down from the Hon. Senate, & a motion being made the question was put whether the House would reconsider their amendments on said Bill & concur with the Hon. Senate in passing the same to be engrossed, as it originally came down which passed in the negative. & thereupon it was ordered that Mr. Lowell, Mr. Dalton and Mr. Dwight be a committee to confer with such Committee as the Hon. Senate may appoint upon the subject matter of the Bill aforesaid. Sent up of concurrence.

Mr. Bartlett & Dr. Manning added to the Committee on the Tax Bill.

Ordered that Mr Sprague, Col Orr, & Mr Smead be a Committee to consider of an establishment for the Militia that marched against the insurgents in the County of Hampshire & report.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Wilbraham reported a Resolve, exempting them from the fine for not sending a Representative last year. Read & not accepted.

On motion, voted that the town of Hatfield he abated their fine for being unrepresented in the House the present year, they having sent a Gentleman to represent them who was chosen into the Senate.

The Committee on the accounts from the Town of Gloucester reported that said accounts were not sufficiently vouched. Thereupon Ordered that said accounts for returned to Col. Coffin for the purpose of obtaining vouchers.

The Committee the Petition of Ebenr. Parsons and others who last property at St. Eustatia, reported verbally that said Petition lie on file, which report after debate was accepted & said Petition ordered to lie on file accordingly.

A Petition from the first Parish of Charlestown praying that a brief might be issued for a subscription for the building of their Meeting House - Read & committed to Mr. Dwight Gen Ward & Mr Sprague - Then the House adjourned to Friday morning 9 o'clock.

329. Friday November 1. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of certain Inhabitants of the South East Corner of Warwick, & of Ervingshire and others reported that the Petrs. have leave to withdraw their Petitions. Accepted & ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw the same accordingly.

A Petition from the Justices of the Court of Sessions for the County of Suffolk praying that a Tax for £ 2000. might be assessed on the Inhabitants thereof, Read & submitted to Col Dawes, Mr. Hall of Medford & Dr. Manning who were directed to make enquiry whether the accounts of the expenditures of the money granted to the said County the last year had been examined.

A Petition from Mary Edson wife of Josiah Edson Esq., an Absentee, setting forth that her third out of her said Husbands estate, were unequal to her support & praying for some further allowance, Read and Committed to Col. Orr, Mr Jenckes, & Col White.

The Committee on the letter from S. Holten Esq reported a Resolve for granting to said Wolten James Warren Nathl. Gorham & Stephen Higginson Esqrs who were chosen Delegates from this Commonwealth to Congress, the sum of £ 150. each upon their departure on the business of that Delegation - Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

Ordered that the Committee for stating & methodizing the public accounts be directed to inform the House of their proceedings in settling the accounts of the several Committees on the Estates of Absentees

& lay the same on the Table of the House forthwith.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down an Order of Senate directing that the letter to the President of Congress, & the letter to the Delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress, of 21st ult. be signed by the President of Senate & the Speaker of the House of Representatives & forwarded without delay, & that the letters written in the name of the Genl. Court in future be signed in like manner. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the Report of the Joint Committee on the letters from Robt. Morris Esq, &c., being a Bill entitled "an Act for supplying the Treasury with the sum of Fifty Seven Thousand & Six Hundred Pounds." In Senate, Read & Sent down.

The Hon. Mr. Choate brought down the Resolve of the House allowing Samuel Holten Esq and other Delegates to Congress £ 150. each. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A & B. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The House took up the Tax Bill & after debate a motion was made to issue a Tax Bill for the sum of £ 200.000, & the pay of the Representatives together with the fines against the delinquent Towns for not sending them. A motion was then made for an adjournment and the question being put thereon it passed in the affirmative & the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

331 Friday November 1. 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Bliss brought down the Petition of John Buffington & the Order of the House thereon. In Senate Oct. 30. 1782. Read & concurred. Also another Order of the Senate on the same viz: In Senate Nov 1. 1782. Read again & thereupon Ordered that Nathl. Wells Esq with such as the Hon. House shall Join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration, hear the parties, & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred and Mr Dane & Capt Patch are joined.

Ordered that the Hon. Nathl. Gorham Joseph Noyes & the Hon. Seth Washburn Esqrs, with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to consider & report the principals on which the average price of the men to be raised by the Resolve of Dec 2nd 1780, is to be allowed to the towns therein described.

Mr. Smead was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House proposed coming to the choice of a Gentleman to settle with the Army, on Saturday morning 10 o'clock.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a Resolve of the House empowering Comy. Devins to receive the 300 Barrels of Beef at Springfield. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Wells came down & informed the House that the Senate agreed to the proposed choice last mentioned.

The Petition from the Members of the County of Berkshire, praying for a new goal in said County, Read & committed to Col. Barrett, Mr. Dwight and Mr. Smead.

A Petition from David Felt & Benjamin Needham praying to fix out a flag of truce to go to the enemy for the purpose of redeeming two of their relations prisoners. Read & Thereupon Ordered, that Mr. Goodhue bring in a Resolve for granting the prayer thereof, which that Gentleman reported accordingly, & it being read was passed & Sent up for concurrence.

Gen. Prebble brought down the Resolve of the House for calling in the Treasurers notes called due bills. In Senate. Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Nov. 2nd Read & non-concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Samuel Moody & Samuel Noyes reported a Resolve for them to notify Jeremiah Pearson, the adverse party, to shew cause &c. on the third Tuesday of next Session. Read & accepted, Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Theophilus Batchelder reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Ordered that Mr. Smead, Col. Bartlett & Mr Thacher be a Committee to consider whether any measures ought to be taken for relieving the Town of Charlton in their Taxes, on account of the Public Lands lying therein. - & to Report.

333. Friday, November 1. 1782.

The Committee on the Petition of James Howard reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

An Order directing the Treasurer to inform the delinquent Collectors of the Tax granted in March last, that unless they make speedy payment he shall be necessitated to issue his executions against them, Read & passed. Sent up or concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to Saturday morning 9 o'clock.

Saturday November 2nd 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The House reconsidered their vote of yesterday on the Petition of certain Inhabitants of the So. East Corner of Warwick, & of Ervingshire & others, & thereupon Ordered, that Mr. Dunbar, Mr. Sprague & Capt. Snow be a Committee to bring in a Resolve appointing a Committee to repair to & view the land prayed by said Petition to be incorporated.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the Resolve of the House providing for the recovery of debts due from Collectors on the Treasurers receipts. In Senate, Read & concurred, as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Resolve of the House abating the valuation of Dorchester & other Towns. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non concurred, & the House adhere to their own vote.

334. Saturday November 2nd. 1782.

Ordered that the Committee on the Pay Roll he empowered to hear and determine the excuses that may be made by the several Members of the House who have been noted as absent on the Roll called at the time of adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks brought down the following order of Senate viz: In Senate Nov. 2nd. 1782. Ordered that Eleazar Brooks Esq be a Committee on the part of the Senate with such as the Hon. House may appoint, to confer upon the subject of the Resolve of Oct. 29th last, making provision for the recording and ascertaining the amount of due bills. Sent down for concurrence. 4th Read & concurred & Mr Sprague is appointed on the part of the House.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the report of the Committee on the Memorial of James Bowdoin Esq & others. In Senate, Read & accepted with amendment at A. B. C. & D. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of James Howard. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Choate brought down the Resolve of the House directing the Assessors of the towns of Charlemont & Merryfield, to assess the lands called Green & Watkins. In Senate Read & concurred with amendments at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Ordered that Col. Burt, Mr. Bullock & Col. Thurston be a committee to alter the valuation of Town of Chesterfield, & add part of the same to that of Goshen, Also

to errace the name of Chesterfield Gore & insert that of Goshen in the valuation books.

An Account from Charles Coffin for writing for the Committee for stating & methodizing the public accounts, Read & thereupon Ordered, that Col May, Capt Stearns & Mr. Wilder be a Committee to consider of a proper allowance for said service.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of James Hunter. In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Bill entitled "an Act for apprehending & sending for trial, persons charged with having committed crime in some other state, & to authorize the officers of Justice of the other States to continue the execution of their precepts within this State when necessary," with the amendments of the House thereon. In Senate, Read & concurred with the further amendments at 1. & 3. Sent down for concurrence. 6th Read & concurred.

A Motion was made that the issuing of a Tax should be postponed to the next Session of the Genl. Court; Whereupon another motion was made that the question on the former motion should be postponed till Monday next, & the question being put was determined in the affirmative.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Samuel Moody & Samuel Noyes. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. Nov. 8. Read and concurred.

336. Monday, November 4th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered, that Dr. Stow, Mr. Hall of Sutton & Mr Adams be a Committee to consider of the necessity & expediency of adopting any further measures for calling the Committee of Sequestration to account.

A Resolve appointing Ino Rowe Esq & others a committee to settle the accounts of Joseph Baker Esq & in case of refusal on the part of said Baker, directing the Treasurer to sue him to account, Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The committee for stating & methodizing the public accounts, laid upon the Table of the House an account of their proceedings in settling the accounts of the several Committees on Absentees estates agreeable to Order. Said account was then delivered to Mr. Bartlett & others a Committee on that business.

The accounts of the town of Gloucester for supplies to sundry persons who arrived there in a Flagg of Truce form the enemy were again taken up & committed to Mr. Locke, Dr. Manning & Mr. Hall of Medford.

Ordered that Capt. Wales, Mr. Noyes & Mr Bartlett be a Committee to confer with the Comy. General relative to the quantity of Salt necessary to be used in packing Beef for the ensuing year & report.

The Committee on the Petition of Samuel Leonard reported by way of Resolve. Read & Accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve allowing the sums of money granted to the Court of Sessions for the County of Plimouth in the year 1781. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on Pensions reported a Resolve entitling Peziz Bradford a Sargent to one fourth part of his pay, from the time of his discharge - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

On Motion by Gen. Ward Ordered that the times for holding the Court of Probate in the County of Worcester be as follows in future viz. at Worcester the first Tuesday of every month. At Templeton 3rd Tuesday of April & October. At Brookfield 4th Tuesday of April & October. At Lancaster on the 3rd Tuesday of May & November. At Uxbridge on the 4th Tuesday of May & November. And Mr Sprague was chosen to bring in a Resolve for the purpose.

The Committee on the Petition of Isaac Phillips reported a Resolve for allowing him £383:9/- out of the debts of the late Board of War. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Timothy Smith Reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted, & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

The Committee on the Petitions of the Selectmen of Grafton & of Solomon Freeman & others, Reported - Whereupon it was ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw said Petitions.

The Committee on the Petition of Jona. Kimball & others Reported. Whereupon leave was given the Petrs. to withdraw their Petition.

The Committee on the Petition of Stephen Sackett reported that said Petition lie on file till next Session. Ordered to lie accordingly.

A Bill entitled "an Act four supplying the Treasury with the sum of fifty seven thousand six hundred pounds." Read a first time & Tuesday morning 9 o'clock, assigned for the Second reading thereof.

The account of the expenditures of the movies granted to be assessed on the the County of Suffolk the last year committed to Capt. Curtis. Col. Grow & Col. Moody who were appointed a standing Committee to examine such accounts.

A Petition from Thomas Harrison, also a Petition from William Russell praying to go to New York, for purposes set forth. Read & committed to Capt. Peterson, Mr. Metcalf & M. Thurston.

A Petition from Adam Amsden, a Soldier who had been in Captivity praying for the payment of his wages &c. Read & committed to Col. Burt, Capt Stearns & Capt. Shurtliff.

The Committee on the Petition of Saml. Leon and reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Representatives of the County of Berkshire reported a Resolve appointing the Hon Artemas Ward Esq & John Sprague Esq with such as the Hon. Senate shall join a Committee to repair to said County & fix the places for holding the Courts, & placing the Common Goal. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

339. Monday November 4th 1782.

An engrossed Bill entitled an Act for indemnifying all persons except Samuel Ely concerned in the late disturbances in the County of Hampshire, having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

The Secretary brought down the following Message from His Excelly. the Governor viz: -

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives.

Mons. Dumas, Depy. Qr. Master General of the French Army having represented that His Excellency Count De Rochambeau with his Army are soon expected to arrive in this state and has requested that provision may be made for quartering his officers, of said Army &c. The Secretary will lay before you a copy of this Representation that year may take such order thereon as you shall judge necessary.

John Hancock.

Boston Nov. 4th 1782.

Thereupon Ordered that Mr Frazier, Mr Otis, & Col Thacher, with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to consider the said message & report such measures as may be proper to be taken thereon.

Sent up for Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

340. Monday November 4th 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of John Eber Mayer reported a Resolve for allowing him to become an Inhabitant of this Commonwealth. Read & not accepted & ordered to be recommitted.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down the following Order of Senate viz. In Senate Nov. 4th 1782. Ordered that Caleb Davis Esqr, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to consider what quantity of Beef & Pork the Comy. General shall be directed to put up in the present season & advise ways & means to procure the quantity that may be ordered. And also to consider & report what disposition shall be made of the armed vessells belonging to this Commonwealth the ensuing winter. Sent down for Concurrence. 5th Read and concurred & Capt. Wales & -

The House proceeded to consider the question whether the Tax for raising £200.000. for the exigencies of Government &c. should be postponed to the next Session & it being put was determined in the negative. It was then voted that the consideration, that the £20.000. for making good the former engagements of Government to the towns overtaxed, the average price for the three years & the fines & bounties for the five & three months men be referred to the next Session & then to be Settled, and the sums due to any towns shall be allowed them out of the State Tax, granted the present Session and the sums due from any town shall be paid in the same season & under the same regulations as the aforesaid by a Bill then to be framed for that purpose. 90 Members 56 votes.

341. Monday November 4th 1782.

The Hon Mr. [unreadable] Brought down the Bill entitled an Act for apportioning & assessing a Tax of £200.000. In Senate Nov 2nd 1782. Read the Second time and passed a Concurrence to be engrossed, with the amendments annexed. Sent down for Concurrence. Nov. 5th. Read & concurred as to all the amendments excepting those at J. P. & R. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Charles Le Ballister praying the repeal of a Resolve of the 7th of March last, granting an appeal from a Judgement of the Maratime Court in Eastern District in a cause relating to the Schr. Lark, Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

Then the House adjourned to Thursday morning 9 o'clock.

Tuesday November 5th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from the Town of Almsbury praying for an explanation of a grant to said Town, to Keep a Ferry over Merrimac River. Read & Committed to Col Thurston & others.

A Return of the House being called for it appeared that there were 91 Members present; a Motion was then made that the pay of the Members of the General Court & the fines for not sending Representatives, should be referred over to the next Session, of the Court in the same manner as the articles of the Tax Bill contained within the vote passed the last evening. The Question having put, it passed in the affirmative. Sixty five members voting against twenty six.

342. Tuesday November 5th 1782.

The Hon. Jedadiah Prebble Esq brought down the Resolve of the House abating 3/6 on the valuation of the Town of Hadley; In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down a Resolve of Senate lengthening the time for the Inhabitants living in or near the boundary line between the Towns of South Hadley & Granby to subscribe to belong to either of said towns to the first of April next. Sent down for Concurrence. 6th Read & Concurred.

A Petition from the Town of Northfield praying an easement in their Taxes. Read & Committed to Dr. Manning Mr. Ball & Capt. Stearns.

Gen. Ward was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate to request them to send down the Tax Bill for £200.000, if they had not acted thereon, which was sent down and thereupon the House reconsidered their vote of non-concurrence with the amendments of the Hon Senate at P. & R. but not with that at J. Sent up for Concurrence.

Gen. Prebble brought down the Bill entitled an Act for repealing an Act entitled an Act for laying certain duties of excise, &c. In Senate Nov. 5th 1782 Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with the amendments on the papers accompanying. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with the amendments except at P. 2.1.2.3.4.5.9.21.22. Sent up for concurrence.

343. Tuesday, November 5th. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of John Buffington being a Resolve allowing him to use the Depositions as prayed for in his petition under the direction of the Court. In Senate read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Stark weather brought down a Petition from Edward Bacon & others Prisoners from Halifax on parole praying to be exchanged with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: - Read & thereupon Ordered that Thomas Durfee Esq with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into Consideration & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. 6th Read & concurred, & Mr. Cranch & Capt. Snow are joined.

The Hon. Mr. Davis brought down a petition from Joseph Baker Esq, praying that a Joint Committee might be appointed to settle his accounts, with the following Order of senate viz: - Read & Ordered that Caleb Davis Esq with such as may be joined by the Hon. House, be a Committee to consider this Petition & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr Rowe & Mr Otis are joined.

Also the Bill for preventing illicit trade with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: - In Senate Nov. 5th 1782. Reconsidered & concurred with the further amendments at A & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

344. Tuesday, November 5th, 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Ichabod Dexter in behalf of the Town of Hardwick reported verbally that that the Petrs. have leave to withdraw their Petition. Ordered to withdraw accordingly.

A Petition from Mary Wyman, praying to sell Real Estate. Read & Committed to the Committee on sale of Land.

Mr. Wales was charged with a message to the Hon Senate to enquire whether they had acted upon the Resolve of the House, making an abatement in the Valuation of Dorchester & other towns. The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down said Resolve with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: - In Senate Nov 5th. 1782. Read again & the Senate adhere to their own vote. Sent down. Read again & the House reconsidered their last vote & concurred with the vote of the Hon. Senate.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Report of the Joint Committee on the Govrs. Message of the 4th inst. being a Resolve directing Jabez Hatch Esqrs Barrack Master & the Selectmen of the town of Boston to make the necessary preparations for the reception of the French Troops. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill entitled an Act for apportioning and assessing a Tax of £200.000. for the following purposes: twenty one thousand seven hundred Pounds for the payment of the civil list - Eighty three thousand three hundred Pounds for the payment

of the interest on Government Securities. Forty thousand Pounds for the payment of Warrants drawn or lodged in the Treasurer's Office. Thirty five thousand Pounds for the payment of Muster Rolls, Armed Vessells, accounts allowed & to be allowed by the Committee on Accounts & other contingent charges of Government, & twenty thousand Pounds for the payment of the Militia Rolls for five & three months men, raised in the year 1781. Read a first time & the present time assigned for a second reading thereof. The said Bill was accordingly read the second time & Wednesday morning 9 o'clock assigned for a third reading thereof.

A Resolve repealing a Resolve passed the 9th of February last granting an annuity to Richd Gridley Esq. Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

Mr. Sprague reported a Resolve appointing the times & Places for holding the Probate Court for the County of Worcester, agreeable to order - which was read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Solomon Clark & others reported a Resolve directing the mode of assessing the Taxes laid upon the Towns of Howard Town & Nonigwalk [?]. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday morning 9 o'clock.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the accounts of the Town of Gloucester reported verbally & it was thereupon ordered that the same lie over to the next Session of the General Court.

A Bill entitled an Act for apportioning and assessing a Tax of £200.000. for the following purposes - Twenty One thousand seven hundred pounds for the payment of the civil list - Eighty three thousand three hundred pounds for the payment of interest on Government Securities - Forty thousand pounds for the payment of Muster Rolls, Armed Vessells accounts allowed & to be allowed by the Committee on Accounts & other Contingent charges of Government & Twenty thousand pounds for the payment of Militia Rolls for five & three months men raised in the year 1781. - Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for Concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Phillips, Capt. Smith & Mr Longfellow be a Committee to consider of the expediency of granting a further sum of money to the Committee on Accounts.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks bought down the Excise Bill with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: - In Senate Nov. 5th 1782. Read and Concurred with the Hon House in the amendments at P.2.1. & 3. & non-concurred at 2,9,21, & 22, & the Senate propose further amendments viz: at 23 in the fourth page dele five & insert ten & the same alteration at 24 in the fifth page. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with that part of the amendment of the Hon. Senate at 21, marked 0,

& non-concurred as to their other amendments agreeably to the last vote of the House. Sent up for concurrence.

Genl. Prebble brought down a letter from Lord Sterling dated Albany Oct. 14th 1782. with the following Order of senate thereon viz: - In Senate Nov 6. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that Jona. Warner Esq with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this letter & the papers accompanying the same into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Gen. Ward & Mr. Dunbar are joined.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Isaac Phillips. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new drought. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petitions of the Town of Almsbury, David Tewksbury & William Hudson reported that same lie over to the next Session of the Genl. Court. Order to lie Accordingly.

A Petition from Abiel Lovejoy Esq praying that his affairs might be examined & tryed by a Committee near the place of the residence of the parties concerned therein. Read & committed to Capt. Snow. Mr. Frye of Fr. & Mr. Jones.

A Resolve granting to Charles Coffin the Sum of £ 9:9/ - in full for Twenty Seven days service as clerk to the Committee for settling with the Army - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The House assigned 3 o'clock P. M. for considering of grants to the Secretary, Assistant Treasurer & Comy. General.

The Committee on the Petition of the first Parish of Charlestown reported a Resolve for a Brief to be issued for a contribution to be applied to the Building of their Meeting House. Read & accepted - Sent up for Concurrence.

Ordered that Dr. Stow & Col Thomas with such as the Hon Senate shall join be a Committee to consider of the time when it may be expedient for the Gen. Court to assemble next after the expiration of their present Session. Sent up for concurrence.

On Representation from Samuel Brown Esq that the state of New York had granted part of the Territory of this Commonwealth, a Letter to the Delegates at Congress directory them to make enquiry, & take proper measures respecting the same was read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from David Holden a Prisoner in Concord Goal, setting forth that he was committed without Bail or Main prize, & praying for that privilege - Read & thereupon Ordered that said Petition be dismissed.

The Committee on the Petition from Col. Jabez Hatch reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock. P. M.

349. Wednesday November 6. 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of certain Inhabitants of Ervingshire & other places reported a Resolve appointing Jas. Locke Esq & Abel Wilder Esq with such as the Hon Senate may join a Committee to view their situation & report. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Winslow Parker. In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House, Petition of the Town of Washington. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. 8th Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the Tax Bill for raising £200.000. for the use of the Continent & proposed in behalf of the Senate, amendments in the sums assessed on the several towns in the County of Suffolk, and in those of Hadley Westfield & Amherst in the County of Hampshire.

Mr. Barrett was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate, to inform them that the House agreed with the proposed amendments.

Mr. Hall was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to enquire whether they had passed upon the Bill for raising a tax of £200.000. for the use of the Commonwealth.

Whereupon the Hon. Mr. Wales came down & informed the House that the Senate had

referred the consideration of the propriety of issuing said Tax to the second Wednesday of the next Session of the Genl. Court. Then Mr. Barrett was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House proposed a Committee of both Houses to meet immediately to confer upon the subject matter of referring the aforesaid Tax Bill to the next Session of the Genl. Count. The Hon. Mr. Dorr came down & said that the Senate agreed to the proposal of conference, but proposed Thursday morning 10 o'clock, instead of the present time for that purpose. A Message was then sent to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House agreed to the time they proposed.

A Petition from Ichabod Dexter in behalf of town of Hardwick praying an easement in their Taxes - Read & Committed to Mr. Dunbar Mr Jenckes & Mr Ayres.
A Petition from Abel Colborn & Shemuel Griffin & others, praying for the reward promised for apprehending counterfeiters of paper money. Read & Committed to Mr Johnson, Col Faulkner & Mr. Hall of Medford.
The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the report of the Joint Committee appointed to consider of an allowance for the Committee for auditing & examining the accounts of the Treasury with a Resolve of Senate accepting the same & allowing to Benja Austin & Saml. Banett Esqs the Committee aforesaid, twelve shillings per diem in full for their services. Sent down for Concurrence.

Read & concurred with amendments at A & B. - Sent up for Concurrence.

Also a Resolve of senate altering the times for holding the Courts of Sessions & Common Pleas in the County of Middlesex to the fourth Tuesday of December next. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

An engrossed Bill entitled "an Act for apprehending & Sending for trial persons charged with having committed crimes in some other State, & to authorize the Officers of Justice of the other states to continue the execution of their precepts within this state when necessary, having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

Thursday November 7th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolve allowing the accounts of the Treasurer of the County Suffolk, for the year 1781 - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve granting at Tax of £2000, to be apportioned on the inhabitants of the County of Suffolk Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to stay his executions for all Taxes against the town of Charlton untill the third Tuesday of the next Session. Read and passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Ward reported a Resolve for staying & recalling an execution issued against said town for the fines for two deficient men. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

352. Thursday November 7th. 1782.

On Motion Ordered that a Message be sent to the Senate to request them to send down the letter from the Hon. S. Holten Esq of the 25th ult. Mr Sprague was charged with the Message. The Hon. Mr Hastings brought down said letter accordingly which was then recommitted.

The Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts reported that they had notified the Committee of sequestration to settle their accounts who informed them that they were on the files of the House and requesting the same to + dld. [?] in order for settlement. Read & Committed to Mr Dalton Capt Wales & Mr Bartlett.

A Resolve recommending to the Selectmen of the several towns through which the French Troops may pass, to assist Jabez Hatch Esq in manifesting a good disposition by affording the said troops the necessary accommodations &c. in their march. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that the members representing those towns through which the French Troops may pay pass in their march from providence have leave of absence in order to use their influence to have the last mentioned Resolve carried into effect.

Col Washburn was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House proposed after the Conference on the subject matter of postponing the Tax of £200.000 for the use of the Commonwealth to the next session was over to came to the Choice of a Naval Office for the Port of Machias - and of one Gentleman to settle with the Army. The Hon. Mr. Davis came down and said that the Senate agreed to that part of the proposal

which related to the choice of a Naval Office for the Port of Machias only. The two Houses then assembled together & conferred upon the subject matter aforesaid. They then proceeded to the choice of a Naval Officer for the Port of Machias according to assignment. Genl. Warner, Mr. Goodhue & Genl. Ward were chosen a Committee to collect count & sort the votes. By return of the House there appeared to be 90 Members present and the Committee having attended to the service assigned them, reported that the whole number of votes were 75. That Stephen Smith had 74 votes & was chosen which report was accepted & the Hon Senate withdrew.

A Petition from John Scollay in behalf of the Selectmen of Boston, setting forth that they were not able to carry into effect, the orders of Government for accommodating the French Troops in said Town - Read & thereupon Ordered that Mr Smith of Taunton & Mr. Goodhue with such as the Hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to consider said Petition and report what measures may be necessary to be taken thereon. Sent up for Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled an Act in addition to an Act entitled an Act in addition to an Act entitled an Act for preventing all Commerce & illegal correspondence with the enemies of the United States of America - This Engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

354. Thursday, November 7. 1782.

A Bill entitled an Act for repealing an Act entitled an Act laying certain duties of excise on certain articles therein mentioned for the purpose of paying the interest on Government Securities, and for repealing another Act entitled an Act in addition unto & for amending & explaining an Act made in the year 1781, laying certain duties of Excise on certain articles therein mentioned for the purposes of paying the interest on Government securities, & for repealing one other Act entitled an Act making provision for giving permits to the Distillers & the Importers of those Articles which are subject to an Excise duty: Also for repealing one other Act entitled an Act in addition unto an Act entitled an Act for laying certain duties of Excise on certain articles therein mentioned for the purpose of paying interest on Government Securities - And for altering another Act entitled an Act in addition unto & for amending & explaining the Act made in the year 1781. laying certain duties of Excise on certain articles therein mentioned for the purpose of paying the interest on Government Securities & for raising of revenue by Excise on certain articles therein mentioned for the payment of interest on Government consolidated securities & interest on the notes issued to the Officers & Soldiers of the Massachusetts Line of the Army for the respective balances due to them for their services in the year one thousand Seven Hundred and eighty. -

Nov. 8th This Engrossed Bill having had three several readings, passed to be Enacted.

355. Thursday November 7. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the following Order of Senate viz: - In Senate Nov. 7. 1782. Ordered that the Secretary be directed to notify Stephen Smith Esq that he was chosen Naval Officer for the Port of Machias, this day, by joint ballot of the Senate and House of Representatives. Sent down for concurrence

A Petition from Wm. Burgess praying that he might be permitted to remain in the Country under Bonds untill the sense of Congress can be had upon his case. Read & committed to Mr. Dalton, Mr Frazier & Mr. Sprague.

A Letter from Samuel Osgood Esq Dated Oct. 3rd. 1782. Read & committed to Mr Sprague, Mr Dunbar & Mr. Dane.

The House assigned Friday morning 9 o'clock for considering of a grant to the Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, & Comy. General.

Ordered that Col. White, Capt. Peterson & Col Thomas be a Committee to prepare a Resolve directing the Treasurer to pay the balances due to Officers & Soldiers of the United States Army on the three Months wages.

Then the House adjourned to Friday morning 9 o'clock.

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolve appointing Artemas Ward & John Sprague Esqrs a Committee to repair to the County of Berkshire & appoint the places for holding the Courts there. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Mary Wyman reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of John Beverly reported a Resolve for granting £6. to his use out of the public Treasury, & the same sum annually until the further Order of the General Court. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Walker reported a Resolve excusing him from further service as a Manager of the Lottery, granted for repairing the roads through the Green Woods.

Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of William Burgess reported a Resolve, permitting the Petitioner to tarry within the Commonwealth, until he can lay his case before Congress, he giving Bond. Read & accepted.

Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition from the Selectmen of the Town of Boston being a Resolve directing them to lay their accounts of expenses for quartering the French Troops, &c. before the Governor & Council for allowance & payment. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a Resolve of Senate directing the Treasurer to discharge the due bills issued by the late Treasurer &c. Sent down for concurrence. 9th Read & concurred with amendments at A. & C. Sent up for concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider of the grants to the Secretary, Comy. General, & late Assistant Treasurer, & thereupon voted that the sum of three Hundred Pounds be granted to the Secretary of this Commonwealth, in full for his services from June 1 1781. to June 1. 1782. That the sum of three hundred pounds be likewise granted to Richd Devins Esq the Comy. General in full for his services for the same term of time. And that there be granted to Thos. Ivers Esq late Assistant Treasurer twenty two pounds two shillings per month from the time he began, to consolidate Government Securities to the time of his being chosen Treasurer.

Ordered that the Committee for settling the Accounts with the Administrator of the late Treasurer, be directed to attend the House & inform them what sums of money are in the Treasury.

The Committee appointed to make up the pay for the travel & attendance of the Members of the House reported a duplicate Roll amounting to the sum of Two Thousand ninety three pounds, 3/6^{d}, which was read & passed & Thereupon voted that His Excelly. the Governor, be & he hereby is requested by & with the advice & consent of Council to grant his Warrant upon the Treasurer of this Commonwealth for the aforegoing sum of £2093:3:6^{d} to be paid to the Members of the House agreeably to the Rolls aforesaid. And the said Rolls were then transmitted to His Excelly. the Governor.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the Bill for preventing Illicit Trade and proposed four amendments therein, which the House agreed to, & a Message was sent to inform the Senate thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Gawin Brown reported that he have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down a Report of the Committee on the Memorial of the Officers of the Massachusetts Line of the Army, referring the same to the next Session, & with a Copy of a letter to the Delegates representing this Commonwealth in Congress, on their affairs. In Senate Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Thereupon Ordered that the Committee from the Massachusetts Line of the Army be furnished with a Copy of this Letter. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Abiel Lovejoy Esq reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted and thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

The Committee on the Petition of Mary Edson reported a Resolve, allowing her six pounds annually during her life out of her husbands estate. - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the report of the Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts, respecting their proceedings in settling the accounts of the several Committees on Absentees estates reported verbally that said report lie on the files of the House. Accepted & Ordered that said report lie accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Resolve of Senate making an allowance to the Committee for auditing & examining the accounts of the Treasury with the Amendments of the House thereon.

In Senate read & concurred & the Senate propose a further amendment at C. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with a farther amendment at D.

Sent up for concurrence.

Also a Petition of Lieut Aaron Holden, with a Resolve of Senate thereon, directing the Treasurer to receive of the said Holden a Note for £48.9^{s}.9^{d}. issued to him for his wages & to pay him the amount thereof out of the Public Treasury. Sent down for concurrence. 11th Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock. P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Stephen Webb reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A Petition from Jno. Popkins in behalf of two Soldiers praying for Cloathing, & other necessaries. Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

A Petition from the Selectmen of Wareham praying that the wives of two Soldiers enlisted into the Army from said town might be supported by Government. Read & committed to Mr. Shurtliff, Col. Edey, & Mr. Peterson.

The Committee on the Petition of Ichabod Dexter in behalf of the town of Hardwick, reported a Resolve appointing David Smead Esq & Mr John Peterson a Committee with such as the Hon Senate may join to repair to & view the said Town & report the next Session. Sent up for concurrence.

361. Friday November 8. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down an Order of Senate for Wm. Phillips Esq & others, a Committee for receiving the public property from the Administrator of the late Treasurer &c. to inform the Court in writing [?] in general how for they have proceeded, & particularly what sums of money they have received, and to what amount & for what purpose sd. monies are appropriated; what sums are due from delinquent Towns on the Tax granted October 1781. - & on the specie Tax granted 1780, & the amount of the sums due from Government on Warrants not discharged. Sent down for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Dalton, Mr Goodhue & Mr. Smead with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider when it will be expedient for the General Assembly to rise, & at what time to commence their next Session & report. Sent up for concurrence.

A letter from James Lowell Esq Receiver of the Continental Taxes, dated Nov. 8. 1782. Read & Sent up.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the Excise Bill & proposed three amendments - two of then relative to the mode of ascertaining the value of certain articles, in Order for the payment of the duties thereon; the other to errace the clause making the appropriation of the Governor & Council necessary for the appointment of Depy. Collectors of excise. A Message was sent to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House agreed to the two first of said amendments only.

The Committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Administrator of the late Treasurer, attended the House according to Order, & gave in an account of the monies in the Treasury, & answered such questions as were proposed to them relative to that subject.

Ordered that Mr Cranch, Capt Wales and Mr Bartlett be a Committee to confer with the Treasurer relative to the assistance necessary to be procured for his office & to report the same to the House.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down a Resolve of Senate directing the Treasurer, to issue his executions on the first Monday of February next against all towns delinquent in Beef Taxes. Sent down for concurrence.

Also a Resolve of Senate empowering the Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts to receive the balance due to the Commonwealth from Joseph Baker Esq late Comy. for purchasing Beef &c. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with an amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve abating to the Plantation of Merryfield one third of their Taxes for Beef. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing all Towns deficient in making returns of their 5 & 3 months men to the Secy's. Office to make such returns, with a list of such towns annexed. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

363. Friday November 8. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the letter of this date from Jas. Lovell Esq with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: In Senate Nov. 8. 1782. Read & thereupon Ordered that Caleb Davis Esq with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to take this letter into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Genl. Ward & Mr. Frazier are Joined.

Also the report of the Joint Committee appointed to consider the proper time for the Court to assemble in its next Session, being in their opinion the third Wednesday of January next. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with amendments at A. & B. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Baker Jr. reported a Resolve allowing him £ 23:18/- exclusive of £ 9:6/- received in full for his services in the recess of the Court to the last of May 1782. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Bartlett was charged with a Message to the Hon Senate with the continental tax bill, to propose the following amendments, where November occurs, to dele the word following viz. “next” & insert “inst”. In the clause relating to Officers & Soldiers to dele January & insert November. In the preamble of the clause relating to lands taken from one town & annexed to others to dele one & insert “any” & to dele “and annexing the same to some other Town or place which has been incorporated”. And in the clause to dele “one” & insert “any”.

 Friday November 8. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the report of the Joint Committee to consider what quantity of Beef & Pork is necessary to be put up the present year &c. Being a Resolve of Senate giving directions to the Comy. General respecting that article, Armed vessells &c. Sent down for concurrence. 11th Read and concurred with amendments at A. & B. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to Saturday morning 9 o'clock.

Saturday November 9th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of Wareham reported verbally. Whereupon Ordered that the Petition be dismissed.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the Continental Tax Bill & said that the Senate agreed to the several amendments proposed thereon by the House the last evening, & proposed further to dele January & insert November in the clause relating to the Officers & Soldiers of the Army. Mr. Dane was charged with a Message to acquaint the Hon Senate that the House agreed thereto.

Ordered that Mr. Dunbar, Mr. Dane, & Col Doane be a Committee to consider of & report a grant to the President of Senate, the Speaker of the House & the Clerks.

The Committee appointed to lease or sell the public furnaces at Bridgewater made report of their doings & the same was committed to Capt Washburn Col. Moody & Major Bancroft.

A Memorial from Noah Church in behalf of the Town of New Marlborough praying that the fine for not sending a Representative to the Genl. Court, might be remitted to the said town - Read & ordered to lie till the next Session.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the report on Lord Sterlings letter, being a Resolve requesting His Excelly. the Governor to issue orders for detaching peope [?] parties of the Militia &c. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve allowing fine shillings & 8^{d}. per day to the Hon. Samuel Adams Esqr. President of the Hon. Senate; 5/8^{d} per diem to the Hon. Speaker of the House over and above their pay as Members - Also the sum of forty pounds to Wm. Baker Jr. Clerk of the Senate & forty pounds to George Richards Minot Clerk of the House, they to be accountable. Read and passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to pay such Officers & Soldiers as had not received their three months wages such sums as might be due to them therefor as soon as may be. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Guardians of the Punkapogg tribe of Indians, reported verbally the accounts of said Guardians could not be settled for want of vouchers. Whereupon, Ordered that said Petition be referred to next Session of Genl. Court

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to receive £ 3750:11:10^{d} of the Administrator of the late Treasurer & for indemnifying said Administrator, in case the said money should not appear to be the property of the Commonwealth upon an adjustment of their accounts with him. Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

Ordered that Capt. Snow, Col. Brown & Col Prescott be a Committee to consider of & report an allowance to the Committee on accounts.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the following Minute of Senate viz: - In Senate Nov. 9. 1782. The Senate made choice of Tho^{s}. Walley Esq, to settle the accounts of the Officers & Soldiers of the Massachusetts Line of the Continental Army, agreeable to a Resolve of the Genl. Court passed 18th of October last. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & Thereupon Ordered, that the Secretary lay before the House the said Resolve of the 18th ult. which the Secretary brought down accordingly.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to pay the Members of the Genl. Court. the whole that shall appear to be due them upon the Pay Rolls for the present Session, out of the monies in the Treasury excepting the monies arising from the Continental Tax & Excise. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve allowing 1/3^{d} per diem to the Committee on Accounts, over and above their pay as Members of the Genl. Court. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Frazier brought down a letter from S. Phillips respecting the state of certain powder at Salem with a Resolve of Senate directing the Comy. General to inspect the same &c. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Petition of Mehitable Greenough widow of John Greenough deceased, praying to sell a part of his Real Estate with a Resolve of Senate granting the prayer thereof. Sent down for concurrence. 12th Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of Edwd. Bacon & others, being a Resolve of Senate directing the Comy of Prisoners to effect the exchange of the Petitioners & others mentioned, by the first Cartel. Sent down for concurrence.

