

I expect that she will lay in at Flatbush, as I think it would be dangerous to bring her to town. The late firing of the *Asia* has been fatal to many women in her situation. The family join me in love to you, and believe me to be, dear Moncrieff,

Yours,

To Major Moncrieff, Boston.

Thomas Moncrieff was a Major of Brigade in the American Establishment, and had married Helena Barclay, the sister of Mrs. Bache, in the Summer of 1774.

In consequence of this letter Mr. Bache was ordered to attend the Committee for examination—Mr. Isaac Roosevelt, to his honor be it said, dissenting; but the messenger on his return reported that Mr. Bache had gone out of town. He had probably received some friendly warning.

In the Summer of 1776 he was again cited to appear before the Provincial Congress, and replied in the following letter. Throughout the tone is that of one whose dearest wish is to preserve a strict neutrality.

FLATBUSH, Monday, 7th July, 1776.

GENTLEMEN:—I would have waited upon you this day pursuant to your citation received on Friday last, but the distressed state of Mrs. Bache and my numerous family since the arrival of the fleet at Sandy Hook, will, I hope, be a sufficient apology for my remaining with them, as they will require all my attention to save them from the horrible calamities of the approaching conflict.

My being represented to the Congress as one of the persons inimical to the cause of America, fills me with the deepest concern; be assured, Gentlemen, that the accusation is unmerited and must have proceeded from those unacquainted with my sentiments. I have not since the unhappy dispute began, contravened any order of the Congress, Continental or Provincial, nor is it my intention. I sincerely hope for a reconciliation—that this once happy country may enjoy the blessings of peace; and am, Gentlemen,

Your most obt. humble Svt.,

THEOPHYLACT BACHE.

To Philip Livingston, Esq., and the Gentlemen of Congress.