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Notes furnished by Col G. M. Greagh
of Clarke County Alabama
in relation to the Battle of "Burnt Coon"
the "Canoe Fight" and other engagements
in which he was concerned in 1813. 1814.

Sageville 23rd of August 1847
Col. A. I. Pickett

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 3rd of this instant has been received - your essay of eight days in New Orleans has also been received, for which you will receive my thanks.

Blunt Bon expedition
Information having been received in Clarke Washington and Baldwin that a party of Indians had gone to Pensacola for the purpose of getting of powder & lead to destroy the citizens in Clarke more particularly in Bassett's creek.

Col James Collins the then Commander of all the militia East of Pearl River in the Mississippi Territory, having received information of the ^{intention} of the Indians made a call on Clarke Washington Baldwin for volunteers. Col Collins having assembled the volunteers in Washington came on to Clarke, was joined in Clarke only by Capt Wm. Long Capt. & Capt William M. S. Long. They then proceeded to the Citizens Fort on the frontier of Clarke, on coming to that place he was joined by Capt. David P. and Capt. Thomas Phillips, all volunteer Companies. From the Citizens Fort we commenced our march to Ligoniers Ferry (now Lewis, Tenn) where we encamped the first night the next day we crossed the river over the wire in Canoe, and camped the horses by swimming after crossing the river the Command proceeded to David Tate's Camp where we encamped for the night. On the next day we awaited the troops from

Bellevue under the command of Captain Oliver
Bailey, after the arrival of the troops under
Bailey the command of Col Collins was
nearly two hundred strong and now in the
first degree, some few of the officers
having been in service. Col Collins the
next day after the arrival of the troops from
Bellevue took up the line of march to the
North Corn Spring arriving there before night
he advanced the troops to the Wolf Trail
on the direct route to Pensacola, where we
made our last encampment in the night.

The morning of the 29th of July 1813 was
clear & bright, the troops commenced the
march on the trail leading to Pensacola, at
or about 10 o'clock we first met the signs
of the Indians, on that day Capt Pennington
Dr & most of Washington & Capt Samuel
Cole of Clarke and their companies composed
the vanguard. The remainder of the troops
were divided into three battalions, Commanded
by Major Phillips of Washington
Major Lewis Wood & Major McForsyth
of Clarke. The troops proceeded on until
we arrived at the crossing of the Burn Run
Creek where the wolf trail crosses, a part
of the Indians had crossed over and were on
the east bank of the Creek when the attack
was made, the first rush we took & our
pocket horses were driven with powder, lead
& bullets, which was such an affair as the
disturbance of our lines, but whilst arriving the
horses up the bank, the Indians shot a
bullet through a kettle on the back of the
horse over the head of the writer.

The cutting the horses, and turning them loose
in the midst of our troops was done by the
advanced guard, in which Service Captain
Dole received a wound below the left nipple
the wound striking a rib it was soon
to the back bone, after which he exerted
to do all in his power to keep the troops in
their proper position. After cutting the pack
horses, we were just entering the Swamp to
engage the Indians in the Swamp, when the
order was to fall back of total order for
it put it out of the power of the Commander
to restore order again, although he done all
that men could do to prevent the flight
of a part of his Command, As soon as the
first order to fall back had been given
Phillips left with a portion of his own
of the other Indians, left the White Guard
and looked out for their safety in flight
cutting with them the greater part of the
pack horses & their loads. The remaining
troops acted with more determination, and
maintained the action for a considerable time.
Although a part ~~of~~ had left the field
the remainder kept the fire against some
then beyond Indians, At the close of the
the flight the writer was struck by an Indian
Dole in the left coat pocket, and having
a little heavy & a pair of buckskin gloves
in the same the gloves on the web side the
ball entered them, and did not the high
joint so that it was impossible to move
my hand Patrick May now seen was
kind enough to bring my hand to me and to assist
me in this, to May I owe my life

Ambron Miles held my horse which they assisted on,
just as the last of our troops was leaving a
man by the name of William was killed by the
Indians. David Gless a private in Cole
Company fired the last gun on the murders
of Weller, the Indians took the direction
of Pennington over Trooper the direction of the
Went Corn opening - Each willing to close
the covers of the way we lost two killed and
18 or 20 wounded, the main says that that had
done 20 killed and as we were wounded -
The Command of Cole Company involved in an
or Lieut. and with Winson S. Snow, Company
being that the men for the flight keeping
the wound in our advance - we come to
Cole ferry when the Clerk & Washington
Troop were there by to their red water house.
Some time in August 1813 Col Joseph Cossin
was ordered to the frontier of Clerk & he
Constructed Fort Madison five miles south
of Sugsville, when his Red Jacket Remains entered
the fall of Fort Mims 10 Sept 1813.
Remains to the fort of Fort Mims. Col William
Morgan took a small Company to accompany
the other men of Clerk in West's Creek on
that Creek he found a Party of Indians
he attacked them, and was killed by them
with Edward Miles, one two of the Griffins
Col Cossin having received information
of the same took his Red Jacket and
left a Drury's Bay Company leaving with
Cole Company to guard the Health, whilst
in that expedition Drury was wounded
in the arm the wound remains
mortally he died at St Stephens.