Genl. Ward was charged with a Message to inform the Hon. Senate that the House proposed coming to the choice of one Gentleman for settling the accounts of the Army, on Monday next at 11 o'clock A. M.

The Hon. Mr. Wells came down & informed the House, that the Senate agreed thereto. Then the House adjourned to [Monday] morning 10 o'clock.

368. Monday November 11. 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

Agreeably to the vote of the House to that purpose the following Resolves passed viz: -

A Resolve granting to the Administrator of the late Treasurer Gardner the sum of five hundred forty one pounds 13/4^{d} in full for his services to the 8th ult.

A Resolve granting to the late Assistant Treasurer Thos. Ivers Esq two hundred & eighty five pounds in full for his services in said capacity from Sept. 20. 1781, to 10th October 1782.

A Resolve granting to John Avery Jr Esq the sum of three hundred pounds, in full for his services as Secretary from June 1st 1781, to June 1st 1782 - and

A Resolve granting three Hundred pounds to Richd Devins Esq Comy. General in full for his services for the same period.

A Resolve appointing Benjamin Chadbourne, David Sewall & Nathl. Wells Esqrs, a Committee on the part of the Commonwealth to divide certain lands lying in the County of York owned between certain Absentees and other Tenants in common; Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Capt. Wales & Mr Otis, with such as the Hon. Senate may join, be a Committee to confer with Jabez Hatch Esqr, D. Q. M. Genl. respecting the measures necessary to be taken with the certificates issued by him for teaming. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve granting to Genl. Warner & Col. Ashley two per cent on the monies for warded by them to the Army in full for their services &c. in that business read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

 Monday November 11. 1782.

A Petition from Henry Crane setting forth that he was a Soldier in Capt. Cowell's Company, in Col. William's Regt. & had been in captivity & praying for relief. Read & Committed to Capt. Wales, Capt. Stearns & Mr. Frazier.

The Committee on the Memorial of John Lucas Esqr reported a Resolve directing him to transmit an account of the monies received by him of the Commonwealth, in his said Capacity to Congress &c. Read and accepted, Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wells, brought down A Bill entitled an Act to empower the United States in Congress assembled to determine the proportion which this Commonwealth shall bear of the public expenses & for other purposes therein mentioned, being the report of the Joint Committee appointed on that business. In Senate Nov. 9. 1782. Read the second time and passed to be Engrossed, as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & thereupon Ordered that said Bill be referred to the next Session.

Col. Washburn was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House were ready to proceed to the choice of a Gentleman to settle with the Army according to assignment. The Hon. Mr. Davis came down & said the Senate were likewise ready. Whereupon Genl. Ward, Col Washburn & Mr. Sprague were chosen a Committee to collect, count & sort the votes, who having attended the collecting thereof the same were transmitted to the Senate Chamber - The Committee then reported that the whole number of votes

were 80 - that 41 made a choice - & that Thos. Walley Esq had 80 votes & was unanimously chosen.

The Committee on the Petition of Col. Aaron Rowley reported that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition, Accepted, & the Order of Senate to that purpose read & concurred.

Said Committee made similar reports on the Petitions of Noah Eaton & William Lamont. Accepted and Ordered that said Petitioners likewise have leave to withdraw their Petitions.

A Resolve directing the Committee for selling & leasing the Furnaces at Bridgewater to pay the monies & securities received therefor into the public Treasury - Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

X.

Ordered that the Secretary lay before the House the Resolve appointing William Phillips Esq & others a Committee to receive of the Administrator of the late Treasure Gardner all public effects in his hands &c., & the several resolves afterwards passed relative thereto, - which the Secretary laid before the House accordingly.

Ordered, that Mr. Sprague, Col Brown and Mr. Smead be a Committee to consider of the proper regulations for the Treasurers Clerks to be put under.

A Resolve on the petition of Elias & Rebecca Haskell granting them leave to sell Land as prayed for. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

 Monday November 11. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the following Order of Senate viz: - In Senate Nov 11. 1782. Ordered that the Secretary be directed to notify Thoˢ. Walley Esq. that he was this day chosen a Committee to settle with the Officers & Soldiers of the Massachusetts line in the Continental Army, by Joint Ballot of the Senate & House of Representatives. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Resolve of the House directing the Treasurer to pay the whole sum due to the Members of General Court for their travel and attendance this Session. In Senate, read & concurred, with amendments at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Davis brought down a Bill entitled an Act for repealing an Act entitled an Act, directing the appraisement of certain articles of personal estate, when taken to satisfy executions at the suit of any private person or persons; And for making more effectual provision for answering the purposes intended by the said Act. In Senate, Nov. 11. 1782. - Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & referred to the next Session of the General Court.

Also a Bill entitled an Act for continuing Sundry laws that are now expiring. In Senate, Nov. 11. 1782. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. Read & thereupon Ordered that said Bill be referred over to the next Session of the General Court.

Also the Report of the Joint Committee on Mr. Lovell's letter being a Resolve directing the Treasurer to issue his executions against the Collectors of the Continental Tax, by the tenth day of January next. Sent down for concurrence. 12th Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. & C. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petitions & accounts of Messrs Wales & Davis. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence - Read & concurred.

Also a Petition from the town of Uxbridge by their Selectmen praying that the doings of sd. town might be notified any omission of affixing seals to their town warrants notwithstanding, with a Resolve of Senate establishing the same. Sent down for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the Resolve of the House making a grant of £285, to Thos. Ivers Esq. In Senate read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence; read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of the town of Rutland. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. - A Resolve

373. Monday November 11. 1782.

A Resolve empowering the Treasurer to appoint his Clerks & directing them to be sworn, to the faithful discharge of their trust. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the Resolve respecting Due Bills. In Senate Read & concurred & the Senate propose further amendments viz: - to dele from D to E. & from F to G. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & the House propose a further amendment at E & G. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Sprague, & Mr Dunbar with such as the Hon Senate may join be a Committee to wait on His Excelly. the Governor & request him to adjourn the General Court to the last Wednesday of January next. Sent up for concurrence.
Then the House adjourned to Tuesday morning 9 o'clock.

Tuesday November 12th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

Genl. Brooks brought down the Petition of Love Adams with a Resolve of Senate thereon, granting her an annual sum of six per cent on one third part of the sum her Husband's estate sold for, who was an Absentee. Sent down for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Report of the Committee of both Houses on the Representation of Caleb, Davis Esqr. Agent of the Commonwealth, directing him to charge the United State with £825, lent to Jabez Hatch Esqr. D. Q. M. Gen. & to call upon John Hopkins Depy. Comy. of Prisoners to return the vessell delivered to him for a Prison Ship. Sent down for concurrence.

374. Tuesday November 12. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House appointing the regulations for the Treasurers Clerks, In Senate Read & concurred with amendments A. Sent down for concurrence. Read and Concurred.

Mr. Smead was charged with a message to inform the Hon. Senate that the House had taken Order on all the public business before them and were ready for a recess in case the Hon. Senate were likewise prepared therefore.

Ordered that Col. Dawes be desired to after the position of Funnell of the Stow in the Representatives Chamber, in such manner as may render it fit for use.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of the town of Ward. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Elias & Rebecca Haskell.

In Senate read & concurred, as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

375. Tuesday November 12th 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Col. Washburn was charged with a message to enquire of the Hon. Senate, if they had passed upon the order of the House appointing a Committee to wait upon His Excelly. the Governor & request a recess.

The Hon. Mr. Davis come down & said that the Senate had not acted upon the public business so far as was necessary previous to a Recess & therefore had not concurred with the House in the Order aforesaid. He likewise brought down a letter from a Committee of Machias to the Governor relating to the situation of the Garrison at that place. In Senate Nov. 12. 1782. Read & Sent down.

Read & thereupon Ordered that the letter aforesaid, be referred to the next Session of the General Court.

The Hon. Mr. Davis brought down the Resolve providing for the discharge of the Due Bills issued by the late Treasurer, In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House granting to Charles Coffin £ 9:9/- for his services as a Clerk. In Senate Read & concurred with an amendment at A. - viz: - at A dele £ 9:9/- & insert £ 12:3/-

Sent down for concurrence.

376. Tuesday November 12. 1782.

The Hon. Genl. Prebble brought down the Resolve of the House appointing Benja. Chadbourne Esqr. & others a Committee to divide certain lands in the County of York, of which certain Absentees were tenants in common with other persons. In Senate Read & concurred with amendments at A.B.C.D.E.F.G.H.I. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House empowering & directing Col. Thos. Dawes to make the necessary repairs in the Treasurers Office. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A.B.C.D. Sent up(?) for concurrence.

The Hon. Genl. Brooks brought down the Order of the House, appointing a Committee to wait upon His Excelly. the Governor, to request him to adjourn the Genl. Court, In Senate read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House requesting His Excelly. the Governor to write to the Governor of Connecticut, to prevent the enemy receiving supplies &c. In Senate Read & concurred with amendments from A to C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Gen. Brooks brought down the following Order of Senate viz: - In Senate Nov. 12. 1782. Ordered that Richd. Devins Esqr, Comy. General provide a sufficient quantity of Sea Coal or other fuel for the use of the General Court at their next Session.

Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

377. Tuesday, November 12. 1782.

The Secretary came down & said that His Excelly. the Governor thought it impossible for the General Court, to be adjourned this evening several Resolves having just been laid before him, but that His Excelly. would send a Message to both Houses early in the morning.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday Morning 9 o'clock.

Wednesday November 13th 1782.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Letter from the Hon Samuel Holten Esqr reported by way of Resolve. Thereupon Ordered that the same be referred to the next Session of the General Court.

The Secretary came down & delivered the following Message from His Excelly. the Governor.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives - The Secretory has laid before me a Bill entitled an Act for repealing several acts laying certain duties of excise on certain articles therein mentioned, & for laying a duty or exercise on certain articles therein mentioned. I am clearly of opinion that under present circumstances it is highly expedient if not absolutely necessary, to raise money in some such way as is pointed out by this Bill. Experience has taught us that we cannot avail ourselves of money sufficient to carry on the war solely by the Common mode of taxation. It is then of great importance that we should obtain all we can by duties & excises. The more

important this measure appears to be, the more necessary it is that it should be done in such a way as to render it effectual & permanent, as well as conducted in such a manner as to make it an equal tax & thereby render it agreeable to the people in general. I would submit it to your consideration whether this can be effected, without first consulting the neighboring governments & knowing whether they will adopt similar measures. I therefore in duty cannot refrain to recommended your referring this Bill to the next Sessions for further consideration, and in the mean time taking such measures as you may judge proper to obtain the sentiments of the neighboring states upon this subject. John Hancock.

Boston Nov. 13. 1782.

Whereupon a Motion being made & seconded the question was put whether the House would take measures for the said Bill to be returned to them again from His Excelly. & passed in the negative.

On Motion, Ordered that in case of the resignation of Samuel Barrett Esqr as one of the Committee appointed to settle the accounts of the late Treasurer, the Committee appointed to receive the public effects of the said Treasurers Administrator, &c. be empowered to appoint a Gentleman upon that business in his room in ye [?] recess.

The Members of the House were enjoined not to leave the Town untill the Recess began, & the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

379. Wednesday November 13. 1782. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Mr. Ellis had leave of absence.

Then the House adjourned to 10 o'clock, Thursday Morning.

Thursday November 14th 1782

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolve granting Four Thousand Pounds to the Committee on Public Accounts for the purpose of paying the public accounts. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Col. Washburn, Gen Ward & Dr Manning with such as the Hon Senate may join, be a Committee to wait on His Excelly. the Governor & renew the request made by the General Court for an adjournment. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Dunbar had leave of absence.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down a letter from Robt Morris Esq. Dated Office of Finance Oct. 23. 1782 enclosing a Resolve of Congress concerning the sums necessary for the service of the year 1783, amounting to 6000,000. of Dollars, with a Resolve requiring 2000,000. of the several states, & postponing all further requisitions till the success of the foreign Loans is known - In Senate read & sent down.

Read & thereupon Ordered that the further consideration of said Letter

& Resolves be referred to the first Tuesday of the next Session of the General Count.

Also a letter from the same Gentleman dated the 21st of October. In senate Read & Sent down. Read & ordered as above.

An Order directing the Secretary to publish the excise Act passed the present Session, in the Worcester, Springfield, Salem & Boston News papers. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Col. Grow had leave of absence.

Ordered that the Treasurer be informed that it is the sense [?] of the House that he should stay his executions for all Taxes against the town of Charleston until the third Wednesday of the next Session of the General Court.

A Letter from the Hon. David Sewall Esq in behalf of himself & the other Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, giving information of a Justice of the Peace having had criminal conversation with his neighbours wife, at a Court held in said County on the 4th ultima.,

Read & committed to Mr. Sprague Gen. Ward & Mr. Dane, who reported that the further consideration of said letter should be referred to

the next Session of the General Court Ordered that the same be referred accordingly.

The Secretary brought down the following Message from his Excelly. the Governor.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives. - In the evening of the 12th inst. I received by a Committee of the General Court a request to adjourn the Court, at which time I had before me a Bill of very great importance to the people at large which had engaged the attention of the Genl. Court for a considerable time & had not been in my possession three days, besides a number of Resolves which the secretary laid before me on the same day I received the Message, & even at the very time the Committee were with me requesting the Recess I received a number of Resolves from the General Court, for the consideration of which the Constitution points out a suitable time. These circumstances I was under a necessity of representing to the General Court, by the Secretary & Informed them I could not consistent with my duty to the public comply with the request of the Court that evening. The next morning I sent a written Message to the Court. stating, I think, in a decent manner my apprehensions with respect to the effect of the Bill & in the mean time adopting such measures as the Court should judge deem, proper to obtain the sentiments of the neighboring states on the subject in Order that the Bill might have an equal operation. Presuming that this Message was

was under the Consideration of the Court, and momently expecting an answer, when I this day received another Message renewing the application for a Recess, altho' a Resolve had been laid before me which had passed the Court just before I received the Message. It is my wish at all times to have it in my power to comply with the request of the General Court and to promote the interest of the Commonwealth, & to lessen the public expenses, & could I yesterday have received the determination of the Two Houses in consequence of my Message a Recess would have taken place very soon after; and I am even now disposed to adjourn the Court agreeably to their request, as I cannot in any the least degree, feel myself liable to the change of preventing the adjournment of the Court: for it cannot escape the notice of the Two Houses that the Excise Bill has not been before me five days agreeable to the Constitution & consequently cannot operate as an Act. However; if the General assembly are notwithstanding desirous of a Recess: - upon a signification of their pleasure I will immediately adjourn them.

John Hancock.

Boston Nov. 14. 1782.

Ordered that the Secretary attend the House to inform them of the precise time at which he laid the Excise Act, passed at the present Session before His Excelly. the Governor.

The Secretary attended accordingly & said that he laid the said Act before His Excelly. a little past ten o'clock, Saturday Morning. He was then Ordered to lay the minutes & proceedings of the Hon. Council before the House, which he did but the proceedings of this day not appearing to be made up the same were returned.

The Hon. Mr. Davis came down & said that the Senate not having had a Copy of the Message last mentioned laid before them Requested the House to send up the Copy left with them, which was sent up accordingly.

Genl. Prebble then brought down the following Order of Senate viz: - In Senate Nov. 13. 1782 - Ordered that Chas. Turner & Caleb Davis Esq with such as the Hon. House shall join, be a Committee to wait upon His Excelly. the Governor with the following Message. Sent down for concurrence.

+ May it please your Excellency,

The Two Branches of the General Court have taken into nature consideration your Message of this date and are clearly of opinion that the Excise Bill so called by your Excelly. has been before your Excellency the full time prescribed by the Constitution and is therefore become a law.

Read & concurred, & Mr. Sprague Col. Thacher & Mr. Smead are joined. And it is further Ordered that said Committee renew the request made to His Excelly., the Governor for an adjournment of the General Count. Sent up for Concurrence.
+

384. Thursday November 14. 1782.

The Hon. Mr. Davis brought down the aforesaid Message with the additional Order of the House thereon. In Senate Read & the Senate do not agree to the addition proposed by the Hon. House. Sent down.

Read & reconsidered & the House concur with the Original Order of the Hon. Senate.

The Secretary came down & said that he was directed by His Excelly. the Governor to acquaint the General Court that he had approved of the following Acts (See list on file) & that it was His Excellency's pleasure that the said Court should be adjourned to the last Wednesday of January next at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, then to meet in the State House in Boston, and that the said Court was adjourned to that time & place accordingly.

385 Wednesday Jan 29th 1783.

A Quorum of the House met agreeable to adjournment of the General Court by His Excelly. the Governor on the 14th day of Nov. last past, and the Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the following Order of Senate viz: - In Senate Jan 29th 1783. Ordered that Abraham Fuller & Caleb Davis Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to wait on His Excelly. the Governor, and acquaint him that a Quorum of the general Court are now met & proceeding upon business, are reday to attend to any communications that His Excelly. may think proper to make them. Sent down for concurrence.

The Hon. Nathl. Gorham Esq, having proceeded on the business of his commission as a Delegate of this Commonwealth in Congress, & the Chair of the House having thereby become vacant, it was voted that the House proceed to the choice of a Speaker in his room and Col. Thacher, Mr. Hall of Medford, & Col. Washburn were chosen a Committee to collect sort & count the votes who reported, that that they had attended that service & that the whole number of votes were sixty one, that thirty one made a choice, & that the Hon Tristram Dalton Esq had thirty six votes & was chosen.

Col. Dawes, Mr. Dwight, Mr Barrett, Capt. Wales & Mr. Bartlett were then Chosen a Committee to wait upon His Excelly. the Governor and inform him that the House had made choice of the Hon Tristram Dalton Esq for their Speakers & Gen. Ward was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to the same effect.

386. Wednesday January 29th. 1783.

The House then concurred with the order of the Hon. Senate in appointing a Committee to wait on His Excelly. the Governor for purposes therein mentioned, and joined Genl. Ward, Mr. Otis, & Col. Pope.

They then adjourned to 10 o'clock, Thursday morning.

Thursday January 30th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot came down & informed the House, that the Secretary having acquainted the Senate, that the Hon Joseph Dorr Esq, had accepted of the appointment of Judge of Probate for the County of Worcester, they proposed coming to the choice of a Senator in his room on Friday next at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Sedgewick was charged with a Message to inform the Hon. Senate that the House agreed to said proposal.

The estimate of the sums necessary to be raised in the next Tax for the County of Worcester was laid upon the Table by the Court of Sessions for said County.

Read & committed to Col. Pope.

387. Thursday January 30th. 1783.

A Petition from Seth Washburn in behalf of the town of Leicester praying to sell an Old Meeting House and Pews in said Town, at public Auction free from the premium of one per cent imposed on such sales - Read & committed to Gen. Ward, Mr. Child & Col. Thorndike.

A Petition from Sarah Clark the wife of a Soldier in the Army, praying that his depreciation note might be paid, she being in distressed circumstances. Read & committed to Mr. Fisher, Capt. Wales & Mr. Bartlett.

The accounts of the Town of Gloucester referred over to the present Sessions were taken off file, & committed to Mr Locke, Mr. Rowe & Mr. Hall of Medford.

A Petition from Edward Hunter praying that the Court of Sessions in Middlesex County, might be enabled to grant him a license to sell spirituous liquors. Read & committed to Mr Sedgewick Capt. Stearns & Mr Hall of Medford.

A Petition from Kimball Bradford praying for a license - Read & committed to the Committee last mentioned.

A Petition from William Powell setting forth that he had a Warrant upon the Treasury for a debt due to him from the estate of Thomas Hutchinson Esq., an absentee, the proceeds of which were paid into the Public Treasury, which warrant was not paid till the sum of £ 22:11:11, had become due to him

him as interest upon the same & praying that said sum might be paid to him accordingly. Read and committed to Mr. Otis, Col. Washburn & Col. Coffin.

A Petition from John Story setting forth that he had served in several Offices in the Army, in which he had not received any depreciation of his wages, & praying that he might be allowed the same. Read & committed to Mr. Barrett, Capt. Bancroft, & Genl. Fellows.

A Petition from Thomas Wood & others, Soldiers enlisted for nine months under the Resolve passed 20th of April 1778, setting forth that having been dispensed through the Continental Army they had no Offices to make up their Pay Roll & thereby lost their wages & praying relief - Read & committed to the same Committee, who were directed to report what measures are necessary to be taken with the Soldiers enlisted under said Resolve.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down a Petition from Samuel Henshaw Esq, Collector of Excise for the County of Suffolk, setting forth certain difficulties in carrying the Excise laws into effect, & praying directions therein &c., with the following Orders of Senate thereon, viz: - In Senate, Jany. 30. 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that Caleb Strong & George Cabot Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join, be a Committee to take this Memorial into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr. Lowell Mr. Sedgewick & Genl. Ward are joined.

389. Thursday January 30. 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down a Petition from - Cheney, praying leave to sell land, with a Resolve of Senate granting the same. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the following Order of Senate viz: - In Senate Jany. 30. 1783. Ordered that Samuel Phillips Jr. & Caleb Davis Esq, with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to enquire what public business will be necessary to be taken up during this Session of the Genl. Court and report as soon as may be. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred & Capt. Wales, Col. Dawes, & Col. Thacher are joined.

A Petition from Mary Bernard, Administratrix of the estate of Solomon Barnard, praying leave to sell Land, part of said estate lying within the state of New Hampshire; Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw her petition.

A Petition from the Selectmen of the town of Stoughtonham, praying that the name of said town might be altered to Sharon. Read & committed to Capt Wales Mr. Weld, & Col. Pope.

An account from the Selectmen of the Town of Shrewsbury of Blanketts supplied to Soldiers, Read & committed to Col. Washburn, Mr. Weld and Col. Faulkner.

A Petition from the Selectmen of Charleton praying that the family of one John. Manning, being part of the poor of Charlestown, might be removed from said Charleton, Read & committed to Col. Washburn, Col. Thorndike & Capt Cowdin.

390. Thursday January 30. 1783.

A Petition from Timothy Newell in behalf of Ebenezer Vose of New Port, praying that he might be allowed to receive a Consolidated Note for certain Bills of Credit, emitted by this State in his possession. Read & committed to Col. Prescott, Mr. Holt & Mr. Brown of Tewksbury.

A Petition from David Parker setting forth that he had been sett off from the Town of Chelmsford to the Town of Carlisle against his will, & praying that his lands might be reannexed to said Town, of Chelmsford - Read & thereupon Ordered that Capt. Curtis & Dr. Brown of Framingham with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider of said Petition & report what may be necessary to be done thereon. Sent up for concurrence.

The Secretary came down with the following Message from His Excelly. the Governor viz:-

"Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives -

I had promised myself the Honor of attending the first meeting of the General Court in persons, but my health not being perfectly established, I flatter myself will plead my apology. Nothing material has occurred during your recess, nor have I received any other public letters, then the one from the Minister for Foreign Affairs at Philadelphia, enclosing a copy of Mr. Oswald's commission to treat with the thirteen United States of America which I have directed the Secretary to lay before you.

I shall communicate to you in separate Messages

several Matters that respect the internal concerns of the Commonwealth, & shall at all times most cheerfully concur with you in every measure tending to promote the public weal" [?] - which Message was read & ordered to lie.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down a copy of said Message together with the letter & Copy of the Commission therein referred to; In Senate, Read & sent down - Read & thereupon Ordered, that the copy of said commission be transmitted to the Secretary's Office who is directed not to permit any copies of the same to be taken. Sent up for concurrence.

A letter dated at Winthrop, 2nd of Jany. 1783. signed John Blunt & directed to the late Speaker relative to the situation of the County of Lincoln - Read & thereupon Ordered that Genl. Ward, Capt Wales, & Genl. Fellows with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider this letter & report what measures may be necessary to be taken in consequence of the information therein contained. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of the Town of Bolton praying that the South Parish of said Town might be incorporated into a Town - Read & committed to Mr. Stow, Col. Grow, & Col. Faulkner.

A Petition from Ebenezer Mitchell in behalf of William Mitchel & Elizabeth Mitchel & others, - One from John Haven administrator on the estate of Prince Frederic, one from Mary Stow, administratrix on the estate of Jonathan Stow - One from Nathl. Appleton, Guardian to Susannah Loring a non

compos; One from Timothy Danforth, Administrator of the estate of John Tatman & one from Nathan Smith & others, all praying leave to sell real estate, Read & committed to the Committee appointed to consider Petitions for the Sale of Lands.

Also a Petition from William Oliver, praying that a lot of Land part of the estate of Col. John Murray, an absentee, might be given him for his services in taking care of said estate - And another from Paul Knowles, paying leave to sell the real estate of his father, James Knowles, a non compos, were read & committed to the same Committee.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that the Attorney General attend the House to inform them what measures he has taken in consequence of the Order of the Genl. Court on certain grounds & facts, presented by the Hon James Sullivan Esq, relative to the conduct of John Temple Esq in the last session.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the following Resolve of Senate viz:- that Nathl. Wells Esq & George Cabot Esq, with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to adjust the sums for which the several towns are entitled to receive credit, on account of bounties for hiring men & being charged with more than their proportion of the public expenses before the settlement of the last valuation - And also those sums

which are to be charged as fines & the average cost of hiring men for the service of the United States pursuant to the Resolve of the General Assembly, which respect those subjects. Sent down for concurrence. - Read & concurred, & Mr. Otis, Mr. Dwight & Mr. Bartlett are joined.

On information that Jonathan Webster, Collector of Excise for the County of Essex was dead, Mr Bartlett Capt. Wales & Mr. Sedgewick were appointed a committee to consider of the measures necessary to be taken in consequence thereof, & Tuesday next at 11 o'clock appointed to come to the choice of an Officer in his rooms.

Ordered that the Joint Committee this day appointed to adjust the sums for which the several towns are entitled to receive credit on account of bounties for hiring men & being charged with more than their proportion of the public expenses before the settlement of the last valuation &c; make report of the principles on which they propose such adjustment, to be made previous to such sums being actually adjusted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Seth Washburn in behalf of the Town of Leicester, reported a Resolve granting the prayer thereof. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the Selectmen of Groton praying to be reimbursed a sum of money advanced for supplies of Soldier's families - Read & committed to Mr. Greenwood, Col. Moody & Mr. Metcalf.

394. Thursday January 30. 1783.

Mr Locke made a report that he had executed a good & lawful Deed of Fourteen Acres of Land the estate of the late Dr Joseph Adams, late of Pepperell an absentee agreeable to a Resolve of Mach 3rd. 1781. & desired further direction respecting the lodgement of said deed. - Whereupon it was ordered that the said James Locke cause the said Deed to be properly recorded & lodged in the Secy's. Office.

A Message was sent to the Hon Senate to inform them that the House proposed to chuse a Collector of Excise for the County of Essex, in the room of Jona. Webster dcd. [?] at 11 o'clock Tuesday next by a joint Ballot of both Houses in one room assembled.
Mr. Phillips came down & said that the Senate did not agree to the mode of choice proposed, but proposed that the choice should be made by either Houses & Sent to the other for their concurrence.
Mr. Ward was then charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House proposed at the aforementioned time to come to the choice of Collectors of Excise for the several Counties throughout the Commonwealth by joint ballot of both Houses assembled in the Representatives Chamber.

395 A Petition from Jesse Eames praying to be licensed to keep a Tavern. Read & committed to Mr. Hill, Capt Guild & Dr. Brown.

395. Thursday January 30. 1783.

A Petition from Samuel Winslow in behalf of his brother Isaac Winslow a minor praying that he might be allowed to return from the enemy - Read & committed to Mr Sedgwick, Mr. Cranch & Mr. Rowe.

A Petition from Noah Wizzle setting forth that his estate was so situated between several towns as to make it doubtful to which of them he is liable to pay his taxes, & praying to be absolutely annexed to Fitchbourg - Read & committed to Mr Wilder Capt Wheelock & Mr Child.

A Petition from the Selectmen of the Town of Northbridge setting forth that the Pay Roll in which seven men raised by said town were included was lost, & their wages thereby lost, & praying they might be relieved. Read & committed to Capt Bancroft Mr Stearns & Col. Hutchinson.

A petition from Samuel Gammage praying the payment of an account exhibited by him for hooping & heading powder, casks of the public - Read & committed to Mr. Dunbar, Mr Hall of Medford & Mr. Weld.

A Petition from Samuel Noyes, praying to be allowed his expenses in bringing home his son who was a sick Soldier in the Army, Read & committed to Dr. Brown, Mr. Whitney of Northfield and Mr. Dunbar.

396. Thursday, January 30. 1783.

A Petition from Pearson Eaton, a Soldier praying for his milage money. Read & Committed to Col. Thorndike, Capt. Cowdin & Capt. Prentiss.

The Committee on the Petition of William Powell reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Order to withdraw accordingly.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to settle the accounts of Jona. Webster, late Collector of Excise for the County of Essex deceased, with his Administrator &c., Read & Passed.

Sent up for concurrence.

The several Petitions following praying for the sale of Land were read & committed to the Committee appointed to consider Petitions of that nature, viz:- one from Zachariah & Mary Smith; one from Jeremiah & Daniel Morse, Guardians to Benja. Woodward & others; one from Nehemiah Putnam, Guardian of Sarah Putnam & others; one from the heirs of Aaron Hosley. one from Rachael Sampson Executrix of the will of Jno. Sampson; one from Eli and Sarah Smith, Guardian to Lucy Holden; & one from Sarah Mayo & Phinehas Everett, Administrators on the estate of Jeremiah Fuller.

Then the House adjourned to Friday Morning 10 o'clock.

397. Friday, January 31st. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from the Town of York praying to be exempted from the fine for not raising their three months men. Also a Petition from the Town of Wells to the same effect. Read & committed to Mr. Metcalf, Mr. Robbins & Col. Moody.

A Petition from the town of Lebanon & one from the town of Berwick, of a similar nature. Read and committed to the same Committee.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the following Order of Senate viz:- In Senate Jany. 30. 1783. Ordered that John Pitts Esq, & Eleazar Brooks Esqr. with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to into consideration the most expedient method of considering & determining upon the Bills reported by the Committee appointed to revise the laws & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred & Mr Sedgewick, Mr Lowell & Mr Dwight are joined.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks came down & said that the Senate proposed coming to the choice of a Senator for the County of Worcester, according to the agreement of the Two Houses, who then assembled together in one room, & chose Mr. Pitts, Mr. Otis & Mr. Dawes a Committee to collect, count & sort the votes. They having attended that service reported that the whole number of votes was 80 - That 41 made a choice & that Jno. Sprague Esq. had 49 & was chosen.

The Hon. Senate then withdrew.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the report of the Committee appointed to sell the Ship Tartar. In Senate, Read & sent down. Read & ordered to lie.

Also the report of the Committee on the Petition of David Parker, being an Order for the Petitioner to notify the Town of Carlisle to shew cause &c., 14 days at least before the 18th day of February next. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill entitled an Act for carrying into Execution an Ordinance of Congress for establishing Courts for the trial of Felonies & Piracies committed on the High Seas. Read a first time & Tuesday next, 10 o'clock assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Representation from John Lucas Comy. of Pensioners in behalf of David Cutler. Read & committed to the Committee on Pensions.

A Representation from Jno Deming & others, a Committee for settling public accounts that they had settled the accounts of Mr. William Lyman, Read & ordered that Col. Orr, Mr. Newell, & Capt. Bancroft be a Committee to consider of the propriety of passing a Resolve for granting a Warrant upon the Treasury in favor of the said Lyman for the balance of his account with the interest.

A Petition of Noah Allen praying for the payment of a depreciation Note. Read & committed to Mr Stearns, Gen. Fellows, & Capt. Wales.

A Petition from Seth Sumner praying to be reimbursed his expenses in prosecuting a public Thief. Read & committed to Mr Robbins, Mr Frazier & Capt. Wales.

The Hon. Mr. Phillips came down & said that the Senate had deferred the consideration of the last proposal of the House respecting the choice of Collectors of excise untill the report of a Committee to be appointed in the following Order was made, viz: - In Senate Jan. 31. 1783. Ordered that the Caleb Strong & Samuel Phillips Esq, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a committee to consider what made it will be most eligible to adopt, for appointing the Collector or Collectors of Excise which are now to be appointed. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr Sedgewick, Mr. Lowell & Genl. Ward are joined.

A Petition from Solomon Bouker[?], Collector of Taxes in the Town of Marlborough, setting forth that he had in his said office received several Bills emitted by other States, & praying they might be received of him by the Treasurer or otherwise relieved; Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Mr. Whitney of Sherburne & Capt Cushing to be taken up at large.

The Petition of the Town of Rutland relative to a disputed Soldier enlisted by the Town of Sterling was taken up and committed to Mr. Hall of Sutton, Mr Wilder & Capt. Smith.

A Petition from the Town of Palmer praying that a Read & Bridge in said Town might be maintained at the public expense. Read & committed to Mr. Hall of Sutton, Mr. Ellis & Capt Cushing.

400. Friday, January 31. 1783.

A Petition from the Congregational Ministers of the Eastern Association: One from the Inhabitants of the Town of Bath: & one from the Town of Boothbay relating to the dangerous situation of the Counties of Cumberland & Lincoln – Also a Petition of the Inhabitants of the town of Machias praying for the appointment of a Probate Court & other Offices in said town - Read & thereupon Order that the Committee of both Houses on the Letter of Mr. John Blunt of the 2nd. instant, consider the aforesaid Petitions & report thereon. Sent up for concurrence.

A Letter from the Hon. William Bradford Esq Speaker of the House of Assembly of Rhode Island, dated October Sessions 1782, relative to the payment of the hire of the Sloop Polly, hired by the Continental Comy. of Prisoners. Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Col. Poke, & Capt Smith who were directed to enquire into the supplies afforded to the Continent by this Commonwealth, particularly those received by Gen. Lincoln.

A Resolve requesting His Excelly. the Governor to write to Congress for information as to any Order passed respecting the payment of Soldiers for their service as temporary levies. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A petition from Timothy Hodgdon setting forth that he had bargained with Jno. Sparhawk Esq., Agent on the estate of William Pepperell Esq. an absentee for fourteen Acres of Land, part of said estate and praying that some person might be empowered to execute a Deed thereof. Read & committed to Col. Thacher, Mr. Greenwood & Capt. Prentiss.

401. Friday, January 31. 1783.

A Petition from Nathl. Terrny praying for the confirming of a Deed the legal acknowledgment thereof being omitted notwithstanding. Read & Committed to Col. Pope, Mr. Greenwood & Col. Mc.Cobb.

A Petition from Royal Kollock, praying to be reimbursed his expenses in raising two companies of Soldiers agreeable to a Resolve of Court. Read & committed to Mr. Fairbanks Col. Grow & Capt. Guild.

A Petition from William McCobb praying the interference of the Court in a civil action in which he was party. Read & committed to Mr. Metcalf, Mr Adams of Franklin & Col. Grow.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of Stoughtonham reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill agreeable to their Petition. Accepted & leave given to bring in a Bill accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of Thomas Wood and others reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A Petition from Isaac Hodges, Agent of the Congregational Society in the town of Norton, praying that said society might be invested with the powers and immunities of a Parish &c. Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly.

A Petition from Sarah Nason praying leave to sell land: one from Jesse Kellogg to the same purpose as Administrator on the estate of Daniel Kellogg, & a third from Lucy Damon, Administratrix on the estate of Jabez Damon of a similar nature. Read & committed to the Committee appointed to consider such petitions.

Also two petitions, one from David Benton & the other from Jerit Willis praying for grants of lands therein mentioned. Read & committed to the same Committee.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Genl. Prebble brought down the letter from Robt Morris Esq. dated 21st of October 1782, with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: - In Senate Jan 31. 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that George Cabot & Caleb Davis Esq with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this letter from Mr. Morris together with one of the 23rd of October, also another of the 25th April 1782, & the several inclosures into consideration and make report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr Lowell Mr. Sedgewick, & Mr Otis are joined.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down a Representation from Caleb Davis Esq, late Agent, praying that the articles in his hands belonging to the public, might be receive of him with a Resolve of Senate appointing Richd. Devins Esq for that purpose. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

A Petition from Mary Sutton praying to go to her husband at Bermudas, Read & Capt Prentiss appointed to bring in a Resolve to permit her to go & not to return without leave, which he reported accordingly. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

403. Friday, January 31. 1783.

The Treasurers accounts for the County of Worcester for 1782, were offered to the House, & Mr Greenwood Col. Prescott & Col Orr appointed to examine the same.

A Petition from Ebenezer Giles a Soldier who had been taken prisoner, praying forth payment of his wages during his imprisonment read & ordered to lie.

A Petition from the town of Eastham praying a remission of their taxes. Read & Committed to Mr. Davis Capt Dench & Capt. Guild who were directed to enquire into the allowances that had been made to the County of Barnstable.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to inquire into the mode of chusing Collectors of Excision the several Counties of the Commonwealth, viz: "that the appointment of the said Collectors be made by the Senate & House, each having a negative on the other, that the choice for the ensuring year originate in the House & if such election in any instance be negatived by the Senate, that the Senate immediately proceed to chose others in the place of those negatived as aforesaid, and if the House shall not concur in the same choice, that the two Houses proceed to supply such vacancy by joint ballot of the Senators & Representatives in one Room. That the choice of said collectors originate the next year in the Senate and alternately from year to year in either House, & that like proceeding be had in case of non-concurrence. This manner of choice to remain till altered by order of the General Court. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read and Concurred.

