

promise in the name of the United Colonies, that we will defend and protect the people of Canada against all enemies in the same manner that we will defend and protect any of the United Colonies.

“You are to establish a free press, and to give directions for the frequent publication of such pieces as may be of service to the cause of the United Colonies.

“You are to settle all disputes between the Canadians and the Continental troops, and to make such regulations relating thereto as you shall judge proper.

“In reforming any abuses you may observe in Canada, and enforcing regulations for the preservation of peace and good order there, and composing differences between the troops of the United States and the Canadians, all officers and soldiers are required to yield obedience to you; and to enforce the decisions that you or any two of you may make, you are empowered to suspend any military officer from the execution of his commission, till the pleasure of Congress shall be known, if you or any two of you shall think it expedient.

“You are also empowered to sit and vote as members of councils of war, in directing fortifications and defences to be made or to be demolished, by land or by water; and to draw orders on the President for any sums of money not exceeding \$100,000 in the whole for the expense of the works.

“Lastly, you are by all the means you can use to promote the execution of the resolutions now made or hereafter to be made in Congress.”

To these instructions the following were on motion added :

“You are also directed and authorised to assure the inhabitants of Canada that their commerce with foreign nations shall in all respects be put upon an equal footing with, and encouraged and protected in the same manner as the trade of the United Colonies.

“You are also directed to use every wise and prudent measure to introduce and give credit and circulation to the Continental money in Canada.

“In case the former resolution of Congress respecting the English American troops in Canada has not been carried into effect, you are directed to use your best endeavours for forming a battalion of the New York troops in that country, and to appoint the field and other officers out of the gentlemen who have continued there during the campaign, according to their respective ranks and merit. And if it should be found impracticable, you are to direct such of them as are provided for in the four battalions now raising in New York, to repair to their respective corps. To enable you to carry this resolution into effect, you are furnished with blank commissions signed by the President.”

The draft of the commission was then adopted. The three