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After the fall of Fort Mims, General Harrison
L. Claiborne, fearing the actual situation of
his command ordered Col. Bowen to fall back
with his Aid General to St. Stephens, the then
head quarters of the General, leaving Clarke's
and its citizens to the sure destruction of the
Indians, but an all-wise Providence prevented
it. On the 11th of September the Indians
killed a Mr. John Kimbrell, and a Mr. Almon
Laney families, on the 12th a small command
under Lieutenant Rees Caldwell was sent up to
Langbeild's Fort to assist in burning the and
and to ascertain if the Indians were in
any number, the party here just closed
the melancholy duty of burning the dead
when the alarm was given that the
Indians was approaching, the volunteers with
the citizens returned to the Fort and was just
shutting the gate when it was ascertained
that some twenty or thirty women were at the
spring working, the Indians here discovered
the prize and was in the act of getting
between the spring & the Fort so as to cut the
women off from the Fort. When Isaac
Houghton who had been out a Cow hunting
arrived on the Fort. Seeing the hopeless
condition of the women, and seeing the
cowardice of the Lyon, he cracked his Cow which
I calling to the aid a considerable number
was on the Fort. he rushed on the Indian
on the head of his Cow in Company, the
cows charged on the Indians, and brought
them to a stand still. he directed the women
to run for their lives, and with only
one exception a Mr. Phillips, painter that
he got separate the Fort.

The Indians had to take their two clubs to the
avg & it took some time before the avg could
be broken off. Hunter having got over the
woman safe with the exception of her Philip
some good his es when to the Host when
he resisted in giving them as a present
for doing the Indians attacked the Host
for some time, but finding that the
cavalry response from within left them
nothing to hope for, having left their
horses near the walls of the Host they
with arms talking with them all the
even hours they could lay their hands
on, our boys on our side's better they
don't then or upward. The citizens gave
when they Indians had bound Don Jor-
jo or their horses -

After this engagement the citizens abandoned their
stronghold & came to Host Mission the
greater Host in clothes. After the withdrawal
of Col. Corson's Regt, Col. John
Haynes took the command of the citizens that
remained on the Host. Capt. James Dale
Company being one of the Companies and kept
the Host until November, when General
Cleidburn took up his line of march
to Ducktown in Clark County, he ordered Col
Corson with his Regt to Host Mission
Col. Corson was ordered to leave a detachment
to clear the Melon River and divide
the Indians were in any force on the River
Capt. James Dale's Regt's Lieutenant and
party fire volutes of our Company. Lieutenant
Murt Gray of Capt. W. Jones's Regt's

Rifles and some forty privates composed the
Command, Capt. Hale made the attack
near a Washian Landing (near French) when
he exposed the Command to the east bank
and in court all night.

The morning of the 12th of November 1813 found
the Command ascending the cork boat on land at
the same time sending two Canoes up the River
to be used in crossing again. We had to create
a small Indian trail partly covered with
briars, compelling us to crawl a part of the time
so as to get on, in this way we came near
to Lake Oronotos for protection, when we met
some Indians who bore both Capt. Ochs
rifles and the alarm, and we hurried one
of the Company the night we raised one they
had some can attack to charge, but the
response from the approaching white, assured
them that it was no place for them and
they took leave in haste, leaving us doubt
whether them, on arriving at the River
the Command Command crossing Lieutenant
Montgomery's Rifles first and nearly all
of Capt. Ochs Company had crossed when
the Captain was about going into the Canoe to cross
only leaving the Water Men fifteen men to
cross a Canoe was discovered turning the
points, the Captain was informed he sent the
two Canoes with two men in each one ordered
them to proceed slowly so as to have the
appearance that the boat had not been
discovered. The men were given to Lieutenant
Montgomery to conceal his Command until the
Canoe might be got into the proper position
Capt. Ochs sailed to the mouth of a small

creek on the north ^{of the creek} side of the plantation and on
 the south side, the ^{of the creek} covered his small canoe
 round to be consuted, when all things would
 have be right as the Indians had seen the
 two Canoes and was making the utmost
 speed to go to take the man that had
 crept in the canoe, but Lieutenant Montgoy
 could not but still but opened his fire
 on the canoe that contains our two friends.
 They discovering the danger they were in attempted
 to escape in the creek boat, and with the
 water leaving the canoe, we gave them a
 discharge from our guns but did not do
 any execution excepting wounding some of the
 persons. The creek being a little up we
 are delayed in creeping, whether creeping being
 affected we turned them all back but two
 that had reach the bank, being ~~wounded~~
 wounded. Whilst swimming back James Smith
 a private in Dale Company killed one of the
 Indians the rest reaching the canoe, there
 commenced the work of death but how
 we had to stop Lieutenant Montgoy on the
 west bank from firing for fear of killing
 our men, we then tried to drive the
 Indians in the canoe, with bullets but
 that would not do, we then tried the
 ball & musket, that made them take
 the water & put the canoe in a line so
 to prevent injury from us, after a good deal
 of being shot at from a canoe that
 was to take the Indian boat. When
 approaching & seeing the uttermost ^{men}
 of the Indian they returned with ^{men}
 the canoe.