404. Friday, January 31. 1783.

The Attorney General attended the House according to the Order of yesterday, & said that he had not taken any measures relative to Mr. Temple's affairs for which he gave his reasons.

Ordered that Mr Stowe Mr Greenwood & Capt Dench be a Committee to examine the Resolve of the Genl. Court, for the purpose of determining whether any method has been provided for the passing such accounts as were formerly passed upon by the Committee on accounts & report.

Ordered that Mr Sedgewick, Genl. Ward & Mr Frazier be a Committee to consider the Resolves which have been passed relative to the Stationing of the Sloop Winthrop and to consider of her present situation as reported by the late Agent and report.

The Committee on the account from the Selectmen of the Town of Shrewsbury reported a Resolve for paying to the several Soldiers therein mentioned the sum of four shillings each an allowance for their Blanketts. Read & Accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the sale of land reported a Resolve on the Petition of Nathl. Appleton, granting the prayer thereof. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from John King, Collector of Taxes for the town of Norton praying to be reimbursed a sum of money which he set forth he had overpaid to the Treasurer.

Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petition have leave to withdraw his Petition.

405. Friday, January 31. 1783.

A Petition from John Locke in behalf of the Proprietors of the Township of Townshened, praying for a new grant of Land in lieu of a former grant made to them by this Government which they had not a right to make, Read & committed to Capt Holt, Capt. Stearns, & Capt. Curtis.

A Petition from Mary Willard & others setting forth that they were bound in a certain sum for Aaron Willard, deceased, which debt was unpaid, & praying that a Mortgage of part of Said Aaron's estate to Robt. Auchmuty Esq. an Absentee, might be appropriated to save them harmless, Read & committed to Mr Whitney of Northfield, Mr. Fisk & Mr. Newell.

A Petition from Joseph Eayres praying for the depreciation of his Son Joseph's Wages, as a clerk in the public service, Read & committed to Capt. Bancroft Col. Hutchinson & Capt Curtis.

A Petition from Ezekiel Adams praying that a certain execution against him might be stayed until this Court had heard the circumstances of his case. Read & committed to Mr. Sprague, Mr. Dwight & Col Faulkner.

A Petition from James Hathaway praying to be allowed his expence in doctoring his Son, a sick Soldier, Read but not being signed, was ordered to lie.

A Petition from Timothy Cheney, Guardian of James Ellis, non compos mentis, & another from Amos Jewett Administrator on the estate of Samuel Jewett, praying leave to sell land read & committed to the Committee on that head.

Then the House adjourned to Saturday Morning 10 o'clock.

406. Saturday February 1st. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled an Act to remove certain Actions now pending in the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Hampshire to the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Berkshire & to enable Peter A. Fonde to reenter a certain action in the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in the said County of Berkshire – Read a first time and 11 oclock this morning assigned for a second reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Ezekiel Adams reported an Order for the opposite party to shew cause on the 4th Wednesday of the present Session. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the report of the Committee on the Petition of Joseph Baker Esq With the vote of the House thereon passed the last session.

In Senate, Read & non-concurred as to the amendment at A & concurred with the amendment at B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Isaac Winslow reported a Resolve, permitting Isaac Winslow to return into this state. Read & accepted.

Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Noah Allen reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Order to withdraw accordingly.

407. Saturday, February 1st. 1783.

A Petition from John Oakes, praying leave to go to New York for the purpose of bringing away his son, a Prisoner there, by land. Read & committed to Capt. Stearns, Mr. Bartlett & Genl. Fellows.

The Committee on the Petition of Noah Wizzle reported that the Petition have leave to bring in a Bill for the purpose petitioned for. Read & accepted & leave given accordingly.

A Bill entitled an Act to remove certain Actions now pending in the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Hampshire to the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Berkshire & to enable P. A. Feride to reenter a certain Action in the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in said County of Berkshire. Read a second time & Tuesday next 11 o'clock A. M assigned for a third reading thereof.

A Petition from the Town of Royalsboro, praying an easment in their taxes. Read & committed to Mr Metcalf and others who were appointed on similar petitions from the County of Lincoln.

Ordered that Genl. Ward, Mr. Sedgewick, & Col Dawes be a Committee to deliver the following Message to His Excelly. the Governor, viz: - "May it please your Excellency – The House of Representatives your Excellency to be informed by Message, whether the Sloop Winthrop hath sailed & if so what was her destination & what Orders were given to the Captain?"

A Petition from Barzillai Holt praying that he might be rewarded for apprehending a person for counterfeiting paper money. Read & committed to Col. Pope, Dn. Hall & Col Morrill.

 Saturday February 1. 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Mary Sutton. In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Rutland reported an Order to notify Jabez Fairbanks to shew cause &c. on the last Wednesday of February instant. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr Strong came down & said that the Senate requested the Hon. House to permit the Hon. Jno. Sprague Esq, to take his seat at their Board, whereupon a Committee of three Gentlemen were chosen to conduct that Gentleman to the Hon. Senate, and a precept directed to be issued to the town of Lancaster to chuse a Representative in the room of Mr. Sprague if they see cause.

The Committee appointed to examine what method is ordered for the passing upon such accounts as were formerly passed upon & paid by the Committee on Accounts were directed to consider what is proper to be done with accounts which are exhibited for the expenses of sick Soldiers.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down a Petition from certain Inhabitants of the town of Westford, setting

setting forth that the Minister settled in said town preached doctrines which they could not conscientiously hear, and therefore praying that they might be exempted from Taxation for his support, & be allowed a privilege in the Meeting House for hearing another teacher, with an Order of Senate thereon for notifying the town Westford to shew cause &c. on the 2nd. Wednesday of next Session – Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred.

Also the Resolve to the House on the report of Hugh Orr & others a Committee appointed to sell the public furnaces at Bridgwater. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of John Oakes reported a Resolve permitting him to go to New York. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Baker bought down a Petition from Rebecca Bill, Administratrix on the estate of Joseph Bill deceased, praying leave to sell Real Estate with a Resolve of Senate granting the prayer of said Petition. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred & Order to withdraw. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Dwight laid before the House an estimate for a Tax for the County of Hampshire for the year 1782, which was committed to Mr. Greenwood & others a Committee on a similar estimate from the County of Worcester.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the report of

the Joint Committee appointed to consider and report the public business which is necessary to be done in the course of the present Session, & the following Orders of Senate in consequence thereof viz:

Ordered that Caleb Davis Esq With such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to ascertain the state of the public accounts against the United States & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Bartlett & Col Pope are joined.

Ordered that Samuel Phillips Jr. Esq with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to bring in a Bill to discourage the perpetration of the crime of Suicide. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred & Mr. Lowell & Mr Sedgewick are joined.

Ordered that Ephraim Starkweather & Ebenezer Bridge Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to make adequate provision for passing the accounts of those who have demands on the Commonwealth & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Col. Washbourn, Col. Prescott and Mr. Wilder are joined.

Ordered that Caleb Davis Esq with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to inquire into the state of the Commissary General's accounts and to report some method for the settlement thereof. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred & Mr. Barrett & Col. Coffin are joined.

411. Saturday February 1. 1783.

Ordered that John Pitts & George Cabot Esqrs with such as the Hon House shall join be a Committee to inquire into the situation of the accounts of the late Treasurer, & also into the regulations and proceedings of the present Treasurer, in the Execution of His office & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Col. Dawes, Capt Noyes & Mr Greenwood are joined.

Ordered that Charles Turner Esqr, with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to inquire into the proceedings of the Committee who have been directed to prosecute public Defaulters & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read and Concurred, and Capt. Wales & Mr. Otis are joined.

Ordered that Samuel Baker Esq with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to concert measures for bringing into the Treasury all public monies as soon as possible after they shall be received by Sheriffs, Collectors & others who are entrusted with monies belonging to the public and report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred and Genl. Ward & Mr. Bartlett are joined.

Then the House adjourned to Monday Morning 10 o'clock.

412. Monday, February 3. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Nathaniel Kimball reported a Resolve granting the prayer thereof. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Petition from Daniel Holt & others praying that the estate of Benjamin Holt deceased, might be assigned to his heirs to hold in severalty. Read & thereupon Ordered that Genl. Ward & Mr Sedgwick with such as the Hon Senate may join be a Committee to consider said Petition & report. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve allowing to Samuel Hinckley the sum of three pounds 18/- 6^{d} in full for his service for conveying letters from the Sheriff of Hampshire to the Gen. Court. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A petition from James Sutter an Artillery Artificer praying for the depreciation of his wages, Read & committed to Capt. Bancroft & others a Committee on the Petition of Jos. Eayres.

A Petition from Thomas Cowdin praying any two Justices of the Peace in the County of Worcester, might be empowered to grant him a license to sell spiritous liquors. Read & Committed to Mr. Wilder, Mr. Child and Mr. Bailey.

A Petition from Benja. Leonard & others, Manufacturers of Bar-Iron, praying that the Excise on that article might be taken off. Read & committed to Mr. Otis, Mr Smead & Mr. Orr.

A Petition from Thomas Pircey, Collector of Taxes for the town of Georgetown, setting forth that he had not heard of an Act of the General Court, regulating the receipt of public monies & on that account has not been able to observe it

in season, & therefore praying certain Sums of money received by him, contrary to the direction of said Act might be received of him by the Treasurer; Read & committed to Col. Mc.Cobb, Col Thorndike & Capt Noyes. - Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled an Act for annexing & incorporating Noah Wizzle with his Lands in a certain Gore of Land lying between the towns of Fitchbourg, Leominster & Westminster in the County of Worcester into the town of Fitchburgh. Read a first time & Tuesday, 10 oclock, assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Resolve granting a tax of eight hundred pounds to be assessed upon the Poles & estates of the County of Worcester. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of the town of Hardwick praying an easment in their Taxes. Read & Committed to Mr Whitney of Northfield, Mr Ellis & Capt Cowdin.

On Motion by Mr. Barrett ordered that any Member of the House have permission to introduce the Hon James Otis Esq. to a Chair, whenever that Gentleman shall chuse to attend debates.

A Petition from John Haskell praying to be licensed to sell Spiritous liquors. Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

A Petition from Timothy Newton Guardian of the children of Nathan Freeman, praying that a public security the property of the said children might be

discharged according to the real value thereof at the time of its being given. Read & committed to Mr. Prentiss, Col. Dawes & Mr Child.

Ordered that Genl. Ward, Capt Cushing, & Col. Dawes be a Committee to enquire into the state of Soldiers Notes signed in the year 1782, and payable in the year 1783, & reported what measures if any are necessary to be taken respecting the same.

A Bill entitled an Act for continuing Sundry laws that are near expiring - Read a first time & Tuesday next 4 o'clock P. M. assigned for a second reading thereof.

A Petition from Charles Jarvis & others a Committee appointed by the Town of Boston to present a Memorial to the general Court upon an Act for the more effectual observation of the Lord's Day, begging leave to be admitted upon the floor of the House to read & present the same. Read and thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

The Committee on the Petition of William Mc. Cobb Esq. reported a resolve for the Petitioner to notify the adverse party to shew cause &c; on the 2nd. Friday of the next Session. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled an Act to incorporate a Committee of the Congregational Society in the towns of Norton, whereof the Rev. Mr. Joseph Palmer is the present Pastor for certain purposes & investing said Society with certain powers. Read the first time & Tuesday 4 o'clock P.M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

415. Monday, February 3rd. 1783.

The Secretary brought down the following Message from His Excellency the Governor viz:- "Gentlemen of the House of Representatives - In consequence of your message just now received I am to inform you that the Sloop Winthrop sometime since sailed upon a cruise under my orders, copy of which I have directed the Secretary to lay before you agreeable to your request. John Hancock.
Council Chambers, Feb 1. 1783.

Also the Message following viz:-

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:- On Saturday last I received a letter from Col. Nathan Tyler of Uxbridge in the County of Worcester giving me information of some unjustifiable & riotous proceedings of a number of the Inhabitants of that and the neighboring towns, who appeared at a regular public Sale & rescued the property from the Constable & delivered it to the original Proprietors. This information I immediately laid before the Council & in consequence of their advice I issued my warrant to the Sheriff of the County of Worcester for apprehending three persons who were very active in opposing the due execution of the Laws, & were the leaders in the riot & directed the Sheriff to convey them to close custody in the Goal at Boston. The papers above referred to I have directed the Secretary to lay before you. And upon this occasion I cannot forbear submitting to the consideration of the General Court, the propriety of adopting a mode more summary and speedy for the apprehending such opposers of lawful authority than

applications to Grand Juries which often fail of having the effect wished for by the length of the process when at the same time the conduct of persons may require immediate detection & punishment for the internal peace & safety of the Commonwealth. I shall not point out any particular method, being confident that the General Court will take such steps as shall remedy the present inconveniences.
John Hancock.

Council Chamber, Feb 3. 1783.

Read & ordered that Mr. Sedgewick, Mr. Dwight and Genl. Ward, with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider the Messages aforesaid & report what measures may be necessary to be taken respecting the subject matter of the same. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Lowell made a motion that a Committee appointed by the town of Boston for the purpose might be allowed to present to the Speaker of the House in behalf of said town a petition upon an Act for the due observation of the Lords Day. The Question being put passed in the negative. Voters 65. Yeas 26.

Then the House adjourned to Tuesday morning 10 o'clock.

Tuesday February 4th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled an Act for annexing & incorporating Noah Wissle with his lands, in a certain Gore of land lying between the towns of Fitchbourg, Leominster & Westminster in the County of Worcester, unto the town of Fitchbourg - Read the second time & Wednesday 10 o'clock assigned for the third reading of the same.

417. Tuesday February 4th 1783.

A Bill entitled an act granting the privilege of review in civil actions. Read the first time & Wednesday 4 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

Mr. Phillips laid upon the Table the Report of the Committee appointed in October last to receive the public effects from the Administrator on the estate of the late Treasurer Gardner &c. Read & thereupon Ordered that Gen. Ward, Mr. Rowe & Mr. Sedgewick with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider said proceedings & report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Jesse Eames, Reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted, & thereupon Ordered that the petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

The House then proceeded to the choice of Collectors of Excise for the several Counties, & chose Mr. Bartlett, Capt. Stearns & Mr. Whitney of Northfield, a Committee to collect, count, & sort the votes, who reported that they had attended that service & the following persons were chosen for the following Counties, viz -

For. Suffolk, Samuel Henshaw Esq. unanimously chosen 60 votes
for Essex, Sam. Ward Esq. who had 48 votes out of 60.
for Middlesex, Saml. Henley Esq. unanimously chosen 61. votes
for Hampshire, Elijah Flint Esq. unanimously 63.
for Plymouth, Wm. Drew Esq. who had 57 votes out of 62.
for Bristol, Samuel Fales Esq. unanimously chosen 64. votes
for York, Jonathan Chestley Chadbourne Esq. had 55 votes out of 66.
for Worcester, Mr. Caleb Ammidown who had 61 votes out of 65.
for Cumberland, Mr. James Lunt Jr, who had 65 votes out of 69.
for Lincoln Joseph North Esq. unanimously chosen 64. votes.
for Barnstable, Mr. Wm. Taylor unanimously chosen 71 votes.

The House postponed the choice of Collectors of Excise for

the Counties of Dukes County, Nantucket & Berkshire for the present.

Ordered that the Committee appointed by a Resolve of October last, to receive the public effects from the Administrator on the estate of the late Treasurer Gardner, &c. be requested to report as soon as is convenient, the state of the Treasury up to the time of the said late Treasurers deaths. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Dorr brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Nathaniel Appleton. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draught. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down a letter from Joseph North Esq. relative to the State of the Eastern Counties. In Senate Feb. 4th. 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered, that this letter be committed to the Committee of both Houses appointed the 30th ult. on the letter from John Blunt, to consider the same & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Seth Sumner reported a Resolve allowing him thirty six Pounds, to reimburse him monies expended about a public prosecution, therein mentioned. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Petition from John Baily, praying to pay for part of an absentees estate, in depreciation Notes; Read and Committed to Capt. Wales, Mr. Bartlett & Mr. Wood.

A Petition from Lieut. Col. Benjamin Holden and others praying for the depreciation of their wages while in captivity: Read & committed to Col. Hutchinson Mr. Weld & Mr. Noyes.

419. Tuesday February 4th 1783.

A Petition from Nathaniel Herrick setting forth that he had been enlisted as a soldier, for a wrong period through ignorance of the paper he signed. Read & committed to the same Committee.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P.M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A motion was made by Col. Thorndike that the House proceed upon the business at the time of adjournment without calling the Roll during the remainder of the Session, the Order of the House on that matter to the contrary notwithstanding. The question being put, passed in the negative. Return of the House 81.

A Bill intituled an Act to remove certain actions now pending in the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Hampshire to the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Berkshire & to enable Peter A. Fonda to reenter a certain action in the inferior Court of Common Pleas in the said County of Berkshire - Read a third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Barrett moved that a Message might be sent to the Hon. Senate to enquire whether they had joined a Committee on the Governors Message of the 1st. instant, respecting the Sloop Winthrop, which was sent accordingly. Whereupon the Hon. Mr. Cabot came down & said that the Senate had non - concurred the Order of the Hon. House on said Message. Whereupon Mr. Sedgewick was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request them to send said Message of the Governor down, which was brought down accordingly & then committed to Mr. Sedgewick

Mr. Robbins & Mr. Dwight.

A Bill intituled an Act for raising by Lottery the sum of three thousand pounds, for the purpose of building a glass house & promoting the manufacture of Crown and other Glass in Boston - Read the first time & Wednesday 3 o'clock P.M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of Northbridge reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the sum of three Hundred Pounds to be raised by Tax on the County of Hampshire, for defraying the charges of said County - Read & Passed - Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from a Committee of the town of Lancaster praying for the assistance of a Lottery to repair a Bridge & Causeway therein mentioned - Read & committed to Dr. Manning, Mr. Whitney & Col. Lothrop.

A Petition from the inhabitants of Shapleigh Town praying to be exempted from their Taxes - Read & committed to Mr. Rice, Mr. King & Dr. Manning.

A Petition from Aaron Clap & others praying the interference of the Court in a civil action therein mentioned - Read & committed to Mr. Pope, Col. Dunbar & Mr. Dwight.

A Petition from Sally Pool praying that a demand of hers against Joseph Thompson an Absentee, might be allowed - Read & committed to Capt. Bancroft Mr. King & Mr. Brown of Tewksbury.

421. Tuesday February 4th. 1783.

A Petition from Ephraim Randall Guardian of John Randall & others praying leave to sell real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

A Petition from Robert Hunter praying for a payment for transporting public stores

Read & Committed to Mr. Smead, Dr. Manning & Mr. Hall of Sutton.

The Hon. Mr. Sprague brought down the Report of the joint Committee on the Governors Message respecting the disturbances at Douglass - being a Bill intituled an Act to suspend the privileges of the Writ of Habeas Corpus, for six months. In Senate Feb. 4th 1783. This Bill having had two several readings passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence - Read three several times & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendments at A. & B. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of John Oakes. In Senate Read & Concurred as taken into a new Draft. Sent down for concurrence. - Read & concurred.

Also a Resolve of Senate empowering Thomas Childs Agent on the estate of Francis Waldo Esq. an Absentee, to sell such part of said estate as shall be sufficient to discharge the demands against said estate. Sent down for concurrence. 6th Read & concurred.

A Bill intituled an Act for discontinuing the name of a Town in the County of Suffolk, incorporated by the name of Stoughtonham, & calling the same Sharon. Read the first second & third times and passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

 Tuesday February 4. 1783.

A Bill entituled an Act for continuing Sundry laws that are near expiring - Read the Second time and Wednesday 12 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

The accounts of the Guardian of the Punkapogg Tribe of Indians were taken up, & committed to Mr. Dunbar, Mr. Child & Mr. Smead.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday 10 o'clock A.M.

Wednesday February 5, 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Motion was made that the Galleries of the House might be opened, the question being put, passed in the negative. Seventy Nine members present.

A Letter from Charles Jarvis & others a Committee appointed by the Town of Boston to present a Petition to the General Court upon the Act for the due observance of the Lord's Day, to the Speaker respecting the subject of their appointment. - Read & thereupon a Motion was made by Mr. Lowell that the Galleries might be opened during the debate of the House upon said letter, & the question being put passed in the affirmative.

A Bill intituled an Act to suspend the privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus for four Months. - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

The Petition of Samuel Lawrence & others Inhabitants of Littleton was taken up & Dr. Snow, Dr. Smead & Col. Hutchinson were appointed a Committee to hear the Petitioners & the Selectmen of Littleton upon the subject matter of said Petition & report.

423. Wednesday February 5. 1783.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of the town of Boston stating certain arguments against the Act for the due observance of the Lord's Day - Read & thereupon ordered that Mr. Dwight, Mr. Sedgewick & Gen. Ward, with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider said Petition & report.

It was then voted that the Galleries should be kept open until the further order of the House. Number of Members eighty one.

The Secretary brought down a Message from His Excelly. the Governor respecting the discharging of the accounts against the United States presented to this Court for payment &c.

Also, the report of the Committee of Council appointed to estimate the necessary charges for the year 1783.

Read & thereupon Ordered that Mr. Barrett Mr. Dunbar & Mr. Smead with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider said Message & Report & point out such measures as may be necessary to be taken respecting the subject matter thereof. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Petition of the Selectmen of Foxborough & the answer to the same with the following Order of Senate thereon, viz - In Senate Feb 4, 1783. Read again & thereupon Ordered that Stephen Choate Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition and the answer thereto into consideration hear the parties & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Smead & Capt. Stearns are joined.

On Motion by Mr. Dwight, Ordered that Mr. Dwight Mr. Sedgewick & Capt. Wales, with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider of the expediency of appointing a Committee to confer with such Delegates as may be appointed on the part of the States of New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut & New York upon the subject matter of collecting money for the use of the respective states in the methods of Import & Excise; & of the proportion of the public expenses which they respectively bear & report. Sent up for Concurrence.

On Motion, an Order appointing Seth Washburn and Samuel Curtis Esqrs. with such as the Hon. Senate may join a Committee to consider what is necessary to be done respecting a gore of land taken by mistake of the Survey or from the town of Oxford & set off to the public. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve allowing the accounts of the Treasurer of the County of Worcester for the year 1782. Read and passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entituled an Act for continuing Sundry laws that are near expiring. Read the third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

A Bill Intituled an Act to incorporate a Committee of the Congregational Society in the town of Newton whereof the Rev. Mr. Joseph Palmer is the present Pastor, for certain purposes, & investing said Society with certain powers. Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Susanna Cheever, Admx. on the estate of Edwd. Cheever, praying leave to sell real

estate - Read & committed to the Committee on sale of Land.

A Resolve allowing the town of Gloucester of the sum of one hundred & forty five pounds 5/9^{d} in full for their care of certain Prisoners - Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Benjamin Ingalls & others, Inhabitants of a certain tract of land lying in the County of York & belonging to the Commonwealth praying to have the preference in the purchase of said Land - Read & thereupon Ordered that said Petition be referred to Jedediah Prebble Esq. & others a Committee appointed by a Resolve of May 1.1781. to examine into all trespasses and illegal entries on the unappropriated lands belonging to this Commonwealth, &c. to consider & report. Sent up for concurrence.

On the Petition of Thomas Walley a Resolve directing the Hon. Caleb Davis Esq. late agent, to pay out of the proceeds of the Tartar, £ 81:17:4 to him, was Read and passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled an Act for annexing & incorporating Noah Wizzle with his lands in a certain gore of land lying between the towns of Fitchbourg, Leominster & Westminster in the County of Worcester, unto the town of Fitchbourg - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a Petition from Timothy Ruggles, praying that part of the estate of Timothy Ruggles Esq. an Absentee might be set off to him for a debt with the following order thereon, viz - In Senate Feb. 4.1783. Read & thereupon Ordered, that Stephen Choate Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a

Committee to take this Memorial into consideration & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. 6th. Read & concurred & Mr. Church & Mr. Wilder are joined.

A Petition from port of the Inhabitants of the town of Charlemont, Praying to be incorporated. Read & committed to Mr. Smead, Col. Washburn & Mr Thacher.

A Petition from Ebenr. Washbourn in behalf of the town of Kingston praying to regulate the taking of fish in certain streams in said town. Read and leave given to bring in a Bill for the purpose prayed for.

A Petition from James Wesson & David Cook officers of the Army praying for the pay of their three months wages granted in hard money for October November & December 1780. Read & committed to Mr. Otis, Col. Prescott & Capt. Wales. - Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Joshua Woodberry & others praying for a grant of a township of Land above the great Ossipee River - Read & ordered that said Petition be referred to Jedediah Prebble Esq. & others a Committee appointed by a Resolve of May 1. 1781. to examine into all trespasses & illegal entries on the unappropriated lands belonging to this Commonwealth, &c. to consider & report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committees on the Petitions of Nathl. Herrick & Joseph Eayres reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petitions. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A Petition from Saml. Moody in behalf of Danl. Hale

praying the allowance of an account exhibited for the repairs of a Bridge over the River Parker. Read & committed to Col. Washburn, Col. Coffin & Mr. Locke.

The Committee on the Petition of Lt. Col. Benjamin Holden & others, reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Sale of Land reported on the following petitions by way of Resolve, viz - On the Petitions of Lucy Damon, Mary Stow, Nehemiah Putnam, Zachariah & Mary Smith, Sarah Nayson Ebenezer Mitchel, Timothy Danforth, Eli & Sarah Smith, Jeremiah & Daniel Morse, Timothy Cheney, Paul Knowles, John Rice & Jabez Harding, Nathan Smith & Philimon Fairbanks, Amos Jewett, John Patton Jr, Sarah Mayo, & Phinehas Everett, - all of which were read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Warner brought down a letter from Samuel Freeman in pursuance to an Order of the Court of Sessions for the County of Falmouth relative to the state of said County, with the following Order thereon viz - In Senate Feb. 5. 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that Israel Nichols Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take the above representation into consideration & Make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. 6th. Read & concurred & Col. Thorndike & Col. Morrill are joined.

428. Wednesday Feb. 5. 1783.

The Committee on the Governors reply to the Message respecting the Sloop Winthrop reported that the following Message be presented by the House, to His Excelly. - viz.
"May it please your Excellency.
Your Excellency having been pleased in your Message of Saturday last, in pursuance of the request of the House to lay before as the orders which you gave the Captain of the Sloop Winthrop & to inform the House that she had sailed in pursuance of those Orders, which appears to be in direct opposition to a Resolve of the General Court of the eleventh of November last of which your Excellency was pleased to approve - As Guardians of the rights & property of the Citizens of this Commonwealth, it is our duty to express the sense we entertain of this measure, that it is a measure which we conceive your Excellency was not authorized to take & which cannot be justified." - Which was read and after debate was referred to the morning.

Thursday Feb. 6. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from the Town of Uxbridge, praying the proceedings of said town at a Meeting might be confirmed, the defect of a seal not being, affixed to the Warrant for calling said Meeting notwithstanding - Read & committed to Col. Pope, Gen. Ward & Dn. Hall.

A Petition from the second Parish of the town of Stoughton praying to be incorporated into a town - Read & thereupon Ordered that Col. Washburn & Mr. Crunch with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider said Petition & report - Sent up for Concurrence.

A Resolve directing all accounts exhibited for charges in taking care of sick Soldiers to be passed upon by such persons as might be appointed to pass upon such accounts as were formerly passed upon by the Committee on accounts – Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A resolve confirming the choice of Wm. Cummins as a Collector of Taxes for the town of Charlton - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Lemuel Kollock praying for the payment of a certificate funded on the Tax granted in October 1781., the Treasurer not having received orders respecting the same - Read & committed to Mr. Bartlett, Dr. Manning & Col. Morrill, who were directed to consider of the state of notes given by the Government in the year 1780, for Beef payable in the New Emission money & all other notes presented to the Treasurer for payment, concerning which he had no orders & report.

Mr. Sedgewick laid before the House several depositions taken agreeable to the Order of the House relative to the complaint of Timothy Edwards Esq., & others against James Harris Esq., which were read & committed to Mr. Vans, Mr. King & Mr. Hubbard.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Petition of Paul Jewett & others, Selectmen of Rowley, & an answer thereto with the following order thereon viz. In Senate Feb. 4. 1783. Read again & thereupon Ordered that Jonathan Warner Esq., with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this petition & the answer thereto into consideration, hear the parties & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Col. Washburn & Dn. Chamberlain are joined.

The Committee on the Petition of Thomas Piercy reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Pearson Easton, reported a Resolve for paying him £ 3 – Mileage money. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Petition of the Selectmen of Framingham respecting the estate of Nathl. Brinley with the following Order thereon, viz. - In Senate Feb. 6. 1783. Read again & thereupon Ordered that Israel Nichols Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration hear the parties & report. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Otis & Col. Pope are joined.

A Petition from Samuel Ely a Prisoner in Boston Goal, praying for such liberation as the publice safety may allow, he being in a weak state of body. Read & Committed to Mr. Frazier, Col. Pope & Mr. Greenwood.

The Committee on the Petition from the town of Uxbridge reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Petition from Wm. Warner, & Capt. Webb praying for the discharge of their depreciation notes – Read & Committed to Mr. Wilder, Mr. Child & Col. Grow.

A Petition from Andrew Brown & others praying a reward for prosecuting one Thomas Gibbs for passing counterfeit money – Read & Committed to Col. Pope & others on Barzillai Holt's Petition.

An estimate of the charges for the County of Cumberland for the year 1783, was laid upon the table & Committed to Mr. Hill, Capt. Noyes & Capt. Patch.

The letter from David Sewall Esq. referred from the last Session relative to the misconduct of a Justice of the Peace for the County of Berkshire. Read & committed to Mr. Vans, Mr. King & Mr. Hobart.

A Bill intituled "an Act for providing for the payment of costs in criminal suits." Read the first time and Friday 4. o'clock P. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

The House proceeded on the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Governors Message respecting the Sloop Winthrop, and a motion being made the question was put whether a message should be sent to His Excelly. the Governor which Passed in the affirmative. The following Message was prepared & voted to be sent, viz. -

"May it please your Excellency - Your Excellency having in your Message of Saturday last laid before the House a copy of the orders given by you to the Capt. of the Sloop Winthrop, you cannot we presume be surprised when you compare those Orders with a Resolve of the General Court passed November 11. 1782, approved by yourself that the House feel anxious to be informed upon what principles your Excellency has thought yourself authorized to give such orders. The House, ever disposed to harmonize with the supreme Executive of the State and entertaining all proper respect for your Excellency, yet as Guardians of the rights & safety of their constituents feel themselves constrained by this duty to make this inquiry. Some late informations from the Eastern Shore make us apprehensive that the Measure taken by your Excellency may

prove very injurious to the safety of that part of the State. But the apparent interference of the Executive in this instance with the rights of the Legislature gives us much more serious concern. And we are Satisfied your Excellency must concur in sentiment that when such an interference appears, it is the duty of every Branch of Government to pay immediate attention to it; and we are also satisfied that your Excellency will feel the propriety of entering into an explanation of this matter that undue jealousies may not arise between the Legislature & Executive, or subsist in the minds of the good people of this State as to the supposed encroachments of either of them."

It was then Ordered that Mr. Lowell, Mr. Dwight Mr. Sedgewick, Mr. Otis & Genl. Ward be a committee to present said Message.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Bill entitled "an Act for erecting a District in the County of Middlesex by the name of Boxborough" reported that said Bill have a third reading. It was then read a third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

The Committee on the Petition of Samuel Moody in behalf of Daniel Hale reported a Resolve directing the managers of the Lottery for repairing the Bridge over the River Parker to raise an additional sum of twenty nine pounds 13/2, to be paid to said Hale for his account exhibited. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Thomas Crane Esq. & others, Guardians of the Punkapog tribe of Indians, reported a Resolve for discharging them from their trust setting their accounts & appointing Col. Benja. Gill, Capt. Wm. Bent & Elijah Dunbar Esqrs., Guardians in their room. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Nicholas brought down a letter from the Treasurer communicating an account the monies received from the several Collectors of Excise for the different Counties in the State with a letter from Elijah Hunt Esqr., to the late Treasurer Gardner & the following Order thereon - viz: In Senate Feb. 6. 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that the inclozed accounts of the Collectors of Excise be committed to the Committee appointed the 30th ult. on the Memorial of Samuel Henshaw Esq., Collector of Excise for the County of Suffolk. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of Palmer reported a Resolve for them to notify the Clerk of the Session for the County of Hampshire, thirty days before the first Tuesday of next Session then to shew cause &c.

Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Petition of Winslow Parker & the following Order thereon viz: In Senate Feb. 6. 1783. Read again & Ordered, that Ebenr. Bridge Esqr. with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration hear the parties & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Bailey, & Mr. Whitney of Sherburne are joined.

A bill entitled “an Act for continuing Sundry Laws that are near expiring” - This engrossed Bill having had three several reading passed to be enacted.

The Committee on the Petition of Aaron Clap & others reported a Resolve for them to notify the adverse party to shew cause &c. on the last Wednesday of February instant. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Capt. Stearns Col. Faulkner & Mr. Prentiss be a Committee to prepare a List of the Officers employed by Government with their respective salaries or pay, & report.

A Petition from Silvanus Drew praying for the depreciation of his wages while employed in the public service under Col. Joshua Davis in collecting a number of Whale Boats for the use of the Army. Read & committed to Capt. Wales, Mr. Paterson & Mr. Burdick.

A Petition from Lydia Lee & others Heirs of Mr. Samuel Lee praying that his Will might be set aside and an agreement between them ratified. Read & committed to Mr. Lowell, Mr. Robbins & Dr. Manning.

A Petition from Peggy Loomis Guardian of her Son praying that a part of his real estate might be sold for his support. Read & committed to the Committee on the Sale of Land.

A Petition from Mary Almy, Guardian to her children, of like nature. Read & committed to the same Committee.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Mr. Sedgewick, Mr. Dwight, Mr. Dunbar Mr. Dane & Mr. Smead be a Committee to bring in a Resolve for the Abatement of Taxes to such persons as may be particularly distressed in the collection of them.

A Petition from the Overseers of the Poor in the town of Boston praying that an House left by will for the use of said Poor might be sold & the proceeds thereof otherwise funded for their support. Read & committed to Mr. Whitney of Northfield, Mr. Dane & Mr. Pier.

A Resolve granting a Tax of £360 – on the County of Cumberland for defraying the expenses thereof one year ensuing – Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve granting to William Lyman five hundred & fifty seven pounds 15/ in full of all accounts and services – Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee appointed to examine into the state of Soldiers notes issued in 1782, & payable in 1784. 5 & 6, reported that the whole of said Notes amounted to £242.067:10:1, & that there was the sum of £14.524:1/- due upon said sum as interest money to January 1st. 1783. Whereupon the House voted that the sum last mentioned be raised in the next Tax for the purpose of paying the said interest.

The Committee on the Petition of Capt. George Webb reported a Resolve directing the Treasurer to pay him one half the sum of his depreciation Note -

Read & accepted.

Sent up for concurrence.

The same Committee reported a similar Resolve on the Petition of William Warner. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Jesse Kellogg reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of David Benton reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act repealing an Act entitled an Act relating to Mulatto & Negro Slaves"- Read a first time Saturday 10 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down a Petition of Nathaniel Freeman praying for the removal of a certain Prize vessell not condemned, from Falmouth to Boston, on giving proper bond, with a Resolve of Senate granting the prayer thereof. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Thoˢ. Walley. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new Draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the report of the Committee on the Petition of Daniel Holt, being an Order for the adverse party to shew cause &c. In Senate, Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Nathaniel Heard Jr., & others Soldiers praying for their wages which had been paid to a person without their knowledge & thereby lost to them. Read & committed to Col. Thorndike, Mr. Peterson, & Mr. Evans.

Also this following Order viz. - In Senate Feb. 6. 1783 – Ordered that Aaron Wood & Caleb Davis Esqrs., with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take into consideration & report the proper allowance to be made to the Collectors of Excise in this Commonwealth. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Capt. Wales Mr. Frazier & Dn. Hall are joined.

Also a letter from Wm. Lithgow Esq. resigning his Seat as a Senator. In Senate, Read & Sent down. Read & sent up.

A Petition from a Committee of the town of Bellingham praying the payment of an account exhibited for the support of certain Poor. Read & committed to Dn. Stow, Dn. Hall & Dn. Brown of Framingham.

The Committee on the Sale of Land reported that William Oliver, Timothy Newton & Sarah Willis have leave to withdraw their Petition, & that John Haven's Petition lie for want of evidence. Order accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of Joseph Washburn reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from John Hill praying for a license to keep an Inn - Read & committed to Capt. Patch, Mr. Hall of Sutton & Mr. Jenckes.

The Committee on the petition from Jas. Leonard & others relative to the Excise upon Iron, reported verbally that a Bill be brought in to take off the duty from manufactured iron & to lay the same upon imported iron. Whereupon Mr. Otis, Col. Orr. & Capt. Dench were appointed a Committee to consider that subject.

The Secretary brought down the following Message from His Excellency the governor -

"Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives -

I have lately received two letters from His Excellency Governor Greene of the State of Rhode Island with some inclosures respecting Mr. Thomas Brattle which he requested me to lay before the General Court. I have directed the Secretary to lay those letters & papers before you, & recommend them to your consideration.

Council Chamber John Hancock."

Boston Feb. 7th 1783.

and said that he had left a similar Message with the papers referred to with the Hon. Senate, & His Excellency's request to communicate them to the House.

The Hon. Mr. Turner then brought down a copy of the above Message, & the papers aforesaid with the following Order thereon viz. - In Senate Feb. 7. 1783. Read and thereupon Ordered that Samuel Baker & Caleb Davis Esqrs., with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this Message, together with the papers accompanying the same into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Sedgewick, Mr. Dwight, Mr. Bartlett are joined.

