

Albany Sept. 22-1817-

Dear Sir

I wrote you yesterday immediately after I had read the voluminous pronounced by Tallmadge on the floor of Congress against one of the most virtuous Patriots which this or any other Country can boast of - What could have induced Tallmadge to utter those things is to me a ^{total} mystery. If he had detailed the villainous conduct of the Smugglers and the looting of the Inhabitants of Long Island during the Revolution he might have exposed false Characters which now are from the fiction they are placed called honorable men, But his relation I much doubt in every point of view, He says that Andre was not of his fight from the time those young men delivered him up until the time of his Execution; They surrendered ^{him} to Col. Jamerson and I think Capt. Hoagland had the charge of him to take to Head Quarters, but whether or not. Colonel Hamilton was with Andre Remotely if not all the time he was at Tappan, Andre would sooner confer with Hamilton, a pleasant intelligent sensible man who stood so high in the estimation of the Commander in Chief than with a Man little known in the Army either from his Talents as a Man of Letters or from any services he had rendered his Country by his military exploits, and if Andre had entertained that opinion of these men he no doubt would have mentioned it to ^{Hamilton & the} the Commander in Chief who then was paying them every attention at Head Quarters -- a general indignation is excited against Tallmadge in this City and I suppose it is universal, it ought to be for this wanton abuse of men whom the whole United States have honored from their Patriotism, perhaps Mr Tallmadge on his private consequence is at end with the present Session of Congress wishes to leave something behind him that to be forgotten, and has taken this method to shed his patriotism to prevent an old man infirm and poor from receiving the just reward of merit. He took care of himself by the way, by voting for the Compensation bill, proving that he was ~~not~~ a man of money,

But a fact which but from the violent Attack of
those three patriotic young men on the floor of
Congress by Benjamin Tallmadge a representa-
tive from Connecticut might have remained a se-
cret deserves to be told, which ^{is} this - That
when Andre was delivered to Colonel Tammerson
by the Captures, Major Tallmadge (now the Hono-
rable Benjamin Tallmadge a Representative in
Congress) urged the propriety of sending Andre im-
mediately to Arnold, but ~~but~~ ~~Cauldwell~~ ~~this man~~
who is represented by the ~~Attor.~~ Mr Tallmadge
as every thing which is base & mean ~~demonstrated~~
against it as a very improper act and advised
not to let Arnold know any thing of the
transaction ~~until~~ ^{until} General Washington was ap-
prised of it - notwithstanding all this Major
Tallmadge did send a ~~Dragoon~~ Express to
Arnold apprising him of the event which
~~gave~~ information gave Arnold time to
escape -