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best intelligence of the motions and situation of the enemy, directing them to send frequent daily intelligence thro' him to Congress, of the discoveries they be able to make of the enemies movements and situation.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to 10 o'Clock to Morrow.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1776

A letter, of the 11, from General Washington, was read, and referred to the Board of War.¹

Resolved, That 20,000 dollars be advanced to Gustavus Risberg, and charged to the account of Richard Dallam.

That 50,000 dollars be advanced to the council of safety of Pensylvania, for the public service; the said council to be accountable:

That 5,000 dollars be advanced to Dr. Nicholas Way, ||of Wilmington,|| for the public service; he to be accountable.

Resolved, That the two companys raised in the town of Westmoreland, be ordered to march with all possible expedition and join General Washington.

Resolved, That the continental apothecary be directed immediately to pack up all the continental medicines, and send them to the quarter master general:

That the quarter master general be directed to remove all the medicines belonging to the continent in this city to a place of security:

That the frigate *Randolph* and the sloop *Hornet* be directed to act in such manner as the continental general commanding here may direct, for the defence of this city, in preventing the enemy from passing the Delaware.

¹This letter is in the *Papers of the Continental Congress*, No. 152, III, folio 339. It is printed in *Writings of Washington* (Ford) V, 80.

Resolved, That 53 1/3 dollars be advanced to Mr. Sproat, clerk at the war office, for his service; he to be accountable.

Mr. [George] Walton, a delegate from Georgia, attended, and produced a letter from the secretary of the convention ||of that state,|| informing him of his appointment, with others, to represent that state for the year ensuing:

Resolved, That he be admitted to a seat.

Resolved, That Elisha Sheldon be appointed lieutenant colonel commandant of a regiment of cavalry on the continental establishment, with the rank and pay of a colonel of foot; and that General Washington be authorized to appoint the other officers to said regiment; and that the colonel, with his officers, proceed, without delay, to raise and discipline the said regiment; and that they repair to and join the army under General Washington's command, by companies, as soon as each company shall be compleat:

That the General be empowered to advance to Colonel Sheldon such sums of money as may be necessary for the service.

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be directed to employ one or more fast sailing vessels, to proceed on a cruise immediately off the Capes of Delaware, to give notice to all ships or vessels inward bound of the state of this port, in order that they may proceed to some other place or places of safety.

Resolved, That General Putnam be directed to send John Connolly under guard to Baltimore, Maryland, there to be confined.

That General Putnam, or the commanding officer in Philadelphia, be desired to appoint suitable persons to make proper provision of combustibles, for burning such