

were amongst them) then the Merchants, ever Mindfull of their own Interest, would not fail to take the Advantage, and in such Event the Proprietors or Sellers of Bills must lose from £5 to 15p Cent, from which it is Obvious, that Regular Forces sent to America should never be totally without a Resource of ready Money within themselves to prevent their being under a Necessity of Selling Bills at so great a loss. Suppose therefore that Six Months Subsistence should be sent with the Troops intended for America, for themselves & those to be levied there, it would Render them Independent of the Merchants, who in that Event would Court their Favour, and the Principal of them would probably offer to Contract at the most reasonable Rate for what Money might be Afterwards wanted; this ready Cash however not to be expended but in part, & only at times & places where Bills cannot be Sold for their full Value.

The Principal, if not the only, places where Bills need be Negotiat, are Boston in New England, New York, Philadelphia, Maryland & Virginia, and if the Par of Exchange can be got in these Several places, it amounts to near the same Sum as if all the Bills were Negotiat in one only, for tho their Currencies differ nominally they are to a trifle the same in real Value, & there is further this Advantage in Selling Bills in different places, it prevents their being a Drug at any one Market. In the four Provinces of New England Specie is extreamly Scarce, & often not to be had at any Exchange, which makes it more Advantageous to Negotiat Bills in the Southern Colonies where they have generally Plenty of Money.

### SKETCH OF AN ORDER ABOUT THE RANK &C<sup>A</sup> OF THE PROVINCIAL TROOPS IN NORTH AMERICA <sup>1</sup>

(COPY)

WHEREAS some doubts have arisen with regard to the Rank and Command, which Officers and Troops raised by the Governors of Our

<sup>1</sup> The same as the sign-manual order of November 12, 1754, printed in *New Jersey Arch.*, 1st ser. VIII, pt. 2, p. 29, with changes as indicated below. Precedents for this order are in the "Proposed Regulations relating to the East Indies, February, 1754" (also in the Cumberland Papers), which read in part:

"13. In order to avoid all Disputes or Misunderstandings between the Troops in His Majestys service, and those in the service of the Company His Majesty is pleased to order that the Former shall always take Rank of those of the Company: That, Officers of the same Degree shall roll together upon Guards, Parties or Courts Martial: but that the Officers in His Majesty's Service shall always take Rank or Precedence of those in the Company's: that, in Garrison, the Governor, if a Military Person, shall have the Honours directed by His Majesty's Regulation and the confirming of Sen-

Provinces in North America, should have when joyned or serving together with Our Independent Companies of Foot doing Duty in Our said Provinces; In order to fix the same and to prevent for the future all Disputes on that Account, We are hereby pleased to declare,<sup>2</sup> It is Our Will & Pleasure, that all Troops serving by Commissions signed by Us, or by Our General Comanding in Chief in North America,<sup>3</sup> shall take Rank before all Troops which may serve by Commission from any of the Governors or Councils<sup>4</sup> of Our Provinces in North America: And It is Our further Pleasure, that the Generals<sup>5</sup> and Field Officers of the Provincial Troops shall have no Rank with the Generals<sup>5</sup> & Field Officers who serve by Commissions from Us: But that all Captains & other inferior Officers of Our Forces, who are or may be employed in North America, are on all Detachments, Courts Martial or other Duty, wherein they may be joyned with Officers serving by Commissions from the Governors or Councils<sup>4</sup> of the said Provinces, to command and take Post of the said Provincial Officers of the like Rank, though the Commissions of the said Provincial Officers of the like Rank, should be of elder Dates.

We are further pleased to declare, that the Troops which may serve by Commissions from the Governors or Councils of the Provinces aforesaid, are, whenever they shall be joyned, or serve with Our Regular Forces, to be under the same Rules & Articles of War with them, and are to be liable to the like Pains & Penalties.<sup>6</sup>

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tences of Courts Martial. But if no military officer, the Discipline of the Troops and the confirming of Sentences of Courts Martial shall be in the Hands of the Commanding Officer of the Troops.

<sup>14</sup> That all Courts Martial be held, and Sentences thereof put in Execution, agreeable to His Majestys Rules and Articles of War."

<sup>2</sup> Sign-manual order inserts "That."

<sup>3</sup> This clause is inserted in the margin, the document being in a memorandum form.

<sup>4</sup> Sign-manual order reads: "Governors, Lieutenant or Deputy Governors, or President for the time being."

<sup>5</sup> Sign-manual order reads: "General."

<sup>6</sup> This paragraph was omitted in the sign-manual order, as needing parliamentary authority. A clause was inserted in the Mutiny Act, in committee, December 11; the act received royal assent December 19.