

ORDERED, That a message be prepared to the senate acquainting them of the appointment of colonel Stone to the command of the first regiment.

On motion, That it is the opinion of this house, colonel Shryock ought to have the command of the seventh battalion, now become vacant by the resignation of colonel Ware, and the promotion of colonel Stone? The previous question was called for and put, Whether the above question be now put? The house being equally divided, the same was determined in the negative by the honourable speaker.

Adjourned till 3 o'clock.

P O S T M E R I D I E M.

The house met. Mr. Tillard appeared in the house, and is fined one day's allowance for having departed without leave.

The following message being prepared, was sent to the senate by Mr. Crabb and Mr. Burgess.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, April 1, 1777.

May it please your honours,

THIS house have agreed to accept of colonel Ware's resignation, his infirm state of health we believe is the true motive that induced him to resign, and we are of opinion it will promote the service to put colonel John Hoskins Stone at the head of the first battalion, with the rank of sixth colonel.

With regard to filling up the vacancy in the seventh battalion, or any other alteration in the rank or arrangement of officers, this house do not think proper to do any thing therein at present, until they know the sentiments of your honours relative to the roster and arrangement.

By order,

G. DUVALL, cl. ho. del.

Mr. O. Sprigg appeared in the house.

Thomas Conlee, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker a letter from his excellency the governor, relative to the providing barracks for the soldiery, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 1, 1777: Read and referred to the consideration of the house of delegates.

"By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."

And the following message:

By the SENATE, April 1, 1777.

Gentlemen,

THE resolve herewith sent we conceive to be necessary till a permanent provision be made by the legislature for quartering soldiers, it will probably take some days before a law can be enacted by the legislature for that purpose—a number of troops are now in town, and more hourly expected, and the governor is under no small difficulty how to act, unless a further power be given by the general assembly.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

Which were severally read, the resolve assented to, so endorsed, and sent to the senate by Mr. Edelen and Mr. Williams.

On motion, RESOLVED, That no merchant vessel, belonging to any inhabitant of the United States, shall sail from this state without a clearance from the governor and council, until naval officers are commissioned and qualified, and that no such clearance be granted before the captain of such vessel shall make oath, or affirmation (if a quaker) as to the contents of his cargo, and that he will use his best endeavours to prevent such cargo, and every part thereof, from being landed in any part of the dominions of the king of Great-Britain, or otherwise going into the hands of the enemies of America; and that the said cargo, nor any part thereof, belongs to, or is for the use or benefit of, any inhabitant of Great-Britain, Ireland, or any of the dominions subject to the king of Great-Britain, to the best of his knowledge: And further, shall give bond with good security, that he will not land such cargo, or any part thereof, in any port, island, or territory, subject to the king of Great-Britain, nor sell or dispose of the said cargo, or any part thereof, to the enemies of America. Sent to the senate for their concurrence by Mr. Benson and Mr. Ewing.

Mr. Parran has leave of absence for eight days.

George Plater, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the resolve sent up by Mr. Benson and Mr. Ewing, thus endorsed; "By the senate, April 1, 1777: Read and assented to.

"By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."

And the following message:

By the SENATE, April 1, 1777.

Gentlemen,

WE concur with the roster general of the rank of the officers, and the arrangement of them in the seven battalions as altered by your message of the 27th ult, and also concur with your message of this day in appointing colonel Stone to the command of the first battalion.

By order,

R. RIDGELY, cl. sen.

The arrangement and roster are as follow:

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ARRANGE-