The Secretary likewise brought down the following Message from His Excellency – viz. -

439. Friday, February, 7. 1783.

"Gentlemen of the House of Representatives -

The principles held up in your Message which I received this day, I most sincerely accord in; & had those principles been in any one instance by me designedly opposed & counteracted, I should not feel myself free from a liableness to censure. It ever has & ever will be my study both in public & private life, strictly to adhere to the principles of the constitution, nor can I charge myself with a deviation from them – True it is, that after the receipt of your Message I was convinced of the existence of the resolve you refer to in it respecting the Sloop Winthrop; & had I been impressed with the particulars of the Resolve at the time I gave the Orders to the Commander of that Sloop, I most assuredly should have observed a different line of conduct respecting the destination of the vessell; & I flatter myself that when my then unfortunate situation is taken into contemplation, that I was confined to my bed & the Secretary obliged to sit by me, & from time to time read the Resolves, the House of Representatives will not so much wonder that I could not impress my mind with the course of public business, nor pay that attention to it as was usual with me in a state of sound health – and that these circumstances will plead my apology for not recollecting the Resolve, as at the time of giving the orders I was confined to my chamber.

With respect to the particular orders I gave, I was induced from several motives to frame them as I did. The applications that were made me in behalf of the Commander, Capt. Little, whose great exertions & successes on the Eastern Coast had recommended

him to the notice of the public, & I must confess had a great effect upon me. I considered that he had most essentially prevented the depredations on that coast, by capturing & sending into this port nearly the whole of the armed force they possessed at Penobscot, & that the season was fast advancing when it would be impossible for him or the enemy to keep the sea upon the Eastern Coast; & wishing that the Commonwealth & himself might be benefitted by the capture of some prizes, I determined that he should proceed first to the Eastern Shore, & if he found no enemy there I consented he should take a cruise off Bermudas, or run to the west Indies, in hopes that the Commonwealth as well as himself might find an interest in the consequences of his cruise: and after cruising a limited time I directed him to return to the Eastern Coast, which would be at the season when she might be useful there.

No personal motives, no private views, no wish to infringe the Prerogative of the Legislature influenced me, nor had I any other motive but the General Good.

Thus, Gentlemen, I have given you a statement of the matter referred to in your Message, & cant but flatter myself, circumstances considered, I shall stand free from any imputations respecting my conduct as to the Orders given to the Commander of the Sloop - As I really feel a consciousness that I had in this instance, as in all others, the public weal in view.

John Hancock.

Council Chamber
Boston, Feb. 6. 1783.

Read & committed to Col. Dawes & others.

A Petition from Joseph Mc.Clellan setting forth that an action of false imprisonment was commenced against him for apprehending a person in the County of Lincoln by Order of Gen. Wadsworth when commanding there & praying the interference of the Court. Read & committed to Mr. Dane Col. Thacher & Gen. Fellows, who were directed to bring in a Bill for indemnifying all persons in a similar situation.

A letter from Samuel Henshaw Esq. praying to be discharged as one of the Committee for suing public Defaulters. Read & thereupon Ordered that said Henshaw be excused from any further service in his capacity aforementioned. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wells came down with the Bill for continuing Sundry Laws near expiring & said that the Hon. Senate proposed altering the title of said Bill, as follows viz. - "An Act for reviving & continuing Sundry laws that are expired or near expiring." Mr. Sedgewick was charged with said Bill & a Message to the Hon. Senate that the House agreed to said amendment.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Bill to remove certain actions now pending in the Supreme Judicial Court, in the County of Hampshire to the Sup. Jud. Court in the County of Berkshire &c. In Senate Feb. 7. 1783. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed with amendments from A to G. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon brought down a copy of the Record of the Court of Session, for discontinuing the pension of Capt. Thomas Alexander, with the following Order thereon, viz. - In Senate Feb. 7. 1783. Read and thereupon Ordered that the Secretary be directed to make a distinct file of this & similar certificates. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred. A Resolve determining the Pension of said Thomas Alexander, Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Bill intituled "an Act providing for the payment of Costs in Criminal Suits." Read the second & third times, & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that the Comg. General lay before the House a statement of all the Stores belonging to the Commonwealth, under his care, with the places where the same now are.

Ordered that Capt. Wales, Mr. Otis & Capt. Dench be a Committee to make out an account of the Cloathing delivered to Gen. Lincoln on account of the Continent, & sold by him according to the Orders of Court.

Ordered that Mr. Longfellow, Mr. Bourn & Mr. Brown of Stockbridge be a Committee to ascertain the sums of money supplied to Comg. Hopkins on account of the Continent & report the Same.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon brought down the Resolve of the House granting a tax upon the County of Cumberland. In Senate. Feb. 7. 1783. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Jonathan Force praying for a License

to sell Spirituous Liquors. Read & committed to Mr. Newell Capt. Wheelock & Mr. Dexter.

An estimate of the Tax for the County of Barnstable necessary for defraying the charges of said County for the ensuing year. Read & committed to Mr. Bourn.

A petition from John Christian a Soldier praying for his pay. Read & committed to the Committee on Nathl. Herd & others Petition.

A Petition from the Selectmen of West Stockbridge setting forth that there was a dispute between two classes in sd. town as to the enlistment of a Soldier & praying that Exeon. might be stayed till it was settled. Read & committed to Major King, Mr. Spear & Mr. Brown of Stockbridge.

Also the determination of Justice Jahleel Woodbridge, & Lemuel Barnard as to a disputed soldier. Read & committed to the same Committee.

Ordered that the Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts, be & they are hereby empowered & directed to call on Major Ezra Lunt late Sub-Clothier to this Commonwealth, to lay his account before them immediately for settlement.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Buckminster reported that said Petition be withdrawn. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A Petition from the Selectmen of Townshend, praying their Taxes might be lessened. Read & committed to Col. Prescott, Col. Robinson & Col. Faulkner.

A Petition from Stephen Root a Soldier, praying for a compensation for his losses, while a prisoner with the enemy. Read & committed to Mr. Baily, Mr. Laighton & Mr. Shearman.

A Petition from Stephen Nye & others Guardians of certain

Indians, praying the confirmation of a sale of their land. Read & Committed to Mr. Vans, Mr. Smith Mr. Dunbar.

A Petition from Eleanor Giles of a like nature. Read & Committed to Capt. Bancroft, Col. Prescott & Col. Washburn. Then the House adjourned to Saturday Morning, 10 o'clock.

Saturday February 8th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolve granting five thousand pounds to Abraham Fuller Esq. & others, late Committee on accounts for the full payment of accounts examined by them. Read and passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Petition from Joseph Otis & Samuel A Otis Esqrs. praying liberty to sell a certain tract of land devised to them & others by the late Joseph Otis Esqr. they giving land to pay to the other Devizees their respective proportions on their Coming of age. Read & Committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

Gen. Warner bought down a Message from His Excelly. with a litter from Col. Lithgow by two Indians of the Penobscot tribe, who came up for supplies, & the following Order thereon viz. - In Senate Feb. 7. 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that Jedadiah Prebble Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a Committee to take this Message with the papers accompanying the same into consideration & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Col. Mc.Cobb. & Col. Grow are Joined.

A Petition from Lot Nye praying that the Indian Lands in Barnstable County might not be disposed of. Read & Committed to Mr. Bourn, Col. Patch & Col. Thorndike.

A Petition from the Town of Barnstable praying that Execon. for taxes against said town might be stayed. Read & Committed to Mr. Davis & others a Committee on the Petition from Eastham.

The Committee on the letter from the Speaker of the House of Representatives in the State of Rhode Island respecting the hire of the Stoop Polly, reported verbally that they had conferred with Gen. Lincoln on the subject & that he had assured them that the account for her services should be liqudated at Congress. Whereupon said papers were ordered to lie.

The Hon. Mr. Sprague brought down the Resolve for allowing £4000 - to the Committee on Accounts. Read & Concurred with amendments at A & B. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Committee on the Governors reply of the 6. inst to the Message of the House reported verbally that said reply lie upon the files of the House, which report after debate was accepted & said reply ordered to lie accordingly.

The Bill repealing "an Act entitled an Act relating to Mulatto & Negro Slaves," was taken up & debated. Whereupon it was ordered that Mr. Sedgewick, Gen. Ward, Mr. Dwight Mr. Dane & Mr. Cranch be a Committee to bring in a Bill upon the following principles -

1st Declaring that there never were legal slaves in this Government.

2nd. Indemnifying all Masters who have held Slaves in fact.

3rd. To make such provisions for the support of Negroes & Mulattos, as the Committee may find most expedient.

445. Saturday February 8. 1783.

A Petition from a number of Inhabitants of the Town of Boston & others in behalf of Mr. Thomas Brattle praying that he might be permitted to return home his going to the enemy notwithstanding. Read & Committed to the Joint Committee on the Governor's Message respecting that Gentleman. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Henry Lee of Manchester & others and a Petition from John Lynes praying for the Sale of Real Estate - Read & Committed to the Committee on the sale of land.

A Petition from the Second Parish in Woburn praying to be incorporated into a town & the answer of said town thereto. Read & Committed to Col. Patch, Col. Thorndike & Col. Coffin.

A Petition from Gilbert Mc.Intire, praying for his clothing as an Artifficer in the Labrotary; Read & Committed to Capt. Wales, Capt. Stearns & Capt. Prentiss.

A Petition from Wm. Pickering praying leave to file a Complaint to the Supreme Judicial, in a civil action mentioned, the time by law allowed for that purpose having elapsed notwithstanding. Read & Committed to Mr. Robbins.

A Petition from the inhabitants of Sudbury Canaday praying for a Gore of land belonging to the Commonwealth, to be annexed to said town. Read & Committed to Dr. Manning, Mr. Whitney of Sherburne & Mr. Wilds.

The Committee on the Petition of Lemuel Kellock reported a Resolve directing the Treasure, to pay the certificates funded on the Tax of October 1781, in money or by orders on Constables deficient in said Tax. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence. - The Comg. General made a return

of Public Stores agreeable to the Order of the House yesterday. Read & Committed to Mr. Barrett of Concord, Mr. Dunbar, & Mr. Bartlett.

The Hon. Mr. Phillips brought down the report of the joint Committee on the letter from Mr. John Blunt & other papers relative to the Eastern Counties, being a draft of a letter to His Excelly. Gen. Washington requesting his assistance. In Senate read & accepted with amendments at A. B. D. E. F. G. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

An injunction was laid upon the Members not to communicate said Report, & a Message sent to the Hon. Senate to request them to lay a similar injunction on their Members likewise.

Then the House adjourned to Monday morning 10 o'clock.

Monday Feb. 10. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Mr. Bourn Mr. Otis & Capt. Washburn be a Committee to consider the best method of collecting the excise duty in the Counties of Nantucket & Dukes County.

The House then proceeded by ballot to chuse a Collector of Excise for the County of Berkshire, & Mr. Bourn, Mr. Otis, & Capt. Washburn were appointed a Committee to collect count & sort the votes, who attended that service & reported that the whole number of votes were 73. that 37 made a choice & that Wm. Bacon Esq. had 73 votes & was unanimously chosen. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Bill intituled “an Act to remove certain actions now pending in the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Hampshire, to the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Berkshire, to enable Peter A. Fonda, to reenter a certain action in the Court of Common Pleas in said County of

Berkshire. This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Resolve allowing the sum of two Hundred & eighty Pounds to be taxed on the County of Berkshire. Read and passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Simon Elliot, praying that the duty of Manufactured Snuff might be lessened. Read & committed to the Committee appointed to consider of the Excise on Manufactured Iron.

A Petition from Caleb Ammidown & Jona. Warner, two of the Committee for selling Absentees Estates for the County of Worcester, praying the direction of the Court as to giving possession of one said estates to the purchaser thereof.
Read & committed to Capt. Patch, Col. Washburn & Mr. Hall of Sutton.

The Committee on the affidavits respecting the Conduct of James Harris Esq. & the letter of David Sewall Esq. relative to the misdemeanor of a Justice of the Peace for the County of Berkshire, reported and the following Order viz. - "That Mr. Otis, Mr. Vans, & Mr. Barrett of Concord with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to confer on the expediency of addressing His Excelly the Governor & the Hon. Council to remove James Harris & Wm. Goodrich Esqrs., Justices of the Peace for the County of Berkshire from their respective Offices for reasons set forth in certain depositions, & a letter from the Hon. David Sewall Esq. relative to their conduct," was read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

A letter from James Harris Esq. relative to an information against him by Timothy Edwards Esq. & others. Read and Committed to the same Committee. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Joseph Mc.Lallon reported a Resolve for a notification for the adverse party to shew cause &c. on the first Wednesday of March next. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Jona. Ford reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Selectmen of Charlton reported a Resolve for removing certain poor of Charlestown from said Charlton to Dudley. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported on the Petitions of Ephraim Randall, Susannah Cheever & Rachel Samson, by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Timothy Hodgdon reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Capt. Dench, Capt. Stearns and Col. Robinson be a Committee to consider of the expediency of continuing the Guards at Springfield & report.

The Committee appointed to consider of the best method of collecting the Excise duty in the County of Nantucket & Dukes County &c. reported verbally that a Collector of Excise & Naval Officer be chosen for said County to reside in the County of Barnstable – which was accepted & Tuesday, 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the choice.

On a Petition from Benja. Lincoln Esq. & others, a Committee appointed to settle the accounts left unsettled by the Committee of supplies, A Resolve directing the Committee for settling the public accounts to discharge sd.

Lincoln & others from the charges made against them - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down a Resolve requesting His Excelly the Governor to write to the Governor of Connecticut, relative to one Richard Smith, a proscribed Absentee of this Commonwealth, being admitted a citizen of that state in order, if it be a fact, that the General Court might consider of that & similar cases. In Senate, Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of John Hill reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted, & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

A Petition from a number of the Inhabitants of the town of Amherst, praying to be incorporated into a Parish - Read & committed to Mr. Smead, Mr. Hall of Sutton & Col. Dunbar.

A Petition from Gustavus Fellows & Benjamin Cobb. praying for the pay for the hire of a vessell as a Guardship. Read & Committed to Mr. Doane, Capt Wales & Col. Coffin.

A petition from Samuel West & others praying that Ambrose Kensley & others might be allowed to continue on one of the Eliza. Islands - Read & Committed to Col. Pope, Mr. Bourn & Capt. Noyes.

A Petition from Caleb Champney late Captain of the Guards in Boston, setting forth that he had advanced wages to many of his Soldiers, notwithstanding which he could procure only his own from the Treasury, & therefore praying to receive the whole foot of his Companys Pay Roll. Read & Committed to Mr. Barrett of Concord Mr. Hobart & Mr. Barrett.

 Monday February 10. 1783.

A Petition from David Wheeler a Captain in the Militia setting forth that one Ebenr. Prout, Clerk to the Committee on Muster Rolls, had received the Pay of his Company & detained the same & praying releif. Read & Committed to Mr. Hall of Medford, Dr. Manning and Capt. Noyes.

The Secretary brought down a Message from His Excelly the Governor informing the Houses, that he had drawn a Warrant upon the Treasury for £500. for defraying the expenses of the accommodation afforded the French Army in Boston: that there remained £409:3:6^{d} due for this service & referred the settlement thereof to the Genl. Court.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down a Petition from Josiah Jones & others, praying the notification of the Will of Elisha Jones, the same being witnessed by only <u>two</u> persons notwithstanding with the following Order thereon viz. - In Senate, Feb. 10. 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that Josiah Stone Esq. with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration & make report thereon. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred & Mr. Bourn & Mr. Hall of Medford are joined.

The House reconsidered their vote on the Petition of John Hill & committed the same to Mr. Wilder & others. - Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.
The Committee on the Petition from Nathl. Heard & others reported & it was then ordered that said Petition lie untill the second Wednesday of the next Sessions of the General Court, & that Capt. Benja. Gould thereinmentioned be duly notified then to appear & make answer thereto. A notification issued accordingly.

451. Monday, February 10. 1783. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolve for removing Samuel Ely from Boston Goal to Castle William. Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Petition from Simeon Mayo praying to be allowed to answer a libel field in behalf of the Commonwealth against a piece of land. Said libel having been defaulted notwithstanding. Read & Committed to Mr. Robbins Col. Smith, & Mr. Hall of Medford.

A Petition from Isaac Phillips praying to be paid for certain articles supplied the late Board of War. Read & committed to Col. Dawes, Mr. Frazier & Capt. King.

A Petition from Samuel Munn, Adm, on the estate of Samuel Munn deceased, praying to be empowered to give a Deed of part of said estate. Read & committed to the committee on the sale of Land. - Also a Petition from Hannah Hill, Adrmx. on the estate of Caleb Hill to the same effect. Read & committed to the same Committee.

A Petition from Noah Ripley praying to discharge a Mortgage to Nathl. Hatch Esq., an Absentee, in public Securities. Read & committed to Barrett, Mr. Whitney of Northfield & Mr. Cranch.

A Petition from Isaac Hathaway praying for his reward in taking up a Continental Soldier who had deserted. Read & committed to Mr. Pier, Capt. Wheelock & Mr. Willard.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down a Petition from Joseph Barnard, praying for a further allowance as a post rider from Plimouth in New Hampshire State to Falmouth with a Resolve of Senate allowing him £6:13:4^{d} guaranty from the 1st day of April past. Sent down

for concurrence. Read & non concurred.

A Petition from James Otis praying leave to exhibit his account for disbursements & Council in Law against the estate of Chas. W. Apthorp an Absentee, any report of Commissioners on said estate to the contrary notwithstanding. Read & Committed to Mr. Cranch. Gen. Ward & Col. Pope.

The Committee on the Petition of Caleb Champney reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Then the House adjourned to Tuesday morning 10 o'clock.

Tuesday February 11. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Mr. Bourn, Mr. Brown of Stockbridge & Major King be a Committee to bring in a bill to prevent Horse racing & shooting matches.

The Hon. Mr. Choate brought down the Resolve of the House confirming the election of a Collector of taxes in the town of Charlton. In Senate, Read & Concurred as taken into a New Draft. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also a Resolve of Senate establishing the allowance of Collectors of Excise in the several Counties. Sent down for Concurrence.

Read & concurred with Amendment at A. Sent up for Concurrence.

Also an Order to notify Samuel Henshaw Esq., Samuel Ward Esq., Elijah Hunt Esq., Wm. Drew Esq., Joseph Nye Esq., Samuel Fales Esq., Jona. Chesley Chadbourne Esq., Mr. Caleb Ammidown, Joseph North Esq., & Capt. Wm. Bacon of their having been chosen Collectors of Excise, for the different Counties as heretofore mentioned, & to request their answers. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also a Petition from Elisha Martindale praying that Ashbel Strong & Henry Dwight might be empowered to convey to him a certain tract of land, with a Resolve of Senate granting the prayer thereof. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Elisha Hedge reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Davis brought down a Copy of the Governors Message respecting the expenses of quartering of the French officers in Boston, with the following order thereon viz. - In Senate Feb 11. 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that Stephen Choate Esq. with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this Message with the papers accompanying the same into consideration and make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Barrett & Mr. Tracy are joined.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Lancaster reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill granting a Lottery as prayed for, which report was accepted & leave given the Petitioners accordingly.

 Tuesday February 11. 1783.

The Committee appointed to receive the effects of the public from the Adm. of the late Treasurer &c. reported & the same report being read was committed to the Committee of both Houses appointed the 4th instant, on another report of the same Committee. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Wm. Pickering reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The House proceeded to the choice of a Collector of Excise for the Counties of Dukes County & Nantucket, by Ballot. Capt. Wales, Mr. Chamberlain & Col. Dawes were appointed a Committee to collect count & sort the votes, who attended that service & reported that the whole number of votes were 61. & that Elisha Thatcher was unanimously chosen. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Isaac Phillips reported a Resolve for Paying him £385:9/- out of the sales of the Ship Tartar. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock. P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition of Ebenr. Sweetland praying that a Deed might be executed to him of a piece of land part of the estate of Francis Bernard Esq., an Absentee, according to a contract between them - Read & committed to Mr. Rice, Capt. Prentiss & Capt. Guild.

A Resolve granting to Ezra Fellows the sum of twentyfour pounds 10/- for removing Cannon from Boston to Berkshire County. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of the North Parish of Bridgewater praying to be incorporated into a town. Read & committed to Mr. Dunbar, Capt. Orr & Mr. Robbins.

A Petition from Naomi Platt wife of Ezra Platt an Absentee, praying for a grant of his estate she paying the debts. Read & committed to Col Smith Mr. Longfellow & Mr. Peterson.

The Petition of Nathan Cooledge was taken from the files & committed to Col. Smith, Mr. Frye & Capt. Brown of Abington.

A Petition from Joseph Baker praying the balance of his Account might be paid in government securities. Read & thereupon Ordered that Mr. Rowe, Mr. Hall of Sutton & Mr. Barrett of Boston with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider said Petition & report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Petition of Samuel Goodwin with an order of Senate for a new notification to the adverse party to shew cause &c. on the first Friday of June next. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

On the Petition of Samuel West & others a Resolve empowering Benjamin Russell Esq., to lease part of Nashawinnat Island, the property of Grizil Sanford an Absentee. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Report of

the Committee appointed to ascertain the state of the accounts of this Commonwealth against the United States, being a Resolve empowering the Committee for methodizing & Stating the public accounts to call upon the Comg. General and all other persons concerned for that purpose &c. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Wm. Tucker praying to be reimbursed for certain supplies afforded to Soldiers families - Read & Committed to Mr. Greenwood, Col. Moody & Mr. Metcalf.

Ordered that Mr. Frazier, Col. Orr & Col. May be a Committee to examine into the powers of such collectors as were appointed by Warrant, under the Seal of the King of Great Britain, & to report a Resolve empowering them to collect such sums as remain unpaid if necessary.

A Bill intituled “an Act for granting a Lottery for rebuilding & making good the public Bridges & Causeways in the town of Lancaster”. Read the first & second times, & Wednesday 11. oclock assigned for the third reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Simeon Mayo. reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House Adjourned to Wednesday
Morning 10 o'clock.

457. Wednesday February 12. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Col. May, Mr. Hodges & Mr. Brewer be a Committee to consider what measures are proper to be taken for the receiving of the Certificates issued by Mr. Pickering the Qr. Mr. Genl. in payment of the Continental Tax & report.

A Petition from Margaret Scott, Admx. on the estate of Daniel Scott, praying leave to sell real estate. Read & Committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

A Petition from John Sprague praying to be allowed for doctoring & curing certain Soldiers, who were wounded in the Battle of Bunker's Hill. Read & Committed to Dr. Manning Mr. Hall of Medford & Mr. Longfellow.

The Committee on the Town of Townshend reported & it was ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down a letter from Jabez Bowen Governor of Rhode Island, dated Feb. 3. 1783. relative to the disturbances at, & about Douglass with the following Order of Senate thereon viz. In Senate Feb. 12. 1783. Read and Ordered that Samuel Phillips Jr. & John Bacon Esqrs. with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this letter into consideration, & report what may be proper to be done thereon.

Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred & General Ward, Mr. Sedgewick and Col. Thacher are joined.

Also the Report of the Joint Committee appointed to adjust the Sums for which the several Towns are entitled to receive credit on account of Bounties for hiring Soldiers &c. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred. 52 Members voting against 39. Total 91.

Also the Resolve of the House allowing the accounts of the Treasurers for the County of Worcester. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a New Draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a petition from Abigail Dwight, Guardian of Louisa Hopkins, praying leave to Sell Land, with a Resolve of Senate granting said Petition. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a Resolve of Senate on the petition of Joseph Freeman & others, owners of a Saw - Mill in the Town of Duxborough, allowing them to keep the gates of their Pond shut through the whole year, the passage of Alewives notwithstanding. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also a Petition from the Proprietors of the Mill - Pond in Boston praying for a Lottery to rebuild a Grist Mill which had been destroyed by fire & the following Order thereon, vis. - In Senate, Feb. 12. 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that Israel Nichols Esq. with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration, & make report thereon. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred, & Mr. Hall of Medford & Mr. Frasier are joined.

The Petition from John Brewer was taken from the files & committed to Capt. Curtis, Col. Barrett & Mr. Fisk.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts bought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Governor's Message of the 4th inst. In Senate, Read & accepted, with amendments at A. C. & E. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Sever brought down an Order of Senate for the Secy. to notify Samuel Henley Esq. & Capt. Elisha Thatcher of their being chosen Collectors of Excise for the Counties of aforementioned. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of the Town of Amherst, reported an Order for the adverse party to shew cause &c. on the Second Wednesday of next Session. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Brown of Stockbridge, Mr. Child Mr. Morrill, Mr. Church & Capt. Bancroft, be a
Committee to prepare a Tax Bill agreeable to the report of the Committee, for adjusting the principles on which the several towns, are entitled to receive credit on account of Bounties for hiring Soldiers &c.

A Petition from Moses white, Capt. in the Regiment commanded by Brig. Gen. Hazen, setting forth that they had not received the bounty of twenty four pounds granted to the rest of this States Quota of the Continental Army, in addition to the bounty of twenty dollars granted by the Continent, & praying to be allowed the interest thereof. Read & committed to Mr. Otis, Mr. Dane & Capt. Washburn.

The Committee for methodizing the Public Accounts having represented that upon the settlement of theaccounts of Messrs. Ashley & Warner, there was the sum of £ 17:13/5^{d}. due to the Commonwealth, a Resolve directing such sum to be paid into the treasury was read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act for carrying into execution an Ordinance of Congress for abolishing Courts for the trial of Felonies & Piracies Committed on the High Seas." - Read the second time & Thursday 10. oclock assigned for the third reading thereof.

A Bill entitled "an Act for the presentation & increase of Moose & Deer within the towns of Ipswich, Gloucester & Wenham Beverly & Manchester" - Read the first & second time & Thursday 11 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.

A Bill entitled "an Act for encouraging the killing of Wolves" - Read the first & second time & the same hour assigned for the third reading of the same.

461. Wednesday February 12th 1783.

A Petition from the Consul General of France praying leave to fill a claim to the Brigt. St. Anlonis, libelled in the Maratime Court in behalf of His Catholic Majesty. Read & Committed to Mr. Tracy, Mr. Robbins & Mr. Cranch.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Order of the House on the petition of certain Inhabitants of the town of Amherst - In Senate, Read & concurred, with amendments at A & C. Sent down for concurrence. -

Read & Concurred as to the amendment at A, & non concurred as to the amendment at C. & the House propose the amendment at E, in the room thereof. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to Thursday morning 10 o'clock.

Thursday, February, 13. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Sever brought down the Bill intituled "an Act determining at what times & places the several Courts of General Sessions of the Peace, & Courts of Common Pleas shall be held within the several Counties of this Commonwealth." - In Senate Feb. 11. 1783. Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendments from A. to I. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred excepting with the amendments at C. D. & H. & at the last amendment they propose an amendment at I. Sent up for concurrence. - Also, the Bill entitled "an Act for appointing the times & places of holding the Supreme Judicial Court" - In Senate, Feb. 11. 1783. Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed, with amendments from A to E. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred as to the amendment at A. Non-concurred as to the amendments at B. & C. -

(eighty one Members present) & concurred as to the amendments at D & E. Sent up for concurrence.

Also the following Order viz. - In Senate Feb. 12. 1783. Ordered that Callb. Davis Esq. with such as the Hon. House shall join be a committee to inquire into the proceedings of the Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts - The method of keeping their Books & stating their accounts - The progress which they have made in the business to which they have been appointed - The obstacles which prevent their making greater despatch therein - and whether any farther regulations are necessary in order to obtain a speedy adjustment of said accounts. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred, & Col. Dawes & Mr. Bartlett are joined.

Also the report of the Committee appointed to view the situation of the County of Berkshire, in order to determine the places of holding the courts there, being in Substance that they should be held as now by Law appointed until Jany. 1. 1784. and after that day in the town of Lenox in some convenient place near the road, between the Meeting House & Capt. Doble's - In Senate, Feb. 7. 1783. Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a Resolve of Senate allowing to the aforenamed committee as follows viz. - to the Hon. Chas. Turner Esq. £20:18/- to the Hon. Artemas Ward. Esq. £12:10/- to the Hon. Jno. Sprague Esq. £11:14/- in full for their services, to be taxed on the County of Berkshire - Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Petition of Wm. Pickering, & the Resolve of the House thereon. In Senate read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Seth Sumner - In Senate, Read & concurred with an amendment at A, reducing the grant made the Petitioner from £36. to £30. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill entitled "an Act for carrying into Execution an Order of Congress, for establishing Courts for the trial of Felonies & Piracies committed on the High Seas" - Read the Third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Secretary came down & read a letter addressed to the Governor from the Commissary of Prisoners, informing of a general cartel being settled for their exchange.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Resolve for abating Taxes to such persons as are peculiarly distressed in the collection of them, reported, & after long debate, the question being put for accepting said report, it passed in the negative.

A Bill entitled "an Act for the preservation & increase of Moose & Deer in the towns of Ipswich, Gloucester, Wenham, Beverley & Manchester" - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act for encouraging the killing of Wolves" - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Dn. Chamberlain, Mr. Wilder & Mr. Frye of Fryeburg be a Committee to prepare an account of the 5 & 3 months men raised by the several towns, for the Tax-Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down the report of the Joint Committee appointed to consider the expediency of sending Delegates to meet in Convention with others to be appointed by several States, being a Resolve for appointing such Delegates to meet at Hartford &c. - In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

A Memorial from the Clerk of the Common Pleas in the County of Worcester, praying for the payment of several bills of Cost exhibited for prosecuting the libels against sundry absentees estates in said County; Read & Committed to Mr. Barrett of Boston, Mr. Bourn & Mr. Greenwood.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Jonas Welsh, setting forth that his estate had been destroyed by fire, & praying that the Court of Session in Suffolk might be empowered to licence him to sell Spirituous Liquors - Read & committed to Col. Dawes, Col. Thacher, & Capt. Cushing.

On the Petition of Caleb Ammidown & Jona. Warner, a Resolve enabling the Committee for selling Confiscated estates in the County of Worcester to put one Joel How in possession of an estate sold him - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Lt. Joseph Bulcom & Ivory Holland praying

that their depreciation notes might be paid - Read & committed to Col. Goodman Mr. Frye of Fryeburg & Col. Clarke.

The Committee on the petition of Lot Nye reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Dorothy Forward Admx. on the estate of Elisha Stiles praying leave to sell real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

A Petition from a number of Inhabitants of a certain tract of Land situated between the great & little Ossipee Rivers praying to be incorporated into a town – Read & committed to Capt. Snow, Col. May & Capt. Evens.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Eastham reported a resolve for staying executions for taxes against said town: read & not accepted, & said Petition Ordered to lie.

A Petition from Col. Samuel Brewer praying for the cloathing due to him while in the service - Read & committed to Col. Clarke, Col. Smith & Capt. Peterson.

A Bill entitled an act for granting a Lottery for rebuilding & making good the public Bridges & Causeway in the town of Lancaster - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Order on the Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the town of Amherst - In Senate, Read & concurred with further amendments at F. & G. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Petition of Mary Robbins & Elisha Holton Admrs. on the estate of Aaron Robbins praying to be allowed to sell real estate - Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of Sudbury Canada praying for Guards aganst the Indians the ensuing spring; Read & Committed to Capt. Noyes, Col. Grow, & Mr. Frye of Fryeburg.

The Committee on the Petition of Jonas Welsh reported a Resolve granting the prayer thereof - Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Naomi Platt reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on Pensions reported a Resolve intituling David Cutler to half pay, till further order of the General Court or Congress - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve empowering the Court of Sessions in Worcester to licence Thomas Cowdin & others to sell Spirituous liquors on the last Tuesday of next March Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Overseers of the Poor in Boston reported a Resolve empowering them to sell the House therein mentioned & vest the proceeds in good landed Security - Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the town of Paxton praying that the Treasurers executions for the Continental Tax might be stayed being issued against them - Read & committed to Major Goodman, Capt. Curtis & Col. Clarke.

A Petition from Sarah Henshaw, widow of Samuel Henshaw, late Clerk to the Supreme Judicial Court, decd. Praying for a further allowance for his services in his said capacity. Read & committed to Mr. Robbins, Mr. Ball & Col. Dawes.

The Hon. Mr. Sprague brought down the report of the Committee on the Governor's Message of the 7th inst. respecting the Penobsscott tribe of Indians, being a Resolve directing the Comg. General to deliver them certain articles of cloathing &c. In Senate. Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the report of the Committee appointed for making adequate provision for passing the accounts of those who have demands against the Commonwealth, being a Resolve reviving the Committee on Accounts. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Report of the Committee on the Governor's Message relative to the expenses of accommodating the French Officers in Boston, being a Resolve requesting the Governor to draw his Warrant on the Treasury for £409: 3/6d, being a balance due for the defraying of the same. In Senate, Read and recommitted to make enquiry whether there were any other Officers than the Field & Staff Officers of the French Army included in the Within account.

Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the petition of Mr. Le. Tombe, Consul General of France reported verbally that they had conferred with the petitioner on the subject matter thereof, & that he had desired that his Petition might be withdrawn. There for Ordered that the Petitioner at his own request have leave to withdraw his petition.

The Committee on the Petition of Jno. Bailey made a similar report & a similar order passed thereon.

A Petition from Joseph Lee, Agent on the estate of Joseph Hooper, praying leave to sell the same for the benefit of the Creditors. Read & committed to Mr. Barrett of B. Mr. Robbins & Col. Smith.

A Petition from Samuel Howard in behalf of William Howard & others praying that an account by them exhibited for supplies to himself & sundry other soldiers in their retreat from Penobscot, might be allowed & consolidated. Read & committed to Mr. Hobart, Mr. Wood & Mr. Greenwood.

The Petition of Noah Church in behalf of the Inhabitants of New Marlborough praying said town might be exempted from a fine for not sending a representative. Read & committed to Capt. Washbourn, Mr. Hodges & Capt. Bullock.

The Petition of Easter Bacon was again taken up & committed to Mr. Spear, Mr. Smead & Mr. Longfellow.

The Committee of the Petition of Levi Lincoln reported a Resolve for paying One Hundred Pounds 12/- to discharge the several bills of costs in the prosecutions against absentees estates in the County of Worcester.

The Committee on the Petition of Barzillai Holt reported a Resolve allowing him five pounds in full for his services in apprehending Jno. Bush for counterfeiting paper money. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled "an Act for raising by Lottery the sum of three Thousand Pounds for the purpose of building a Glass-House & promoting the manufacture of Crown & other glass in Boston." Read the second time & 5 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Royal Kollock reported verbally that said Petition be withdrawn. Order to withdraw accordingly.

Then the House adjourned to Friday Morning 10 o'clock.

Friday February 14th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The House took up the Resolve allowing the account of Charles Coffin, & concurred with the amendment of Senate therein.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge bought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of William Lyman. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new Draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also a Petition from the Committee of Correspondence & Safety in the town of Boston, against the return of Abigail Willis the wife of a proscribed Absentee, & who was banished from this state. In Senate Feb. 13. 1783. Read & sent down. Read & committed to Brigr. Mr. Cobb, Mr. Church & Mr. Snow.

On a representation from Thos. Gold a Resolve permitting him to go to New York to see his uncle there - Read & passed sent up for concurrence.

On the petition of Sarah Clark a Resolve directing the Treasurer to pay the depreciation note given her husband in March last. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve on the Petition of Joseph Mc. Clallon. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Elisha Porter, Sheriff of the County of Hampshire praying the payment of an account exhibited for disbursements at the time of the late disturbances in said County – Read & committed to Col. Thatcher, Mr. Weld, & Mr. Frye of Fryeburg.

The Hon. Mr. Sever came down & requested the House to send up the report of the Committee appointed to bring public Defaulters to account; which was sent up accordingly. - He likewise brought down the Petition of Timothy Parker, with a Resolve of Senate thereon authorizing the Judge of Probate for Suffolk County to receive and allow his claim mentioned out of the estate of Samuel Sewall an Absentee. Sent down for

for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a letter from Samuel Henshaw Esq., accepting of his Election as Collector of Excise for Suffolk County. In Senate Feb. 14. 1783. Read & sent down. Read & Sent up.

Also the report of the Committee on the Petition of the Proprietors of the Mill Pond in Boston, allowing them to bring in a Bill as prayed for. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve allowing the accounts of the Town of Gloucester. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Luke Bliss praying that the Attorney General might be directed to enter a nolle prosequi in a libel against the estate of Jona. Bliss. Read & committed to Mr. Tracy, Mr. Cranch & Mr. Bartlett.

The Committee on the Petition of Sylvanus Drew reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Jesse Kellogg. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. - Read & concurred.

A Petition from Edmd. Dunkin, praying that Robert Alcorn a Prisoner, late Captain of a Brigantine belonging to the Petitioner might be exchanged - Read & committed to Mr. Otis, Mr. Church & Mr. Curtis.

Ordered that Mr. Hall of Sutton, Mr. Child & Mr. Locke with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider the various grants of land made by Government in the eastern parts of this State: with a view of examining whether they have not been deceived therein; & report. - Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the petition of Col. Jas. Wesson & Capt. David Cook reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the petition of Col. David Brewer reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of James Otis reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Timothy Smith Guardian of Azariah Thayer praying leave to sell real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of land.

A petition from the Selectmen of Colrain praying to be reimbursed their expenses in supporting one Jas. Carr. & his wife, paupers, who had not gained Inhabitancy in said town. Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered that Mr. Sedgewick, Gen. Ward & Mr. Tracy be a Committee to deliver the following Message to His Excelly the Governor & the Hon. Council, viz. -

"May it please your Excellency & Honours.

The House desire to be informed by your Excellency & Honors, what measures were taken by the Governor & Council in pursuance of a Resolve of the General Court of the 4th of Dec. 1780. requesting His Excelly the Governor & the Hon. The Council, to confer with the Delegates of Congress then in this Commonwealth & to take such measures might be necessary to ascertain & support the claim of this Commonwealth to the territory belonging to it, & to communicate what they might think necessary respecting the same to Congress, & to the Minister Pelenipotentiary of these States then in Europe."

