



East Fork-Trinity Chapter Newsletter

Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution



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Drake Peddie, born and raised in Houston, was graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Houston and has lived in the Richardson/Garland area ever since. He has an MBA from Amberton University in Garland and has worked primarily in defense communication and electronics in this area for over 30 years.

He joined the SAR in the fall of 2003 with Past President General Nathan White as his sponsor.

He was the president of the Plano Chapter of the SAR in 2009 and again in 2010. During that time, the chapter won the National Americanism Award and the President Generals Award - each for the second time making them one of the top chapters in the country.

He is currently the President of the Denton Chapter and is the Chairman of the Council of Chapter Presidents for the Texas Society.

For the last 4 years, he has averaged about 60-70 SAR related activities per year, many in uniform. In addition to the SAR, he is a member of the Dutch Colonial Society, the Order of Descendants



Drake Peddie

[Photo by Vivian Dennis-Monzingo]

of Pirates and Privateers, and is the current Senior Vice-Commander for the E.E. Ellsworth Chapter of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Drake's talk was titled, "Revolutionary Rewind".

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In this issue, we have a seventh article by Compatriot Frank Roberts;

"Benedict Arnold-Hero to Traitor"

Frank's article begins on page 9.

Our next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on December 13, 2012 at the Texas Land and Cattle Steak House. We will be celebrating at our Christmas Party.

Minutes from the November 8, 2012 Meeting of the East Fork-Trinity Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution

The November 8, 2012 meeting of the East Fork-Trinity Chapter of the SAR was called to order at 7:00 by President Walt Thomas, at the Texas Land and Cattle Steak House in Garland.

Thirteen members and fourteen guests were in attendance:

Members; Allen Christian, Gary Snowden, Frank Roberts, Montie Monzingo, Walt Thomas, Tom Whitelock, Fred Hawkins, Robert Vickers, Paul Ridenour, Harmon Adair, Dave Powell, Gary Lovell, and William Bellomy; and guests Jane Christian, Jane Roberts, Joyce Adair, Vivian Dennis-Monzingo, Barbara Thomas, Dotty Ridenour, Della Vickers, Mindy Lovell, Barbara Powell, Martha Bellomy, Glenn & Peggy Atterberry, and our guest speaker Drake Peddie and his wife Sonia.

Chaplain Bill Bellomy opened the meeting with a prayer.

Compatriot Bob Vickers led the pledge of allegiance to the US flag, Compatriot David Powell led the pledge to the Texas flag, and Compatriot Gary Lovell led the pledge to the SAR.

President Walt Thomas acknowledged and welcomed the guests present.

Secretary Montie Monzingo presented the minutes from the October meeting, which were approved as posted.

Compatriot Fred Hawkins, who was inducted into the chapter at our September 13th meeting, received his rosette from President Walt Thomas.

Fred Hawkins receiving his rosette.
[Photo by Tom Whitelock]



Compatriot Allen Christian received a Supplemental Lines Certificate based on his patriot ancestor Reverend Richard Sankey. Reverend Stankey was born in Limerick, Ireland in 1710 and was graduated from the University of Edinburg in 1728. Reverend Sankey was an ordained Presbyterian minister who preached for over 50 years. He was one of the signers of a petition presented to the Virginia House of Delegates, urging the establishment of religious as well as civil freedom.

Allen Christian tells us about his patriot ancestor Richard Sankey.

[Photo by Vivian Dennis-Monzingo]



Vice President Paul Ridenour introduced our guest speaker, Drake Peddie. [Editor’s note: Drake should be named our resident speaker.] At two previous meetings, Drake assumed the roles of revolutionary war heros, and dressed the part. At this meeting, Drake presented four vignettes; some amusing, some serious, all interesting.

Our speaker, Drake Peddie, dressed in, as he said, “Something I wear around the house”.

[Photo by Vivian Dennis-Monzingo]

- I. Yankee Doodle Andy. Drake told us about some of the exploits of a newbie reenactor with the 5th New York Regiment. For example, during a reenactment of a battle, Andy wasn’t allowed the use of black powder, so he was forced to rely on simply yelling “Bang”.
- II. Drake discussed the oddity in the deaths of two of our founding fathers; both signers of the declaration of independence and former Presidents of the United States. Thomas Jefferson and

John Adams both died on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the declaration of independence.

