

Letter from Major Beasley to General Claiborne.

Mims's Block House, 14th Aug^t, 1813.

D^r Sir,

I just now rec^d yours of this date, and immediately ordered Lt Bowman to be in readiness to join Capt. Dent's company to-morrow at Cantonment Mount Vernon. M^r Chambliss will do the duties of M^r Master as well as those of Adjutant. There was an alarm here yesterday, but I believe entirely a false one; a boy of M^r Manac's lost his horse in the swamp, and said that he saw Indians. The swamp was scoured, but no Indians found; there were appearances of a canoe having been put over the river, which was thought to have been done by Indians, but it was all I believe a mistake; the horse has been found to-day.

At the time of receiving your Dispatch, M^r Pierce & M^r Tate was with me on the subject of furnishing a guard at the mill, I will send one there to-night. Capt. Bailey has as many men as to entitle ^{his} ~~his~~ company to a Lieutenant, I have ordered an election for that purpose this evening. The evening before last I was informed that Ensign Crawford of Capt. Bailey's company once deserted from the army of the United States; there was positive proof of the fact, and when I spoke to him on the subject, he admitted it; whereupon I dismissed him and ordered an election to fill the vacancy. Peter Randon, son of the old man to whom I introduced you when here, was elected.

As many as 8 or 10 of Capt. Bailey's company are without arms; and there are some citizens at M^r Pierce's Mill without also. If you could furnish from 20 to 30 muskets for the purpose of arming of them, I should be glad. Also M^r Tate requested me to endeavor to procure two rifles if possible for him and M^r Manac, he said he had spoken to you on the subject. I shall send down to the Cantonment on to-morrow ^{off} a few men on command for the purpose of bringing up some articles that the officers and soldiers are in want of and to fetch up the boat that Mr Mayes took his party down in, by whom an opportunity will offer to send up the arms.

I am with sincere

respect your obt^t Servt

Daniel Beasley, Maj^r / Comm^s Station

Addressed - Brig^{er} Gen^l F. M. Claiborne / Cantonment Mount Vernon.

Endorsed - 14th Aug^t 1813 / Maj^r Beasley to / Gen^l Claiborne.