

Letter from General George Washington to General Horatio Gates October 30, 1777. This letter is commending General Gates on his victory at Saratoga. Transcription on pg 2.

N^o 277. To M^r General Gates.

A^d Departm^t.

Head Quarters near White Marsh 12 miles from
Philadelphia October 30th 1777

Sir,

By this opportunity, I do myself the pleasure to congratulate you on the signal success of the Army under your command, in compelling Gen^l Burgoyne and his whole force, to surrender themselves prisoners of war. An event that does the highest honor to the American Arms, and which, I hope, will be attended with the most extensive and happy consequences. At the same time, I cannot but regret, that a matter of such magnitude

and so interesting to our general operations, should have reached me by report only, or thro' the channel of Letters, not bearing that authenticity, which the importance of it required, and which it would have received by a line under your signature, stating the simple fact.

Our affairs having happily terminated at the North ward, I have, by the advice of my Gen^l Officers, sent Col^l Hamilton, one of my aids, to lay before you a full state of our situation and that of the Enemy in this quarter. He is well informed upon the subject, and will deliver my sentiments upon the plan of operations that is become necessary to be pursued. I think it improper to enter into a particular detail, not being well advised how matters are circumstanced in the North, nor supposing that, by some accident, my Letter might miscarry. From Col^l Hamilton you will have a clear and comprehensive view of things, and I persuade myself, you will do all in your power to facilitate the steps I have in contemplation.

I am Sir Your most Obedt^t Serv^t

G^e Washington.

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Head Quarters near White Marsh,
15 Miles from Philadelphia, October 30, 1777.

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Washington