III. Drake discussed several hilarious statements made in essays written by 5th and 6th graders.

IV. Never too old. This presentation dealt with Patriot Samuel Whitmore, who at the age of 80, took on the British when they were returning from Boston. Whitmore armed himself with a musket and two dueling pistols and killed three British soldiers. He was shot in the face, bayoneted 13 times, and left for dead. When Whitmore was later found, he was trying to load his musket. Surprisingly, Whitmore lived another 18 years.



President Walt Thomas presents our guest speaker, Drake Peddie with a certificate.

[Photo by Tom Whitelock]

Compatriot Harmon Adair presented the treasurer's report:

Beginning balance	\$1212.97
Check written	\$50.00
Closing balance	\$1162.97
Donations tonight	\$53.00

Discussions:

The December 1 Parade [Editor's note: more information has been sent by President Walt Thomas via email.]

December meeting: short meeting and Christmas Party (Drake Peddie and his wife have been invited.) Officers to be elected at this meeting and sworn in at our January meeting.

Drake Peddie will replace Harmon Adair as the District 6 Vice President.

Compatriot Tom Whitelock announced that it would be family night; only one door prize per family.

The winners were Jane Christian, Drake Peddie, Fred Hawkins, Walt Thomas, Vivian Dennis, Gary Snowden, Paul Ridenour, Glenn Atterberry, and Martha Bellomy.



Chaplain Bill Bellomy closed the meeting with a prayer, and President Walt Thomas led the closing.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Montie Monzingo, Secretary

East Fork-Trinity Chapter

Sons of the American Revolution

Rockwall DAR National Defense Luncheon



DAR Luncheon Head Table

Above: Peggy Atterberry, Glenn Atterberry,
Mary Sue Reinhardt Smith, Rock Wall Chapter DAR member,
Admiral Robert Smith III, President of Texas A&M Galveston (Guest Speaker)

Below: Gail Lasky, Vice Regent Rock Wall Chapter, Dan Lasky, Gail's husband,
Laverne Ketcherside, Registrar Rock Wall Chapter DAR,
Marilyn King, Service for Veterans Chair, Rock Wall Chapter DAR

[Photos by David Berendt]





Our chapter's Color Guard posting the colors at the DAR Luncheon.

[Photos by David Berendt]



ROWLETT VETERANS' PROGRAM



President Walt Thomas at the Rowlett Veterans Program.

[Photo by Vivian Dennis-Monzingo]

At the Rowlett Veterans Program.

[Photo by Vivian Dennis-Monzingo]



Benedict Arnold-Hero to Traitor

The name Benedict Arnold shall forever be synonymous with the word “traitor”. On the one hand it should be, as Arnold attempted unsuccessfully to turn the critically positioned fortress at West Point, New York and control of the Hudson River over to the British. On the other hand, a noted historian, George C. Neumann, stated that “...without Benedict Arnold in the first three years of the war, we would probably have lost the Revolution.” Furthermore, Arnold was considered by Washington to be one of his best and most courageous combat generals in the Continental Army. What motivated Arnold, a major general in the American Army, to make such a move from hero to traitor has been the subject of many studies and an equal number of opinions. This author makes no attempt to add to that conjecture, only to plant some seeds for thought.

Arnold was born in Norwich, Connecticut in 1741, into a well-to-do family, with five generations of Arnolds known throughout New England, including one ancestor who was a colonial governor of Rhode Island. Arnold’s father, at first successful in business, plunged the family into poor financial straits due to alcoholism. The father’s reasons for his drinking have been credited to the loss of all of his children to yellow fever, except for Arnold and his sister, Hannah, and by the later death of Arnold’s mother.



Arnold was trained at an early age in the apothecary trade and was later quite successful in the pharmacy and also the bookselling business. Losing interest, he turned his businesses over to his sister, Hannah, and invested in several sailing ships, captaining them on trading trips to the West Indies and along the North American coast. An incident occurs during this time where we see the first outward indication of courage, as well as arrogance, lack of tact, vanity, and a combative nature in Arnold’s character. While at a port in Honduras, a British sea captain incensed Arnold by calling him a “damned Yankee, destitute of good manners or those of a gentleman.” A duel ensued and Arnold, a crack shot, wounded the British sea captain. Arnold then gave the wounded captain a choice; apologize or the next shot would be fatal.

Benedict Arnold
Engraving by H. B. Hall

The captain apologized.