Capt. Cole then took with him Ives, 9
Smith, Jeremiah Austell and a negro man
Censor they approached the Indian Camp
the reports of which had been hourly received
on approaching, they fired their guns to no
effect, the Censor then closed a book of
Cole, Smith & Austell being in each book
Censor holding them together never more
to part in life, the first or Red Austell
was injured by a war club. Cole & Smith
rifles having done no good way, clubbed for
the deadly combat, and being nervous
with the spirits of men determined to
Conquer or die they applied their rifles
with so much effect that in a short
time the proud warriors that arose the
heavy Corn down stream lay still &
silent in Death. Having completed the
business they had undertaken, they never
attended to the rights of Speeches, by
Consigning some of our brave men to the
river contents to the bright notes of
the Skutumpah. The taking the Corn I copied
the rest of our Company over to the west
bank of the river and then took our route
to Fort Mission and reported the results
of the Corn fight.

After reaching the fort Col. Crosser
ordered Capt. Cole to take about forty men
of our Company & the writer of this and
see if any Indians were in the vicinity
on leaving Fort Mission the command entered
the Swampy hills of the west coast, we
started our gang of Indians and pursued
them for some time not coming up to
them, and having followed them down to

I know that they have gone to the Alabama River
The command returned without having any fight
After our return I was a short time after
that Capt. Kinds of the Mississippi Company
was ordered to the river opposite to where Fort
Claiborne was built. on reaching the river he
fell in with a small detachment of Indians
& killed some 5 or 6 after his return and report
to the General Claiborne he arrived from
Jackson to Fort Mifflin, after that he
took up the line of march to the Alabama
river, and built Fort Claiborne

The Government having ordered Col. Silvanus
C. Murrell of the 3^d Regiment to enter the
Creek nation & report here and I accompanied
to General Claiborne, we were joined by the
3^d Regiment early in December after getting
all things in moving General Claiborne
took up the line of march to the Malay
Grounds. The third Regiment Col. G. C.
Murrell com. The 12 months volunteers Col.
Joseph Coxson, a Detachment of Horse
Major Correll, a Detachment of Militia
& Chactaw Major Benjamin S. Smith
Samuel Dale Capt. Wiley Wren Capt.
General Push Minto New with an armed
ship by Chactaw the writer acting as Capt.
Dale Cuppy)

The command moved on until we reached
the big bluffs south of Double Jump
then we located a small Fort opposite
bluffs then the Major Gen. Coxson saw the
top of the bluffs and we found our
to gain the fort, we then were then
a day part of the Fort the parts having
fallen, we commenced the march to

the Holy Ground The 23rd of December 1813
we formed the line of Battle, Major Corrells
Battalion of Horse was to gain the River & form
in the 13th rank west of the Town, Col Carson
Riflemen was to take position in the north
of the Town & south of the Creek that was
north of the Town. The third Regiment was
Col Bellows & Russell formed by means of
Companies was to make the main attack
Major Benjamin S. Smiths Battalion of militia
& Chetans was to take position in the south
of the Town, so impeded in the
evening on the right was heavy & gaining
when Major Corrells Battalion of horse
spoke back in the hand of Col Carson
Companies, but that evening Col Carson
he still continued to advance & took his
position, the 3rd Company in gallant style
show their duty, Major Smith arrived
& took his position, all would have been
right if the Horse had taken their
position on the River, owing to this piece
of low ground, the great ground after all
our suffering was captured, as the great part
of the Indians were by swimming the
River, a great number of guns were found on
the River bank. we find 30 Indian
Lance Heads in battle, the Town was
reduced to ashes, we find that the night
of 23rd of December, never heard their bells
nor since. we hear in 1813 a few
Cossack Letters. Some truly persons were
arrived. The Horse were ordered to various
places, and when getting there they fell
in with the 3rd Shavone that brought
the war to the Creek & killed them

The ceremony that took place in killing the 3
Showmen, was held on Capt. the men went
to strike & march that night the 24th the whole
Command encamped at various places, the
Army was in a line in tents, the Capt. trying his
best to get the Capt. to be a soldier in an
open field, Christmas morning from many of us
purchasing some for breakfast, without any thing
to let us know that Christ was here come.
In the morning a morning salute, then turning
our camp to Fort Deposit we reached it on
the evening of the 26th on our arrival at
that place we got the waggon repaired and
reprepared for the journey, we commenced
the march to Clifton on reaching that
place the militia & Chertown were disbanded
and returned home. The term of service of the
Volunteers Col. Connor Rogers & the Horn term
having expired the men mustered out of Ohio
Volunteers for going they all stayed
Russell to accompany his command on the holy
ground & to watch him of his Company in
the disbanding of the volunteers & militia left
behind Col. C. Russell was Commandant
at Fort Clifton. The first of February
1814 Col. Russell planned an expedition to go
for us at about the town, he sent a barge
up the river loaded with provisions under
the command of Capt. Dickinson of the 3rd
with a piece of Cannon to keep off the
Indian force that might attack him
Col. Russell made the winter quarters that
was built for service to 4 miles in Clifton
four miles north of Loggsville, he was
joined at that place by Capt. Con
& his troops Company (the 1st & 2nd) by