Then the house adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the report of the joint Committee on the Petition of the town of Foxborough, declaring the sense & meaning of the agreement between said Town, & the Town of Wrentham, & giving leave for a Bill to be brought in according thereto. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Gen. Warner brought down the Petition of certain Inhabitants of Mechias, with the following Order thereon viz. - the Committee of both Houses appointed for considering the foregoing Petition having reported that the further consideration thereof be referred to the next Session, Ordered, that the same be referred over accordingly. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Gen. Bridge brought down the report of the Committee of both Houses on the petition of Winslow Parker. In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence - Read & concurred.

A petition from the town of Buckland praying for the grant of a piece of Land belonging to the Commonwealth, in Order to enable them to build a Meeting House & keep a School – Read & committed to Mr. Smead Mr. Fisk & Mr. Barrett of Concord.

A Petition from Eleazar Brooks in behalf of the Town of Lincoln praying that the fine on said town for not sending a Representative might be a light one - Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the Resolve of the House on the petition of Jonas Welsh - In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to Saturday Morning 10 o'clock.

 Saturday, February 15. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from William Phillips Jr. Executor of Josiah Quincy Jr. praying to be put in possession of an House the property of Daniel Leonard, an Absentee, untill a debt due from said Leonard to said Quinceye's Estate is satisfied from the rent; Read & committed to Col. Dawes, Mr. Otis & Mr. Moody.

The Petitions of the town of Woburn & that of Samuel Brewer were ordered to be withdrawn agreeable to a report of the Committee thereon.

On a petition from Jeremiah Vose of Stoughton a Resolve enabling him to collect such Taxes as were left uncollected by Nathl. Holmes of said town, was Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks brought down the following Order, viz. - In Senate Feb. 14. 1783. Ordered, that William Sever, Eleazer Brooks & Nathl. Wells Esqrs, be a Committee on the part of the Senate with such as the Hon. House may join, to confer on the subject matter of the Bill intituled “an Act for appointing the times & places for holding the Supreme Judicial Court.”

Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr. Barrett of Boston Mr. Cranch & Major Goodman are joined on the part of the House.

A Petition from, Belinda, a Negro Servant of Col. Isaac Royal, an Absentee, praying to be supported in her old age. Read & committed to Col. Dawes, Mr. Cranch & Mr. Frazier.

A Bill intituled “an Act for granting a Lottery for rebuilding & making good the public bridges & causeways in the town of Lancaster” - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

The Committee on the petition of Isaac Hathaway reported verbally that the Petition have leave to withdraw his Petition - Accepted & leave given him to withdraw his petition accordingly.

A petition from a Committee for the town of Newbury relative to the right of Almsbury Ferry - Read & committed to Mr. Thurston, Mr. Dane and - a Committee on Mr. Tewksberry's Petition relative to the same matter.

The Hon. Senate sent down the report of the Committee on the Petition of Joseph Baker Esq, late Commissary. In Senate. Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of James Otis. In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the petition of the Town of Bowdoinham praying that fishing with seines might be prohibited in said Town - with the report of a Committee allowing a Bill to be brought in for the purpose. In Senate. Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of Charlemont reported an Order for Mr. Rice to notify the Proprietors of Green & Watkins land to shew cause, if any they have why the prayer of sd. Petition should not be granted. Read & accepted.

A Petition from Jonathan Wood praying for a grant of land for repairing a bridge over Deerfield River – Read & committed to Col. McClellan, Col. Moody & Mr. Wood.

A Petition from Caleb Fobes praying to be paid out of the estate of Jno. Chandler Esqr., an absentee, his damages in purchasing land of him which he did not own – Read & committed to Mr. Dunbar Mr. Wales & Dn. Hall.

The Committee on the petition of John Lynes reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A petition from Abiah Hill, Widow of Brian Hill, praying to sell his real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve on the petition of Aaron & Anna Buck. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also the report of the Committee on the proceedings of the committee appointed to receive the public effects from the Admr. of the late Treasurer, &c. -

In Senate, Read & sent down. Read & accepted, with amendments from A to F. Sent up for Concurrence.

 Saturday February 15. 1783.

The Secretary brought down a Message from His Excelly. the Governor & the Honble. Council, relative to this proceedings in ascertaining the Territories of this Commonwealth. - Read & Ordered that Col. Dawes, Mr. Dunbar & Col. Moody be a Committee to look up the several plans of public lands in the hands of the Court, & that the massage aforesaid lie on file.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of Murrayfield praying that the name of said town might be altered on account of its similitude to that of Merryfield. Read & Committee to Col. Robinson, Col. Smith & Col. Grow.

Then the House adjourned to Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

Monday February 17. 1783

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Ruggles Woodbridge reported by way of resolve. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down a Resolve of Senate empowering Dominicus Goodwin Esq. and Mr. William Frost Jr, a Committee to prevent trespasses on a Tract of Land in the County of York. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the report of the Committee on the Petition of the Committee of Correspondence &c., in the town of Framingham. In Senate. Read and accepted. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also a Petition from Eliza. Chamberlain & a Resolve thereon empowering the Committee for selling Absentees' estates in the County of Suffolk to execute a Deed to her of a House therein mentioned. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a Bill intituled "an Act for appointing a time & place for holding the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Suffolk." In Senate Feb. 15. 1783. This Bill having had two several readings passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence This Bill having had three several reading, passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Timothy Cheney. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Order that the Secry. lay before the House a list of the returns made by the several towns of the three years men raised by a Resolve of Dec 2nd 1780.

Ordered that the Treasurer lay before the House an account of monies received for fines laid upon the several towns for deficiencies in raising the three years men agreeable to a Resolve of Dec 2nd 1780., & of the Executions which have been issued from his office in consequence thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the proceedings on the Petition of Joseph Baker Esq. In Senate, Read & non-concurred & the Senate adhere to their own vote. Read again & the House re-consider their last vote & concur with the vote of the Hon. Senate.

A Bill entitled “an Act for the better regulating the affairs of the Treasury,” Read the first time and Tuesday 11 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Petition from Abijah Prescott praying that his title to a piece of Land set off to him by Execution might be confirmed, said Exeon. being lost. Read & committed to Mr. Dane, Mr. Bourn & Mr. Barrett of Concord.

A Bill intituled “an Act appointing a time & place for holding the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Suffolk” - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

The Committee on the Petition of Capt. John Baily reported by way of Resolve – Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of Paxton reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Murrayfield reported verbally, & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a bill agreeable to their Petition.

The Committee on the Petitions of Lt. Joseph Bulcom & Ivory Holland reported that said Petitions lie on file. Order to lie accordingly.

The Petition of Capt. Oliver Lyman was taken from the file & committed to Mr. Smead, Mr. Dwight and Major Goodman.

A Petition from Joseph Henderson & Jno. Carnes, Executers of Edwd Carnes, praying to be allowed to discharge a debt due to government in public securities. Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Capt. Noyes & Capt. Wales.

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of Buckland reported verbally that it be withdrawn. Order accordingly.

A Petition from Hannah Durant, wife of a Soldier, praying for the payment of his depreciation Note. Read & committed to Mr. Weld. Capt. Ball & Capt. Brewer.

A Petition from Jno. Gerry in behalf of the Ship Aryo, setting forth that said Ship was wrecked & only part of her cargo saved, & praying that it might be exempted from the Excise duties – Read & committed to Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Otis & Mr. Greenwood.

A Petition from Walter MacFarland a Captain, praying to receive the wages of one Solo. Walker, a Soldier who had deserted, to defray the charges of apprehending him; Read & committed to Col. Hutchinson. Mr. Metcalf and Mr. Dench.

A Petition from Lt. Col. James Minot setting forth that his wages had been paid to one Kimball, without his consent, & that said Kimball was dead & had left no estate, & therefore praying to receive the same from government – Read & committed to Col. Mc. Cobb, Mr. Peterson & Capt. Patch.

The committee appointed to consider the proper measures to be taken to receive the notes issued by Mr. Pickering the Qr. Master Genl. In payment of the Continental Tax, reported verbally that there were no expedient methods to be taken for that Purpose.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P.M.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Jonathan Cunningham, praying that a certain part of the estate of J. Murray Esq. might be

re-conveyed to him, he paying said Murray's debts agreeable to an agreement between them - Read & committed to Mr. Wilder, Mr. Goodhue & Mr. Davis.

A Petition from Robert Treat Paine Esq. Attorney General to the Commonwealth praying that the importance & labours of his Office might be inquired into, & a proper allowance established – Read & thereupon Ordered, that Mr. Goodhue & Mr. Frazier with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider said Memorial & report. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Barrett, Capt. Wales & Mr. Goodhue be a Committee to examine the Resolves of Congress & the General Court respecting Pensioners.

A Petition from Cadwallader Ford, Executor of Benja. Thompsons Will, praying leave to sell real estate – Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of land.

A Petition from the town of Yarmouth praying that the Execution for their Taxes might be stayed – And a Petition from the town of Harwich to the same effect – Read & committed to Mr. Davis & others on a similar Petition of the town of Eastham.

A Bill entitled “an Act for discontinuing the name of a town in the County of Hampshire, formerly incorporated by the name of Murrayfield, & calling the same – Read the first time & Tuesday 10 o'clock assigned to the second reading thereof.

The House reconsidered their last Order on the Petition of the town of Buckland & referred the same to the next session of the General Court.

The Committee on the sale of land reported on the Petition of Joseph & Saml. A. Otis by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent

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up for concurrence. They likewise reported on the Petitions of Dorothy Forward, Mary Robbins & Elisha Hallon in the same manner. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Gen. Prebble brought down the Petition of Saml. Moody and others & the following Order viz - In Senate Feb 17. 1783. Read again with the answer thereto & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. Sent down for concurrence. Read & committed to Col. Washbourn Mr. Dane & Mr. Dwight.

The Committee on the Petition of Walter MacFarland reported Order to notify Soloman Walker to shew cause &c. on the 27th Feb. inst. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on Sale of Land reported by way of Resolve on the Petition of Margaret Scott. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Phillips Williams & others, with another from Zechariah Bush & other from Gen. Cooley praying compensation for certain accoutrements lost in the public Service – Read & committed to Col. Clark, Capt. Maynard & Mr. Ellis. The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve on the Petitions of Ezra Rendall. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence Read & concurred.

The House took up the Resolve of Senate passed Nov. 12. 1782. on the Petition of Love Adams, & concurred therewith; 69 Members present.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts bought down a Resolve on the Petition of Saml. Cobb, agent on the estate of Wm. King, giving him have to reduce a Tankard & Cup, part of said estate, from the Treasury. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with amendments from A. to C. Sent up for concurrence. -

The Committee on the

Petition of Jro. Gery reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted & thereupon ordered that the Petition have [leave], to withdraw his Petition.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down the Resolve of the House on The Petition of Thomas Gould. In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A.C.& D. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Capt. Moses White in behalf of Gen. Hazens Regiment, reported by way of Resolve read & not accepted & thereupon Ordered that Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Then the House adjured to Tuesday Morning, 10 o'clock.

Tuesday, February 18. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

On a Petition from Nathan Cooledge an Order for John Bullard & his Wife to shew cause &c. on the 25th inst. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled "an Act for discontinuing a town in the County of Hampshire, formerly incorporated by the name of Murrayfield & Colling the Same -" Read the Second time & Wednesday 10 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

A Bill instituted an Act to regulate the Rivers and streams in the town of Kingston, in the County of Plimonth in which the Fish called Alewives usually pop up in the spring of the year to cast their Spawn. Read the first time & Wednesday next, 10'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Abijah Prescott reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

485. Tuesday February 18. 1783.

A Bill intituled “an Act for raising by lottery the sum of three thousand pounds for the purpose of building a Glass House, & promoting the manufacture of Crown & other glass in Boston. Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down the Petition of David Parker & the following Order thereon viz - In Senate, Feb. 18. 1783. Read again & thereupon Ordered that John Hastings Esq. with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this Petition and the answer thereto into consideration, hear the parties & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Major Goodman & Capt. Cushing are joined.

A Petition form the Selectman of Charlemont praying to be relieved in a fine for the deficiency of two men, to have been raised for the army. Read & committed to Mr. Hill Mr. Brown of Framingham and Mr. Chamberlain.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Hardwick reported a Resolve appointing Messrs. David Smead, Willis Hall & Noah Goodman Esqs, a Committee to repair to & view said town. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Prince West praying to be quieted in the possession of a piece of land mentioned. Read & committed to Major King. Gen. Fellows, & Major Goodman.

The Hon. Mr. Sever came down & said that the Senate were ready to proceed in the choice of Commissioners to meet such as might be appointed on the part of Several States to treat upon the subject matter of Import & Excise agreeable to the proposal of the House, in Consequence of

a Resolve passed for the appointing of such Commissioners. Mr. Goodhuc was charged with a Message to inform the Hon. Senate that the House were likewise ready. Whereupon the two Houses assembled together in one room and appointed Mr. Turner, Mr. Otis & Mr. Dawes a Committee to collect count & sort the votes, who attended that service & reported that the whole number of votes were 91. The Hon Samuel Adams Esq. & George Cabot Esq were chosen, the former having 54 & the latter 52 votes, & there was no choice of a third person. Whereupon the House proceeded in the same manner to the choice of a third Gentleman, & the Hon. Artemas Ward Esq had 79 votes out of 108 & was chosen.

The two Houses then separated.

A Petition from the Field Officers & others of the 4th Regt. In the County of Lincoln, praying to be reinforced with some Continental Troops, read & ordered to lie. The Secry, came down with the following Message from His Excelly. the Governor viz. - "Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of House of Representatives, - Yesterday Afternoon the Secretary laid before me a Bill which had passed the two Branches of the General Court, appointing a time & place for holding the Supreme Judicial Court in the County of Suffolk. The Bill determines that the said court shall be held at Boston on the third Tuesday of February instant, being this day, & confines the sd. Court to only one Session in the year; at least no further provision is made by the Bill. I confess myself at a loss for the reasons that operated to induce the passing of the Bill, & wish to be ascertained of the necessity of the Bill, which I flatter myself the General Court will indulge me with when I will immediately Sign the Bill - John Hancock."

Council Chamber

Read & thereupon Ordered that Gen. Ward & Mr. Lowell with Such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider this Message & report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Joseph Lee reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition on the Noah Ripley reported by way or Resolve. Read & not accepted & thereupon ordered that the Petition have leave to withdraw his Petition.

The Committee on the Petition of Noah Church reported by way of Resolve, excusing the town of New Marlborough from their fine for not sending a Representative. Read & accepted & delivered to the Committee on the Tax Bill.

The Committee on Sale of Land reported Resolves on the Petitions of Hannah Hill & Peggy Loomis. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Petition of Timothy Danforth & the Resolve of the House thereon. In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from the Selectmen of Arundel praying to be exempted from the fine for not raising their five months men. Read & committed to the Committee on similar Petitions from the County of York.

A Petition from George Fecham setting forth that he was distressed in his affairs, being greatly in debt, and liable to be thrown into Goal though he was possessed of government securities to a considerable amount and praying relief – Read & committed to Capt Snow Dr. Smead & Capt. Smith.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot bought down the report of the Committee on the Governors last Message being an answer thereto, as follows - viz: -

488. Tuesday February 18th 1783.

"May it please your Excellency -

The two Branches of the General Court, taking into consideration your Excellency's Message of this day, are very sorry that so important a matter as the sitting of the Supreme Judicial Court for the County of Suffolk should at this time depend upon the Legislature's entering into an explanation, which they apprehend they cannot do in the way proposed by your Excellency, without a deviation from the method which the Constitution points out for passing Acts, especially as the necessity of this Bill appears so evident, that they think information thereof might have been easily procured in another mode."

In Senate Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & thereupon Ordered that Mr. Lowell Gen. Ward & Mr. Dwight with such as the Hon. Senate may join, be a Committee to deliver said Message. Sent up for concurrence. Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock. P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The House reconsidered their vote for referring the Petition from the town of Buckland & committed the Same to Major Goodman Dr. Hall & Col. May.

The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down the Bill for the encouraging the Killing of Wolves. In Senate, Feb 18th 1783. Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendments at A. C. D. E. & F. -

Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down a Bill intituled "an Act for granting a Lottery for

rebuilding the North Mills in the town of Boston, which were lately consumed by Fire. "In Senate Feb. 18, 1783. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for Concurrence.

The Secretary bought down the following Message from His Excelly. the Governor - viz -

Gentlemen of Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

I am exceedingly sorry that a Bill upon so important a matter as the sitting of the Supreme Judicial Court for the County of Suffolk should be postponed (if an Act was necessary) to the very day before the time determined in the Bill for the sitting of the Said Supreme Judicial Court was to take place, & upon the necessity of which Bill passing I had sent a decent message to the two Branches of the General Court requesting to be informed of the principles upon which the Bill was founded, for I was at a loss to know how to act without that information; & considering it of importance that the Said Court should sit, I was perfectly disposed to sign the Bill after I could receive the desired information; 'tho it had not been before me twenty four hours when the constitution allows me five days for the consideration of all Bills & Resolves; notwithstanding which I find by your Message just now received that there is a diversity of sentiment upon the mode of obtaining information. I feel myself disposed at present to avoid altercation; & in the present instance (as the community at large is interested) I will wave my right but by no means to be bought into precedent. For I

do not consider myself accountable even if the Supreme Judicial Court should not sit, for any consequences, & shall refer any observations for the present rather than the public should suffer injury. I will sign the Bill but must take leave to say that in future important concerns that I may act with understanding I must avail myself of the principles of the Constitution. Council Chamber John Hancock

Boston Feb 18th 1783.

The Bill entitled "an Act for the better regulation of the affairs of the Treasury "was taken up for the second reading & having been read through, it was moved that it should be taken up in paragraphs, which upon the question being put passed in the negative; a Motion was then made for a reconsideration of the said vote which also passed in the negative, ninety four members present. It was then moved that the consideration of said Bill should be referred to the second Wednesday of the next session of the General Court & it was ordered to be referred accordingly, eighty eight members present.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday Morning 10 o'clock.

Wednesday February 19th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition of Wm. Davenport, praying the interference of of the Court in an action at common law mentioned – Read & committed to Col Hutchinson, Col Smith & Mr. Peterson.

A Petition from Gilbert Dench praying to receive £ 300 – of the Treasure, for the purpose of enabling him to transport public Stores, to be repaid in the Continental Tax – Read & committed to Capt. Wales, Mr. Chamberlain & Brigadier Mr. Cobb.

491. Wednesday February 19th 1783.

The Bill in addition to the Act laying certain duties of Excise on certain articles taken up, & after debate committed to Mr. Goodhue, Mr. Tracy, Mr. Cranch, Capt. Dench & Cal. Smith.

Ordered that a chain be set for the Hon. John Tyng Esq when that Gentlemen shall please to attend the debates of the House.

A Bill instituted "an Act for discontinuing the name of a town in the County of Hampshire, formerly incorporated by the name of Murrayfield, & calling the same Chester – Read the third time & passed to be engrossed – Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled "an Act to regulate the rivers & streams in the town or Kingston, in County of Plimouth, in which the Fish called Alewives usually pass up in the Spring of the year to cash their spawn - Read the second time & Thursday 11 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof - And sad Bill was recommitted for the purpose of altering the title & other amendments.

The Committee on the Petition of Jonathan Cunningham reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the proceedings of the Committee directed to prosecute public Defaulters. - In Senate, Read & not accepted & Therefore Ordered that this report he recommitted & also that the report of the Committee who were appointed to sue persons who have received public money or property & not accounted for the same be committed to sd. Committee who are directed to consider & report some method to expedite the recovery of debts due to the Commonwealth. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a Petition from Capt Caleb Champney, with a Resolve directing the Treasurer to pay him the wages of certain men borne on the Rolls of his Company. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & non concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Gustavus Fellows & Benja. Cobb reported a Resolve directing the late State Agent to pay them £ 264:17/1d. out of the proceeds of the Slip Tartar. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Memorial from the Members of the Boston Marine Society praying that a light house might be ereted & a System of Pilotage established in the Harbor of said town. Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Mr. Tracy, & Mr. Goodhue.

A Petition from Thomas Bulfinch & others, proprietors of a Tract of land bordering on Charlemont, in answer to one from the Inhabitants of that place praying to be incorporated - Read & thereupon Ordered that Mr. Smead Mr. Longfellow & Mr. Moody, with such as the Hon. Senate may Join be a Committee to consider this Memorial & report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Belinda, a Negro Woman, reported a Resolve for allowing her fifteen pounds 12/- per annum out of Isaac Royalls estate. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the town for Dracut praying to be excused from a fine for not raising their three months men - they having, in fact complied with said Resolve - Read & committed to the Committee on the Tax Bill.

493. Wednesday February 19th 1783.

The Committee on the Petition of Elisha Porter Esquire Sheriff of the County of Hampshire reported a Resolve allowing him twenty six pounds 3/6d & in full of his account exhibited. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act for granting a Lottery for rebuilding the North Mills in Boston, which were lately consumed by fire." Read the first time & Thursday 11 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Gilbert Dench reported a Resolve granting the prayer thereof - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

On representation that the Plantation called Pearsontown in the County of Cumberland, neglected to apply to be incorporated, only to avoid paying taxes, they being qualified therefor - Resolved that Mr. Stephen Longfellow Jr. notify the Inhabitants of said Plantation to shem cause & c. on the first Wednesday of next June, why they should not be incorporated into a town. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Samuel Noyes, praying to be allowed to purchase a piece of land, part of the estate of Francis Waldo Esq. an Absentee, at a certain price agreeable to an agreement between them - Read & committed to Mr. Spooner, Mr. Guild & Col. Clarke.

Ordered that the Secry. lay before the House the Resolve appointing a Committee to pass upon the accounts against the Commonwealth. The Secretary came down & informed the House that <u>that</u> Resolve was yet before his Excelly.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather bought down a Representation from Mr. Thomas Wally respecting the State of the accounts the Army. In Senate. Feb. 19th 1783. Read & thereupon

Ordered, that this representation be committed to the Committee appointed to inquire into the proceedings of the Committee, who have been directed to prosecute public defaulters. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Ezra Badlam late Muster Master praying to be reimbursed certain monies expended by him in that capacity - Read & committed to Mr. Newell, Mr. Robbins & Col. Hutchinson.

A Petition from Meshock Penniman & Wife Guardian of Lemuel & John Develle, Minors, praying leave to sell their real estate. - Read & committed to the Committee on Sale of Land.

A Petition from Won. Stevens Capt. In the 2nd & Regt of Artillery, praying that the principal or interested of his public securities might be paid - Read & committed to Capt. Guild, Mr. Pier & Mr. Burdick.

The Committee on the Petition of Robert Hunter and his accounts reported verbally that the same lie for the present. Order to lie accordingly.

A Petition from the town of Windham praying to be relieved in their Taxes - Read & committed to Mr. Bartlett, Col. Prescott & Major Farmer.

A Petition from Samuel Tufts & Sundry other Continental Soldiers, praying for their wages - Read and leave given them to withdraw their Petition.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o' clock, P. M.

Afternoon. Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Mr. Brown of Abington, Mr. Snow & Mr. Fisher be a Committee to consider of the state of the taxes for beef & report. A Petition from Nathan Cook, a wounded Soldier praying for an allowance. Read & committed to Mr. Fisher, Mr. Ayers & Mr. Ellis.

A Petition from Joseph Douse praying that the effects of Katherine Johnson, decd, a pauper, might be put into his hands, he having contributed to her support - Read & committed to Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Bartlett & Mr. Whiting of Northfield.

The Petition of certain Inhabitants of North & South Hampton with the papers accompanying the same - Read & committed to Mr. Robbins, Mr. Smead & Mr. Spooner with such as Hon. Senate may join. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Proprietors of the Town of Townshend reported by way of Resolve - Read & Ordered that said Petition be on file.

A Petition from Nathan Morrill & others praying to purchase a gore of unappropriated land, (lying) on the westerly side of Saco River - Read & committed to Jedediah Prebble & others a Committee to ascertain the public lands in the Eastern Counties &c. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down a written report of the Attorney General respecting his doings on the allegations of James Sullivan Esq. against John Temple Esq. referred to him by the General Court. In Senate Feb. 19th 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that William Sever & John Bacon Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this representation under consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon.

Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred & Gen. Ward Mr. Dane & Mr. Frazier are joined.

 Wednesday February 19th 1783.

A Bill intituled “an Act in addition to the several Acts already made for the prudent storage of Gun-Powder within the town of Boston” - Read the first time & Thursday 4 o'clock P. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Petition from the town of Wenham praying to be exempted from a fine for not raising three men for the Army - Read & committed to Col. Clark, Mr. Goodhue & Capt. Smith.

The Secretary laid before the House a return of men raised by several towns, agreeable to a Resolve of Dec. 2nd 1780 according to the Order for that Purpose.

A petition from Achsah Ludden, Admrx. On the estate of Levi Ludden, praying to sell his real estate - Read & committed to the Committee on Sale of Land. Then the House adjourned to Thursday morning 10 o'clock.

Thursday, February 20. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill entitled “an Act for erecting a District in the County of Middlesex by the name of Boxborough” - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Petition from John Reed & Nathl. Jarvis Manufacturers of Loaf Sugar, praying that a duty might be laid on imported powdered white Sugar - Read & committed to Mr. Goodhue & others, a Committee on the Excise Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House on the petition of Belinda, a Negro Woman - In Senate, read & concurred with amendments of A & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also, the report of the Committee on the Governor's Message of the 7th inst. - In Senate, Read & accepted with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Dane bring in a Bill for incorporating the Plantation N. Y. & Hatfield equivalent into a Town.

Ordered that Mr. Dunbar, Mr. Ball & Mr. Davis of Charleton be a Committee to examine into the sale of the public lands at Oxford with respect to the taxes & report.

Ordered, that Major Goodman, Mr. Perce & Col. Lothrop be a Committee to bring in a Bill for incorporating the Plantation called Ashwalet equivalent.

Gen. Bridge brought down the Bill for carrying into execution an ordinance of Congress for establishing Courts for the trial of felonies & piracies committed on the high seas - In Senate, Feb. 20th 1783. Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed, with the amendments at A. B. C. & D. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Tax Bill reported a draft agreeable to the principles offered by the Joint Committee. Whereupon it was voted to reconsider the vote for accepting said principles (102 Members.) The House proceeded next to consider said principles & after long debate adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

498. Thursday February 20th 1783. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down a letter from the Hon. S. Holten Esq, dated Phila. Feb. 5th 1783. In Senate Read & Sent down - Read & Sent up.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down a Memorial from the Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts praying some person might be appointed to draw out accounts from the books of the Board of War. In Senate, Feb. 20th 1783. Read & thereupon ordered that the Memorial be committed to the Committee appointed to inquire into the proceedings of the Committee who have been directed to prosecute public Defaulters. Sent down for concurrence. Read and Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the report of the Committee on the Memorial of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the town of Boston, respecting the Act passed in the last Session for the more effectual observation of the Lord's day being an opinion that it is proper the Memorialists should have leave to withdraw their Memorial. In Senate Feb. 20th 1783. Read & not accepted & thereupon Ordered that William Sever & John Bacon Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to revise the Act for the due observation of the Lord's Day & report such alterations & amendments as they shall think necessary.

Sent down for Concurrence - Read Non-concurred.

499. Thursday February 20th 1783.

The House proceeded to consider the report of the Committee containing the principles of the fines & average cost for raising men for the Army, in order to found a Tax Bill upon. Whereupon, after debate the following question was put - viz - "Whether it is or is not, the meaning of the Resolves for raising the three years men, that the Towns delinquent should have credit for the average price of said men"?. - which passed in the negative, 97 Members present. - A Motion was then made for a reconsideration of said vote which likewise passed in the negative, 103 Members present. - A Motion was then made that the credit of the average price should be given according to the whole amount of the men actually raised & marched, & not according to the number of men mentioned in the Schedule of the Resolve of Dec. 2nd 1780., which passed in the affirmative, 95 Members present.

The House then postponed the further consideration of said Report to the morning.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down a Petition from Eliza. Weldridge with a Resolve of Senate directing the Committee for selling Absentee's Estates in the County of Cumberland, to stay the selling of the estate therein mentioned.

Sent down concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

 Thursday February 20th 1783.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Benja. Lincoln Esq & others. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A. C. & E. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent up for concurrence.

Also the report of the Committee on the Petition of David Parker. In Senate Read & accepted & Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a letter from Samuel Henly Esq accepting of his election as Excise Collector for the County of Middlesex. In Senate, read & sent down. Read & sent up. Then the House adjourned to Friday Morning 10 o'clock.

Friday February 21st 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Naomi Plat. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down a remonstrance from the town of Needham with a Resolve of Senate thereon abating 11th on the thousand pounds on the valuation of said town, & placing the same as follows, viz - 4th on Medfield 9th on Weymouth, 3rd on Foxborough & 2nd on Milton. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

501. Friday February 21st 1783.

The House proceeded to consider the report of the Committee on the principles of the fines & average cost of raising the men for the Army, & after several amendments committed the same to the Committee on the Tax Bill, to bring in a clause to provide against the fines of the delinquent towns falling on such classes in said towns as have complied with the requisitions for men.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down a letter of resignation from William Drew Esq, as collector of Excise for the County of Plimouth. Read & sent down. Read & sent up, & the House assigned Tuesday 11 o'clock for choosing a Collector in his room.

The following question was made by Mr. Dwight, viz. "Whether it is the sense of this House that it is according to the letter of the Resolves for raising the three years men for the Army, that those towns who did not make returns of the number of men by them actually raised on or before the first of March 1781., shall be entitled to the benefit of the average price?" A previous motion was then made viz. - whether the said question should be determined by the House which passed in the negative (96 Members present.) - Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill intituled "an Act for discontinuing the name of a town in the County of Hampshire, formerly incorporated by the name of Murrayfield, and calling the same Chester." - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.
A Bill intituled "an Act for encouraging the killing of Wolves" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

502. Friday February 21st 1783.

A letter form G. Turner, Com. Mar. Prisrs. U. S., to Major Hopkins respecting the exchange of Prisoners. Read & committed to Mr. Goodhue, Gen. Ward & Mr. Bartlett. On the letter from the Hon. Samuel Holten Esq a Resolve granting him the sum of ninety Pounds in full for his services at Congress - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Memorial of S. Henshaw Esq Collectors of Excise for Suffolk County, and the additional Excise Act, reported verbally that the same be referred to the next Session of the General Court. Ordered that the same be referred accordingly.

The Secretary came down with the following Message from His Excelly. the Governor viz. - "Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives -

I have directed the Secretary to lay before you a letter which I have Just received from Gen. Lincoln, dated at Springfield respecting the Guard stationed at that place. I refer the subject matter to your consideration, & shall be ready to concur with you in every measure tending to lessen the expenses of the Commonwealth.
Council Chamber Boston Feb. 21st 1783.

John Hancock

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down a copy of said Message. In Senate, Feb. 21st 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that Jona. Warner Esq with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this Message together with the letter accompanying the same into consideration & make report what may be proper to be done thereon. Read & concurred, & Mr. Church of Springfield and Gen. Ward are joined.

503. Friday February 21st 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks brought down a Resolve of Senate for discharging the Committee for prosecuting publick Defaulters. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down an Order of Senate directing the Secretary to notify the Hon. S. Adams Esq & others, of their being chosen Delegates to confer on the subject matter of Impost & Excise and request their answers. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Resolve directing the Conrg. General to sell the public powder at Salem, Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Resolve of the House on the accounts of Messrs. Warner & Ashley - In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The House then adjourned to Saturday, 10 o'clock in the Morning.

Saturday February 22nd 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the vote of House on the report of the Joint Committee on the principles of the fines & Counties for raising men for the Army. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at C. & non-concurred with the amendments at A.X.Y.D. & E. Sent down. Read & ordered that Gen. Ward, Mr. Goodhue Col. Washbourn, Col. Goodman & Mr. Dunbar be a Committee on the part of the House to confer with such Committee as the Hon. Senate may appoint on

the subject of said report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Act for discontinuing the name of the town of Stoughtonham, & calling the same Sharon. In Senate Feb. 21st 1783 - Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed, with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down a Bill for erecting a town in the County of Middlesex by the name of Boxborough, proposing three several amendments therein, & that it said amendments were agreed to the said Bill should be engrossed again. The House agreed to the same, & Mr. Bartlett was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them thereof.

Also the Bill for annexing Naoh Wizzle &c. to the town of Fitchburg. In Senate Feb. 21st 1783. Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the report of the Committee on the Memorial of the Overseers of the University at Cambridge given them leave to bring in a Bill to remedy the evil therein mentioned. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Dorothy Forward - In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A.

Sent down for concurrence.

505. Saturday February 22nd 1783.

A Resolve on the Petition of Lt. Col. Ezra Badlam directing the Treasurer to pay his depreciation Note out of the next State Tax. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled an Act for the purpose of securing to authors the exclusive right & benefit of publishing their Literary productions for the term of twenty-one years - Read the first Time & Monday next, 10 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the report of the Committee on the Memorial from the Inhabitants of the town of Boston, & an Order of Senate appointing Wm. Sever Jno. Pitts & Caleb Davis Esqrs., a Committee on the part of the Senate to confer with such Committee as the House may appoint on the subject matter thereof. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & Concurred & Gen. Ward, Mr. Longfellow & Mr. Smead are appointed on the part of the House.

A Petition from Redman Spur & others, praying that an agreement between their Mother Mary Spur, decd, in her life-time, & the said Redman might be executed by her Admr. Read & committed to Mr. Dane Mr. Dwight & Capt. Frye.

The Committee on the Petition of William Davenport & Gilbert McIntire, reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petitions. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A Bill intituled an Act for granting a Lottery for rebuilding the North Mills in the town of Boston, which were lately consumed by fire - Read the second time & Tuesday 10 o'clock assigned for the third reading of the same.

506. Saturday February 22nd 1783.

A Bill intituled an Act for erecting part of the town of Bernardston into a new town by the name of - Read the first time & Monday 11 o'clock A. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Petition from Samuel Freeman, Clerk of the Sessions in Cumberland, praying to be regularly supplied with the public News - Papers. Read & committed to Capt. Noyes Col. Prescott & Dr. Hall.

The Committee on the Sale of Land reported by way of Resolve on the Petitions of Wm. Gray, Timothy Smith & Abiah Hall. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Charles Bruce praying to be licenced as an Inn - Holden. Read & committed to Capt. Upham Mr. Ball & Capt. Peterson.

A Petition from Daniel Gilbert, praying to make sale of Real Estate - Read & committed to the Committee on the Sale of Land.

A Petition from Thomas Nicon & John Eames praying that they might be allowed to go to New York by land - Read & Committed to Dr. Brown of F. Mr. Jenckes & Mr. Davis.

A Petition from Mary Hubbard & others praying to sell certain lands mentioned - Read & committed to the Committee of Sale of Land.

A Petition from the town of Westfield praying for a Lottery for the purpose of repairing the Bridges in Sd. town. Read & committed to Mr. Church, Mr. Dwight & Mr. Smead.

A Bill intituled an Act in addition to the several Acts already made for the prudent Storage of Gun-Powder, within the town of Boston - Read the second time & Tuesday 11 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

507. Saturday February 22nd 1783.

A Resolve lengthning the time for presenting receipts upon the Constables to the Treasurer for payment, according to a Resolve of Nov. 2nd 1782., to the first day of June next. Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the Sale of Land reported verbally that Samuel Munn have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A Petition from Nehemiah Holden in behalf of the Heirs of John Holden, praying the confirmation of a grant mentioned. Read & committed to Dr. Manning Col. Prescott & Col Orr.

The Committee on the Petition of George Fechem reported verbally that he have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

Then the House adjourned to 10 o'clock Monday morning.

Monday, February, 24th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of Andrew Brown and others reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A Petition from James Witherell, Collector of Taxes in the town of Lebanon, setting forth the difficulty of collecting Taxes in the Plantation of Shapleigh Town adjoining thereto. Read & committed to Mr. Rice & others.

The Committee on the several Petitions from the towns of Eastham, Harwich & Yarmouth, reported a Resolve directing the Treasurer to recall & stay his Exeons. against said towns for two thirds of their Taxes, untill further Order of Court. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

508. Monday February 24th 1783.

A Petition from Arm Deblois praying to be discharged from paying £170. to the Committee for selling Absentees' estates in the County of Suffolk. Read & committed to Capt. Wales Col. Washbourn & Mr. Bartlett.

A Petition from Thomas Francis praying to be licenced to sell spirituous liquors. Read & committed to Col. Prescott Mr. Evens & Mr. Barrett of Concord.

A similar Petition from Wm. Whittemore, read and committed to the same Committee.

Another Petition from the same person as Guardian to Wm Cutter praying to sell his real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

A Bill intituled "an Act for erecting part of the town of Bernardston into a town by the name of Cyprus" - Read the second time & Tuesday 12 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

A Petition from James Bowdoin James Bowdoin Jr. & John Read praying permission to go to the enemy for the purpose of receiving pay for a quantity of live stock taken by them from the Island of Naushon - Read & committed to Mr. Tracy, Mr. Dwight & Capt. Wales.

The Hon. Mr. Woods brought down a letter from Samuel Freeman Esq to the Governor, respecting the State of the Eastern Country - In Senate Feb. 24th 1783. - Read and committed to Jedediah Prebble Esq with such as the Hon. House may join. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred, & Capt. Noyes & Col. Grow are joined

509. Monday February 24th 1783.

Also the report of the Committee on the Governor's Message relative to the expences of the French Officers in Boston. In Senate, Read & not accepted & thereupon Ordered that said accounts be returned to the Select Men, that instead thereof other accounts may be exhibited, expressing the names of the officers accommodated their rank, the number of their Servants &c. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with amendments at A. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Mr. Goodhue. Mr. Dane, Col. Goodman Capt. Wales & Dr. Manning with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to take up the subject matter of the three years, five & three months men, & make report of the best & most expeditious way to do Justice to the Towns & other places who have raised more than their proportion, and for assessing those who have not complied with the different Resolves of the Court. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Bill intituled an Act for discontinuing the name of a town in the County of Suffolk incorporated by the name of Stoughtonham & calling the same Sharon; This engrossed Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

510. Monday February 24th 1783.

The Committee on the Petitions of William Whittemore & Thomas Francis, reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petitions. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A Bill intituled an Act for erecting a District in the County of Middlesex by the name of Boxborough - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Petition from the town of Roxbury praying to be lowered in their valuation. Read & committed to Mr. Dwight, Dr. Hall & Mr. Evens.