Military experience started for Arnold at the age of seventeen when he enlisted in the militia during the French and Indian War. He served only thirteen days, and though unproven, it is hinted that he deserted his unit. It is more likely that because the militia company that he had enlisted in turned back after the battle was lost, Arnold was disappointed that he had not seen combat and so simply went home. Arnold, himself, stated that until the age of fifteen he was a coward, and only gained courage after that time. One is left to wonder what caused that change.

When the Revolutionary War broke out in 1775, Arnold had been avoiding paying taxes on the Stamp and Sugar Acts, resorting instead to smuggling goods through a cordon of British revenue cutter vessels. Still, his seafaring business suffered greatly and he was in debt to the tune of about £16,000 at the start of war. Shortly before Concord and Lexington, Arnold had organized a Connecticut militia company with himself as captain and, when the siege of Boston began, marched his company to join Washington's army and the first battle of the Revolutionary War. While at the siege site, he met with and convinced the Massachusetts Committee of Safety to appoint him a colonel, raise a force, attack and capture Fort Ticonderoga, and secure its artillery train and gun powder stores. Holding the fort would also prevent the British from moving down Lake Champlain and Lake George, and gaining control of the Hudson River, therefore cutting the eastern colonies from those to the west.

Although some historians have labeled the campaign that summer of 1775 a comic-opera affair, Fort Ticonderoga along with Fort George and Crown Point were captured and all of the objectives of the adventure were met. However, Ethan Allen was also moving to capture the forts, and he and Arnold quarreled over command, finally agreeing to share. Later Arnold again quarreled over command, this time with Colonel Benjamin Hinman, sent with reinforcements to strengthen the forces holding the forts, and to take command. The Massachusetts authorities, tiring of all of the bickering, sent a committee to the region with orders to place Hinman in overall command. Arnold, indignant that he had not been supported, resigned his commission declaring that he would not be second to any man, and returned to Massachusetts.



Arnold then convinced the Continental Congress to invade Quebec, but, he was passed over for command. Disappointed, he persuaded General George Washington to allow him to attack Quebec City by a treacherous overland route through the wilderness of present day Maine. Despite

The Rebel Army Floundering Through Snow on Its March to Quebec City

the loss of half of the 1,100 men in the difficult march (300 turned back and 200 died), Arnold arrived in front of the fortress of Quebec City in November 1775. Though he was joined by Richard Montgomery and his small army, the attack on the city on December 31, 1775, failed with Montgomery killed and Arnold's left leg severely wounded. Arnold continued an ineffectual siege of the city until replaced by Major General David Wooster in April, 1776. In spite of failures of the expedition, Arnold was promoted to brigadier general.



Battle at Valcour Island

Arnold was then assigned as military commander of Montreal until forced to retreat in the face of a much superior British force. He presided over the rear of the Continental Army as it retreated through Saint-Jean, being the last to leave the city before the British arrived. Again showing his resourcefulness, he had a small armada constructed to oppose the British fleet on Lake Champlain. Arnold engaged the British ships at the Battle of Valcour Island

and lost the fight, a setback for Arnold and the expedition into Canada. Though Arnold suffered several other defeats in the adventure, the net result was nevertheless positive in delaying the British advance toward Ticonderoga for another year.

Arnold's arguments and rankling over command and other petty issues were gaining him a great number of enemies, particularly in the Continental Congress. An example of Arnold's abrasive character causing further acrimony towards him were accusations made by him concerning conduct of the 2d Canadian Regiment, resulting in a court-martial of the commander, Moses Hazen at Ticonderoga in 1776. Counter-accusations by Hazen would have resulted in Arnold's own court-martial except for the intervention of Major General Horatio Gates. Another example occurring in the same period was an altercation with two lower-ranking officers, both with strong political connections in Congress. One of the officers stated, perhaps prophetically, "Money is this man's God, and to get enough of it he would sacrifice his country". Still, Arnold had been able to establish good relations with Washington and fair, but soon to deteriorate relations, with Major Generals Schuyler and Gates.

Washington next assigned Arnold to the successful defense of Rhode Island after the seizure of Newport by the British in December, 1776. The following February, he learned that he had been passed over for major general in favor of officers junior to him. Angered, he attempted to resign, but Washington refused, and in a demonstration of his

faith in Arnold wrote to Congress, attempting to get Arnold's promotion. Washington stated, to no avail, that other good officers would be lost if Congress continued its course of appointing officers based on political motivation alone.

