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## Jacksonville and the Seminole War, 1835-1836

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JACKSONVILLE AND THE SEMINOLE WAR  
1835-1836

**REGIMENTAL ORDER** <sup>1</sup>

4th Regt. Florida Militia,  
Jacksonville, Nov. 10th, 1835.

Sir-You are hereby required to muster the company under your command, forthwith; and cause a complete inspection of the same to be made, as to their arms and equipments, and make an immediate return to me of the same. You will impress on the men the necessity of their equipping themselves according to law, and be particular in returning to your company Court Martial all defaulters, in not appearing armed as required. The General commanding this Brigade, has informed the Colonel of this Regiment, "that as the Indians are to be removed about the 8th of January next, in the event of their not complying peaceably with the Treaty with the General Government, circumstances may require him to call on a portion of the Brigade for their services, and he confidently expects support in such an event, from this Regiment." I think it unnecessary for me to say more to you, than fully to express confidence in yourself, and the officers and men under your command, being held in readiness to meet promptly any call that may be made on their services, and that this Regiment may, in the event of their being called to the field, shew that patriotic and military character that has always so distinguished the sons of Florida.

I have the honor to be, &c.

W. J. MILLS,  
Lt. Col. 4th Regt. F. M. Com. 1st Batl.  
To Capt. DANIEL S. GARDINER.

<sup>1</sup> **The Courier, Jacksonville, Florida, Dec. 24, 1835.**

**THE INDIANS <sup>2</sup>**

By news from Alachua, it appears that the Seminole Indians have openly shown their opposition to the measures of the Government for their removal, by commencing hostilities upon the inhabitants residing near them. Their first act was the murder of Charles O'Mathla, a chief of the Mickasuky tribe, who was in favor of a removal.

Col. McIntosh, who resides near Micanopy, thus writes :-“By express from Fort King last night, we learn that the Mickasuky Indians have killed Charles O'Mathla, and shown other signs of hostility; which, in my humble opinion, brings matters to a crisis. We have a defenseless frontier, which must be entirely sacrificed, unless aided from some source or other.”

They have since made attacks upon several families, laying waste their plantations, and, though, from the last information, no whites have been killed, they have evinced every manifestation of determined hostility. - The inhabitants are flying in every direction ; while military, corps are organizing and repairing to the frontier to protect the lives and property of those who are exposed to the depredations of this wily and secret foe. By the commendable activity, and the great ability and experience of Gen. Clinch, who has the command of this station, aided by the praiseworthy readiness with which the volunteer corps are repairing to his assistance, we doubt not the Indians will be prevented from doing extensive injury. We have such entire confidence in Gen. Clinch as to remove all fear of the Indians, hostile as they may be, ravaging the country beyond the frontier, and we believe many are agitated by needless fears.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, Dec. 3, 1835.

**REGIMENTAL ORDER** <sup>3</sup>

4th Regt. Florida Militia,  
December 5, 1835.

Sir-You are hereby required to muster the company under your command, at Isaac Hendricks', Esq., Cowford, on Monday morning, the 7th inst. at 9 o'clock, A. M. completely armed and equipped, and all mounted that have horses, or that can procure them, when you will make immediate report to me of the full effective strength, in men, arms, equipments and horses. And at that time and place, you will receive such further orders for your guidance, as shall be communicated to me by the Colonel commanding this Regiment. The Indians having committed some depredations on the frontiers, the General commanding the United States troops in Florida, has made a requisition for the services of a portion of this regiment, you will therefore impress on your company, the necessity of being fully prepared for immediate service, at a moments warning after your parade is formed, as herein ordered.

By order of Col. **JOHN WARREN**,  
Commanding 4th Regt. F. M.

**W. J. MILLS**,  
Lt. Col. Com. 1st Batl.  
To Capt. D. S. **GARDINER**, Company D.

Head Quarters,  
Jacksonville, Dec. 7th, 1835.

Sir-You are hereby ordered to hold the company under your command, in readiness to march at a moment's warning. You will cause all the men to be immediately prepared for actual service. Press all the arms in the district, and make report to me forthwith. The regiment being called into actual service by the Commanding General of the Brigade.

By order of Col. **WARREN**.

**W. J. MILLS**,  
Lt. Col. 4th Regt. F. M.  
Capt. D. S. **GARDINER**, Company D.

<sup>3</sup> **The Courier, Jacksonville, Florida, Dec. 24, 1835.**

Head Quarters,  
Jacksonville, Dec. 7, 1835.

Sir - You are hereby ordered to muster the Batallion under your command into immediate service, and order the companies to take up the line of march for Wetumpka, via Black-Creek, to-morrow morning; you are also required to establish a post at Jacksonville, under the command of a Captain and twenty-five men - one post at Mandarin, under a Lieutenant and twelve men - one post at Whitesville, under a Lieutenant and twelve men - you will charge the Captain commanding the post at Jacksonville, to keep a regular mounted guard, and to take into custody all slaves and free persons of color, except they are in the actual service and presence of their owners, overseers, or employers, and to keep them in close confinement, subject to the disposition of the civil authorities ; and you will order the Commandant at Jacksonville to issue the same peremptory orders to the Commandants of the posts at Mandarin and Whitesville - and to require regular reports from them; and he is required to report to Major Isaiah D. Hart, who will remain at Head Quarters as commanding officer of the Regimental Bounds - you are further required to take all arms found within your command, for the purpose of arming the Batallion - you will also charge the Guards with the duty of bringing in all persons who are defaulters, in appearing at the different places of rendezvous.

By order of Gen. J. M. **HERNANDEZ** ,  
Corn. 2d Brig. F. M.

**JOHN WARREN** ,  
Col. 4th Reg. F. M.

To Col. J. W. **MILLS** ,  
Corn. 1st Batl. F. M.

INDIAN WAR! <sup>4</sup>

During a few days past, our town has been the scene of busy preparation for a campaign on the Indian Frontier. By the last accounts, the Indians evince a determination and preparation for hostilities little anticipated. The friendly chiefs, (or such as professed themselves friendly) are said to have removed from the Fort and joined the hostile tribes, with the exception of two or three immediate dependents of Charles O'Mathla, who, it will be recollected, was a few days since murdered. They have retired in a body to a large swamp near their villages, and are carrying their wives and children to places of security. They are reported to have made an attack upon a party of whites, and plundered and burnt two or three more plantations.

In obedience to the call of General Clinch who has the command of the U. S. Troops, General Hernandez has ordered out the Militia. Col. Warren left this place yesterday morning at the head of his regiment, leaving only a number sufficient for the protection of the posts near this. Every man is enroled for the service on the Frontier, or for service at home. At such a time as this a great want of muskets is felt. Such as have rifles, have taken them. But a great part have been compelled to take their fowling pieces, or such guns as they could lay their hands upon. There has been an alacrity in their preparations, creditable to all, and particularly to the officers who have directed the movements. We hope, that by such a timely display of militia, the Indians will be induced to abandon their intention of further hostilities, and submit to the stipulations of the Treaty made at Payne's Landing, without further resistance.

*(Succeeding documents will appear in other issues of the QUARTERLY).*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, Dec. 10, 1835.