

draught for two years; and so in proportion to the number of such deserters taken up and delivered as aforesaid. That every idle person, who is able bodied, and has no fixed habitation nor family, nor any visible method of getting a livelihood, ought to go as a soldier; and have it in his choice whether he will be enlisted for nine months, or three years, or during the war; and if such person enlist only for nine months, then to have no pecuniary bounty; but if he will enlist for three years, or during the war, then to have the full bounty. That men who serve for nine months be entitled to a suit of cloaths, two shirts, and two pair of shoes and stockings, a hat, and a blanket, to be found at the public expence; if found by themselves then to be paid for the same. That the lieutenant of each county pass all able bodied men (prisoners and deserters excepted) that may be offered on or before the 20th of May next, and give certificates, an exact list whereof they shall keep; and also the names of all vagrants impressed shall be returned to him by the county magistrates, or other persons authorised to impress them. That within ten days after the twentieth day of May next, the lieutenants of the several counties shall direct the field officers to order the several companies of militia to be called together at the usual places of meeting in companies; and any field-officer of the battalion shall proceed to class the officers and men of the company liable to be draughted into as many classes as there may be men then wanted, having regard to property, so as to distribute the same as equally as may be into each class; and every class that shall find one able bodied man on the spot, shall be exempt from the draught; those classes only that do not find such men to be draughted. If the man so found will enlist for three years, or during the war, he ought to be entitled to the full bounty, otherwise to no pecuniary reward other than what he may get by the class who find him. That a power ought to be lodged with the lieutenant and field officers to exempt men that may be draughted under peculiar circumstances, according to the late supplementary militia act.

Leave given to bring in a bill to procure troops for the American army. ORDERED, That the committee to whom the several acts and letters of congress, &c. were referred, do prepare and bring in the same.

Leave given to bring in a bill for the speedy recovery of public debts. ORDERED, That Mr. J. Hall, Mr. Lethbury, Mr. Chase, Mr. Maddux, and Mr. Contee, do prepare and bring in the same.

The order of the day, for taking into consideration the appointment of an auditor, or board of auditors, to audit and state the public accounts, is postponed till to-morrow.

William Hindman, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the bill, entitled, An act to revive and continue an act for enlarging the powers of the governor and council, thus endorsed; "By the senate, March 26, 1778: Read the first and second time by an especial order and will pass with the following amendments.

By order, R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."  
Strike out the words "the next," in the second line from the bottom, and insert the words "this present," and strike out the words "the general" in the last line.

By order, R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."  
The amendments were agreed to and the bill ordered to be engrossed.  
The engrossed bills, No. 2, 3, were read and assented to, and sent to the senate, with the paper bills thereof, by Mr. Hammond and Mr. Chew.

George Plater, Esq; from the senate, delivers to Mr. Speaker the paper bills, No. 2, 3, severally endorsed; "By the senate, March 26, 1778: The engrossed bill, whereof this is the original, read and assented to.

By order, R. RIDGELY, cl. sen."  
George Plater and Matthew Tilghman, Esqrs. from the senate, acquaint Mr. Speaker, that the governor is attending in the senate, ready to sign and seal two bills which have passed this session, and that the attendance of this house is requested there for that purpose. Mr. Speaker left the chair, and, with the other members, went to the senate, and there presented the following engrossed bills to the governor, who signed the same and affixed the great seal thereto in presence of the members of both houses.

No. 2. An act to direct the recording of a deed to John Raifin.

No. 3. An act to revive and continue an act for enlarging the powers of the governor and council.

Mr. Speaker, with the rest of the members, returned and resumed the chair.

Adjourned till next day 9 o'clock.

F R I D A Y, March 27, 1778.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday, except Mr. Ridgely. The proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. Gresham has leave of absence.

On a second reading the letter from colonel George Dashiell, and the depositions therein enclosed, ORDERED, That Mr. Maddux, Mr. Lethbury, Mr. Winder, Mr. Kent, Mr. Strawbridge,