

The Resolutions referred to you have inclosed, and contain the sense of Congress as to the mode of the new Enlistments.

I am with Esteem

Yours^r

Your very hum. Serv^t

John Hancock, Presid^t

Honble

Commissioners from

Massachusetts.

In Congress Nov. 13th 1776.

Resolved. As the opinion of this Congress, that if the Soldiers to be raised by the State of Massachusetts Bay, be enlisted on the terms offered to them, which are more advantageous than what are offered to other Soldiers, serving in the same army, it would much retard, if not totally impede the enlistment of the latter and produce discontent and murmur, unless Congress should equally increase the pay of these, which it is the opinion of this Congress would universally be reprobated as an immoderate Shame, and complained of as a grievous Burthen by those who must bear it, and therefore that the Committee from the State of Massachusetts Bay be desired not to enlist their men on the additional pay offered by the assembly of that State.

Upon reconsidering the resolution of the 16th of September last, for raising Eighty Eight Battalions to serve during the present war with Great Britain, Congress being of opinion that the readiness of the Inhabitants of these States, to enter into the service for limited times, in defence of their invaluable privileges on all former occasions gives good ground to hope; the same zeal for the Public Good will appear in future, when necessity calls for their assistance, and the uncertain length of time which Forces raised during the continuance of the War, may be compelled to serve, may prevent many from enlisting, who would otherwise readily manifest their attachment to the common Cause, by engaging for a limited time - Therefore - Resolved, That all now commissioned officers, and soldiers who do not incline to engage their service during the continuance of the present war, and shall enlist to serve three years, unless sooner discharged by Congress, shall be entitled to and receive, all such Bounty and Pay, as are allowed to those who enlist during the continuance of the present war, except the one hundred acres of land, which land is to be granted to those only who enlist without limitation of time, and each recruiting officer is required to provide two distinct enlisting Rolls, one for such to sign who enlist during the continuance of the War, and the other for such as enlist for three years, if their service shall be so long required.

By order of Congress

John Hancock, President

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