

# Washington Survives Braddock's March

1 **To John Augustine Washington**

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3 Fort Cumberland, Md., 18 July 1755

4 To Mr Jno. Auge Washington, Mo.<sup>t</sup> Vernon.

5 Dear Brother,

6 As I have heard; since my arrival at this place, a circumstantial account of my death and dying speech; I  
7 take this early opportunity of contradicting the first, and of assuring you, that I have not, as yet,  
8 composed the latter.—But, by the All-powerful Dispensations of Providence, I have been protected  
9 beyond all human probability or expectation; for I had four Bullets through my Coat, and two Horses  
10 shot under me; yet escaped unhurt, altho[ugh] Death was leveling my Companions on every side of me!

11 We have been most scandalously beaten by a trifling body of men;—but fatigue, and want of time,  
12 prevent me from giving you any of the details, untill I have the happiness of seeing you at Mount  
13 Vernon...

14 Pray give my compliments to all my Friends.—I am, D<sup>r</sup> Jack,

15 Your most aff.<sup>e</sup> Brother,

16 G. W——n

17 *Source: George Washington Papers – Library of Congress*

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## VOCABULARY

*circumstantial*: detailed

*trifling*: insignificant

*Dispensations of Providence*: grace of God

*D<sup>r</sup>* : dearest; *aff.<sup>e</sup>* : affectionate

1. What type of primary source is this? \_\_\_\_\_ Who wrote it?

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2. What event in history was happening during this time period?

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3. The word *latter* on line 8 means the second or last thing that is mentioned. What does the use of this word tell us about the author's structure of the text? To what is the word referring to on line 6?

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4. What is the purpose of this source, in other words, why was it written? Place [//] around the evidence that supports your answer.

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5. Underline the words or phrases in the text that the author's uses to describe his experience in this battle.

6. Referring to lines 8-9, who does Washington give credit to for his survival? Circle the four best words or phrases that best support your response.

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7. How does this source contribute to a young Washington's reputation as a leader?

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