Meanwhile, Arnold, on the way to Philadelphia to argue his case of promotion with Congress, learned that the British were moving on Danbury, Connecticut to raid a supply depot. Arnold organized the militia and fought the Battle of Ridgefield where he was again wounded in the left leg. The result of his actions there convinced Congress to appoint him to major general, though his seniority was not corrected over those officers appointed before him. Arnold, thinking Congress had promoted him as a favor due to his wounds, tried again in July, 1777, to resign and again Washington refused. At that time word came that Ticonderoga had fallen to the British and Washington sent Arnold to assist Schuyler in the defense of northern New York.

Arnold arrived at Fort Edward, New York at the end of July and was sent on August 13, with 900 men to relieve the siege on Fort Stanwix. By a ruse, Arnold fooled the British commander into believing a superior force was rapidly approaching, causing the British to evacuate the fort. Arnold was then ordered back to General Gates' command at a camp south of Stillwater on the Hudson River at Bemis Heights. Shortly after arriving at Gates' headquarters, Arnold got into a long-running quarrel with Gates, escalating into a shouting match at which Gates relieved Arnold of command. Against Gates' orders, Arnold mounted a horse and led the rebels to a decisive victory over the British, resulting in the surrender of Major General Burgoyne and his forces at the Battle of Saratoga.



Benedict Arnold leading the charge at Saratoga.
(Arnold is on Horseback, Urging on the American Troops)

Again, and this time severely, Arnold was wounded in his left leg. Refusing to allow amputation, the leg was set as best the surgeon could accomplish, resulting in the leg being two inches shorter, and giving Arnold a noticeable limp. Congress, in recognition of his actions at the Battle of Saratoga, awarded Arnold his seniority, though his ego was again injured as he felt the act was again in sympathy for his wounds and not Congress righting what he considered a wrong against him.

After several months of recovering from his leg wound, he reported to Washington's camp at Valley Forge in May, 1778, to the applause of the men who had served under him at Saratoga. While at Valley Forge, Arnold took an oath of allegiance to the American cause, an event being enacted across the colonies at that time to determine who was loyal to the rebellion and who was loyal to King George III.

The British, in order to consolidate their forces, withdrew from Philadelphia to New York City in June, 1778, and Washington appointed Arnold as military commander of the city. Arnold engaged in an extravagant lifestyle in his new command, and he also



Peggy Shippen Arnold and daughter Sophia, by Sir Thomas Lawrence.

Shippen continued a relationship with André by correspondence.

began to develop shady business deals that would result in accusations of profiteering on supplies furnished to the Continental Army. Arnold, a widower, soon met Peggy Shippen, an 18-year-old daughter of Judge Edward Shippen, and began a courtship ending in marriage on April 8, 1779. This courtship and marriage was to entangle Arnold in a downhill spiral to his demise as a high ranking American Army officer for Judge Shippen was a Loyalist, and Peggy Shippen had a previous suitor, a British Major named John André, who headed General Sir Henry Clinton's spy organization. After the British evacuation, Peggy Shippen and a circle of lady friends had continued to maintain contact with British officer suitors and Loyalist through letters smuggled across the lines. In spite of her marriage vows, and though it is not known if Arnold was immediately aware, Peggy

Arnold had begun to have doubts about the future of the rebellion sometime in 1778, and a short time after his taking command in Philadelphia, other officers in the Continental Army noticed a change in Arnold's activities and attitude. Major General Nathaniel Greene in particular had written to Major General John Cadwalader expressing his concerns, "I am told General Arnold is become very unpopular among you oweing (sic) to his associating too much with the Tories". Green had received letters of discontent from Arnold stating the "deplorable" and horrid" conditions the country was sinking into. In particular Arnold chaffed over the discord amongst members of Congress, the deterioration of the Continental Army, and lack of military supplies.

Sometime in early May, 1779, through his wife, Peggy Shippen, Arnold contacted and met with Joseph Stansbury, a Philadelphia merchant and a Tory with communications ties across lines. Arnold's first contact with the British came when Stansbury carried a message to New York in which Arnold offered his services to Clinton. Stansbury was referred to Major André by Clinton who also authorized the major to begin secret negotiations with Arnold. Peggy Shippen and her circle of Tory lady-friends soon began passing coded letters through the lines between Arnold and André using Stansbury and another Tory, Jonathan O'Dell, as couriers.

