THE

PUBLIC RECORDS

OF THE

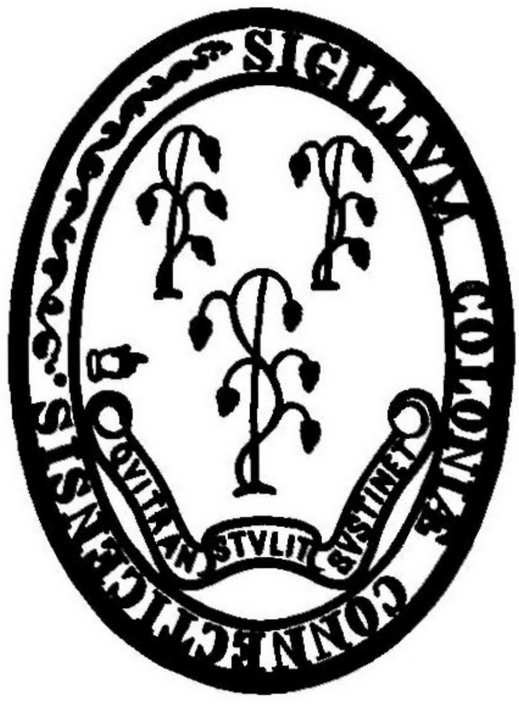
COLONY OF CONNECTICUT,

From May, 1775, to June, 1776, inclusive,

WITH THE JOURNAL OF THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY FROM JUNE 7, 1775, TO OCTOBER 2, 1776,

AND

AN APPENDIX CONTAINING SOME COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS, 1663–1710.



TRANSCRIBED AND EDITED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BY CHARLES J. HOADLY, LL.D.,

STATE LIBRARIAN.

[Vol. XV]

HARTFORD:

PRESS OF THE CASE, LOCKWOOD & BRAINARD COMPANY.

1890.

And it is further provided, That the provisions of this act shall not extend to include or affect the 24th regiment of militia in this Colony.

[526] **An Act for encouraging the Manufactures of Salt Petre and Gun Powder.**

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That there shall be given and paid out of the Colony treasury a premium or bounty of ten pounds for every hundred pounds weight of good and merchantable salt petre or nitre that shall be made and manufactured in this Colony between the first day of June 1776 and the first day of January 1777, and so in proportion for a greater or lesser quantity: Always provided, That in case any proprietor of salt petre works or manufacturer of salt petre shall, upon application and request made to him by any person or persons, neglect or refuse to communicate a full account of the materials out of which and the process by which such salt petre or nitre is made, such proprietor or manufacturer shall not be entituled to have or receive the aforesaid bounty or premium for any salt petre or nitre he shall make; anything herein contained notwithstanding.

Be it further enacted, That a suitable number of inspectors of salt petre or nitre be appointed by the General Assembly, and that the claimants of the premium or bounty given by this or any former act for the manufacture of salt petre or nitre shall procure the salt petre or nitre by them made to be inspected by one or more of said inspectors, and shall also make oath before such inspector, which oath such inspector is hereby enabled to administer, that such salt petre or nitre was made and manufactured in this Colony out of materials collected therein by him or them, or for his or their account, and that no other certificate hath been had or given for the same; and thereupon said inspector shall give to the claimant or claimants a certificate of the quantity and quality of such salt petre or nitre, and that proof hath been made as aforesaid that the same was manufactured in this Colony by such claimant or claimants; which certificate

being laid before the Committee of the Pay-Table, they shall draw an order on the Colony Treasurer to pay such claimant or claimants the amount of the aforesaid bounty or premium on such nitre or salt petre out of the Colony treasury and charge the same to the Colony's account, who shall accept and pay such order accordingly.

Be it also enacted, That every town in this Colony, which hath and doth send Representatives to the General Assembly, in which salt petre or nitre works are not or shall not be erected and the manufacture of salt petre is not or shall not be carried on by some private person or persons, shall be and are hereby enjoined as soon as may be to erect one set of such works and carry on the manufacture of nitre or salt petre in the same; and that it shall be the duty of the selectmen of each town in this Colony, and they are hereby authorized and enjoined, at the expence and for the benefit of said town, to cause such works to be erected and said manufacture to be carried on in the same accordingly.

Be it also enacted, That no salt petre, nitre or gun-powder made and manufactured, or that shall be made and manufactured in this Colony, shall be exported out of the same by land or water without the licence of the General Assembly or his Honor the Governor and Committee of Safety, under the penalty of twenty pounds for every hundred weight of such salt petre, nitre or gun-powder, and proportionably for a greater or lesser quantity so without licence exported; to be recovered by bill, plaint or information, in any court of record in this Colony by law proper to take cognizance thereof.

And whereas it is necessary that two powder-mills be immediately erected in this Colony for manufacturing gun-powder,

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That a bounty or premium of thirty pounds shall be paid out of the Colony treasury to the person or persons who shall erect the first powder-mill in this Colony, and shall make and manufacture therein five hundred pounds weight of good and merchantable gun-powder; also that a bounty or premium

of thirty pounds shall be paid out of the Colony treasury to the person or persons who shall erect the second powder-mill in this Colony and make or manufacture therein five hundred pounds weight of good and merchantable gun-powder.

Be it further enacted, That the inspector or inspectors who shall inspect and give a certificate for any quantity of salt petre, as before directed, shall purchase and receive such salt petre for the Colony's use and benefit, and give his or their receipt therefor to the claimant or claimants, who shall be paid therefor out of the Colony treasury at such price as the General Assembly shall ascertain and affix.

And whereas it is expedient that powder-mills should be so situated as to accommodate the public in the best manner,

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no powder-mill shall be erected in this Colony for the manufacture of gun-powder without the licence of the General Assembly, or in their recess of the Governor and Council, first had and obtained, under the penalty of thirty pounds for every such offence, to be recovered as the other foregoing penalties in this act are above directed to be recovered.

An Act for restraining and punishing Persons who are inimical to the Liberties of this and the Rest of the United Colonies, and for directing Proceedings therein.

[527] *Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That if any person within this Colony shall directly or indirectly supply the ministerial army or navy with provisions, military or naval stores, or shall give any intelligence to the officers, soldiers or mariners belonging to said army or navy, or shall inlist or procure any others to inlist into the service of said army or navy, or shall take up arms against this or either of the United Colonies, or shall undertake to pilot any of the vessels belonging to said navy, or in any other ways shall aid or assist them, and be thereof duly convicted before the superior court, shall forfeit all his estate, which shall be accordingly seized by order of said court for the use of this Colony; and such person shall be further punished by imprisonment in any of the goals in this Colony