Gen. Prebble brought down the state of facts of Jas. Sullivan Esq against John Temple Esq. with an Order of Senate referring the same to the Joint Committee appointed the 19th inst. on the representation of the Atty. Gen. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition form John Baily a Soldier praying for the payment of his depreciation notes. Read & committed to Col. Thomas, Capt. Spear, Col. McClellan.

The Committee on the Petition of James Witherel reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Petition from Simon Stow, Agent upon the estate of Henry Barnes, on Absentee, praying the direction of the Court, respecting the Maintainance of a Negro woman late the servant of said Barnes; Read & committed to Mr. Metcalf, Col. Thorndike & Mr. Hall of Medford.

Then the House adjourned to Tuesday Morning 9 o'clock

511. Tuesday Feb. 25th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Bridge brought down the Bill intituled "an Act for setting off David Parker from the District of Carlisle, & annexing him to the town of Chelmsford - In Senate, Feb. 24th 1783. This Bill having had two several readings passed to be engrossed. Sent down for Concurrence. Read the first time & Tuesday 10 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

A Representation form the Court of Sessions for the County of Essex, containing an estimate of the sums necessary to be assessed on said County for the ensuing year. Read & committed to Mr. Bartlett, Col. Dawes and Col. Thorndike.

A Petition from William Baker, Messenger to the General Court praying for an allowance for his last six Months services. Read & committed to Col. Dawes, Mr. Barrett of C. & Mr. Bartlett.

An Act in addition to the several Acts already made for the prudent storage of Gun Powder within the town of Boston. Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Benjamin Kimball & others, Proprietors of a Township granted to Benja. Milliken, setting forth that their records had been destroyed by fire, & praying a confirmation of their grants &c. - Read & Ordered to be committed to Capt. Holt and Mr. Frye with such as the Hon. Senate may join. Sent up for concurrence.

512. Tuesday February 25th 1783.

A Bill entitled an Act for carrying into execution an Ordinance of Congress for establishing Courts for the trial of Felonies & Piracies committed on the high seas - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Bill intituled an Act for granting a Lottery for rebuilding the North Mills in the town of Boston which were lately consumed by fire. Read the third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

The House proceeded to the choice of a Collector of Excise for the County of Plimouth in the room of William Drew Esq by ballot & having appointed a Committee to collect count & sort the votes they reported that Jeremiah Hall, Esq had 66 votes & was unanimously chosen. Sent up for concurrence.

The House assigned 4 o'clock this afternoon to chuse a Committee to pass upon accounts against the Commonwealth, agreeable to the Resolve for that purpose.
The Committee on the Petition of Charles Bruce reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of William Baker reported a Resolve allowing him One Hundred pounds in full for his last six months services. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Simeon Stow reported a Resolve allowing him thirty pounds as Agent on the estate mentioned, he to be accountable - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

513. Tuesday February 25th 1783.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to receive Muster Master's receipts for men in discharge of Exeons. issued for the deficiences of them. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the town of Waldoborough & one from the town of Bristol setting forth the exposed situations of said towns as to the enemy - Read & committed to Dr. Manning & others a Committee on similar Petitions.

Gen. Warner brought down the report of the Committee on the representation of Thomas Walley of the 19th inst. In Senate. Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Gen. Prebble brought down a letter from the Delegates at Congress to the Governor dated the 11th inst., on the subject of old emission money - and the following Order of Senate viz. - Read & thereupon Ordered that George Cabot Esq with such as the Hon. Senate [House?] may join be a Committee to consider this letter & report what measures may be proper to be taken thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Gen. Ward & Mr. Otis are joined.

Voted that Abijah Upham & Nathl. Fisher be Guardians of the Punkapog tribe of Indians, in the room of Capt Gill & Capt. Bent who have refused that trust. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Gen. Prebble brought down a Petition from the Judges of the Supreme Judicial Court praying to receive notes upon interest from the Treasury for the

depreciation of their Salaries, &c., and the following Order of Senate thereon viz - In Senate Feb. 25th 1783. Read and revived & ordered that William Sever Esq, with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this Memorial into consideration & report what is proper to be done there on. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Col Dawes & Mr Bartlett are joined.

A Bill intituled "an Act for erecting part of the town of Bernardston into a town by the name of Cyprus" - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled "an Act for the purpose of securing to authors the exclusive right & benefit of publishing their Literary productions for the term of twenty one years". Read the second time & Wednesday 11 o'clock assigned for the second (3rd?) reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Joseph Dowse reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

The House proceeded to the choice of three gentlemen as a Committee on the part of the House to pass upon the accounts of those who have demands against the Commonwealth by ballot. Col. Dawes, Col. Faulkner & Col Washbourn were chose a Committee to collect count & sort the votes, who attended that service & reported that the whole number of votes were 81. & that Seth Washburn Esq. Mr. Miles Greenwood & Joseph Noyes Esq. were unanimously chosen. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition from the Town of Westfield reported that the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for the purpose prayed for. Leave to bring in a Bill accordingly.

515. Tuesday February 25th 1783.

The Committee on the Petition of Noah Ripley reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down the Resolve dismissing the old & appointing new Guardians to the Punkapog tribe of Indians. In Senate Feb. 25th 1783. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down an order for the secretary to notify Jeremiah Hall Esq & Mr. James Lunt of their being chosen Collectors of Excise for the Counties of Plimouth & Cumberland. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday morning 10 o'clock.

Wednesday February 26th 1783.

Met according to adjournment

A Resolve granting to Samuel Howard seventeen pounds 14/6d in full for bringing up certain Indians from the Eastward & supporting them - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill entitled "an Act for annexing Noah Wizzle with his lands, within a certain gore of land lying between the towns of Fitchbourg, Leominster & Westminster in the County of Worcester, unto the town of Fitchbourg". - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Bill intituled "an Act for granting a Lottery for for rebuilding the North Mills in the town of Boston which were lately consumed by fire" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

516. Wednesday February 26th 1783.

The Committee on the Petition of Ezra Putnam reported an Order for him to notify the town of Middletown to shew cause &c. the 2nd Wednesday of next Session. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve explaining a Resolve passed the 14th inst. relative to the drawing of Warrants on the Treasury. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the proceedings of the House in their choice of Collectors of Excise - In Senate, Feb. 25th 1783, Read & concurred excepting at A. & B. viz. - at A. dele William Taylor, & insert Joseph Nye Esq - at B. dele William Drew Esq. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Bill for incorporating a Committee of the Congregational Society in the Town of Norton, &c. In Senate, Feb. 25th 1783. Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Nathan Davis reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Bartlett, Mr Dane & Col. Smith with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider the Petition of Aaron Clap & others with the answer to the same hear the parties & report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition from the town of Windham reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition - Order to withdraw accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of Sarah Henshaw made a similar report & a similar order thereon passed accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Lemuel Kollock with an amendment of the Senate thereon at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Nathan Coolidge - In Senate Feb. 26th 1783. Read & non-concurred & Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down a Resolve of Senate directing the Treasurer to pay three months wages for the year 1780, to the discharged Officers & endorse the same on one of their notes. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Wells brought down the report of the Committee appointed the 24th inst. to take up the matter of the three years, three & five months [men] & to make report of the best & most expeditious way of doing Justice to the several towns &c., who have raised more than their proportion &c. In Senate Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read and committed to Mr. Dane, Capt Noyes, Mr Dunbar, Col. Washbourn & Capt. Bancroft.

518. Wednesday February 26th 1783. P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down an Order of Senate, appointing Ebenr. Bridge Esq, with such as the Hon. House may join, a Committee to inquire what steps William Burgess has taken in consequence of the indulgence granted him in the Resolve of the 8th Nov. last. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Gen. Ward & Capt. Wales are joined.

A Bill intituled "an Act for repealing an Act for granting to the United States in Congress assembled, a permanent revenue for the purpose of discharging the debts, which have arisen or may arise in prosecuting the present War with Great Britain" - Read the first time & next Thursday week, 3 o'clock P. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Bill intituled an Act for setting off David Parker from the District of Carlisle & annexing him to the Town of Chelmsford" - Read the second time & Thursday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.

The House assigned Thursday morning 10 o'clock for hearing the appraisers of certain vessells lost at Penobscott agreeable to an order passed the last Session.
The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Ezra Putnam. In Senate Read & non-concurred, & the Petitioner has leave to withdraw his petition. Sent down for concurrence. Read and non-concurred & the House adhere to their own vote.

A Bill intituled "an Act for the purpose of securing to authors the exclusive right & benefit of publishing their Literary productions for the term of twenty one years. Read the 3rd time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

519. Wednesday February 26th 1783.

A Bill intituled "an Act to prevent the destruction of the Fish called alewives in their passage up the Rivers & Streams in the town of Kingston" - Read again & Thursday 11 o'clock assigned for a third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the report of the Committee on the representation of the Atty. General relative to Mr. Temples affairs being a Resolve directing him to lay the allegations of Mr. Sullivan against Mr. Temple before the Grand Jury for the County of Suffolk. In Senate, Read & not accepted, & thereupon Ordered that the Governor with advice of Council be requested to take proper measures that it may speedily be determined, whether it be consistent with the public safety to permit John Temple Esq, to remain any longer time within this Commonwealth. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred. 42-78.

A Bill intituled "an Act in addition to an Act passed the eighth day of November 1782, laying an Excise on certain articles therein mentioned" - Read the third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendments at A. E. C. & D. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Resolve of Senate for paying the gratuity to such of the Army as have not received the same, made report; whereupon the House concurred with said Resolve, with an amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the report of the Committee appointed to examine the conduct of Zebadee Sprout. In Senate, March 5th 1783 ?

Note. Pages 519 & 520., although occupying this place in the Original, bear internal evidence of having been bound in the wrong place. They are evidently a part of the Afternoons proceedings of March 5th 1783, & should have followed page 540, & hear numbered 541-542. - A Similar Mistake will be found noted at pages 251. 252.

W. E. P. Haskell

Boston, Sep. 18th 1853.

Read & thereupon Ordered that this report with the with the Petition of Zebadee Sprout & the papers accompanying the same, be recommitted for consideration & the Committee to report what is proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Benjamin Tupper praying that certain monies of the old emission might be received of him at the Treasury - Read & committed to Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Ely & Col. Hutchinson.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down a Bill intituled on "an Act in addition to & per altering & amending an Act, intituled an Act for forming & regulating the Militia within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, & for repealing all laws heretofore made for that purpose. In Senate Mar. 5th. 1783. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. Read the first, & Thursday 3 o'clock P. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Jonathan Edey reported a Resolve for discharging him from the bonds therein mentioned. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve granting a Tax of Seven hundred & twenty pounds upon the County of Essex. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Mary Bartlett, Admrx. upon the estate of Abraham Bartlett, praying for leave to sell real Estate. Read & Committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

A Petition from Francis Shurtliff in behalf of the town of Plympton, praying to be empowered to tax certain persons for the support of a Minister. Read & committed to Mr Hovey, Mr Robbins & Capt. Upham.

521. Wednesday February 26th 1783.

A Petition from Jabez Fisher & Benja. White a Committee to concur & pass accounts, setting forth the perplexed state of their accounts, & praying such order thereon as might do Justice between them & the public. Read & committed to Mr. Metcalf & Mr Cranch, with such as the Hon. Senate might Join. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from May Nick, Admrx. on Richard Nick's Estate, praying to sell the same. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

A Representation from the Selectmen of Acton praying to return certain Fire Arms delivered to them by Order of Council into the public Stores. Read & committed to Capt. Upham, Col. Robinson & Dr. Smead.

The Committee on the Petition of Sally Pool reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from James Hunter, setting forth that he served upwards of two Months as a Captain in Col. McCobb's Regiment against Penobscott & praying to be allowed pay & rations accordingly - Read & committed to Capt Prentiss Capt. Smith & Capt. Ball.

A Petition from Abner Smith praying that a certain grant made to him might be located. Read & committed to Capt Wheelock Mr. Smead & Mr. Sackett.

The Committee on the Petition of Capt. Wm. Stevens reported by way of resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the sale of land reported on the Petitions of Daniel Gilbert, & Cadwallader Ford by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Hannah Durant reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

522. Wednesday February 26th 1783.

The Committee on the Petition of Caleb Fobes reported verbally that he have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.
The Committee on the Petition of Edward Hunter reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the following Order of Senate viz. - Ordered that John Bacon & Caleb Davis Esqrs. be a committee to confer with such Committee as the Hon. House may appoint on the expediency of the Order of the Hon. House, referring the Bill for revising the Excise Act to the next General Court. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, & Mr. Goodhue & Col. Coffin are appointed on the part of the House.

The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down the report of the Committee on the Petition of Aaron Clap & others, that they have leave to withdraw the same. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to Thursday morning 10 o'clock.

Thursday February 27th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill intituled an Act for setting off David Parker from the District of Carlisle, & annexing him to the town of Chelmsford. Read the third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

A Petition from Joseph Lopez, Admr. on the estate of Aaron Lopez, & from others interested therein praying the real estate of said Aaron might be sold - Read & committed to the Committee on the Sale of Land.

523. Thursday February 27th 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon brought down the Bill in addition to the several Acts already made for the prudent storage of Gun-Powder in the town of Boston; In Senate Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendments from A. to H. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the report of the Committee on the Petition of Benja. Kimball & others, that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes mentioned in their Petition. In Senate. Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a Resolve of Senate on the Petition of Jno. Holden praying to be allowed to move his parents with their effects, from New York into this government granting the prayer thereof. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The appraises of certain vessells lost at Penobscott were heard on the floor of the House relative to their proceeding in that business, & the House assigned the second Tuesday of the next Session for a further hearing of those Gentlemen, & others employed in said appraisement.

A Resolve on the Petition of Dr. John Sprague, granting him Seventy five Pounds, in full for his attendance on a number of Soldiers wounded on Bunker's Hill - Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

524. Thursday February 27th 1783. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider the report of the Committee on the Subject matter of the three years, three & five months men, made report which after being read by paragraphs was accepted in whole, one hundred & six members present. The House then concurred with the Hon. Senate in their vote on the first mentioned report as taken into a new draft. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of Josiah Jones & others that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. In Senate, Feb. 27th 1783. Read & not accepted, & thereupon Resolved that the Prayer of said Petition be granted &c. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The House proceeded to consider the Report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of Mr. Thomas Brattle, being that he should return into this State upon condition of his not thereby being intitled to any part of his father's estate; and the question was put whether the House would concur with the vote of the Hon. Senate in accepting said report & was determined in the negative by Yeas & Nays of follows, viz. -

Yeas.	Yeas.	Yeas.
Thomas Dawes	Joseph Guild	Samuel Moody
John Rowe	Joseph Fairbanks	Nathl. Tracy
Samuel Barrett	Nathl. Fisher	Nathan Dane
Nathan Frazier	Stephen Metcalf	Baily Bartlett
Ebern. Wales	Benja. Goodhue	Daniel Thurston
Edwd. H. Robbins	Miles Greenwood	James Bancroft.
Richd. Cranch	Israel Hutchinson	Aaron Hall
Thos. Lothrop	John Manning	Gilbert Dench

525. Thursday February 27th 1783.

Yeas.	Yeas.	Yeas.
Moses Church	Timothy Robinson	Adam Maynard.
Timothy Dwight	Joshua Thomas	Stephen Longfellow
John Ayres	Hugh Orr	Isaac Snow
Jesse Wilds	Ebenr. Wood	Mason Wheaton
Daniel Sackett	Edwd. Pope	John Fellows
Aaron Whitney	Simon Frye	Elias Willard
Caleb Clarke	Phinehas Upham	Samuel Brown
Abner Fowler	Ebenr. Davis	Oliver Pier
David Smead	Artemas Ward	Jno. Nichols
Nays.	Nays. Nays.	
Nathl. Baily	Seth Sylvester	Hananiah Parker
Jona. Edey	Oliver Smith	Josiah Stearns
Moses Adams	David Spear	Ralph Wheelock
Peter Adams	Hugh McClallan.	Ichabod Dexter
Joshua Holt	John Burdick	John Child
Benja. Evans.	Timothy Clarke	Wing Spooner
Joseph Johnson	Noah Goodman	John Frye
James Barrett	David Scott.	John Prentice
Simon Stow	Jesse Johnson	Patrick Pesbles
Edwd. Farmer	Israel Vinal	Wm. King
Wm. Brown of Framingham	Jno. Peterson	Ebenr. Perce
Aaron Chamberlain	Samuel Brown	Noah Church
Francis Laighton	Stephen Bullock	
Israel Hobart	Elisha May	Then the House
William Prescott	John Hill	adjourned to 10
James Locke	Joseph Morrill	o'clock Friday morning.
Francis Faulkner	Samuel Curtis	
Wm. Brown of Tewksbury	Willis Hall	
Prince Tobey	Seth Washbourn	
Aaron Mighill	Isaac Jenckes.	

526. Friday February 28th 1783.

Met according to adjournment

A Bill intituled an Act in addition to the Several Acts already made for the prudent Storage of Gun - Powder in the town of Boston - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Bill intituled "an Act for setting off David Parker from the District of Carlisle & annexing him to the town of Chelmsford" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down a Petition from Henry Allyne clerk to the Proprietors of the Kennebeck Company, praying to be empowered to lay out certain roads - and the following Order of Senate viz - Read and thereupon Ordered that Nathl. Wells Esq, with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this petition into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for Concurrence. Read & concurred & Col. Thurston & Dr. Frye are joined.

The Committee on the Petition of certain Inhabitants of Botton & Marlborough reported that they have leave to bring in a Bill of incorporation agreeable to their prayer.

Read & accepted & leave given accordingly.

527. Friday February 28th 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a representation form Caleb Davis Esq, Agent to the Commonwealth & his account current with them - In Senate February 28th 1783 - Read & thereupon Ordered that Ebern. Bridge Esq with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this representation together with the accounts & papers accompanying the same into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent down for concurrence - Read & concurred & Mr. Bartlett & Capt. Wales are joined.

The Committee on the Petition of James Bowdoin & others, reported a resolve permitting them to go to New York under certain restrictions. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Judges of the Supreme Judicial Court to liquidate the value of the Depreciation Notes upon the best information they could obtain, the returns for that purpose not having been duly made. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committees on the Petitions of the Towns of Bellingham & James Hunter, reported verbally that they have leave to withdraw their Petitions. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A representation from the Hon. David Sewall Esq respecting the taxes assessed on the lands in York County, late the estate of Sir William Pepperell, - Read & committed to Col. Morrill, Col. Grow, & Mr. Frye of Fryeburg.

A Petition from Joseph Smalladge praying for the payment of wages - Read & committed to Mr. Child Col. Moody & Capt. Frye.

A Petition from Jona. Edey praying to be discharged from an obligation given to the Conrg. Gen. for stores which had been used in the public Service - Read & Committed to Mr. Jenckes, Mr. Eayres, Capt. Ball.

528. Friday February 28th 1783.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported by way of Resolve on the Petitions of Joseph Lopez & others, Mary Nick Achsah Ludden & May Hubbard, granting the prayer thereof.

Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Elijah Ayer & others, praying a new trial in a cause therein mentioned - Read & committed to Col. Poke, Capt. Noyes & Mr. Smith of Hadley.

A Bill intituled an Act for granting a Lottery for the purpose of rebuilding a Bridge across Westfield River in the town of Westfield nigh a place called Wellers Mills - Read the first time & Saturda 10th o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Bill intituled an Act for raising by Lottery the Sum of three thousand Ponds, for the purpose of building a Glass House & promoting the manufactory of crown & other Glass - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A petition from Ephraim Towne praying that a public security in his hands might be paid - Read & Committed to Mr. Hall of Medford, Mr. Peterson & Mr. Jenckes.

A petition from William Whittemore Guardian to William Cutler, praying to sell read estate - Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

529. Friday February 28th 1783. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolve repealing the Resolve of the 13th inst., appointing a Committee on accounts, & appointing said Committee anew with other powers - Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Secry. to prepare an Index to the Resolves of the General Court. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from certain Inhabitants of the Town of Adams, remonstrating against being annexed to the same & praying to be relieved. Read & committed to Major King Mr. Jenckes & Mr. Whitney of Northfield.

A Bill intituled "an Act respecting Negroes & Molattoes" Read the first time & Saturday 10 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down a list of the non-commissioned officers & soldiers of the Massachusetts Line of the Army, who have not received the gratuity granted Jan. 15th 1781, with a Resolve of Senate giving directions to the Treasurer respecting the payment of the same. Sent down for concurrence.

A Bill intituled "an Act for incorporating the South Parish in the town of Bolton, together with David Taylor Silas Carley, Job. Spofford, & John Brigham with their estates, Inhabitants of Marlborough into a district town by the name of -. Read the first time & Saturday morning, 10 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

Then the House took up the Bill appointing the times & places for holding the Courts of Common laws & Sessions in the several Counties & after debate thereon

postponed the further consideration of said Bill till the Morning.

Then the House adjourned to Saturday morning 10 o'clock.

Saturday, March 1st 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from Samuel Ely a Prisoner in Boston Goal, praying for a committee to view his situation - Read & it being represented that he had used deceit & attempted to escape, when lately removed to the Alms House, said Petition was ordered to be dismissed.

A Bill intituled “an Act for incorporating the South Parish in the town of Bolton, together with David Taylor Silas Carley, Job. Spofford & John Brigham with their lands, Inhabitants of Marlborough, into a distinct town by the name of Northbrook” - Read the second time and - assigned for the third reading thereof.

Mr. Dunbar was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request them to send down the Bill for confirming the last Will & Testament of Nicholas Gardner, which the Hon. Mr. Stone bought down accordingly.

531. Saturday March 1st 1783.

The Committee on the Petition of Samuel Moody & Samuel Noyes reported by way of Resolve. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled "an Act respecting Negroes and Mollatos" - Read the second time & Tuesday 11 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.

A Resolve on the Petition of John Christian, allowing him forty six Pounds 16/- in full for his 9 & 3 months wages - Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Dwight, Capt. Wales & Mr. Barrett of Boston, be a Committee to bring in a Bill to prevent the stealing of Negroes & carrying them into other states for Sale.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the report of the Committee appointed to adjust the principles of fines & bounties for men raised for the Army, & the new draft of the House thereon - In Senate March 1st 1783. Read & concurred as taken into another new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred and the House adhere to their own vote. (eighty nine Members present.)

A Petition from Samuel Carr, late Muster Master, praying that his depreciation Note might be paid - Read & committed to Col. Moody, Capt. Bancroft, and Mr. Fowler.
A Bill intituled an Act for granting a Lottery for the purpose of rebuilding a Bridge across Westfield River in the town of Westfield nigh a place Called Weller's Mills - Read the second time & Tuesday, 10 o'clock, assigned for the third reading thereof.

532. Saturday March 1st 1783.

A Resolve on the Petition of Capt. Herry Dyer directing the Conrg. to deliver him 2380 b.b. Beeff with on equal quantity of flow, in full for his companys rations while in service - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence. Then the House adjourned to Monday Morning 10 o'clock.

Monday March 3rd 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Capt. Clarke, Mr. Robinson, & Capt Dench be a Committee, to consider what measures are proper to be taken with respect to the losses & wages of certain teamsters who went to Virginia in the public service & report.

The House took up the Resolve of the Hon. Senate of the 28th ult. requesting the Governor to write to Lieut Governor Greene & inform him of the passing of the Act suspending the privilege of Habeas Corpus &c. & concurred therewith.

A Bill intituled “an Act to incorporate the Congregational Society in the town of Norton, into a distinct Parish, & also to incorporate a Committee of said Society for certain purposes” - This engrossed Bill having had three several Readings passed to be enacted.

A Petition from Daniel Thurston, in behalf of the first Parish in Bradford, setting forth that they had at a considerable expense, settled the Rev. Mr. Williams as their Pastor, who was afterwords chosen & appointed a Professor at Harvard Collage, whereby they suffered considerable expense in settling another minister & praying to be allowed a consideration therefor - Read & Committed to Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Frazier, & Mr. Frye.

533. Monday March 3rd 1783.

A petition from the town of Southwick representing their difficulties in raising their proportion of men for the Army & praying to be relieved - Read & committed to Col. Goodman, Col. Barrett & Col. Washbourn.

A Petition from Jona. Dimon as Guardian of Joseph Warren, praying to sell his real estate - Read & Ordered to be withdrawn for want of evidence of his Guardianship. The Committee on the Petition of Elijah Eayres & others reported a Resolve for them to notify William Nichols to shew Cause, &c., on the second Tuesday of next Session. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Dr. Brown, Dr. Hall & Col. Coffin be a Committee to consider of the time at which it may be expedient for the recess of the General Court to commence & report.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down the report of the Committee on the Petition of Henry Dyer & others, Heirs & assigns of Francis Small, that the Petrs. have leave to withdraw their Petition. In Senate, Read & accepted.
Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Thomas Knox praying to be heard respecting the Pilotage of the Harbor in Boston - Read & committed to the Committee on the Petition of the Marine Society in that town.

Also a letter from His Execlly. Jona. Trumbull Esq Governor of Connecticut to the Governor of this Commonwealth, in answer to his letter respecting the admitting of Mr. Richard Smith as an Inhabitant of said State. In Senate, March 3rd 1783. Read & thereupon Ordered that Charles Turner Esq, with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this letter & paper accompanying the same into consideration & make report thereon - Sent down for concurrence. Read and Concurred & Mr. Peterson, & Major Goodman are joined.

Also a letter from Governor Greene relative to the rioters at Douglass - In Senate Read & committed to the same Committee. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, praying a further consideration for their services - Read & committed to the Joint Committee on a Memorial from the same Gentlemen, appointed the 25th ultimo. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve requesting the Governor to direct the Conrg. of Prisoners to exchange Thomas Benson, Abel Coffin & Francis Doraty - Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence. Also the report of the Committee on the letter of General Lincoln to the Governor, respecting the Guards at Springfield being a Resolve for discharging them - In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence - Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

Also a letter from the Secry. of Foreign Affairs, inclosing copies of the Treaty of amity & commerce between the States General & the United States, & the Treaty of alliance & commerce between France & the United States with an Order of Senate for the Secy. to record the same in a book, specially appropriated to this and similar purposes. Sent down for concurrence - Read & Concurred.

Also a Bill intituled "an Act in addition to an Act passed the eight day of November 1782, laying an Excise on certain articles therein mentioned" - In Senate March 3rd 1783. Read the second time and passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. - Read the first time & Tuesday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of New Castle praying to be excused from raising the whole of their proportion of men for the army, &c. - Read & committed to Mr. Ely, Capt. Snow, & Mr. Pepbles.

A Petition from the Overseers of the Poor of the town of Bridgwater, praying to be allowed for their expense & trouble in taking care of one Anthony Goodsale a Pauper - Read & committed to Col. Coffin, Col. Thorndike & Capt. Peterson.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down a letter from Elisha Thatcher, accepting of his election as Excise Master in the Counties of Dukes County & Nantucket. In Senate, Read & Sent down. Read & Sent up.

The Committee on the Petition of Abner Smith reported verbally that he have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

536. Monday March 3rd 1783.

The Committee on the Petition of Richard Meaher reported an Order for him to notify the Adverse party to shew Cause &c., on Saturday next. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Thomas Nixon & John Eames reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Bill determining at what times & places the several Courts of Common Pleas & General Sessions of the Peace shall be held within & for the several Counties, with the several amendments of the House thereon. In Senate March 3rd 1783. Read and non-concurred at C & D & concurred at II & I. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred. 36.69.

Then the House adjourned to Tuesday morning 10 o'clock.

Tuesday March 4th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill intituled "an Act for incorporating the South Parish in the town of Bolton, together with David Taylor Silas Carley Job. Spafford & John Brigham with their estates Inhabitants of Marlboro' into a distinct town by the name of Northbrook" - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Jonas Wyman praying the confirmation of certain lands therein mentioned - Read & committed to Capt. Spear. Mr. Locke & Mr. Dunbar.

Gen. Warner brought down the report of the Committee on the letter of Governor Greene of the 28th inst. referring the same to the executive department. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

537. Tuesday March 4th 1783.

A Bill intituled “an Act in addition to an Act passed the eight day of November 1782, laying an Excise on certain articles therein mentioned” - Read the second time & Wednesday, 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather bought down the Report of the Committee on the principles of the fines & Bounties of the men, raised for the Army for three years &c., In senate March 4th 1783. Read again & the Senate adhere to their own vote as contained in their new draft. Sent down. Read & referred to the afternoon.

A Bill intituled “an Act respecting Negroes & Molattos.” Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled an Act for granting a Lottery for the purpose of rebuilding a Bridge across Westfield River, in the town of Westfield, nigh a place called Weller's Mills” - Read the third time & Passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Samuel Freeman & others praying that the Court of Sessions for the County of Cumberland might be empowered to sit, for the purpose of assessing a Tax on said County - Read & committed to Capt Snow, Capt Noyes & Mr. Barrett of Concord.

The Committee on the Petition of Joseph Henderson & John Carnes, reported a Resolve granting the prayer thereof - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.
The Committee on the Petition of Capt. Samuel Corr. reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

538. Tuesday March 4th 1783.

A Bill intituled “an Act to prevent the practice of Kidnapping or stealing persons for the purpose of making sale of them” - Read the first time & Wednesday 11 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Return of the House being called for there appeared to be 103 Members present. The report of the Committee upon the principles of fines & bounties of the men raised for the Army was taken up, & on motion the question was put whether the House would reconsider their vote of non-concurrence with the vote of the Hon. Senate proposing a new draft passed the first instant, which passed in the affirmative 106 members present. The House then proceeded to consider the said new draft by Paragraphs, and concurred with each of them except the forth. The returns of the House were on the first & second paragraphs 105 Members. third & fourth 102. the last 104. And it was thereupon Ordered that Mr. Dane, Mr. Dwight & Mr. Goodhue with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider the aforesaid excepted paragraphs, together with that on the same subject in the new draft of the House and report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a Bill intituled “an Act for granting special powers to certain Commissioners of the United States in certain cases, & to enable the United States to recover debts & effects belonging to the said United States” - In Senate March 4th 1783. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for Concurrence. (5th) Read the first time & Thursday, 10 o'clock A. assigned for the second reading thereof - Then the House adjourned to Wednesday Morning 10 o'clock.

539. Wednesday March 5th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A resolve declaring the meaning of the Resolve of the 14th ulto. respecting the drawing of Warrants on the Treasury for the Continental services - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a draft of a letter from this Court to the President of Congress, relative to the Resolve of 20th Feby. 1782. recommending to the several States to empower Congress to adopt new principles for determining the proportion of certain expenses of the War - In Senate March 4th 1782. (3?) Read & accepted, & thereupon Ordered that the same be transcribed & forwarded as soon as may be. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Hannah Durant - In Senate Mar. 5th 1783. Read & concurred with amendments at A B & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Ebenr. Sullivan praying that the depreciation of money paid him on account by the Continental Congress might be made good to him - Read & committed to Mr. Crunch, Mr. Nichols & Mr. Peterson.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a Resolve of Senate on the representation of the Committee for methodizing and stating the public accounts, empowering them to hire some suitable person to examine & settle the accounts of the Board of War. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill intituled “an Act to prevent the practice of Kidnapping or stealing persons for the purpose of making sale of them” - Read the second time & Thursday 11 o'clock, assigned for the third reading thereof.

 Wednesday March 5th 1783.

The Committee on the Petition of Elijah Dunbar Esq, respecting the public lands, at Oxford, reported a Resolve appointing Seth Washbourn, John Child & Samuel Curtis Esqrs, a Committee, with such as the Hon. Senate might join, to survey said Land. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence. - And Mr. Dunbar was directed to attend said Committee in the proceedings of their Commission.

A Bill intituled "an Act to indemnity the Committees & agents for the sale of the estates of Conspirators & Absentees within this Commonwealth from suits at law for any of their legal proceedings in the disposal thereof" - Read the first time & Thursday 11 o'clock A. M. assigned for the second reading thereof -

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of James Suter reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition - Order to withdraw accordingly.

The Committee on the Petition of the Overseers of the town of Bridgwater reported verbally that said Petition lie on file. Order to lie accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down a Petition from the Selectmen & Overseers of the town of Lincoln, praying that part of the estate of Nathl. Whittaker, decd. which was given by Will to his son Samuel during his life might be sold with an Order of Senate to notify the adverse party to shew cause &c., on the third Wednesday of the next Session. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

541. Wednesday March 5th 1783.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Northfield reported by way of Resolve - Read & not accepted, & said Petition was ordered to lie.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the report of the Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider the fourth paragraph in the new draft of the senate of the Order for adjusting the fines & average cost of the men raised for the Army, "that the said paragraph stand in said draft as voted by the Senate". In Senate Mar. 5th 1783. Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. - Novr. 6th [March 6th?] A. M. Read & nonconcurred by Yeas & Nays as recorded in the next page.

Then the House adjourned to Thursday morning 10 o'clock. - [Note. For remainder of Wednesday's proceedings, see pp. 519 & 520.]

Thursday March 6th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Motion was made that the assessing of a Tax be referred to the next Session of the General Court, which passed in the negative.

A Motion was then made that the opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, should be taken upon the Resolve relative to the fines & average cost of the men hired for the Army, which passed in the negative. It was then Ordered that 3 o'clock this afternoon be assigned for a conference of the two Houses upon the subject matter of the paragraph above mentioned. Mr. Bartlett was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them thereof, & the Hon. Mr. Cabot came down & said the Hon. Senate agreed to said assignment.

542. Yeas and Nays; See page 541.

Yeas & Nays on the paragraph in the report of the Committee for adjusting the fines & average cast of the men hired for the Army as taken into a new draft, by the Hon. Senate, & in words as follows viz: - "that every deficiency of a 3 Months man be charged to the place so deficient £ 5:18:10^{d}. - And every deficiency of a 5 Months man be charged to the place so deficient 16/11^{d}" – The question for a concurrence with the vote of the Hon. Senate in accepting the report of the committee "that said paragraph stand in said draft" was determined as follows viz.-

Yeas.	Nays.	Nays.
John Rowe	Israel Hobart	Gilbert Dench
Samuel Barrett	Daniel Sackett	William Prescott
Nathan Frazier	Seth Sylvester	James Locke
Nathl. Baily	John Burdick	Aaron Hall
Theophilus Cushing	David Weld	Moses Church
Joseph Guild	Ebern. Wales	Justin Ely
Oliver Ellis	Thomas Lothrop	Timothy Dwight
Joseph Fairbanks	Elijah Dunbar	Prince Tobey
Nathl. Fisher	Miles Greenwood	Oliver Smith
Jona. Edey	Israel Hutchinson	David Spear
Moses Adams	Samuel Moody	Aaron Whitney.
Peter Adams	Joshua Holt	Caleb Clarke.
Benja. Goodhue	Daniel Thurston	Hugh McClellan
John Patch	Joseph Johnson	David Smead
Larkin Thorndike	James Barrett	Abner Fowler
Baily Bartlett	Simon Stow	David Scott
Peter Coffin	Edwd. Farmer	Jesse Johnson
Samuel Thatcher	Wm. Brown of F.	Timothy Robinson
Samuel Fisk	Aaron Chamberlain	Ebenr. Wood
James Bancroft.	Daniel Whitney	Isaac Thompson

543. Yeas & Nays Continued.

Yeas	Nays
Timothy Clarke	Ebenr. White
Israel Vinal	Francis Shurtliff
John Peterson	Samuel Brown
Ebenr. Washbourn	Noah Goodman
Job Smith	Stephen Bullock
Edward Grow	Edward Pope
John Hill	Elisha May
John Hovey	Phinehas Upham
Simon Frye	Willis Hall
Samuel Curtis	Seth Washbourn
Wing Spooner	Isaac Jenckes
John Frye	Hannaniah Parker
Joseph Noyes	John Ball
Isaac Snow	Artemas Ward
Jona. Jones Jr.	Josiah Steams
Patrick Pepbles	Ralph Wheelock
William King	John Child
Ebenr. Perce	Adam Maynard
Noah Church	Mason Wheaton
Elias Willard	Oliver Pier - 56
Samuel Brown	
Josiah Brewer	
James Ayrault	
John Nichols – 48.	

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the Memorial of the Conrg. General, with the following Order of Senate thereon viz: - In Senate March 5th 1783. Ordered that the said Commissary General be & he hereby is directed, in all cases of doubt whether the stores he has delivered by order of government ought to be

charged to the United States, to make application to the Governor & Council, who are hereby requested to give all necessary direction upon such applications. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a letter from Jeremiah Hall Esq accepting of his appointment as collector of Excise for the County of Plimouth - In Senate Read & Sent down. Read & sent up.

Also a letter from His Excelly. Gen. Washington, dated Head Quarters 22nd Feb. 1783. in answer to one from this court dated the 8th day of the same month relative to the State of the County of Lincoln. In Senate, Read & Sent down. Read & sent up and an injunction of secrecy was laid upon the Members of the House respecting the contents of said letter.

The Hon. Mr. Phillips brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Richard Meagher. In Senate, Read and concurred with amendments at A. B. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a letter from the Hon. Geo. Cabot Esq, accepting of his appointment as a Delegate in a conference to be held with delegates from the other Eastern States, upon the subject matters of import & excise - In Senate March 6th 1783. Read and Send down. Read & Sent up.

A Petition from Joseph Bumpus a Soldier in the service for nine months praying for his wages - &c. Read & committed to Mr. Hovey, Col. Moody & Mr. Parker.