As negotiations on compensation were begun, Arnold, perhaps to show good faith, passed on to Clinton information on rebel troop strengths, unit location, supply depots, and military operations planning. Arnold initially wanted £10,000, the payment given to Major General Charles Lee by the Continental Congress for his military services. Clinton, occupied with a campaign to control the Hudson River and cut the colonies in two, informed Arnold that he move to obtain a higher command position, though it is not known if he suggested command of the West Point Fortress on the Hudson River.

There was, however, business to be completed by the Continental Army on the charges made concerning Arnold profiting illegally from his business deals over military supplies. After some delays, a court martial board was convened in December 1779. Though some of the officers on the board had ill feelings towards Arnold for previous indiscretions and disputes, he was found guilty of two rather minor charges. Arnold's ego was again damaged, and further so when Washington wrote him a letter of rebuke



over the court's decision. Congress, not satisfied with the findings of the court martial board, made an inquiry of its own into expenditures made by Arnold during the Quebec campaign. Though most records were lost during the retreat, he was found guilty of not submitting proper documentation, and fined £1,000. Further incensed over this charge, Arnold resigned his post in Philadelphia, and this time Washington did not refuse it.

Vast Array of Forts at West Point

General Schuyler, commanding the New York area, had approached Arnold in April, 1780, with the suggestion that he take command of West Point Fortress. In June, Arnold took a trip to Connecticut, and on the way back to Philadelphia, inspected the West Point Fortress. He sent detailed information on the installation to Clinton, also noting the possibility of command of West Point. No time was wasted by Clinton in encouraging Arnold to accept that command, as the fortress was central to British plans to defeat the rebellion. As to Arnold's real purpose in going to Connecticut, he was quietly selling his home located there, and transferring all of his assets to London via Tory contacts in New York City. Apparently with Schuyler's backing, Arnold deftly persuaded Washington to endorse his assignment to West Point Fortress and on August 3, 1780, took command not only of West Point, but all of the Hudson River from Albany to the British lines just north of New York City. Arnold seemingly became aware at some point of the excitement of Clinton at such a coup and upped the ante to £20,000 plus the £10,000 for indemnification. Clinton countered with £20,000 and no indemnification, and on August 30, Arnold took the offer.

After taking command of West Point Fortress, Arnold began weakening the defenses by delaying repairs, in particular to the chain barrier stretched across the Hudson River. He also reduced manpower at the fortress, and began reducing supplies so that the installation could not sustain a long siege. Junior officers at the fortress and others along the river began to believe that, considering Arnold's reputation, he was in fact ordering supplies and selling them on the black market.

While working to weaken West Point Fortress, Arnold was also writing to André demanding a face-to-face meeting to confirm the agreement for compensation. A meeting was set up for September 11, at a place on the Hudson River called Dobb's Ferry, but was foiled by British gunboats firing on André's boat, not knowing it held a



Arch Conspirators: Benedict Arnold and John Andre

British officer. Finally, on September 21, the two met just south of West Point Fortress where Arnold gave André plans and information on the fortress. André stuffed the documents into his boots and was preparing to return to the *HMS Vulture*, a sloop-of-war that had brought him upstream from New York City, when the vessel came under fire from rebel guns and retreated downstream. André spent the night behind rebel lines at the home of the Tory sympathizer at whose house the meeting took place and, with a pass furnished by

Arnold, proceeded on to New York the next morning, crossing the Hudson River by boat and then over land by horseback.

Unfortunately for André, a militia outpost stopped him and found the documents, which eventually came into the hands of Washington. Washington's demeanor in learning of the treason of Arnold was his usual calm, but he immediately ordered a hunt for Arnold and that André be court-martialed. Arnold quickly learned of the capture of André and the documents and escaped downriver by boat to the *HMS Vulture*. André, in civilian clothes when arrested, was subsequently found guilty of spying. Attempts were made by Washington to trade André for Arnold, but Clinton refused, so a contingent was sent to kidnap Arnold. That attempt failing, Washington then issued an order that should Arnold be captured, he was to be summarily executed by hanging.

André was left to suffer his fate as the sentence of the court was death. Though André requested a firing squad, he was nevertheless hanged at Tappan, New York on October 2, 1780. André went to the gallows in a courageous manner and, because many onlookers admired his bravery and acceptance of his fate, the affair was somber and not without tears shed by some.