been Foster's copy of how I was killed
 under the command of Major James Cole
 The command left Camp Cross with five days
 notice to carry us to Cohutta old town, we
 were that place hungry & fatigued with
 the expectation of getting provisions from Cape
 Dickins, but after making signals & hearing
 nothing of the boat coming, many of us
 having no more shells, we sent Lieutenant Wilson
 & his men down the river to communicate
 with Dickins. The absence of the boat
 and getting of his gun powder was passed
 over by his power to do any thing in the
 way of killing Indians, in proceeding
 down the river he was killed & three of
 his men, as the boat that Cape Dickins
 commanded was ascending the river below the
 mouth of the Cohutta they discovered the
 command of Lieutenant Wilson & his company
 when the boat got to the command the first
 shot in Wilson's boat he was in command
 & killed one of our men in his boat
 respecting the expedition.

General Russell commanded the return march
 and there command more suffering than
 as how broken to my lot to intercept in my life
 the soldier bore up to the chest, but notes
 can go to a parish can no for them, its service
 must be satisfied, but Russell gave the
 order to kill the fattest horse that could be
 had. he gave one of his own, setting the
 example so as the soldiers could look upon
 in the way by horse flesh, we had to
 keep it up until we had eaten some

Some twelve hours, no one would ever be able to
keep life in the body. At length we reached
which is known as Somersford Pond. There we
routed the voyagers with the provisions, and
then continued our march to Camp Wells when
we were discharged, thus ending the last
expedition before the Treaty of Fort Jackson.

In the Spring of 1814 the citizens began to
go to their plantations to make a crop. The
Indians arranged them for some ten years as
late as 1815 killing some, which making
their crops - There was some other expedition
that was carried on, but not being in any
of them I was having my vote to go by
I am unable to give the information exactly
but Gillies C. Russell is now living in
Mobile the Commander of the 3rd Regt.
of United States Troops. There no doubt
that he would willingly give you some
valuable information, respecting the
time that he was Commander of the
Station at Fort Claiborne. There by
the notes that I have written and I can
give nothing but the facts. I can give
this information to you and to no other
person whatsoever. The case of General
Horton at Fort Snelling. I
mentioned to General Beckwith that it
might be put in print, he suggested the
name of Mr. Smith, but it was not sent
to him, that action ought to lie in
possession as it is one of the most serious
of this or any other age. Give it a
proper notice. Consideration and

be your good fortune, to place in the
page of history a ^{Citizen} ~~man~~ of character as high
in the page of fame as this or any other
time. This communication has been written
out with haste, believing that information
is all that you desire, that all the
facts will be recorded, and I intended
~~to~~ to speak your own language,
you must look on how over all the
ides of this letter, can be assured that
nothing but a desire to comply with
your wishes, could have moved me to
this letter to you in the present state.
In conclusion permit me to wish
that your labors may be crowned
with success, and that others more
willing than the writer of this may
contribute to your work, should any
thing more be wanting that I have
the power of contributing I am assured
that it will be cheerfully done —
I remain Dear & respectfully
Yours

J. M. [Signature]

Suggsville 7th of October 1847

Col A. L. Pickett

Dear Sir your letter of the 3rd of September has been received. I have been compelled to delay this letter so as to obtain the information asked. I have been out in Fort DuRoi full.

Isaac Henton came from Jackson County Georgia to this county clerk, then a part of Mississippi Territory in the year 1811. he was a farming by occupation, he has a very limited stock of learning, six feet high. slender make and was about forty years old at the attack on Fort Mifflin. The Indians after they had dispersed the day after Henton, his horse fell on the neck of the gun, the man soon from his feet and made good his escape to the fort. Carrying before him the women & children after all that could be made good their escape, his horse being not killed followed him to the fort & it is said entered the fort after him.

Isaac Henton was a part of Col Joseph Brown's Company that went up to Washita to bury Col William MacGregor, E. Mills & the two Griffins. he was wounded in the line whilst getting water at a creek in the night. So he he is at this time I am unable to give you a part of his family is now living in the western part of Sumner & the east of Mississippi. I will obtain the information

of his whereabouts if he is in the land of the
living. Lieutenant Wilcox is a much harder
Case to trace of as he was an officer of the
3rd United Sts. Adjutant under the Command
of Col. Silvanus C. Russell. Wilcox County is
you correctly state was named after him.

As soon as information can be obtained for the
above Subjects Lewis communicate it to you.
You will have the goodness to compare the
information given to me some time since for
John Kimble was Reuben Kimble for
Almon Jones was Abner Jones. The
Lieutenant that was sent from Fort Mifflin to
Fort Lincoln field Estate has been called
for person in the book some say that
Lieut. Baird or other that he was John Brown
the Lieutenant in the Subject was on all other of
the time we will have to make use of the
true officer from the number of Person who
have any recollection of the time.

