

Albany Jan^r. 22 - 1817

Dear Sir

I wrote you yesterday immediately after I had read in the National Intelligencer the assertions of Gaudin's patriotic Character by a member on the floor of Congress, I will further vouch for the truth of what I then wrote in opposition to any thing that Member can say against him, & I can assure you his remarks here are read & spoken of with disgust and I give you permission to show ^{of yesterday} my letter to such Gentlemen as you think proper & particularly those who took an interest for him. It ~~is quite~~ ^{was not} sufficient that this distinguished patriot is good in firm but that he must be abused for the most meritorious act that man could do - It might have adorned much more to the honorable General's Character, if he had not detailed the opinion of a British Spy 30 years after the transaction but have mentioned what he knew or heard of smuggling Goods from Long Island and trading with the Enemy during the Revolution, As he was generally stationed along the Sound he had an opportunity of knowing something about those things - I feel upon this occasion very much hurt, because I think it a wanton and ungenerous attack upon the Characters of three as honest & patriotic

men as live - They might have had any sum
of money to release Andre, indeed he proposed to
stay & secret himself with two of them in the
woods while the third went to New York & get the
money or he would stay with all three & find
another person in. which they disdainfully rejected
which is a notorious fact, - The irrational Char-
acter I conceive is betrayed by the Calumny against
these men -

Relating to
the capture
of
Andre