

Acts of Assembly passed in April, 1757.

An Act for his Majesty's Service, and the more immediate Defence and Protection of the Frontier Inhabitants of this Province.

I. **W**HEREAS by Minutes taken at a Meeting of the Governors of *Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania*, with the Earl of *Loudoun*, Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in *North-America*, lately held at *Philadelphia*, which his Excellency *Horatio Sharpe, Esq;* has been pleased to lay before this General Assembly, it appears, that a Plan has been formed for the better Defence of his Majesty's Dominions in *North-America*, and for Annoying his Majesty's Enemies in these Parts; by which it is proposed, that this Province should raise and support Five Hundred Men, to act in Conjunction with his Majesty's Regular Forces, in the Defence and for the Security of this Province; and though we cannot look upon so great a Number necessary for our immediate Security, yet, being desirous to embrace this Opportunity, as well of promoting his Majesty's Service, and answering his General's Expectations, as of providing for our own immediate Protection, Do humbly pray that it may be Enacted,

II. *AND be it Enacted, by the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary, by and with the Advice and Consent of his Lordship's Governor, and the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly, and the Authority of the same,* That the Sum of Seven Thousand Four Hundred and Sixty-nine Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Four Pence, Part of the Sum of Twenty-five Thousand Pounds, granted by the Act for granting a Supply of Forty Thousand Pounds for his Majesty's Service, and striking Thirty-four Thousand and Fifteen Pounds Six Shillings thereof in Bills of Credit, and raising a Fund for sinking the same, to be applied towards carrying on an Expedition to the Westward, and the Sum of Three Thousand Pounds, by the said Act granted to be applied towards engaging the Assistance, and cultivating the Friendship of the Southern Tribes of *Indians*, or so much of the said Sums as now remains unexpended, are hereby and shall be applied to the Raising, Cloathing, Paying, Subsisting, and Defraying all Charges and Expences attending the Supporting Five Hundred Men, including Five Captains, Ten Lieutenants, Five Ensigns, Twenty Serjeants, Twenty Corporals, and Five Drummers, to act in Conjunction with his Majesty's Regular Forces, and under the Command of his Majesty's General, or the Officer properly authorized for his Majesty's Service, and the more immediate Protection and Security of this Province.

III. *PROVIDED always, and be it further Enacted,* That all the Men, now under the Command of Captain *Dagworthy*, Captain *Alexander Beall*, and Captain *Josua Beall*, which, by the Terms or Conditions of their Enlistment, were obliged to continue in Service longer than the Tenth Day of *April*, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-seven, and all the Officers of their respective Companies, shall be held and deemed as a Part of the aforesaid Five Hundred Men, and shall be paid and subsisted according to the Directions of this Act from the said Tenth Day of *April*.

IV. *AND be it further Enacted,* That all the aforesaid Officers and Men, from the Time of their entering into the Service, in Virtue of this Act, shall have and receive the following Pay, to wit: To every Captain, Twelve Shillings and Six Pence per Day: To every Lieutenant, Six Shillings and Eight Pence per Day: To every Ensign, Five Shillings per Day: To every Serjeant, One Shilling and Six Pence per Day: To every Corporal, One Shilling and Two Pence per Day: To every Drummer, One Shilling and Two Pence per Day: To every private Man, Nine Pence per Day: To Two Surgeons, Six Shillings per Day each, and Medicines to be found by the Agents herein after appointed, out of the Money applied by this Act: To a Gun-Smith, Two Shillings and Six Pence per Day: To a Commissary of Stores, who is also hereby appointed to be a Commissary of Musters, Ten Shillings and Six Pence per Day for both Services: Which several Officers, Gun-Smith, Surgeons, Commissary, and Soldiers, are hereby directed duly to be paid monthly, except in such Cases where Muster-Rolls are by this Act required to be returned only once in Two Months.

V. *AND for encouraging able-bodied Men to Enlist in the Service aforesaid, Be it Enacted,* That there shall be paid to every such able-bodied Person, not now Enlisted in the Service of this Province, or liable to be detained therein, immediately upon his Enlisting, as a Bounty or Reward, a Sum not exceeding Five Pounds Current Money of this Province.

VI. *AND be it further Enacted,* That the said Five Hundred Men, or so many of them as shall be at any Time in Pay of this Province, except such Number as may be necessary to be left at *Fort-Frederick*, shall be employed in Ranging about the Frontier thereof, for the Quiet and Protection of the Inhabitants. *Provided always, and be it Enacted,* That when upon any Emergency his Majesty's Commander in Chief, or Person properly authorized, shall judge it expedient to march any Part of the said Five Hundred Men from the Frontier of this Province, then and in such Case so many of the aforesaid Men shall be left at *Fort-Frederick*, under a proper Command, as the Governor or Commander in Chief of this Province, for the Time being, shall judge necessary for the more immediate Defence and Protection of the Frontier Inhabitants thereof. And it is hereby declared to be the Duty of the Person so left in Command, and he is hereby strictly enjoined and required constantly to keep out and employ one third Part of the Number of Men so left under his Command, as Rangers for the Purposes aforesaid, with Orders to Range as near the Settlements of the Inhabitants as the Nature of that Service shall require.