Wentworth County was named after a Lieutenant of
that name who was killed in that County. We
know no person to whom I can refer you
for the information. Some may ought
to have given you all the information on
the Low Parkers in view as his residence was
at St. Stephen. I am Respectfully

Yours

Geo. G. Wright

Orangeville Aug 5
Oct 9 3

Paid 5

Col A. I. Pickett

Montgomery

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Notes furnished by Col. G. W. Creagh
of Clarke County, Alabama,

In relation to the Battle of "Burnt Corn"
the "Canoe Fight" and other engagements
in which he was concerned in 1813-1814

Suggsville 23rd of August 1847

Col A. J. Pickett

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 3rd of this instant has been received – Your essay of eight days in New Orleans has also been received, for which you will receive my thanks.

Burnt Corn expedition.

Information haveing [*sic*] been recieved [*sic*] in Clarke Washington and Baldwin that a party of Indians had gone to Pensacola for the purpose of getting of power & lead to destroy the citizens in Clarke more particularly on Bassets creek.

Col James Collier the then commander of all the Militia East of Pearl River – in the Mississippi Territory, having received information of the Indians [^] in territory made a call on Clarke Washington & Baldwin for volunteers. Col Collier having assembled the volunteers in Washington came on to Clarke, was joined at Jackson by Capt Bradburys Company & Capt William McGrew company & [^] Robt Colliers compy they then proceeded to the Citizens Fort on the frontier of Clarke: On arriving at that place he was joined by Capt Samuel Dale and Capt Thomas Phillips all volunteer companies. From the citizens Fort we commenced our march to Sizemores Ferry (now Guins town) where we encamped the first night the next day we crossed the men over the river in canoes, and crossed the horses by swimming [*sic*] after crossing the river the command proceed to David Taites cow pen where we encamped for the night. And the next day we awaited the troops from Baldwin under the command of Captain Dixon Bailey, after the arrival of the troops under Baily the Command of Col Colliers was nearly two hundred strong, (and now in the first degree) some five of the officers having been in service. Col Collier the next day after the arrival of the troops from Baldwin took up the line of march to the Burnt Corn Spring arriving there before night he advanced the troops to the Wolf Trail on the direct route to Pensacola, where we made our last encampment in the Nation.

The morning of the 27th of July 1813 was clear & Cloudless. the troops commenced the march on the Trail leading to Pensacola, at or about 10 o'clock AM we fir met the first of the Indians, on that day Capt Benjin S Smoot of Washington & Capt Samuel Dale of Clark and their companies composed the vanguard – The remainder of the Troops were divided into three Battalions commanded by Major Phillips of Washington Major James Wood & Major [McForting?] of Clarke | the troops proceeded on until we arrived at the crossing of the Burn [*sic*] Corn Creek or where the wolf trail crosses, a part of the Indian here crossed over and was on the east bank of the Creek when the attack was made, the first onset we took 8 or 10 pack horses loaded with powder, lead & Blankets, which was not done but at the risk of our lives, for whilst driving the horses up the bank, the indians shot a bow through a kettle on the back of the horse over the head of the writer. The taking the horses and turning them back in the midst of our troops was done by the advanced guard in which service Capt Saml Dale received a Ball below the left nipple the Ball striking a rib it was carried back to the backbone, after which he assisted to do all in his power to keep the troops in their proper position. After taking the pack horses, we were just entering the swamp to engage the indians in the swamp, when the order was to fall back fatal order for it put it out of the power of the Commander to restore order again, although he done all that men could do to prevent the flight of a part of his Command. As soon as the first order to fall back had been given Major Phillips left with a portion of his and some of the other Battalion, left the Battle Ground and looked out for their safety in flight taking with them the greater part of the pack Horses & their loads. The remaining Troops acted with more determination, and maintained the action for a considerable time. Although a part ~~a part~~ had left the field the remainder kept the field against some three hundred Indians. At the close of the the [*sic*] fight the writer was struck by an indian Ball in the left coat pocket, and having a silk handkerchief [*sic*] & a pair of buckskin gloves in the same the gloves on the outside the ball intered [*sic*] them, and dedened [*sic*] the hip joint so that it was impossible to mount my horse Patrick May, now Gen. was

kind enough to bring my horse to me and to assist me on him, to May I owe my life. – Andrew Miles held my horse while May assisted me on, just as the last of our troops were leaving a man by the name of Bullard was killed by the Indians David Glass a private in Dales Company fired the last Gun on the murderer of Bullard, the Indians took the direction of Pensacola, our troops the direction of the Burnt Corn Spring – Each willing to close the labors of the day our loss two killed and 18 or 20 wounded. The indians say that that [*sic*] had some 20 killed and a good many wounded – , The command of Dale company devolved on me a Lieutent, and with Benjamin S. Smoot compy brought up the rear from the fight keeping the wounded in our advance – we came to Dale ferry where the Clark and Washington Troops made their way to their respective homes Some time in August 1813 Col Joseph Carson was ordered to the portion of Clarke & he constructed Fort Madison five miles south of Suggsville, where his Redgmt remained until the fall of Fort Mims 10 September 1813. Previous to the fall of Fort Mims, Col William Mayhew took a small company to reconnoiter the upper end of Clarke on Bashi Creek in that Creek he found a Body of Indians he attacked them, and was killed by them with Edmund Miles, and two of the Griffins Col Carson having recieved [*sic*] information of the same took his Redgent and Capt Bradley Spy company leaving Capt Dale company to guard the Fort, while on that expedition Bradley was wounded in the arm the wound proving mortal he died at St Stephens.

