

Camp Orange tower Sept 26 1780

Dear and Loving wife



I have but just time to Inform you that I am well
at present
and to Inform you what is the subject of our Dispute
in Camp the News of which you will no Doubt have
before this reaches you.

(Treason of the Blackstaff Dye was Yesterday ~~Discovered~~
Discovered)

General Arnold who commanded at our point who
lost to every sentiment of Honour, of Private and
Publick Obligations was about to Deliver up that
Important Post into the hands of the Enemy. Such an
Event must have given the American Cause a
Deadly wound if not a fatal stroke happily the
treason was timely Discovered to prevent the
fatal Misfortune.)

the providential train of Circumstances which led
to it affords the most ~~convincing~~ convincing
proof that the Liberty of America is the
object of Divine protection.

(A person whose name is hereafter mentioned
having been with the Infamous Arnold and contracted
for that Important Garrison was taken after
he considered himself safe and within the Enemy's
lines was taken by 3 Men which he attempted to
bribe with a large sum of money which was
to no effect which is much to their Honour)

The Enemy Disparaging of carrying this point
by force of Arms and practising every base
to effect by Bribery what they cannot ~~accomplish~~
accomplish in a manly way.)

Great Honour is Due to the American Army
that this is the first Instance ^{of treason} of the kind that
where many were to be Expulsed from the Nation
of the Dispute.

And Nothing is so bright on our banner in the
character of the American Army as their having
been proof against the arts and

Particulars of an Indians Enemy -

(Arnold has made his escape to the Enemy
Major Andre Adjutant General to the
British Army who came out as a spy to negotiate
the business with General Arnold is our prisoner
and no doubt he will receive the just reward of
his crime)

The necessary preparations were made by the British
Army and had not the treason have been timely
discovered and had the wind have been favourable for
them they were to have taken west point on the 27th
instant.

I wrote this letter with an intention to have sent it on
the Day of the above Date but missing that opportunity
I shall now give you a further Detail of what has
occurred since -

Monday October 2^d

(I have this Moment returned to my tent from the
Execution of Major Andre Adjutant General to the British
Army whose Execution was performed from yesterday to
this Day at 12 o'clock)

I believe never a man by the ignominious Death of being
hanged was possessed with a greater Degree of manly
fortitude than Major Andre he moved to the place
of Execution entirely undaunted to appearance and
with such presence of mind as to be disposed in
the Humane way in that he appeared as if he desired
Death should not touch a British Officer -

he was a young gentleman of about 26 years of age
neatly dressed in his regimentals
I could but lament that Arnold who was the
Instigator of his Death was not in his situation)

(A General Court Martial is now sitting for the
trial of a Mr. Smith formerly of the City of New York
Lately residing near Mung's ferry for being
an Accomplice with Arnold and Andre No doubt
he may share the same fate with the latter in a
very few Days)

I shall now favour you with the proceedings of a Board of
General Officers convened for the try of Major Andre
October 1st -

The Board of General Officers Appointed to
examine into the case of Major Andre have been

reported first

that he came on shore from the Vulture Schooner
was in the Night of the 21st of Sept^r Left on an
Interview with General Arnold in a private and
secret manner

Secondly that he changed his Dress within our Lines
and under a feigned name and in a disguised
habit past our works at Stony and Vanplank
points the evening of the 23^d of Sept^r Left and was
taken in the morning of the 23^d of Sept^r Left at
Tarrytown in a disguised habit being then on his
way to New York and when taken he ~~was~~ had in his
possession several papers which contain'd Intelligence
for the Enemy

The Board having Maturly considered these
facts Do also Report to his Excellency General
Washington that Major Andre Adjutant General
to the British Army ought to be considered as
a spy from the Enemy and that agreeable
to the Law and Usage of Nations it is their
opinion he ought to suffer Death -
The Commander in Chief Devotes the Execution
of the above sentence in the usual way at
5 o'clock this afternoon ~~by~~ briefly

You may suppose I shall and Aunt look that
Dorcas and Billy are both well
and also my wife Miss Hull that Daniel is well
Remember my love to all friends

I am Dear wife your loving
Husband

SHR

W^m Marston

To

Captain William Munson

New-Haven

Capt. in Hagers Regt