

By the United States in Congress Assembled 119

February 20th 1782.

The Committee to whom was referred the Report of a Committee on the Letter from the Superintendent of Finance and a plan for the settlement of public Accounts delivered in a Report which was taken into consideration and thereupon Congress agreed to the following Resolutions.

Whereas it is become indispensably necessary to settle and adjust and finally to determine the proportions to be borne by the several States of the expences of the War from the commencement thereof untill the first day of January 1782 except the monies loaned: And whereas from the present situation of some of the States the rule for fixing such proportions agreeably to the Articles of Confederation, to wit, a valuation of lands buildings and improvements cannot with any degree of certainty be proceeded on: and as from a consideration of the States having been variously affected by the war, the said rule upon a valuation hereafter to be taken might not, if strictly adhered to, without proper allowances for particular circumstances produce that equal justice so desirable in this important object. In order therefore that the aforesaid expences may be proportioned in a speedy and equitable manner.

Resolved That it be earnestly recommended to the several Legislatures of the respective States without delay to authorize and empower the United States in Congress assembled in the final settlement of the proportions to

to be borne by each State of the general expences of the war from the commencement thereof until the first day of January 1782, except the monies loaned to the United States, for the security and discharge of the principle and interest of which Congress rely on a compliance with their requisitions of the third day of February 1781 to assume and adopt such principles as from the particular circumstances of the several States at different periods may appear just and equitable, without ^{being} wholly confined to the rule laid down in the eighth article of the Confederation in cases where the same cannot be applied without manifest injustice.

That it be recommended to the States respectively to obtain and transmit to Congress as soon as may be all such documents and information as they may judge most proper to assist the judgement of Congress in forming just estimates of the value and Abilities of each State at the close of every year within the aforesaid Term in order to settle the proportions before-mentioned.

Resolved, That upon settling the annual proportions of the several States of the expences of the war up to the first day of January 1782, where any of the States have exceeded their proportions an interest of six per cent *per Annum* shall be allowed thereon and a deduction equal thereto made in the future annual proportions of those States; and where any States shall appear to have been deficient in advancing their proportions, a like interest shall be charged thereon, and such deficiency charged in the future proportions of such States.

And whereas it is necessary to make a settlement of all accounts between the United States and each particular State and the

the Creditors of the United States within the same.

Resolved, That a Commissioner, ^{for each State} for the purposes hereinafter expressed be appointed as follows: he shall be nominated by the Superintendent of the Finances of the United States and approved of by the Legislature or the Executive of the particular State for which he shall have been nominated: and upon the death refusal or inability to act of such Commissioner another person to supply his place shall be nominated by the Superintendent of the Finances and approved of by the Executive or the Delegates attending in Congress of the State for which he shall be nominated as the Legislature of the State shall direct. That the said Commissioner so appointed shall have full power and authority finally to settle the accounts between the State for which he shall have been nominated and the United States - That all accounts of monies advanced, supplies furnished, or services performed between the United States and a particular State shall be estimated according to the table of depreciation framed by the Board of Treasury on the 29th day of July 1780 in consequence of a resolution of the 28th day of June preceding to the time the same is extended. - Provided always that specific supplies furnished pursuant to requisitions of Congress shall be settled agreeable to the prices mentioned in such requisitions. - That he be also fully empowered and directed to liquidate and settle in specie value all Certificates given for supplies by public Officers to individuals and other Claims against the United States by individuals for supplies furnished the Army, the transportation thereof and contingent expenses thereon within

within the said State according to the principles of equity and good conscience in all cases which are not or shall not be provided for by Congress.

That the said Commissioner in the various branches of duty herein directed shall in such matters of form as regard merely the settling of his accounts proceed agreeably to rules to be prescribed to him by the Comptroller of the Treasury; but in all other matters and things concerning the settlement with individual States according to such orders and principles as Congress have directed or shall direct.

That each of the said Commissioners be allowed a Salary of fifteen hundred Dollars per Annum, and that he appoint his necessary Clerks with the Salary of five hundred dollars per Annum each, for the time they shall severally be employed in this Service, which shall be in full for all services and expenses.

That the said Commissioners respectively give public and early notices of the times and places of their sitting, and the districts within which they settle accounts, that as well the public officers as the private Individuals may have an opportunity to attend.

That each Commissioner before he enter upon the business for which he is appointed shall take the following oath - I A B, do solemnly swear, that I will truly and faithfully execute the Office of Commissioner to which I am appointed, according to my best skill and judgement, without favour or affection, so help me God.

That each Clerk at his appointment shall also take an oath, truly and faithfully to execute the duties of his office according to

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to the best of his skill and understanding, and that Certificates of
these oaths be filed in the Secretary's Office of the State.

And be it further recommended to the several Legislatures
of the respective States to grant the Commissioner by a law to be
enacted for that purpose a power to call witnesses and examine them
upon oath or affirmation touching such claims and demands as
shall be produced for liquidation and settlement.

Ca. J. M. c.

Attest. Cha. Thomson Secy

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