After the fall of Fort Mims General Ferdinand L Claiborne fearing the detached situation of his command ordered Col Carson to fall back with his Redgement to St Stephens the then head quarters of the General, leaving Clarke County and its citizens to the sure distruction [*sic*] of the Indians, but an all wise Providence prevented it. On the 11th of September the Indians killed a Mr John Kimbell & a Mr Abner James families. on the 12th a small command under Lieutent Keen Calwell was sent up to Sinquefield Fort to assist in burying the dead and to ascertain [*sic*] – if the indians were in any number, the party had just closed the melancholy duty of burying the dead when the alarm was given that the Indians

was approaching. The volunteers with the citizens returned to the Fort, and was just shutting the gate when it was ascertained [*sic*] that some twenty or thirty women were at the spring washing. The Indians had discovered the prize and was in the act of getting between the spring & the Fort so as to cut the women off from the Fort: When Isaac Heaton who had been out a cow hunting arrived at the Fort. Seeing the hopeless condition of the women, and possessing the courage of the Lyon, he cracked his cow whip & calling to the dogs a considerable number were at the Fort, he rushed at the Indian at the head of his comin [*sic*] Company, the dogs charged on the Indians and brought them to a stand still, he directed the women to run for their lives, and with only one exception a Mrs Phillips fainted & fell all got safe into the fort –

The Indians had to take their war clubs to the dogs & it took some time before the dogs could be beaten off. Heaton having got all the women safe with the exception of Mrs Phillips made good his escape to the Fort where he assisted in giving them Ball & powder for dinner. The Indians attacked the Fort for some time, but finding that the deadly response from within left them nothing to hope for, having left their horsemen at the wall of the Fort they withdrew taking with them all the loose horses they could lay their hands on, our loss one man killed Stephen Lacy some three or 4 wounded – The citizens found where the Indians had bound some 8 or 10 on their [...] –

After this engagement the citizens abandoned Fort Siquefield & came to Fort Madison the frontier Fort in Clarke. After the withdrawal of Col Carson Redgemt, Col John Haynes took the command of the citizens that remained at the Fort. Capt Samuel Dale Company being one of the Companies and we kept the Fort until November, when General Claiborne took up his line of march to Jackson in Clarke County, he ordered Col Carson with his Redgemt to Fort Madison Col Carson was ordered to send a detachment to scour the Alabama River and see if the Indians were in any force on the River Capt Saml Dale and G. W. Creagh Lieutent and forty five volunteers of our Company Lieutent Montgomery of Capt W. Jones Mississippi Rifles and some forty privates

composed the command. Capt Dale made the Alabama River at [Breshins / Bushins?] Landing ([near / now?] Frenchs) where here crossed the command to the east Bank and encamped all night.

The morning of the 12th of November 1813 found the command ascending [*sic*] the east bank on land at the same time sending two canoes up the river to be used in crossing again. We had to encounter a small Indian trail partly covered with briars, compelling us to crawl [*sic*] a part of the time so as to get on, in this way we come near to John Randons plantation, where we met some Indians on horse back Capt Dales rifle gave the alarm, and unhorsed one of the company the yell was raised and they here made an attack to charge, but the response from the approaching white, assured them that it was no place for them and they took leave in haste, leaving one dead behind them, on arriving at the river command commenced crossing Lieutent Montgomery rifles first and nearly all of Capt Dales Company had cross^d when the Captain was about going into the canoe to cross only having the writer & some fifteen men to cross a canoe was discovered turning the point, the Captain was informed he sent the two canoes with two men in each and ordered them to proceed slowly so as to have the appearance that the boat had not been discovered. The order was given to Lieutent Montgomery to conseal [*sic*] his command until the canoe might be got into the proper position Capt Dale selected the mouth of a small creek at the north end of the plantation and on the south side ^{^ of the Creek} he [carried?] his small command to be consealed, [*sic*] when all things would have be right [*sic*] as the Indians had seen the two canoes and was making the utmost speed so as to take the men that had crossed in the canoe, but Lieutent Montgomery could not keep still but opened his fire on the canoe that contains our two friends They discovering the danger they were in attempted to escape on the east bank, and took to the water leaving the canoe, we gave them a discharge from our guns but did not do any execution excepting among some of the foremost, the creek being a little up we were delayed in crossing, bothe the crossings being affected we turned them all back but two that had reached the bank badly wounded. Whilst swimming [*sic*] Back

James Smith a private in Dale company killed one of the Indians the rest reaching the canoe, then commenced the work of Death but slow. we had to stop Lieutent Montgomery on the west bank from firing for fear of killing our men, we then tryed [*sic*] to kill the Indians in the canoe with buckshot this would not do, we then tryed [*sic*] Ball & Buckshot, that would then take the water & keep the canoe in a line so – to prevent injury from us, after a good deal of forcing Capt Dale ordered a canoe & five men to take the Indian boat, but on approaching & seeing the determined mind of the Indians they returned without even trying the canoe.