A Petition from John Hodge late Collector of taxes for the town of Windham setting forth that he had paid the sum of £ 6:14:2d, into the Public Treasury twice over, & praying to be refunded - Read & Committed to Col. Morrell, Col. Patch and Mr. Snow.

A Petition from Braduck Hoar, a Soldier, Praying for the

usual bounty for finding himself in cloathing & others necessary articles - Read & committed to Mr. Metcalf, Col. Edey & Col. White.

A Petition from Edward Anderson & Ezra Brown in behalf of the town of Windham, praying that the proceedings of said town holden in March 1773 might be confirmed - Read & committed to Col. Thorndike, Capt Noyes, & Mr. Rowe.

A Petition from Amos Lincoln Captain of a Company of Artillery praying they might receive their clothing agreeable to their establishment - Read & committed to Mr. Frazier, Col. May & Capt. Steams.

A Petition from Seth Bates, Guardian of Jno. Tilden Torrey, a non compos mentis, praying to be empowered to sell his real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

The Petition of Ebenr. Shephard was taken up, & committed to Mr. Pier, Col. Thorndike & Mr. Hobart.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Message was sent by Mr. Dave to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House was ready to proceed on the conference with the Hon. Senate agreeable to the assignment of this morning.

The two Houses then met together & having conferred upon the subject matter proposed, the Hon. Senate withdraw.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down the following Order of Senate, viz. - Ordered, that George Cabot Esqwith such as the House may join be a Committee to consider the expediency of suspending the exeon. of the order for purchasing a vessell for guarding the Coast of this Commonwealth & report. Sent down

for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Goodhue & Gen. Ward are joined.
Also a Bill intituled "an Act in addition to an Act intitled an Act for apprehending & securing Deserters from the Continental Army: and from the fleets & armies of our allies; and for repealing all Acts heretofore made & passed for that purpose" - In Senate March 6th 1783. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. March 7th Read the first time & Saturday 10 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

Also the Bill intituled "an Act for preventing & suppressing Riots, Bouts & unlawful Assemblies" - In senate March 6th 1783, Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendments from A to K. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with the amendments at A. D. & E, & non-concurred with the amendments at F. H & K. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled "an Act for repealing an Act intitled an Act for granting to the United States in Congress assembled a permanent revenue, for the purpose of discharging the debts which have arisen or may arise in prosecuting the War with Great Britain. Read the second time & Friday 10 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof. The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the report of the committee for adjusting the fines & average cost of the men hired for the army, In Senate March 6th 1783, Read again and the Senate reconsider their last vote & propose as a substitute the paragraph in the draft of the Hon. House marked A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Ordered that Capt. Noyes, Mr. Hovey, Col. Lothrop, Mr. Metcalf, Dr. Frye Capt. Steams & Mr. Perce be a Committee to bring in a Tax Bill agreeable to said report as amended. - The House adjd. to Friday Morng. 10 o'clock.

547. Friday March 7th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down the Bill intitled "an Act in addition to an Act passed the eighth day of November 1782. laying an excise on certain articles therein mentioned" with the amendments of the House thereon. In Senate March 6th 1793. Read & concurred with further amendments at O. P. Q. & R. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down account from the Select Men of Wilmington for supporting Katherine Whittemore one of the poor of Charles Town. In Senate March 7th 1783. Read & committed to the Committee on accounts. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also an account from James Carter Jr. Read and committed to the same Committee. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill intituled "an Act for repealing an Act entitled an Act for granting to the United States in Congress assembled a permanent revenue, for the purpose of discharging the debts which have arisen or may arise in prosecuting the present War with Great Britain."

Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for Concurrence.

An Order to the Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts to transmit to Major General Lincoln an Invoice of cloathing supplied Major Ezra Lunt & of monies supplied Commissary Hopkins, read & passed.

Sent up for Concurrence.

548. Friday March 7th 1783.

A Bill intituled "an Act in addition to & for altering and amending an Act intitled an Act for forming and regulating the Militia within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts & for repealing all laws heretofore made for that purpose - Read the second time & Tuesday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading of the same.

A Bill entitled "an Act for granting special powers to certain Commissioners of the United States in certain cases & to enable the United States to recover debts & effects belonging to the said United States" – Read the second time & Tuesday next 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading of the same.

A Bill intitiled "an Act to prevent the kidnapping or stealing persons for the purpose of making sale of them" - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Marine Society in the town of Boston, reported that they have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes of their Petition. Whereupon the following Bill was laid upon the table viz. – A Bill intituled "an Act for the purpose of regulating the Pilotage in the Harbour of Boston," which was read the first time and Saturday 10 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

Gen. Prebble brought down the Petition of Samuel West & others & the Resolve of the House thereon. In Senate March 7th 1783. Read & concurred with amendments at A. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Col. Coffin had leave of absence.

549. Friday March 7th 1783.

A Bill intituled "an Act to prevent the destruction of the fish called Alewives, in their passage up the Rivers & Streams in the town of Kingston in the County of Plimouth - Read the second time & Tuesday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Elijah Ayres & others - In Senate March 7th 1783. Read & concurred with amendment at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

On Motion by Mr. Ely leave was given to bring in a Bill intituled "an Act granting a lottery for building & supporting a Bridge over Agawam River in West Springfield," which was then read the first time & Saturday 11 o'clock A. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Fuller brought down the Resolve of the House, directing the mode of ascertaining the value of the depreciation notes by the Judges of the supreme Judicial Court. In Senate, March 7th 1783. Read & concurred with amendments at A. C. & D. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the letter of the 11th ultimo, from the Hon. Samuel Osgood Esq bring an order that the letter from the Hon. Samuel Osgood Esq & the papers accompanying the same, be delivered to the Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts, who are hereby directed to receive the same accordingly. Sent down for concurrence.

Read and Concurred.

550. Friday March 7th 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks brought down the Resolve of the House on the representation of Simon Stow. In Senate March 7th 1783. Read & concurred with amendments at A & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also a representation from the Consul General of France for the ports of New England, praying the attention of Government to certain fortifications in the Harbour of Boston erected by the Count D'Estang, with a Resolve of Senate requesting His Excelly. the Governor to order such member of men from the Company of Capt. Amos Lincoln, as may be necessary to take care of said works. Sent down for concurrence. Read and Concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Edwd. Anderson & Ezra Brown in behalf of the town of Windham reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from John Codman Junior & William Smith praying that a Warrant granted them for services done to the United States might be paid out of the proceeds of the Ship Tartar now in their hands - Read & committed to Mr Goodhue, Mr. Rowe & Mr. Bartlett.

A Petition from Robert Miller praying to be licensed to sell spirituous Liquors - Read & committed to Col. Brown. Dr. Smead & Col. McClellan.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of Rochester & other towns praying for the regulation of the Alewive fishery therein. Read & leave given to bring in a Bill for the purposes prayed for.

A Petition from Gideon Frost & Aaron Hill, Guardians of Jona. Cooker & Lydia Hill, praying to be empowered to sell Real Estate. Read & committed to the Committee appointed to consider petitions for the sale of Land.

A Petition from Burrill Devereat & Knott Pedwick, Attys. for the

estate of John Pedrick, decd. praying to be paid for on Hulk sunk in Boston Harbour for its defence - Read & committed to Mr. Greenwood & others.

Mr. Frazier was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate proposing Saturday next, 10 o'clock, for a conference between the two Houses upon the subject matter of the Resolve appointing a committee to pass upon the accounts of such persons as have demands against the Commonwealth.

A Memorial from the Hon. James Bowdoin Esq. relative to the affairs of John Temple Esq. - Read & thereupon Ordered that Gen. Ward, Col. Goodman & Mr. Chamberlain with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider said Memorial & report. Sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Temples papers ordered to lie on the table [till] they reported. The Committee on the Petitions of Osman Cox & others & Redman Spur, & the Committee on the Petition of Benja. Ward reported verbally that said Petitions lie on file. Order to lie accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the report of the Committee appointed to consider the expediency of suspending the execution of the Order for purchasing a Vessell for guarding the SeaCoast of the Commonwealth, being an unanimous opinion that said Order be not suspended. In Senate, Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

A Bill intituled "an Act in addition to an Act intitled an Act for apprehending & securing Deserters from the Continental Army; and from the Fleets and Armies of our Allies; and for repealing all acts heretofore made & passed for that purpose" - Read the second time & Tuesday next, 3 o'clock P. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.
The House adjourned to Saturday Morning, 10 o'clock.

552. Saturday March 8th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Bill for regulating the Pilotage in the Harbour of Boston, read again & committed to Mr. Rowe, Mr. Barrett of Boston & Capt. Snow to bring in a new draft.

Ordered that Mr. Whitney of Sherburne, Mr Stow, & Col. Grow be a Committee to consider of a proper mode for effecting the returns from the several towns of the prices of certain articles, in order to ascertain the value of the notes given to the Soldiers for the depreciation of their wages & report.

The Hon. Mr. Davis came down & said that the Hon. Senate were ready to proceed on the conference proposed by the Hon. House the last evening. Whereupon the two Houses assembled together & conferred upon the subject matter aforesaid, and after they had seperated it was Ordered that Mr. Dwight, Col Thatcher & Col. Pope with such as the Hon Senate may join be a Committee to consider of the mode of passing upon the accounts of such persons as have demands against the Commonwealth. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down a Resolve excusing the late Agent from purchasing an Armed Vissell and empowering the Conrg. to make said purchase - Also granting him fifteen hundred pounds out of the proceeds of the Ship Tartar, he to be accountable. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. - Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Dracut, reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

553 A Resolve appointing Enoch Brown & William Hunt additional managers of the Lottery for rebuilding the North Mills in Boston. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence. - Then the House adjourned to Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

553. Monday March 10th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of a tract of land between the great & little Ossipee Rivers reported that they have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes mentioned in their Petition - Read & accepted, & ordered that leave be given accordingly.

A Bill intituled an Act for confirming the Records of the Proprietors of a plantation called Bridgton - Read the first time & Tuesday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Bill intituled "an Act in addition to an Act passed the eight day of November, One Thousand Seven Hundred & Eighty Two, laying an Excise on certain articles therein mentioned" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon bought down the Order the House directing the Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts, to make out an account of the cloathing supplied Major Ezra Lunt &c. In Senate March 8th 1783. Read and concurred, with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill intitled "an Act for incorporating a tract of land situate between the Rivers of Great & Little Ossipee in the County of York, which was settled by Thomas Parsons and his Associates." Read the first time & Tuesday next, 11 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

554. Monday March 10th 1783.

The Committee on the Petition of Burrill Devereaux and Knot Pedrick reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted & Ordered that said Petition lie on file.

The Committee on the Petition of Benjamin Tapper reported a Resolve, directing the Treasurer to receive of him £ 822, in Old Emission money as prayed for. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the sale of land reported a Resolve on the Petition of Mary Bartlett & others. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Timothy Newell reported a special Order for said Petition to lie on file. Read & accepted and Ordered accordingly.

The committee on the sale of Land reported a Resolve on the Petition of Mary Almy, which was read, accepted & Sent up for Concurrence.

A Petition from John Jones Spooner, praying that his brother Andrew Spooner might be permitted to return into this State from New York. - Read & committed to Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Davis & Mr. Chamberlain.

A Petition from Abigil Manning, widow of Robert Manning a Soldier decd. praying to be allowed for cloathing & other articles, provided by him while in service - Read & committed to Col. Prescott Dr. Hall & Mr. Whitney.

A Petition from Charles Goodrich praying the rectifying of a grant of land mentioned - Read & committed to Col. Robinson, Mr Locke & Dr. Smead.

A Petition from Hannah Gould, Admrx. On the estate of Jona. Gould, praying for the sale of Land - Read & committed to the Committee appointed to consider Petitions of that nature.

A Petition from Wm. Harris, a Clerk in the secretary's Office praying an allowance for the depreciation of his wages & other losses, Read & committed to Mr. Ely, Mr. Holt & Capt. Patch.

555. Monday March 10th 1783.

A Bill intitled an Act for indemnifying the Committees and Agents for the sale of the estates of Conspirators & Absentees within this Commonwealth in any suits at law for any of their legal proceedings in the disposal thereof - Read & Tuesday 10 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Petition from Charles Phelps in behalf of a large number of persons mentioned, praying for a grant of land mentioned, Read & ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of the town of Brunswick praying to be exempted from a fine, for a deficiency of three men for the Army - Read & committed to Mr. Vinal Dr. Hill & Dr. Stow.

A Petition from the town of Harpswell of a similar nature - Read & committed to Capt. Brewer, Capt. Dench and Capt. Washbourn.

A Petition from the Select Men of North Hampton praying for the abolishing of the Courts of General Sessions of the Peace & a new mode of granting taxes to be assessed upon the several Counties. Read & committed to Mr. Lowell, Mr. Dwight, Gen. Ward, Mr Ely & Mr. Smead.

A Petition from Benja. Brown Town Clerk of Winchendon praying for a lottery for the purpose of repairing a Bridge in said Town - Read & committed to Dr. Manning, Mr Vans & Mr. Thompson.

The Committee on the Petition of William Whittemore reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

556. Monday March 10th 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of the town of Windham, confirming their proceedings at a Meeting held in March 1783. In Senate March 10th 1783. Read & non - concurred & whereas it does not appear that there was any illegality in the proceedings of said town at their said meeting - Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Gen. Prebble brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Edward Hunter - In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. - Read & concurred.

The committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of Buckland reported a Resolve granting them a piece of land for the purpose of maintaining a Minister & Schoolmaster - Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Gen. Warner brought down the Bill intitled "an Act for erecting a town in the County of Hampshire by the name of Middlefield" - In Senate March 10th 1783. Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of Robert Miller reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled an Act appointing the times [?]

Then the House adjourned to Tuesday morning, 10 o'clock.

557. Tuesday March 11th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill intituled "an Act for confirming the records of the Proprietors of a Plantation called Bridgton" - Read the second time & Wednesday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.

A Bill intituled an Act for incorporating a certain tract of land situate between the Rivers of Great & Little Ossipee in the County of York, which was settled by Thomas Parsons and his associates" - Read the second time & Wednesday 10 o'clock, A. M. assigned for the third reading of the same.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down a Petition from Moses Shattuck, praying to be allowed his account for the supporting of certain prisoners - In Senate, March 10th 1783. Read & ordered that this Petition and papers accompanying be committed to the Committee on accounts. - Sent down for concurrence - Read & concurred.

A Bill intituled "an Act for granting special powers to certain Commissioners of the United States, in certaincases & to enable the United States to recover debts & effects belonging to the said United States" - Read the third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

A Bill intituled an Act to prevent the destruction of the Fish called Alewives, in their passage up the Rivers and Streams in the town of Kingston, in the County of Plimouth - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Select Men of Harpswell reported by way of Resolve - Read and accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

558. Tuesday March 11th 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down the following Order of Senate, viz - In Senate March 11th 1783. Ordered that Israel Nichols & John Bacon Esqrs, with such as the Hon House may join be a Committee to consider & report what measures are proper to be taken, with respect to the sale of the estates of Conspirators & Absentees. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Ely, Capt. Wales and Gen. Ward are joined.

A Bill intitled "an Act empowering the Committees for the sale of the estates of Conspirators & Absentees, & the agents appointed by the Judges of Probate on such estates in certain cases to plead the general issue & give the Acts & Resolves of the General Court & any special matter in evidence" - Read the second time & Wednesday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.

The Committee appointed to consider what measures might be proper to be taken respecting the losses and wages of the Teamsters who went to Virginia in the public Service reported by way of Resolve which was read & thereupon Ordered that the subject of said commission be referred to the next session of the General Court.

A Petition from the Hon. John Tyny Esq, proposing a mode of settling certain controversies subsisting between the claimants of the tract of Land called the Kennebeck Purchase &c. in which Government are concurred - Read & committed to the Committee of both Houses last appointed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P.M.

559. Tuesday March 11th 1783. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill intituled "an Act in addition to an Act intitled an Act for apprehending & securing Deserters from the Continental Army; and from the Fleets & Armies of our Allies; and for repealing all Acts heretofore made & passed for that purpose" - Read the third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Resolve of the House directing delinquent towns to make returns of the men raised & marched by them - In Senate March 11th 1783. Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Ordered that the Secy. publish said Resolves in Willis' Independent Chronicle. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Pay Roll reported a Resolve allowing to each member of the Hon. Council 9/- per day, of the Hon. Senate 8/6d & of the Hon. House 8/- for their
3.84. attendance at Court. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Luke Bliss reported by way of Resolve - Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence. Ordered that Mr. Dunbar, Capt. Wales & Mr. Greenwood be a Committee to consider of the proper measures to be taken to ascertain the state of the several taxes, & the balances due at the decease of the late Treasurer & to examine into the state of the late Treasurers accounts & report.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the report of the Committee of both Houses on the accounts of Caleb Davis Esq, late Agent of the Commonwealth. - In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to receive of the Committee for transporting Artillery & Ordinance Stores 1745 New Emission Dollars of the States money &c. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday morning 10 o'clock.

Wednesday, March 12th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down a Resolve passed the 15th day of March 1780, empowering Gen. Wadsworth to execute Martial Law within certain limits in the County of Lincoln. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Ordered that Col. Dawes, Mr. Dunbar & Col Hutchinson be a Committee to report the method which was taken for ascertaining the average cost of the men raised for the Army.

A Bill intituled "an Act for granting special powers to certain Commissioners of the United States in certain cases and to enable the United States to recover debts and effects belonging to the said United States" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Bill intituled "an Act for erecting certain lands hereafter described into a town by the name of Middlefield, & annexing the whole to the County of Hampshire" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

561. Wednesday March 12th 1783.

A Bill intituled “an Act in addition to an act intitled an Act for apprehending & securing Deserters from the Continental Army, & from the Fleets & Armies of our Allies; and for repealing all Acts heretofore made for that purpose” - This Engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

The Hon. Mr. Warner brought down the Resolve of the House staying the Treasurers executions against Eastham and other towns in the County of Barnstable - In Senate March 12th 1783. Read & concurred, with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred.

A Bill intitled “an Act for confirming the records of a Plantation called Bridgton” - Read the second time and passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled “an Act for incorporating a certain tract of land situate between the rivers of Great & Little Ossipee which was settled by Thomas Parsons & his Absentees - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled “an Act for empowering the Committees for the sale of estates of Conspirators & Absentees, and the Agents appointed by the Judges of Probate on such estates in certain cases to plead the general issue & give the Acts & Resolves of the General Court & any special matter in evidence - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

562. Wednesday March 12th 1783.

A Bill intituled “an Act providing for the payment of costs in criminal suits.” This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

The Petition of Sarah Gardner, praying for the confirmation & establishment of her Husbands Will, was read again & leave given her to bring in a Bill for the purposes prayed for.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o’clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Capt. Snow, Capt Eaton Capt. Jones be a Committee to inquire into the abatement of fines for delinquency in raising men, to be made to the towns in the County of Lincoln & report.

Mr. Cranch was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request them to send down the Bill intitled “an Act for appointing the times & places for holding the Supreme Judicial Court,” which the Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down accordingly. The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down a Petition from Joseph Lee agent on the estate of Joseph Hooper, late of Marblehead, with a Resolve of Senate empowering the Judge of Probate of Wills for the County of Essex to appoint Commissioners to examine the claims against said estate. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of Timothy Ruggles. - In Senate, Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

563. Wednesday March 12th 1783.

Also the Petition of Richard Meagher with the following Order, viz: In Senate, March 12th 1783. Read again & thereupon ordered that John Hastings Esq. with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this Petition on papers accompanying into consideration, hear the parties & report thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred and Dr. Baily & Mr. Ayres are joined.

Also the Petition of Henry Allyne, Clerk to the Proprietors of the Kennebeck Purchase &c. with an Order of Senate thereon to notify all persons interested to shew cause &c. on the first Friday of the next Session. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from John Peabody, setting forth that he had exchanged with the Corporation of the University of Cambridge certain lands, but that there were doubts of their powers to convey lands, & praying they might be authorized for that purpose - Read & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes prayed for.

A Petition from Messes Sears & Smith praying that certain government securities given to them in payment for the ship Putnam, lost at Penobscott, might be loaned & the premium of four per cent allowed thereon - Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Col. Thorndike & Col. Dawes.

The Committee on the Petition of the town of Brunswick, reported a Resolve excusing them from their fine for not raising three men agreeable to the Resolve of March 7th 1783. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

On the Petition of Dorothy Forbes & Elizabeth Murray, a Resolve permitting them to bring certain books & apparell from Nova Scotia - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

564. Wednesday March 12th 1783.

A Petition from John Adams praying that Ezra Shaddock Collector of Taxes for Bernardstown might be empowered to collect such taxes as were assessed upon Colrain previous to its being sett off from said Bernardston - Read and committed to Col. Mc. Clellan, Capt Prentice & Capt Upham.

The Committee on the abatements of fines to the towns in the County of Lincoln, reported the following Order – viz - that the several Towns & Districts in the County of Lincoln, be and they hereby are abated their fines for not raising their men for the Continental Army agreeable to the Resolves of December 1780. excepting the following towns in said County viz - Pownalborough, Pittston, Bath, George Town, Winthrop, Bowdoinham, Wolwich, Vassallboro', Hallowell, Topsham, Winslow. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A petition from Hannah Holman, Guardian of Deborah Holman & others, praying for the sale of their real estate - Also a Petition from Elizabeth Freeman praying to be empowered to sell the real estate of her husband, who was absent agreeable to a power of Attorney left with her for that purpose, which was found to be imperfect. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of Land.

A Resolve directing the Secy. to call upon the Committees appointed, to make return of their prices of corn and other articles, in order to ascertain the value of the depreciation notes in the newspapers, to make such returns to the respective agents for the times appointed. Read and passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Also a Resolve appointing Col. Edward Grow, Agent for

the County of York, in the room of Mr. Joseph Sewall deceased, - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled "an Act for granting a lottery for building a Bridge over Agawan River, so called in West Springfield" Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

On the Petition of Andrew Gardner & Rebecca Gardner, a Resolve empowering the said Rebeccah to execute the Will of John Brown as sole Exorx. thereof, one Unite Brown who was appointed jointly with the said Rebeccah having absented himself. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled "an Act for establishing & confirming a certain instrument as the last Will & Testament of Nicholas Gardner" - Read the first time & Thursday 10 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Jonas Wyman reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition - not accepted & ordered that said Petition be referred to the next Session of the General Court.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Barnstable, & the Committee on various Petitions from towns in the County of York, reported verbally that said Petitions lie on the files. Order to lie accordingly.

Then the House adjourned to Thursday morning, 10 o'clock.

Thursday March 13th 1783. Met according to adjmt.

The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down a Resolve of Senate, empowering David Lewall Esq & others, a Committee to ascertain the public lands in the Eastern Counties, to employ suitable persons to survey the same &c. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

566. Thursday March 13th 1783.

The House took up the Bill intitled "an Act for appointing the times & places for holding the Supreme Judicial Court & reconsidered their vote of non-concurrence with the amendment of the Hon. Senate at B & C. & concurred therewith. 53. 78.

The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down the Order of the House abating fines to certain towns in the County of Lincoln - In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House directing the Secy. to call upon the Committees &c. - to make returns of certain articles in order to ascertain the value of the notes given to the officers & Soldiers of the Army for the depreciation of their wages. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of David Poor reported a Resolve directing the Treasurer to pay his first depreciation note. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Moses Goodenow reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled "an Act impowering the Committees for the sale of the estates of Conspirators and Absentees, & the Agents appointed by the Judges of Probate on such estates, in certain cases to plead the general issue & give the Acts & Resolves of the General Court, and any special matter in evidence" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

567. Thursday March 13th 1783.

Genl. Prebble brought down a Petition from Moses Fitch setting forth that he had greatly suffered in Battle, and a Resolve of Senate thereon granting him fifteen pounds therefor. Sent down for concurrence. Read & unanimously non-concurred. Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Charles Goodrich Esq - In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the report of the Committee on the representation & accounts of Caleb Davis Esq late Agent, with the amendment of the House thereon. In Senate March 13th 1783. Read & non-concurred & the Senate adhere to their own vote. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred.

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of Winchendon reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes prayed for. The following Bill intitled "an Act for granting a lottery for rebuilding & repairing the public Bridges, & repairing the public road leading to No. 4. in the town of Winchendon" was then laid upon the table & Read the first time & Friday 10 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Bill intitled "an Act for confirming the Records of a Plantation called Bridgton" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

The Committee appointed to enquire the number of Deserters from Col. Popkins reported a list, a Copy of which was ordered to be delivered to the Atty. General, & was delivered accordingly.

568. Thursday March 13th 1783.

A Petition from Major General William Heath praying that certain monies paid out of the Treasury to his order in his public capacity might be charged to the United States. Read & committed to Mr. Rowe, Capt. Wales & Mr. Locke.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.
Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Phillips came down with the Bill intituled an Act for appointing the times & places for holding the Supreme Judicial Court, & said the Senate proposed an additional clause to regulate the next meeting of said Court in the County of Worcester.

Mr. Ely was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to inform them that the House agreed to the said proposal in the Bill aforesaid.

The Hon. Mr. Choate brought down an Order of Senate appointing Samuel Phillips Esq, and John Becon Esq, with such as the Hon. House might join a Committee, to wait upon His Excelly. the Governor with a Message in answer to one from His Excelly. of the 10th ulto. relative to discharging the accounts of such persons as have afforded quarters to the Officers of the French Army in Boston. Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred and Mr Dwight, Capt. Wales and Mr. Cranch are joined.

569. Thursday, March 13th 1783.

A Bill intitued “an Act for establishing & confirming a certain instrument as the lost Will & Testament of Nicholas Gardner” Read the second time & Friday 10 o’clock A. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Phillips brought down the Order of the House for abating fines for deficiencies in raising men to several towns in the County of Lincoln & the New Draft of the House thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & delivered to the Committee on the Tax Bill.

The Committee on the Petition of John Bayley reported by way of Resolve. Read & thereupon Ordered that said Petition be referred to the next Session of the Gen. Court.

The Hon. Mr. Baker brought down the report of the Committee on the letter from the Delegates at Congress of the 11th ulto. relative to the Bills of the old Emission money, being a draft of a letter to them in answer thereto. - In Senate, March 13th 1783. Read & accepted, & ordered that the letter aforesaid be transcribed & forwarded to the Delegates of this Commonwealth as soon as may be. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Ely, Dr. Smith & Col. Goodman be a Committee to revise the Act (paid the 28th April 1781 intitled an Act to prevent damage being done upon the improved lands adjoining to Connecticut River by reason of the timber being left thereon by the spring floods; & for fixing a time for the owners to remove it & report.

Then the House adjourned to Friday Morning 10 o’clock.

570. Friday March 14th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill intituled "an Act for granting a Lottery for rebuilding & repairing the public Bridges, & repairing the public Roads in the town of Winchendon which lead to Charlestown in the state of New Hampshire" - Read the second time & Tuesday 10 o'clock A. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.

Ordered that Mr. Frazier, Major King & Capt Spear be a Committee to revise the Act for the regulating vendues & to bring in an Act continuing the same if necessary. Ordered that Col. Hutchinson, Col. Grow & Dr. Smead be a Committee, to consider what measures if any are necessary to be taken respecting the increase of suits at Law & report.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the report of the Committee appointed to enquire what steps Mr. Wm. Burgess had taken in consequence of the Resolve of 8th Nov. last, being a Resolve requesting the Governor & Council to permit him to tarry in this state any term of time not exceeding six weeks. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from Peter Boylston Adams & others, Guardians to Jona, Rawson & others praying to sell this real estate Read & committed to the Committee on the Sale of Land.

The Committee on the Petition of Benja. Ward reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

571. Friday March 14th 1783.

A Bill intituled “an Act for appointing the times & places for holding the Supreme Judicial Court,” - This engrossed Bill having had three several reading passed to be enacted.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the report of the Committee appointed to report what measures are proper to be taken with respect to the sale of the estates of Absentees & Conspirators. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Message was sent to the Hon. Senate to request them to send down the Petition of Samuel Haven Admr. on the estate of James Goodwin which was sent down accordingly, & committed to the Committee on the sale of land.

The Committee on the petition of Burrill Devereaux & or. reported that the Petitioner requested that said Petition might be referred for consideration to the next session of the General Court. Order for a reference accordingly.

A Petition from the third Company in the town of Rochester praying to be empowered to collect certain taxes assessed for the raising of Men. Read & Committed to Col. Thurston, Col. Grow & Col. Robinson.

The Committee on the Petition of John Adams reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Messrs. Sears & Smith reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the town of Westfield praying their valuation might be lowered. Read & Committed to the Committee on a similar Petition from the town of Northfield.

& said Committee were ordered to consider the circumstances of the town of Southwick in that respect.

The Committee on the Petition of Capt Amos Lincoln reported a Resolve directing the Conrg. General to provide cloathing for his Company, as prayed for. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a Petition from James Witherel & the following Bill founded thereon, viz - A Bill intitled "an Act more effectually to enable Constables & Collectors of Taxes to collect assessments in certain cases" - In Senate March 14th 1783. - This bill having had two several readings, passed to be engrossed. Sent down for concurrence. Read the first time & Saturday morning 10 o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof – Also a Resolve of Senate thereon. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Resolve vesting the Committee on Absentees estates with all the powers of Agents appointed by the Judges of Probate &c. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.
The Committee on the Petition of Seth Bates reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A petition from Phillip Carrier a Soldier in the Continental service praying for his depreciation Notes – Read & committed to Col. Goodman, Mr. Whitney of N. & Col. McClellan.

The Committee on the Petition of Meshach Penniman reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Edward Blake an Officer praying for his pay, Read & committed to Col. Dawes, Capt. Cushing & Mr. Barrett of Boston.

A Petition from the Select Men of the town of Lynn, praying to be excused from a fine laid upon said town for not raising a man for the Army - Also a Petition from the assessors of said town

572 Cont. 573. Friday March 14th 1783.

praying to be allowed for assessing a Tax upon certain Quakers, for the raising of Men – Read & committed to Major Farmer, Mr. Hobart & Mr. Sylvester.

The Hon. Mr. Davis came down & said that the Senate, in considering the late Act for revising sundry laws, did not find the Act for regulating vendues, & that they suggested to the Hon. House the propriety of taking measures for continuing the last named act.

573. A Petition from Perez Cushing praying for the Bounty for taking up several Deserters from the Army – Read and Committed to Mr. Dunbar, Col. Prescott & Col. Wheaton.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the following Order of Senate viz. - In Senate March 14th 1783. Ordered that Saul Niles & Ephraim Starkweather Esqrs, be a Committee on the part of the Senate to confer with such Committee as the Hon. House may appoint upon the allowance which ought justly to be made to the Committee appointed to make sale of the Ship Tartar. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Col. Goodman & Col. Thorndike are appointed on the part of the House.

A petition from Thomas Learned praying for the examination & allowance of his account, against the estate of Eliakim Hutchinson an Absentee – Read & committed to Capt. Dench Mr. Baily & Capt. Brewer.

A Petition from Nathl. Fisher & Mary Hixson, Guardian of the Heirs of Richard Hixson praying to be empowered to execute a deed of certain lands in behalf of said heirs – Read & committed to Mr. Dunbar, Col. Thorndike & Col. Edey,

A Memorial from Thomas Lothrop in behalf of the town of Cohasset, praying to be allowed such sums of money as they have overpaid by means of a mistake in their valuation -

573 Cont. 574. Friday, March 14th 1783.

Read & Committed to Capt Dench, Capt Snow & Col. Clarke to be taken up at large.

A Petition from the Select Men of Pembroke praying that one Alexander Soper might be empowered to collect the Taxes in said town which were committed to Increase Robinson to collect, but were not collected by him – Read & committed to Capt. Cushing, Col Lothrop & Capt. Nichols.

574 A Petition from Seth Newton, Guardian of Thomas Lewis praying for the sale of his real estate. - Read & committed to the Committee appointed to consider Petitions on the sale of Land.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Roxbury reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A petition from Saml. Ely praying for the liberation of his Son confined in Boston Goal – Read & thereupon Ordered that Mr. Bartlett & Col. Goodman with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider said Petition & report. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from the Selectmen of Rowley praying to be excused for not sending a Representative to the General Court. Read & committed to Col. Thorndike, Col. Prescott & Capt. Patch. The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down a representation from the Committee for methodizing & Stating the public accounts setting forth that the Committee for concurring & paying Accounts had received from the 13th June 1782. to 10th Feby. 1783, from the Treasury £ 13760:5/3. & had produced vouchers for £ 13759:6/3. & had paid the balance of 19/- to the Treasury – In Senate

575. Friday, March 14th 1783.

Read & Sent down. Read and a Resolve discharging said Committee from the sum received, Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Also the Order of the House directing the Secry. to furnish the Printer with an Index to the Resolves of the General Court. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill intitled "an Act for establishing & confirming a certain Instrument as the last Will & Testament of Nicholas Gardner" Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the petition of Edward Blake reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the sale of land, reported on the Petition of Aaron Hill & Gideon Frost & the Petition of William Tuck & others by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committees on the Petitions of Mary Willard & others & the petition of Saml. Gamnage, reported verbally that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petitions.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Bill intituled "an Act for the purpose of securing to authors the exclusive right & benefit of publishing their literary productions for twenty one years" - In Senate, March 14th 1783. Read the second time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendments from A. to H. - Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee on the petition of Messrs Codman & Smith reported a resolve granting the prayer thereof. Read and accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

576. Friday March 14th 1783.

Ordered that Capt Bancroft, Dr. Manning & Mr Wheelock, be a Committee to make enquiry what Measures Congress have taken respecting the wages & losses of the nine months men, & also with respect to the arms detained from them on their leaving the Army, & to draft to letter to the Delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress on that subject if necessary.

On representation that the town of Charlton had neglected to assess their proportion of the Tax granted in the first Session of the General Court in the year 1779, in paper money – Ordered that Mr. Dunbar, Mr. Vans & Mr. Bartlett be a Committee to ascertain the value of said Tax on Order for its being assessed on said town in hard money. Then the House adjourned to 10 o'clock Saturday morning.

Saturday March 15th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

Genl. Prebble brought down the following order of Senate, viz - In Senate March 14th 1783. - Ordered that Stephen Choate Esq, with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to examine the rate at which the town of Hardwick stands in the present valuation & report their opinion whether any alteration ought to be made therein. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr. Vans & Mr. Jenckes are joined.

A Resolve appropriating so much of the monies arising from the sale of the Ship Tartar, as may be sufficient to discharge the Pay-Rolls of the Members of the Court the Present Session – to that purpose – Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

577. Saturday March 15th 1783.

A Bill intituled “an Act more effectually to enable Constables & Collectors of taxes to collect assessments in certain cases.” Read the second time & Tuesday 10 o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

The Committee on the Petition of Ephraim Towne reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Petition of Benja. Staples with the report of the Joint Committee thereon, that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill for the purposes prayed for. In Senate, Read & not accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & nonconcurred, & Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill according to the report of the Committee. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Saml. Niles Esq, brought down the Petition of the Selectmen of the town of Rowley, & the report of the Joint Committee thereon by way of Resolve. Sent down for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Benja. Tupper. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred & the House adhere to their own vote. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled “an Act for repealing an Act intitled an Act directing the appraisment of certain articles of personal estate when taken to satisfy execution at the sale of any private person or persons, & for making more effectual provision for answering the purposes intended by said Act.” Read the first time & Tuesday 3 o'clock P. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

578. Saturday March 15th 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Messrs. Codman & Smith, concurred by the Senate as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent up for concurrence.

Also the report of the Committee appointed to consider what alterations might be necessary to be made in the mode pointed out on the resolve of the General Court for paying the accounts of such persons as have demands against the Commonwealth. In Senate, Read & not accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a Resolve of Senate repealing the said Resolve and giving a new Commission to the Committee therein mentioned. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill intitled "an Act to impower the Corporation of Harvard College to make a legal conveyance of certain land being the property of said College." Read the first time & Monday 3 o'clock, P. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

The Secry. brought down a Message from His Excelly. the Governor in reply to that of the two Houses of the 13th inst. relative to the demands exhibited for quartering the French Troops in Boston. Read & thereupon Ordered the Genl. Ward, Mr. Cranch, & Mr. Barrett of Boston, with such as the Hon. Senate may join, be a Committee to take said Message into consideration & report. Sent up for concurrence.

Then The House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

579. Saturday March 15th 1783. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee on the Petition of James Carrier, reported a Resolve granting the prayer thereof. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the sale of land reported a Resolve on the petition of Seth Newton. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

A Petition from Jabez Smith in behalf of the town of Falmouth in the County of Barnstable, praying that the Treasurers Exeons. might be stayed in favor of said town – Read & Committed to the Committee on similar Petitions from said County.

Genl. Prebble brought down the Resolve of the House of 6th Nov. 1782. appointing Mr. Jas. Locke & Abel Wilder Esq with such as the Hon. Senate might join a Committee to view a part of Ervingshire & other towns. In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Capt. Dench was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request them to send down the accounts of Caleb Davis Esq & the Resolve of Senate thereon. Which was brought down accordingly. The House then reconsidered their last vote thereon and agreed with the vote of the Hon. Senate. Sent up.

A petition from Capt. Thomas Jackson praying that the depreciation of his wages might be made up. Read & committed to Dr. Weld, Mr. Spooner, Dr. Baily.

A Bill intitled an Act for appointing & assessing a Tax of (Title as entered in the Afternoon of the 18th March inst.) &c. - Read the first time & Monday morning 10 o'clock assigned for the Second reading thereof. The house adjourned to that hour.

580. Monday March 17th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill intitled "an Act for securing to authors the exclusive right & benefit of publishing their literary productions for twenty one years" - This engrossed Bill having had there several readings passed to be enacted with the following amendment viz - before the last word in the second line of the second enacting clause to insert the words "or has been," & Mr Ely was then charged with a Message to proper the same amendment to the Hon. Senate.

A Petition from George Little, Commander of the Sloop Winthrop, praying for a supply of sea Cloaths for her crew – Read & Committed to Capt. Wales. Col. Thorndike & Mr. Bartlett.

