

XXXVI. That all persons employed to purchase for the United States any articles in the several departments of the commissary general of purchases, quarter master, director, or clothier general, or the commissary general of military stores, shall previously apply to them, or the principal officers under them respectively, for certificates of the several prices by them allowed for such articles, and shall not, on any pretence whatsoever, exceed such prices. And it is recommended to the several states to give to their purchasers respectively, similar directions.

XXXVII. That the commissary general of purchases, from time to time, provide sufficient quantities of salt, and deliver it to the commissary general of issues, or the respective officers under him, who are directed to issue to the troops only such quantities, and in such manner, as the commander in chief, or commander of the respective district, shall direct. And the commissary general of issues shall direct the respective deputy commissaries general to employ a suitable number of coopers and packers, who shall salt and pack provisions at the several magazines and stores, and take the proper precautions with respect to all provisions therein deposited.

XXXVIII. And whereas great confusion hath arisen from the manner in which officers and soldiers have been paid for rations, and parts of rations, allowed to, but not drawn by them respectively:

Resolved, That the parts of a ration be estimated as follows, viz.

For the daily allowance of beef, pork, or fish, four ninetieths of a dollar; of bread or flour, two ninetieths; of pease or beans, one ninetieth; of milk, one ninetieth; of beer, one ninetieth; of rice, one half of a ninetieth; and of soap, one half of a ninetieth; making in the whole ten ninetieths of a dollar for each ration: And that for the future the quarter master, or other person drawing provision for any regiment, corps or detachment, shall, on the last day of every month, make out an abstract of the number of retained rations due to each officer respectively, and also the number of each part of a ration due to such regiment, corps or detachment, and deliver the same to the respective issuing commissary, who shall compare it with his books, and finding it right, shall certify thereon that the several charges in the abstract are just, and that such a sum as he shall find to be due should be paid to the respective paymaster of the regiment, corps or detachment, who shall annex the said abstract to the pay roll, that the paymaster, or deputy paymaster general of the district, may pay, and he is hereby required to pay, such ration abstract to the regimental paymaster, who is directed to pay the respective officers and soldiers, and take their receipts. And when any regiment, corps or detachment, or issuing commissary, is ordered to leave a post before the end of the month, the ration abstracts shall be made up to the day of his or their leaving the post, and certified by the commissary as aforesaid.

XXXIX. That the commissary of issues at every post where cattle are killed for the use of the army, appoint a careful person to take charge of the hides and tallow, to see that the former are properly dried, and that the latter is properly rendered, and that both are disposed of as the commissary general of issues, by order of Congress, shall direct.

XL. That the commissary and deputy commissaries general of purchases in each department, and every purchaser employed under them, shall take the oath of fidelity to the United States, and the following oath or affirmation, viz.

"I _____ do solemnly and sincerely swear (or affirm) in the presence of Almighty God, that I will not collude with any person or persons whatever, to enhance the price of provisions, or any article of commerce, which I shall at any time hereafter be directed to purchase for the use of the United States; and that I will endeavour, by every honest means in my power, to procure the articles which I may be directed to purchase at the most reasonable rates, and that I will not charge the public with any advance on any purchases by me to be made, and that I will in all things conduct myself as becomes a faithful servant to the public."

XLI. That the commissary, and the deputy commissary general of issues in each department, and every issuing commissary employed under them, shall take the said oath of fidelity, and the following oath or affirmation, viz.

"I do swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully receive, take the care of, and issue the provisions and other stores committed to my trust, and keep regular accounts, and make regular returns, agreeable to the resolutions of Congress, and oftener if thereunto required by any superior officer having right to order returns; and that I will in all things honestly demean myself as a faithful servant of the public."

JUNE 11, 1777.

XLII. *Resolved*, That the commissary general of purchases shall keep his office in the place where Congress shall sit, and that he or his clerk shall constantly attend therein.

JUNE 16, 1777.

XLIII. *Resolved*, That the pay and allowance to the commissaries general, deputy commissaries general, assistants and persons employed under them, be as follows, viz.

	Per day.	dollars.	rations.
To the commissary general of purchases,	8		6
To the deputy commissaries general of purchases, each	5		4
To the assistant commissaries of purchases, each	4		
		Dollars	Rations
		per month.	per day.
To the commissary general of issues,	75		6
To the deputy commissary general of issues, each	75		4
To the assistant commissaries of issues, each	40		2
To the clerks of the commissaries general, and deputy commissaries general, each	35		2
To such deputies as purchasers of live stock are empowered to employ for receiving the same at the several posts, while in such service, each	27		2

XLIV. That the commissary general of purchases be empowered to regulate the pay of drovers and butchers, and transmit such regulations to congress.

XLV. That the commissary general of issues, in like manner, be empowered to regulate and transmit to Congress the pay of coopers, packers, and other persons, which he may think necessary to be employed in such kind of services.

JULY 1, 1777.

Resolved, That the deputy commissaries general of purchases respectively be authorized to make reasonable allowances to such of the assistant commissaries as are employed in buying and collecting live stock, for all extraordinary travelling expences which they may necessarily be put to, not exceeding one dollar and one third of a dollar per day for such additional allowance. That there be paid to the assistant commissaries of issues each, the sum of sixty dollars per month.

Extract from the minutes.

Published by order of Congress.

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

JUNE 23, 1777.

Resolved, That Joseph Trumbull, Esq; commissary general, and the several persons by him lately employed in the commissaries department, be directed to supply the army with provisions in the mode which they have heretofore practised, until the commissaries general on the new establishment shall be prepared to enter upon the business.

PHILADELPHIA, July 15.

From New York we learn, that General Sir Henry Clinton having bullied the Ministry, has returned to New York, accompanied by Lord Clinton, and two other Lords, as volunteers, and no other recruits. That the person who was killed, attempting to take the cannon in the affair of Lord Stirling, as mentioned in our paper of the 2d instant, was the Hon. Mr. Finch, son of the Earl of Winchelsea, who came out this spring as volunteer. After he fell, his horse came over and was taken by our army. Finch was buried with great pomp by General Howe.

General Washington, with his whole army, are moving towards the North River, to watch the motions of Lord Howe.

Extract of a letter from St. Eustatia, June 15.

"The trade between America and this island is likely to be cut off entirely; two ships with tobacco, rice, &c. on board, for Holland, have been taken and carried into Antigua, where it is expected they will be condemned. A snow from old Spain for Porto Rico is taken and carried into St. Kitt's, with some American flour on board, and it is expected will be condemned. This will in a great measure hurt the American trade, as there will not be that sale as heretofore."

Extract of a letter from the same place, June 16.

"The American trade to this place is over, as we cannot send any of their produce off this island, it being liable to be seized by the English men of war, or pickaroons, in any bottom whatever. Dutch, French, Danes, or Spaniards, are all alike, as the English Admiral has given orders to take all North American produce where they can find it below low water mark."

July 19. We hear from Rhode Island, that Lieutenant Colonel Barton, of the state troops of that commonwealth, with a party of 40 men, has made prisoners Major General Prescott and his aid de camp.

We hear from Georgia, that Col. Elbert made a descent upon East Florida with the brigade under his command, and after some successful skirmishing with the enemy, in which he took some prisoners, and retook a number of Negroes, returned with the brigade safe into Georgia. That General Mackintosh was entirely recovered from the wounds he some time ago received in an engagement with the enemy, and lately in a duel with Governor Gwinnett. That a privateer from that state had lately