Capt Dale then took with him James Smith Jeremiah Austill and a negro man Caesar they approached the Indian canoe the occupants of which had been barely discovered on approaching, they fired their guns to no effect, the canoe then closed a foot of Dale, Smith & Austill being in each boat Caesar holding them together never more to part in life, the first onset Austill was injured by a war club. Dale & Smith rifles having done no good was clubed [*sic*] for deadly combat, and being [nerved?] with the spirit of men determined to conquer or die they applied their rifles with so much effect that in a short time the proud warriors that drew the headlong canoe were [...] lay still & silent in death. Having completed the business they had undertaken, they next attended to the rights of [speeche?], by consigning some of us brave men as the writer [contends?] to the bright water of the Alabama Then taking the canoe & crossed the rear of our company over to the west bank of river once there took our route to Fort Madison and reported the result of the Canoe fight.

After reaching the fort Col Carson ordered Capt Dale to take about forty five of our company (& the writer of this) and see if any Indians were in Bassets Creek, we started one gang of Indians and pursued them for some time not coming up to them, and having followed them so far as to know that they had gone to the Alabama River The command returned without having any fighting After our return ~~some~~ a short time after that Capt Hinds of the Mississippi dragons was ordered to the river opposite to where fort Claiborne was built. on reaching the

river he fell in with a small detachment of Indians & killed some 5 or 6 After his return and report to the General Claiborne he advanced from Jackson to Fort Madison, after that he took up the line of march to the Alabama river, and built Fort Claiborne.

The Government having ordered Col. Gilbert C. Russell of the 3^d Redgemt to enter the Creek nation & report himself & command to General Claiborne, we were joined by the 3^d Redgemt early in December after getting all things in readiness General Claiborne took up the line of march to the Holy Grounds. The third Redgemt Col G. C. Russell [...]. The 12 month volunteers Col Joseph Carson a Battalion of Horse Major Cassell a Battalion of Militia & Choctaw Major Benjamin S Smoot Samuel Dale Capt – Baily Hind Capt General Push Minta Haw with one hundred and fifty choctaws (the writer acted as Lieutent in Dale compy)

The command moved on until we reached the neighborhood South of Double swamp There we located & built Fort Deposit leaving there the wagons, Cannon & all the baggage the isck and one hundred men to guard the fort. We then drew three days portion of flour the pork having failed, and commenced the march to the Holy Ground The 23rd of December 1813 we formed the line of Battle, Major Cassels Battalion of horse to gain the river & form on the Bank west of the Town, Col Carson Redgemt was to take position on the north of the Town & south of the creek that was north of the Town. The third Redgemt under Col Gilbert C Russell formed by heads of Companies was to make the main attack South of the Town, so we proceeded on the firing on the right was heavy & going on where Major Cassells Battalion of horse fell back on the head of Col Carsons Redgemt, but that did not stop Carson he still continued to advance & took his position. The 3rd came up in gallant stile [*sic*] & did their duty Major Smoot arrived & took his position, all would have been right if the Horse had taken their position on the river, owing to this piece of low conduct, the great good after all our suffering was defective as the greater part of the Indians escaped by swimming [*sic*] the river a goodly number of guns were fired on the river bank. We found some 30 Indians

& negro killed in battle, the town was reduced to ashes. We gave them that night strains of musick never heard there before nor since. We had one ensign killed [...] Lucket Some twenty person were wounded. The Horse were ordered to Woods place and before getting there they fell in with the 3 Shawnee that brought the war talk to the Creek & killed them. The firing that took place in killing the 3 Shawnees was heard at camp, the order was to strike & march that night the 24th the whole command encamped at Woods place, the river was descending in torrents, the cold trying how intense it could be on a soldier in an old field. Christmas morning found many of us parching corn for breakfast, without any thing to let us know that Christmas had come. We fired a morning salute, then turning our canoe to Fort Deposit we reached it on the evening of the 26th. on our arrival at that place we got the wagon refitted up & prepared for the Jirny. We commenced the march to Claiborne on reaching that place the Militia & Choctaw were disbanded & returned home. The term of service of the volunts Col Carson Redgemt & the Horse time having expired they were mustered out of service. But before going they call Major Cassells to answer for his conduct on the holy ground & Brooke him of his Courage [...] The disbanding of the volunteers & Militia left Col Gilbert C. Russell sole commander at Fort Claiborne. The first of February 1814 Col Russell planed [*sic*] an expedition to go as far as Cahaba Old Town. The [sent?] a barge up the river burdened with provisions under the command of Capt Dinkins of the 3rd with a piece of cannon to keep the Indian force that might attack him Col Russell ordered the entire redgemt that was fit for service to + roads in Clarke four miles north of Suggsville, he was joined at that place by Capt Evan Austills compy Isaac Duffie Lieut under the command of Major Samuel Dale The command left crossroads with six days rations to carry us to Cahaba old Town, we reach that place hungry & fatigued with the expectation of getting provisions from Capt Dinkins, but after making signals & hearing nothing of the boat [remaining / raining?] nearly two days having [...] [...] [...], we sent Lieutent Wilcox & five men down the river to communicate with Dinkins. The upsetting of his canoe and getting of his guns & powder wet put it