Damaging Documents from Benedict in the Boots of Major Andre

Because Arnold failed to deliver West Point Fortress into Clinton's hands, he was given a lesser sum of £6,315 plus a brigadier general's commission and an annual income of £360. In December 1780, Clinton ordered Arnold to take a force of 1,600 men into Virginia to capture Richmond and destroy supply depots, and sources of production of war materials. The rebel militia rose up in force and drove Arnold's army into Portsmouth and held him there. While there, Arnold took command of the British southern army until relieved by General Lord Cornwallis' arrival in May, 1781, at which time he returned to New

York City. Clinton next ordered Arnold, with a force of 1,700 men to raid the port of New London, Connecticut. On September 4, 1781, Arnold's force took New London and Fort Griswold at the cost of one-quarter of his men. Clinton was shocked at the losses and remarked he could ill afford such victories. In spite of requests for further commands, Clinton was not so obliging, and Arnold languished in New York until December 8, 1781, when, with Clinton's blessing, he gathered his family and left for London, England.

Unfortunately for Arnold, he was little respected by British officers and especially those whom he commanded. One British colonel under Arnold wrote, "...there are many

officers who must wish some other general in command.” Upon arriving in London, he was assailed disparagingly by the British press, comparing him with Major André, admired for his courage and patriotism. One British critic, in words reflecting back to those of an officer involved in the Hazen case, stated that Arnold was a “...mean mercenary, who, having adopted a cause for the sake of plunder, quits it when convicted of that charge.” While in London, Arnold continued to lobby for involvement in the American fight for independence but no one was interested or would listen, either to his requests for position of command or suggestions on conduct of the war. The war in America ended with no further involvement by Arnold.

In 1785, Arnold and his son moved to New Brunswick, Canada, with Peggy Shippen and the rest of his family following in 1787. He settled in Saint John, dabbling in real estate and building up a trading company. Even then Arnold could not separate himself from controversy. He was first accused by the builder of his first ship of cheating on the payments, later finding himself embroiled in further disputes over business deals, involvement in lawsuits, and in similar issues. In one such event, Arnold won a scandal lawsuit against a former business partner, resulting in angry townspeople in Saint John burning his effigy in front of his home with Peggy and the children watching. Finally, Arnold and his family left Canada in December 1791, to return to London where he continued to cause further controversy over business deals and to get into scrapes defending his now tarnished honor. In defense of that questionable honor, he fought a bloodless duel with a member of parliament, the Earl of Lauderdale, claiming the Earl had impugned his honor by salacious statements made in the House of Lords.

Arnold, in declining health and upon reaching the age of 60, died on June 14, 1801.

He was buried at St. Mary’s Church, London, and though he was a retired brigadier general in the British service there were no military honors given at his funeral. A century later, due to a clerical error in church records, his body was removed during renovations and reinterred in a mass grave, leaving the exact whereabouts of his remains unknown.

Arnold has been demonized for his betrayal of his oath and commitment to his home land and the American cause for freedom. Benjamin Franklin said of him, “Judas sold only one man, Arnold three million.” Some would say Arnold succumbed to greed as an inducement to treason, yet others blame the blandishments of his Tory wife, Peggy Shippen. Of equal consideration is Arnold’s hatred of the French, which were joining the rebel cause. Perhaps Arnold’s real and only positive aspect of his legacy was for the British, for his sons, three by his first wife and four by his second, all served as officers in the British Army, one reaching the rank of lieutenant general.



**Arnold’s Saratoga
Monument**

In America, Arnold's name is absent on monuments at battlefields at which he fought, and there are no statues of him known to exist. There is a monument to Arnold, placed at the Saratoga Battlefield site, which displays only a major general's left epaulet covering the top of a left boot in a stirrup. There is no name. At the same Saratoga Battlefield site a victory monument has four niches. Three contain statues of Gates, Schuyler, and Morgan. The fourth niche is empty. At the U. S. Military Academy grounds at West Point there are plaques commemorating all generals who served in the American Revolution. One bears the following inscription: "Major General...born 1740," but again, no name is shown. It is as if there were a ghost, unmentionable, unacknowledged, and somehow wishing to remain unknown.

It is said that had Arnold been killed at the Saratoga Battle he would today be one of the most revered of heroes of the Revolutionary War. It was not to be so, and perhaps the best view of Arnold and his traitorous actions are in the words of an anonymous American rebel officer, captured by British soldiers under Arnold's command. Arnold supposedly asked the officer, "What would be my fate, if I should be taken prisoner by the Americans." The rebel officer is purported to have replied, "They will cut off that leg of yours wounded at Quebec and Saratoga and bury it with all the honors of war. Then they will hang the rest of you on a gallows."

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