The Committee on the Resolve of Senate on the Petition of Paul Jewet & others, Select Men of Rowley reported. Whereupon the House concurred with said Resolve.
The Committee on the Petition of Nathl. Fisher & Mary Hixson reported by way of Resolve – Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Genl. Prebble brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Jona. Edey. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of Samuel Ely – Being a Resolve of Senate – Sent down for concurrence.

Read & concurred.

581. Monday March 17th 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Turner brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Seth Newton. In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Ordered that Major Goodman & Mr. Dwight with Such as the Senate may join be a Committee to make enquiry into the causes of the subjects of this Commonwealth, Prisoners with the enemy, not having been exchanged & report what measures may be necessary to be taken for effecting their exchange. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon brought down the Bill "intitled" an Act for the purpose of securing to authors the exclusive right and benefit of publishing their literary productions for twenty one years." & said that the Senate did not agree to the amendment of the House proposed therein, and proposed before the word written in the second line of the 2nd enacting clause to insert the woods "not yet printed" before the last word in said line insert the words "shall have been," & dele the word "is" - to which amendment the House agreed.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down a circular letter from Robert Morris Esq. To the Gover. dated Feby. 22nd 1783. inclosing Resolves of Congress of the 12th 17th & 18th of said month for ascertaining an estimate to apportion the public expenses upon the several States in the Union &c. In Senate, Read and thereupon Ordered, that Samuel Phillips Jr. & George Cabot Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to take this letter with the paper accompanying into consideration & report. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred and Gen. Ward, Mr. Barrett of Boston & Mr. Dwight are joined.

582. Monday March 17th 1783.

A Representation from Edmd. Phinecey & others, a Committee in behalf of a Convention of Select Men & Committee from most of the principal towns in the County of Cumberland respecting the exposed situation of said County as to the enemy - Read and thereupon Ordered that Genl. Ward Mr Dwight and Col Thatcher with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to consider sd. representation & also what measures are necessary to be taken for discharging Col Wheaton from any obligations he may be under from his receiving stores from the Board of War for the use of the public to be delivered in the County of Lincoln, agreeable to the Resolve of Novr. 19th 1779, & report. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a letter from the President of Congress dated 24th Febuy. 1783. inclosing a Resolve of Congress of 21st of said month - In Senate, read & sent down. Read & sent up.

Also a letter from His Excelly. Jonathan Trumbull Govr. of Connecticut, & another from the Hon. Meshech Weare, President of New Hampshire, relative to the appointing of Delegates from several States on the Subject matter of Import and excise. In Senate, Read & Sent down. Read and sent up.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of the town of Brunswick. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred.

583. Monday, March 17th 1783.

A Bill intitled “an Act for preventing the unnecessary destruction of shad, alewives & other Fish in Catthance & Abagadesset Rivers in the town of Bowdoinham” - Read the first time & Tuesday 10th o'clock assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Bill intitled “an Act in addition to the Acts already made for the preserving of the fish in the Wewewantett River” - Read the first time & the same day at 11th o'clock A. M. assigned for the second reading of said Bill.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a report from the Committee on accounts relative to the services of the Clerks in the Secretary's Office & the board of the poor of the town of Charlestown, & an Order of Senate thereon fixing the allowance for those, & similar services at Seven shillings per diem, & twelve shillings per week for the board of said poor. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to 3rd o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolve for paying to Ephraim Starkweather Esq. & others, a Committee for examining allowing and paying accounts, the sum of Six Thousand Pounds out of the Treasury, they to be accountable – Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of James Bayley & others reported an order to notify David Tucksbury to shew cause &c. on the second Tuesday of next Session. Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

584. Monday, March 17th 1783.

A Bill intitled “an Act to empower the Corporation of Howard College to make a legal conveyance of certain land being the property of said College” – Read the second time & Tuesday 10th o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

On Motion Mr. Barrett was charged with a Message to the Hon. Senate to request them to send down the letter from the Honble. Meshech Weare Esq President of New Hampshire, which the Hon. Mr. Baker brought down accordingly – Whereupon it was Ordered that Mr Barrett of Boston, Major Goodman & Mr. Crunch, with such as the Hon Senate may join be a Committee to consider said letter & report what may be proper to be done thereon. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Cabot brought down the letter of the 22nd Feby. from His Excelly. Gen. Washington & a draft of a letter in answer thereto. Sent down for Concurrence – Read & concurred with amendments from A to I. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Niles brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Messrs. Sears & Smith. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down the Resolve of the House granting £ 6000. to the Committee on accounts. In Senate, Read & Concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

585. Monday March 17th 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Mary Hubbard. In Senate Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill intitled "an Act for apportioning & assessing a tax of (title entered 18th inst. P. M.) Read the second time & Tuesday morning, 11th o'clock assigned for the third reading thereof.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday (?) morning 10th o'clock.

Tuesday, March 18th 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to receive of Samuel Ely a certain Bond in compliance with the Resolve passed the 17th inst. the date of said Bond being previous to the date of said Resolve notwithstanding – Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled "an Act in addition to & for altering & amending an Act intitled an Act for forming and regulating the Militia within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, & for repealing all laws heretofore made for that purpose. Read the third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed with amendments as A. Z. B. C. & D. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intituled "an Act more effectually to enables & Constables & Collectors of Taxes to collect assessments in certain cases".

Read the third time & passed a Concurrence to be engrossed.

586. Tuesday, March 18th 1783.

A Bill intitled “an Act to empower the Corporation of Howard College to make a legal conveyance of certain land being the property of said College. Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled “an Act for granting a Lottery for rebuilding & repairing the public Bridges, & repairing the public Roads in the town of Winchendon, which lead to Charlestown in the state of New Hampshire” - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled “an Act for preventing the unnecessary destruction of Shad, Alewives & other Fish in Calthance & Abagadesset Rivers, in the town of Bowdoinham” - Read the second time & Wednesday 11th o'clock assigned for the third reading of the same.

A Bill intitled “an Act in addition to the Acts already made for the preserving of the Fish in Wewewantett River” Read the Second time & the same time assigned for the third reading thereof.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down the Resolve of the House vesting the Committees with all the powers of Agents on Absentees Estates. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred. The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Oren Smith - In Senate Read & concurred, as taken into a New Draft - Sent down for concurrence.

Read & Concurred.

587. Tuesday, March 18th 1783.

A Resolve empowering the Hon. Benja. Chadburne Esq & others, to confer with Lady Mary Pepperell, respecting certain lands in which she is interested lying in the County of York &c. Read & Passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of John Rice & Jabez Harding. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A – Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House empowering the Hon. Benja. Chadburne Esq & others, to confer with Lady Mary Pepperell on the subject of her lands in the County of York &c. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down a Resolve of Senate repealing the Resolve of the 13th inst. for staying the sale of Absentees Estates in the several Counties – Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred & a Resolve directing the Secry. to publish the first mentioned Resolve read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled "an Act for apportioning & assessing the sum of two hundred thousand Pounds &c, as entered on the next page but one. Read the third time and passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

588. Tuesday, March 18th 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down the Resolve of the House of the 22nd Feby. lengthening the time for returning receipts on Constables to the Treasures. In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Resolve allowing to Jona. Ward Esq the sum of Two Hundred Pounds in full of his account exhibited – Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A message was sent to the Hon. Senate to request them to send down the Resolve vesting the Committees with all the powers of agents on Absentees estates - which was brought down accordingly. Whereupon the House reconsidered the vote of concurrence with the amendment of the Hon Senate & adhered to their original vote. sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the Bill in addition to the Act for forming & regulating the Militia of this Commonwealth, with the amendments of the House thereon. In Senate Read & concurred at A. Z. B. & non-concurred at C. & D. & the Senate propose further amendments at E & G. Sent down for concurrence – Read & concurred.

Also the draft of a letter to His Excelly. Genl. Washington in answer to his of the 22nd of Feby. with the amendments of the House thereon – In Senate, Read & concurred at A. C. D. E. & I., & non-concurred at G. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Petition from John Pickering & others praying to be empowered to sell real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on the Sale of Land.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported a Resolve on the petition of Hannah Holman. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled "an Act for repealing an Act intitled an Act directing the appraisement of certain articles of personal estate when taken to satisfy executions at the suit of any private person or persons & for making more effectual provision for answering the purposes intended by the said Act," Read again, & on motion that a time be assigned for the third reading of said Bill the question was put & passed in the negative.

(A Bill intitled an Act for apportioning & assessing a Tax of Two hundred thousand pounds for the following purposes, viz - Twenty one thousand seven hundred pounds for the payment of the necessary expenses of government - Eighty three thousand three hundred pounds for the payment of interest on government securities. Forty thousand pounds of the payment of Warrants, drawn or lodged in the Treasurers Office, Thirty five thousand pounds for the payment of Muster Rolls, Armed vessells, accounts allowed & to be allowed by the committee on accounts, & other contingent charges of Government, & twenty thousand pounds for the payment of Militia Rolls for five & three months men raised in the year one thousand seven hundred eighty one, Also the sum of eights thousand six hundred & fifty six pounds thirteen shillings for the pay of the Members of the House of Representatives for their attendance in the General Court the three last sessions of the late the first session of the present Genl. Court. Also the sum of two thousand two hundred sixty nine pounds seven shillings & ten pence as fines laid on several towns within this Commonwealth which have neglected to send Representative to the Genl. Court the last & present year. Also the sum of three hundred fifty five thousand nine hundred eighty seven pounds three shillings & six pence for bounties paid by the several towns in this Commonwealth to the three years three & five months men raised agreable to the Resolve of the Genl. Court of 2nd. Dec. 1780 & June 16 & 30. 1781. Also the sum of twenty six thousand five hundred & seventeen pounds five shillings and 6^{d} as fines laid on several towns within this Commonwealth for deficiencies in the three years three and five months men.)

Met according to adjournment.
Col. Brown had leave to go home & was requested to take with him the Resolve of the 13th inst. for staying the sales of Absentees Estates till the 1st of October, to the several Committees interested.
A Bill intitled on Act to empower the Corporation of Howard College, to make a legal conveyance of a certain lot of land being the property of the said College - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Bill entitled "an Act more effectually to enable Constables & Collectors of Taxes to collect assessments in certain cases" - This engrossed Bill, having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.
The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Robert Miller - In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill intitled "an Act for establishing & confirming a certain instrument as the last Will & Testament of Nicholas Gardner" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted. (90 Members.)

A Bill intitled "an Act for preventing the unnecessary destruction of Shad, Alewives & other Fish, in Calthance and Abagadesset River in the town of Bowdoinham." Read the third time & passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

A Petition from Crowell Hatch praying to be permitted to go to New York - Read & committed to Mr. Bartlett Capt. Peterson & Mr. Vans.

591. Wednesday, March 19. 1783.

The Hon. Senate sent down the Report of the Joint Committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the subjects of this Government, prisoners with the enemy not having been exchanged, being an opinion that no further measures are now necessary to be taken on that subject – In Senate, Read and accepted with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.
The Committee on the sale of Land reported verbally on the petition of Eliza Freeman that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw her Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

Ordered, that the Clerk publish the following articles in the Constitution relative to the election of Representatives in order that the good people in the several towns of this Commonwealth, may not by neglecting to make such elections within the time therein prescribed deprive themselves of the important privilege of Representation. viz –

"Chap. 1st. Sect. 3rd. - Every Member of the House of Representatives shall be chosen by written votes, and for one year at least, next preceding his election shall have been an Inhabitant of, and have been seized in his own right of a freehold of the value of one hundred pounds within the Town he shall be chosen to represent, or any rateable estate to the value of two hundred pounds & he shall cease to represent the said town immediately on his ceasing to be qualified as aforesaid.

Sec. 5.- The Members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen annually in the Month of May, ten days at least before the last Wednesday of that month."

592. Wednesday, March 19. 1783.

Ordered that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth lay before this House on or before Friday next in the afternoon the state of the Treasury since his appointment.

A Petition from Nathl Foster praying for an allowance for services done in the Treasurers Office, as exhibited in an account – Read & Ordered to be committed to the Committee on accounts to make such allowance for the same as may appear reasonable, & to make payment. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Benja. Austin & Nathl. Appleton Esqrs, a Committee to settle the accounts of the late Treasurer attend the House to-morrow at 10 o'clock A. M. for the purpose of informing them of the progress they have made in the business of their appointment – and also that John Furness Esq. attend with said Committee.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

[Met according to adjournment.]

A Bill intitled an Act in addition to the Acts already made for the preserving of the fish in the Wewewantett River – Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled an Act for preventing the unnecessary destruction of Shad, Alewives & other Fish in Cathance & Abagadesset Rivers in the town of Bowdoinham - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

593 Wednesday, March 19. 1783.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported a Resolve on the Petition of Samuel Haven. Read & accepted Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Thomas Jackson reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

On the Petition of James Hathaway a Resolve granting him six Pounds seven shillings in full for the expenses of his son, who was wounded while in the guard at Brookfield. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

On the Petition of John Pickering & other, praying for the sale of Real estate, a Resolve granting the prayer thereof. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Genl. Prebble brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Memorial of the Committees & Select Men from various towns in the County of Cumberland, being by way of Resolve. In Senate, March 19th 1783. Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Ebenr. Shephard reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted & thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

The Committee on the Petition of John Jones Spooner reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for Concurrence.

594 A Resolve empowering the Proprietors of the common field in Springfield to include a certain gore of Land in said Field or not as they might find in Convenient. Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to Thursday morning, 10 o'clocks.

594. Thursday, March 20. 1783.

Met according to adjournment

The Committee on the Petition of Crowell Hatch reported verbally, that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Freeman brought down the following Order of Senate viz - In Senate March 20th 1783. Ordered that Samuel Phillips Jr. & Caleb Davis Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee, to consider of & report what public measures are requisite to be provided in order to take effect, in case a declaration of Peace should be made by the proper authority before the next meeting of the General Court. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & Mr Goodhue Mr Goodman & Mr Vans are joined.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Ruth Permiman. [?] In Senate, Read and concurred with amendments at A. & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Genl. Prebble brought down the Tax Bill with amendments of Senate thereon – Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred, except the amendment in the balance due from the Town of Southampton, & the House propose to dele 53 & insert 43 in the Representatives pay of said Town. Sent up for concurrence.

595 A Petition from the town of Wareham, praying for easement in their taxes. Read & committed to Col. Coffin Dr. Manning & Dr. Chamberlain.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

595 Thursday, March 20. 1783. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment

The Committee appointed to consider of the most convenient time for the recess of the Court to commence, reported that Thursday next would be the most probable period. Whereupon the Committee on the Pay Roll were directed to make up the travel and attendance of the members accordingly.

Genl. Bridge brought down the Report of the Committee on the Petition of Richard Meagher "that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw their [his] Petition." In Senate March 20. 1783. Read & accepted & Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition accordingly. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the accounts of the County Treasurer for Bristol & an Order of Senate allowing the same. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

11 o'clock, A. M. - Benja Austin, Nathaniel Appleton and John Furness Esqrs, attended the House agreeable to the Order of yesterday, & made report relative to the settlement of the late Treasurers Books.

Read and committed to Dr Manning, Mr Hall of Medford and Col Orr.

596. Thursday March 20. 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down a Petition from Cotton Tufts Esq in behalf of the Academy of Arts & Sciences, & of the Medical Society praying for the use of a room in the Manufactory House for their meetings, & a Resolve of Senate thereon granting the prayer thereof. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported a Resolve on the Petition of Hannah Wheat. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee appointed to ascertain the value of the Tax assessed on the town of Charlton reported a Resolve determine the same & directing the Treasurer to debit said town with the sum of £ 334:13. in specie in Lieu thereof. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled "an Act in addition to and for Altering & amending an Act entitled a Act for forming & regulating the Militia within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts & for repealing all laws heretofore made for that purpose" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted with the following amendments viz - in the eleventh line of the form of the execution, after the word aforesaid to insert "with - for costs of suit & also - for this Writ." - which amendment Mr. Ely was charged with a message to propose to the Hon. Senate. Mr. Sprague [?] came down & said that the Senate agreed thereto. - A Resolve directing the Secry. to print 800 copies of said Act & to transmit the same to the several Field Officers - Read & Passed & Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of the Select Men of Rowley reported verbally that they have leave to withdraw their Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

597. Thursday, March 20. 1783.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported a Resolve on the Petition of John Haven & others. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Cranch & Mr. Metcalf be a Committee to consider if any further measures are necessary to be taken relative to the premium given on consolidated securities, & report.

Then the House adjourned to Friday morning 10 o'clock.

Friday Morning, March 21. 1783.

Met according to adjournment

The Committee on Pensions reported a Resolve allowing to the widow of Jona. Cogswell, one of the Crew of the Alfred Frigate, one third pay from the time of his being wounded to the time of his death - Also a Resolve allowing to Major Wm. Lithgo, one third part of his pay till further order of Court - Also a Resolve allowing one eight part of pay to Capt. John Francis till further order - Also a Resolve allowing to Elisha Rice one eighth part of pay - Also a Resolve allowing to Thomas Shaw one half pay till further order of the Court or Congress. Also a Resolve allowing are fourth part of pay to John Dunker - all soldiers in the Army. Also a Resolve allowing to John McGoff, a seaman on board the Brigt. Tyrannicide one half pay till further order. - All of which Resolves were read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down a Bill intited “an Act laying an Impost on certain goods, wares, & merchandize” In Senate March 21. 1783. Read & Sent down. Read the first time, & voted that 3 oclock, P. M. be assigned for the second reading thereof.

A Resolve for compleating the collection of public Taxes

granted previous to the year 1775. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Adams Bailey, praying that his depreciation notes might be discharged - Read & committed to Col Orr Dn. Brown & Mr. Sackett.

Ordered that Mr. Goodhue & Capt Wales with such as the Hon Senate may join be a Committee to consider of the day on which it will be practicable for the General Court to rise, report. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to appropriate the Prize money due from the Cruise of the Sloop Winthrop to the Commonwealth, for the payment of the wages of the crew of said sloop. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Petition from Moses Bullard Guardian of Daniel Saunders, praying to sell his real estate. Read & committed to the Committee on the sale of land.

Genl. Bridge brought down the engrossed Bill in addition to the Act for forming & regulating the Militia of this Commonwealth & said the Senate proposed three amendments in the second enacting clause of said Bill, which were read & agreed to & Mr. Ely was charged with a Message to inform the Hon. Senate thereof.

A Petition from Tho^{s}. Child & Susannah Sheaffe praying that a certificate of Thos. Chace late Contl. Qr. Master, given to them for the hire of barracks might be discharged. Read & Ordered that the Petitioners have leave to withdraw their Petition.

The Committee appointed to consider what further measures might be necessary to be taken respecting the premium given for consolidating government securities made report, Whereupon it was Ordered that Mr. Dane be a Committee to bring in a Bill

599. Friday March 21. 1783.

598 empowering the Treasurer to consolidate government securities to the further amount of £300.000.

Ordered that Mr. Lowell Mr. Phillips & Mr Vans be a Committee to report proper measured for preventing the counterfeiting of Loan Office Notes.

599. A Resolve empowering the Committee on Accounts to examine & certify certain accounts not provided for in their Commission. Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Bacon brought down the Message of His Excelly. the Governor of the 15th inst, with a Draft of a Message from the Court in answer thereto, & the following Order thereon viz - In Senate March 21. 1783. Ordered that John Pitts & John Bacon Esqrs, with such as the Hon. House may join be a Committee to wait on his Excelly. the Governor with the Message. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred.

A Draft of a letter to the Delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress, directing them to forward on certain vouchers of accounts against the United States left at Philadelphia by Mr. Henderson. Read & thereupon Ordered that the same be taken into a fair draft & sent to the said Delegates. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon

Met according to adjournment.

A Bill intitled “an Act laying an Impost on certain goods, wares & merchandize.” Read the second & third times & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

Genl. Prebble brought down the Resolve of the House of the 5th of February on the Petition of Aaron Hosley - In Senate Read and concurred with amendments at A & B. Sent down for concurrence.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Gilbert Dench - In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new Draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also a Bill intitled "an Act limiting the continuance of certain Acts for preventing intercourse with the enemy." In Senate March 21. 1783. Read & sent down. Read the first & second times & voted that the twenty second article in the rules & orders of the House be dispensed with, & that sd. Bill be read the third time in Order to be engrossed on Saturday morning 10 o'clock.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of the Town of Rutland, In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Capt. Thomas Jackson. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Mr. Barrett was charged with a Message to request the Hon. Senate to send down the accounts of certain Inhabitants of Boston for quartering the French [Trooks] Army in Boston, which were sent down accordingly. - And a Resolve granting to John Scollay Esq & others, Select Men of Said Town, four hundred & nine pounds 3/6^{d}. being the balance of said accounts, was read and passed. Sent up for concurrence.

601. Friday March 21. 1783.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to issue his Exeon against the Constables or Collectors of delinquent Classes, where individuals therein have paid there proportion &c. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled "an Act for apportioning & assessing & a Tax of two hundred thousand Pounds, &c". (as entered on Tuesday the 18th inst.) This engrossed Bill having had three several readings passed to be enacted.

A Bill intitled "an Act laying an Impost on goods wares, and merchandize" - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

Then the House adjourned to Saturday morning 10 o'clock.

Saturday March 22. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from the Auctioneers in the town of Boston relative to the Act for regulating the sales at Auction. Read & ordered to lie.

A Bill intitled "an Act for reviving the Act intitled an Act to regulate the sale of goods at publick Vendue & to limit the number of Auctioneers; Also another Act intitled "an Act in addition to an Act made & passed at the last Session of the General Court intitled an Act to regulate the sale of Goods at publick Vendue & to limit the number of Auctioneers" - Read the first time & the present time assigned for the second reading thereof. Said Bill was then read the second time & the present time assigned for the third reading of the same. This Bill was accordingly read the third time & passed to be engrossed.

Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down the following Order of Senate, viz - In Senate March 21. 1783. Ordered that Stephen Choate Esqs be appointed a Committee on the part of the Senate with such as the Hon. House shall appoint, to confer upon the Resolve of the Senate of the 13th inst, on the Petition of Moses Fitch. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred & Mr. Ely is appointed on the part of the House.

The Hon. Mr. Hasting brought down the report of the Joint Committee on the Petition of the Hon. James Bowdoin Esqr. In Senate, Read & thereupon Ordered that the Committee of both Houses on the Memorial of Mr. Bowdoin, be and hereby are authorized and directed to here any person or persons, whatsoever, concerned in the case of Mr. Temple mentioned in the said Memorial, from whom the said Committee may apprehend any light & information may be obtained, relative to the case of said Mr. Temple. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred & Ordered that said Committee proceed in the business of their appointment. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of George Little Commander of the Sloop Winthrop. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Bill intitled “an Act in addition to an Act intitled an Act in addition to an Act intitled an Act to empower the Treasure to receive government securities on loan to consolidate the same to the further amount of three hundred pounds. Read the first time, & the present time assigned for the second reading thereof - Said Bill was then read the second time & 4 o'clock P. M. assigned for the third reading thereof.

Mr. Peterson on the Committee on the Petition of J. Bowdoin Esq in the room of Gen. Ward who is absent. Sent up for concurrence.

603. Saturday, March 22. 1783.

A Bill intitled an Act limiting the continuance of certain Acts - & Resolves for preventing intercourse with the enemy. Read the third time & passed to be engrossed with amendment at C. A. & B. - Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P.M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition from the town of Rochester, praying that a certain sum of the Old Emission paper money might be received of then in discharge of their Beef - Tax - Read & committed to Capt. Davis, Col. Grow & Col. May.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported a Resolve on the Petition of Peter Boylston Adams & al. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Gilbert Dench & others reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve granting a Tax of three hundred pounds on the County of Bristol for the use thereof - Read & passed. Sent up for Concurrence.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported by way of Resolve on the Petitions of Moses Bullard & of Hannah Gould - Also of May Granger. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Adams Bailey reported a Resolve for paying him a receipt given him by the late Treasurer Gardner. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Thomas Learned reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

604. Saturday March 22. 1783.

A Petition from Paul Dudley Sargent, setting forth that he held an estate in common with Government by right of forfeiture & praying for a division thereof - Read & committed to the Committee on the Sale of Land.

The Committee on the Petition of Falmouth & the Committee on the Petition from Fryeburg, and other Towns, reported by way of Resolve. Read & not accepted & Ordered that said Petitions lie.

A Petition from John Hovey setting forth that he had lost certain consolidated securities by accident, & praying that on producing the descriptions he might have liberty to consolidate the same. Read & committed to Mr. Adams, Mr. Upham and Mr. Jenckes.

Then the House adjourned to Monday morning 10 o'clock.

Monday March 24. 1783.

Ordered that Col Coffin, Capt Wales & Col. Goodman be a Committee to consider of a proper allowance to the President of the Senate, & Speaker of the House, & to the Clerks for their services the present year.

An account of John Hastings Esq. Postmaster, for letters brought to the Officers of Government. Read & committed to the Committee on accounts.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to pay to Sally Pool a note therein mentioned. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Secry. came down with a letter from His Excelly. Gov. Greene relative to the subject of appointing Commissioners to meet on the subject of Impost & Excise. Read & thereupon Ordered that said letter be committed to the Joint Committee on a letter from President Weare on the same subject. Sent up for concurrence.

Voted that no Petition not already acted upon be taken up the present Session, but that all Petitions now on the table lie untill the next Session of the Genl. Court.

The Committee on the Petition of the third Company in the town of Rochester reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Wood brought down the Resolve for ascertaining the Tax laid upon the town of Charlton in 1779, in specie. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down the New Draft of the House on the report of the Committee on the Petitions of the several Committees & Selectmen of the principal towns in the County of Cumberland. In Senate, Read & non-concurred & the Senate adhere to their own vote. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred & the House adhere to their own vote.

Also a Bill intitled “an Act to prevent the horrid crime of suicide” - In Senate March 24. 1783. Read the second time & passed to be engrossed as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read the first time & 3 o'clock P. M. assigned for the second reading thereof.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the report of the joint Committee appointed to consider the letter of Gov. Trumbull, relative to Mr Richard Smith, being a draft of a letter in answer thereto. In Senate March 24. 1783. Read & accepted & Ordered that the same be taken onto a fair draft & forwarded to Gov. Trumbull Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred with amendments at A. & B. Sent up for concurrence.

606. Monday, March 24. 1783.

The Secy. came down with the following Message from His Excelly the Governor viz - Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives - Upon the arrival of the armed Sloop Winthrop in this port from her cruise, I gave early directions to the Comy, General, to fit as quick as possible the said Sloop for the Sea, that she might be employed for the protection of the Eastern Coast. By a letter which I have this day received from the Comy. General, which I have directed the Secry. to lay before you, I find the Comy, is not able to compleat the business without further means. I am therefore under the necessity of requesting the attention of the General Court to the situtation of the Sloop as with their aid, the Sloop may be at Sea in a few days. John Hancock.

Council Chamber, Boston, March 24. 1783.

Committed to Mr. Dunbar, Capt Wales & Mr. Frazier.

A Bill intitled “an Act in addition to an Act intitled an Act to empower the Treasurer to receive Government securities on loan, to consolidate the same to the amount of three hundred thousand pounds” - Read the third time & passed to be engrossed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled “an Act to prevent the horrid crime of suicide” - Read the second time & thereupon Ordered that the further consideration of Said Bill be referred to the next Session of the General Court.

The Hon. Mr. Stone brought down a letter from Joseph Nye. Esq, resigning his appointment as collector of Excise for the County of Barnstable - In Senate, March 25. 1782 (?). Read & Sent down. Read & Tuesday morning, 10 o'clock assigned for the choice of a Collector of Excise in his room.

607. Monday, March 24. 1783.

A Bill intitled “an Act for reviving the Act intitled an Act to regulate the sale of goods at publick Vendue, & to limit the number of Auctioneers - Also another Act intitled an Act in addition to an Act made & passed at the last session of the General Court intitled an Act to regulate the sale of goods at publick vendue & to limit the number of Auctioneers” - This engrossed Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

A Resolve granting to the President of Senate six shillings per diem, & to the speaker of the House the same sum in addition to their pay as members of the Court. Also Sixty Pounds to the Clerks of the Senate & House each, in full for their respective services this year - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the report of the Committee appointed to consider the day on which it may be practicable for the Court to rise, being an opinion that the Court might rise on Wednesday next. In Senate, Read & accepted. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred & thereupon Ordered, that Col Coffin, Major Goodman and Col. Lothrop, with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to wait upon His. Excelly. the Governor & inform him that the two Houses have taken such Order on the business before them, as to be ready for a recess on the ensuing Wednesday, & to request His Excelly. if he has any communications to make to lay them befor the two Houses at as early a period as his conveniency will admit of. - Sent up for concurrence.

Also a letter from Capt. John Carpenter to His Excelly. the Governor. In Senate March 24. 1783. Read & sent down. Read & committed to Mr. Ely, Mr. Davis & Capt. Bancroft.

Also the Resolve of the House granting £409: 3/6^{d} for paying the accounts for quartering the French army in Boston. - In Senate Read & non-concurred & ordered that the accounts exhibited by the Selectmen of Boston for supplying quarters to certain Officers & Soldiers of the French Army, be committed to the Committee on accounts, who are directed to examine the same, & make report thereon after they shall have been stated & vouched in such manner, as that they may be properly charged to the United States. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Then the House adjourned to Tuesday morning 10 o'clock.

Tuesday March 25. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

The House proceeded according to assignment to the choice of a Collector of Excise for the County of Barnstable in the room of Joseph Nye Esq, & Col May, Col. Thurston & Mr Ely were chosen a Committee to collect count & sort the votes who attended that service & reported that the whole number of votes were sixty eight - that Col. Joseph Dimmick had fifty & was chosen, which report was accepted & Sent for Concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Hastings brought down the Bill intitled an Act limiting the continuance of certain Acts & Resolves for preventing intercourse with the enemy - & the amendments of the House thereon. In Senate, March 24. 1783. Read & Concurred with amendments at G. H. &. I. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Bill intitled an Act in addition to an Act intitled an Act to empower the Treasurer to receive Government securities on loan &c. In Senate, Read & concurred to be engrossed, with amendments at A & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & Concurred.

Ordered that the Committee appointed the 19th inst to enquire into the state of a quantity of Copper & other Stores belonging to the public, be continued during the recess, & that they make report the next Session of the General Court.

The Hon. Mr. Pitts brought down the vote of the House electing Col. Joseph Dimmick Collector of Excise for the County of Barnstable, with an Order of Senate directing the Secy. to notify him thereof. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Committee appointed to make up a Roll for the Pay of the Members for their travel and attendance, reported the same amounting to the sum of Two thousand, nine hundred & eighty three Pounds, three shillings. Read & Passed & Ordered that His Excelly. the Governor be, & he hereby is requested, with advice & consent of Council, to draw his Warrant on the Treasury of this Commonwealth, for the aforesaid sum, to be paid to the Members of the House, as apportioned in said Roll.

Gen. Prebble brought down the Resolve of the House directing the Treasurer to issue his Exeous. against Constables in certain cases for delinquencies in raising men. In Senate, Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Secry. came down with the following Message from His Excelly. the Governor, viz -

"Gentlemen of the Senate and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives - I feel a satisfaction in being able to inform you in consequence of your Message this morning received, that I have no Bills a Resolves before me which have passed the General

Court this Session that will occasion any delay to the completion of the wishes of the General Court, & if no business of importance remains still to be laid before me, I shall be ready to comply with the request of the General Court for a recess, upon the first signification of their pleasure on that subject.

John Hancock.

Council Chamber
Boston, 25. March 1783

A Resolve appointing Thos. Dawes Esq to repair the fences of the garden &c, occupied by the Treasurer & lay the accounts before the committee on accounts for payment - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

A Bill intitled "an Act in addition to an Act, intitled an Act addition to an Act intitled an Act to empower the Treasurer to receive government securities on Loan" (to empower the Treasurer to receive government securities on loan & to consolidate the same to the further amount of three hundred thousand Pounds". This engrossed Bill having had three several reading passed to be enacted.

The Committee on the Petition of Nathl. Fisher reported a Resolve for notifying Andrew Gardner to shew cause &c, on the second Wednesday of next Session - Read and passed. Sent up concurrence.

The Committee on the sale of Land reported a Resolve on the Petition of Paul Dudley Sargent. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

611. Tuesday, March 25. 1783. Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Capt Wales, Capt. Noyes & Capt. Snow with such as the Hon. Senate may appoint be a Committee to confer upon the subject matter of protecting the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve making an establishment for the Company of Guards stationed at Springfield - Read & Passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Capt. Haskell reported specially. Thereupon Ordered that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

A Resolve determing the proportion of Taxes to be paid on the lands at Charlton, which are held by the Commonwealth in common with other Tenants, be the several Proprietors - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

On representation from William Clarke, a Resolve directing the Comy. General to deliver to him 169 Rations &c. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition from the Town of Rochester, reported by way of Resolve. Read & accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

The Committee on the Petition of Samuel Noyes, reported verbally that the Petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition. Order to withdraw accordingly.

A Bill entitled “an Act limiting the continuance of certain Acts & Resolves for preventing intercourse with the enemy” This Bill having had three several readings & being engrossed passed to be enacted.

A Resolve directing the Secretary not to publish said Bill after the same may be enacted, nor this Resolve, till peace is actually declared by Congress - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that the Committee on Accounts, after they may have examined & allowed the accounts exhibited by the Selectmen of the town of Boston, for supplying quarters to the French Army, proceed to pay such sums as may appear to be due thereon - Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve directing the Treasurer to discharge the Pay Rolls of the Hon. Council, Senate & House, made up the Present Session, by paying three fourths thereof out of the proceeds of the Ship Tartar, & the remainder by Orders on the Sheriffs, Constables, or Collectors - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Then the House adjourned to Wednesday morning 10 o’clock.

Wednesday March 26. 1783.

Met according to adjournment.

Ordered that Dr. Phillips & Capt Snow be a Committee with such as the Hon. Senate may join to consider of an establishment for the officers & crew of the Sloop Winthrop. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down a draft of a letter to His Excelly. the Governor, respecting his ordering quarters for certain officers & soldiers of the French Army, while in Boston, with an Order of Senate for appointing a Committee to deliver the same. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House appointing Thos Dawes Esq to repair the Treasury - House. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments of A & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & non-concurred, & the further consideration of said Resolve referred to next Session. Sent up for concurrence.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Gilbert Dench & others. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A. B. & C. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House for enlarging or diminishing the bounds of the common Field in Springfield. In Senate Read & concurred with amendments at A & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Adams Baily - In Senate, Read & concurred with amendment at A. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

A Resolve empowering the Committee for settling the Books of the late Treasurer to employ a person for their assistance in the recess if necessary - Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Capt. Wales, Mr. Barrett & Capt. Dench be a Committee to confer with the Committee for methodizing & stating the public accounts, on the best method for settling the accounts of the late Board of War.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down a Resolve pointing out the mode of redressing towns that might be injured by errors in the Tax Act. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent up for concurrence.

A Resolve appointing Capt. James Bancroft a Committee to ascertain the wages due to the nine months men in the

recess of the General Court. Read & passed. Sent up for concurrence.

Ordered that Col. Thacher, Col. Coffin & Mr. Whitney of Northfield with such as the Hon. Senate may join be a Committee to wait upon his Excelly the Governor & inform him that the General Court have taken order upon all the business before them, & that they are now ready for a recess; & to request his Excelly to prorogue them to the third Wednesday of April next. Sent up for concurrence.

The Members from the County of Berkshire with Col. Robinson & Mr. Sylvester had leave of absence.

Then the House adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Hon. Mr. Prebble brought down a Bill intitled "an Act for repealing certain parts of an Act, passed the eighth day of November last laying certain duties of excise on certain articles therein mentioned." and for laying a duty of excise on the articles herein mentioned" - In Senate, Read & sent down - Read & ordered to lie.

Also the Resolves on the Petition from the Selectmen and Committees of the principle Towns in the County of Cumberland - with the proceedings thereon. In Senate March 26. 1783 - Read again & the Senate reconsider their vote of the 24th March & propose to the Hon. House a further consideration [of] the foregoing Resolves, connected with others. on paper A. Sent down. Read again & the House adhere to their own vote. Sent up for concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. Fisher brought down a Resolve of Senate repealing a Resolve of 13th inst appointing Delegates to Meet at Hartford on the subjects of Impost & Excise. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr Choate brought down the Resolve making an establishment for the pay of the Guards at Springfield. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments at A & B. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

Also the Resolve of the House on the Petition of Capt Walter Mc.Farland. In Senate, Read & concurred, as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Starkweather brought down a Resolve making an establishment for the Officers & crew of the Sloop Winthrop. In Senate, Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Durfee brought down the Resolve of the House appointing Capt James Bancroft a Committee to ascertain the wages due to the 9 months men &c - In Senate Read & concurred as taken into a new draft. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Hon Mr. Durfee brought down the new draft of the House on the Resolve for excusing the late Agent from purchasing a vessell to guard the sea-coast of the Commonwealth & empowering the Comy. General for that purpose. In Senate, Read & concurred with amendments. Sent down for concurrence. Read and concurred.

The Hon. Mr. Nichols brought down a Resolve repealing a Resolve passed the 17th inst. authorizing Rebecca Gardner to act as sole exrix. of the last Will and Testament of Jno. Brown. In Senate, Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

616. Wednesday, P. M. March 26. 1783.

The Hon. Mr. Brooks brought down the following Order viz - In Senate March 26. 1783. Ordered that all matters & things having had day in the present session of the General Court & not passed upon, shall have the same day in the next sitting thereof. Sent down for concurrence. Read & concurred.

The Secretary came down & said that His Excelly the Governor had approved of the following Acts (vid List) & that it was His Excelly's pleasure that the Hon. General Court should be prorogued to the third Wednesday of April next, being the sixteenth day of said month, then to meet at the State House in Boston, at 10 o'clock in the morning. And that the said Court was prorogued accordingly.

Note. - It does not appear that the General Court did assemble on the 16th of April - or that the present General Court did ever assembled again.

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