out of his power to do anything in the way of killing Indians, in proceeding down the river he was taken & three of his men. As the boat that Capt Dinkins command was ascending [*sic*] the river below the mouth of the Cahaba they discovered the canoe of Lieutent Wilcox & his companions when the boat got to the canoe it found life in Wilcox but he was insensible & could not give any information respecting the expedition.

Col Russell commenced the return march and then commenced more suffering than it had been my lot to witness in my life The soldier bore up to the [test?] but water can go to a point and no further, its craving must be satisfied [*sic*], Col Russell gave the order to kill the fattist [*sic*] horse that could be had. he gave one of his own, setting the example so as the soldiers could keep life in the body by Horse flesh, we had to keep it up until we had eaten some twelve horses as no one would cut back to keep life in the body. At length we reached what is known as Bradford's pond. there we met the waggons with the provisions. We then continued our march to cross roads where we were discharged, this march the last expedition before the Treaty of Fort Jackson. In the spring of 1814 the citizens began to go to their plantations to make a crop the Indians anoyed [*sic*] them for some time even as late as 1815 killing several whilst making their crops – Then some other expedition that was carried in, but not being in any of them & not having any [notes?] to go by I am unable to give the information correctly Col Gilbert C Russell is now living in Mobile the commander of the 3 Redgement of united States Troops [*sic*]. I have no doubt that he would willingly give you some valuable information respecting the Station at Fort Claiborne. I had [lessd?] the notes that I had written out & can find nothing but the [dates?]. I here give this information to you and to no other person whatsoever. The case of Isaac Heaton at Fort Sinquefield I mentioned to [friend?] M Cormick that it might be put in print, he suggested the name of M^r Meek but it is not sent to him, that action ought to live in print as it is one of the [most daring?] of this in any other age. Give it proper ~~notice~~ consideration [...] let it be your good fortune to place in the page of history a ~~son~~ ^ citizen of Clarke as high in the page of fame as this or any

other time. This communication has been written out with haste, believing that information is all that you desire, that all the facts [*sic*] will be [reassessed?], and [remolded?] so as to speake [*sic*] your own language. You must look [...] haste over all the ills of this letter, and be assured that nothing but a desire to comply with your wishes, could have made me send this letter to you in the present stile [*sic*]. In conclusion permit me to wish that your Labors may be crowned with success and that other more willing than the writer of this may contribute to your Book. Should any thing more be wanting that I have the power of contributing rest assured that it will be cheerfully [sent?] —

I Rem Respectfully yrs

G. W. Creagh

Suggsville 7th of October 1847

Col A J. Pickett

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 3rd of

September has been recieved [*sic*]. I have been compel^d to delay this letter so as to obtain the information asked & have been but in part successful. Isaac Heaton came from Jackson County Georgia to this county Clarke, then a part of the Mississippi Territory in the year 1811. he was a farmer by occupation, he had a very limited stock of learning, six feet high slender make and was about forty years old at the attack of Fort Sinquefield. The Indians after they had dispersed the dogs fired at Heaton, his horse fell at the crak [*sic*] of the guns. The rider soon found his feet and made good his escape to the Fort. carrying before him the women & entered after all that could run made good their escape, his horse being not killed followed him to the Fort & it is said entered straight after him. Isaac Heaton was a part of Col Joseph Carsons command that went up to Bashi to bury Col William McGrew, E. Miles & the two Griffins. he was wounded in the side whilst getting water at a creek in the night. Where he is at this time I am unable to find out, a part of his family is now living in the western part of Sumter & the west of Mississippi. I will obtain the information of his whereabouts if he is in the land of the living. Lieutenant Wilcox is a much harder case to trace up as he was an officer of the 3d United States Redgement under the command of Col Gilbert C. Russel. Wilcox county as you correctly state was named after him. As soon as information can be obtained for the above subjects I will communicate it to you. you will have the goodness to correct the information given to you some time have for John Kimbell [...] Ramson Kimbell, for Almon James [...] Abner James. The Lieutenant that was sent from Fort Madison to Fort Singuefield I state was Keen Calwell from some persons in the fort say that he was Lieutent Baily others that he was John Brown the Lieutent in this subject as all others of the time we will have to make out the true officer from the number of persons who have any recollection of the time.

Butler county was named after a Gentleman of that names who was killed in that County, but know no person to whom I can refer you to for information. General May ought to have given you all the information in the [Land?] [...] [...] as his residence was at St Stephens.

I Rem Respectfully

G. W. Creagh

[Handwritten postmark and postage]

Suggsville Ala / Oct 9 Paid 5

[Address]

Col A J Pickett / Montgomery / Ala

[In bottom left corner]

mail}