

Gunboats and Cavalry in White River Country

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In early 1862, Federal offensives churned into action across the muddy South. One force, led by the scruffy no-nonsense Brigadier General U.S. Grant, was making rapid headway through Tennessee overland towards Vicksburg, Mississippi. He brought his army to a halt at a small log church at Pittsburg Landing on the Tennessee River to await other Federal troops en route from Nashville. Unknown to Grant, the Confederate high command was busily gathering forces farther south at Corinth, Mississippi, preparing to destroy or cripple the enemy juggernaut. Troops representing all the Confederate Trans-Mississippi states under General Earl Van Dorn were netted from Arkansas to Corinth, leaving but a few companies of Arkansas State Troops and Texas Cavalry to defend Little Rock from an advancing Army from out of Missouri under the command of Major General Samuel R. Curtis. Flooded streams and poor road conditions prevented Van Dorn from participating in the April 6th and 7th culminated battle of Shiloh at Pittsburg Landing. (i)

In the winter and spring of 1862, military activity in Arkansas County consisted largely of recruiting companies of infantry. Less reported on but as conspicuous were men from Douglas Township who joined Company E of the Sixth Arkansas Infantry Regiment. One member gave this description of his brothers-in-arms: “The privates were, many of them, young men of fortune, sons, or close relations, of rich Arkansas planters of independent means, others were of more moderate estate, overseers of plantations, small cotton growers, professional men, clerks, a few merchants, and a rustic lout or two. As compared with many others, the company was a choice one, the level of gentleness was strong, and served to make it rather more select than the average.” (ii) Twenty-four year old Captain Samuel G. Smith from the Auburn community was from a distinguished planter household. He led his company through Shiloh, and was promoted to command the regiment ten months later. Colonel Smith was later captured near Atlanta in September of 1864 and later died of remittent fever in a Federal prison six months before War’s end. He was described by a former store clerk as being a “patriot of the purest dye, of the most patrician appearance, and one of the noblest types of men I ever met.” (iii)

The 25th Arkansas Infantry, Company K, came together as a unit at St. Charles on February 22, 1862 and consisted of men from around the White River townships with relatives from Monroe County. Records indicate from the start, they were plagued with disease, disablement and death. By March they moved upriver to join the army at Pocahontas. This unit was later designated the 30th Arkansas Volunteer Infantry. Besides serving as a unit commander and staff officer, twenty-nine year old Robert Crockett of Mt. Adams excelled as a recruiter whether in or out of the army. He resigned his commission in the 1st Arkansas Infantry in February 1862 and enlisted in the 18th Arkansas as a private. He was elected Major on April 2 and appointed Colonel of the regiment by reason of seniority seven months later. Company K of this regiment

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was led respectively by Captains Felix R. Robertson, C. J. Miller, Charles C. Godden and J. T. Gibson. The first two were planters, the others, like Crockett, were lawyers practicing in DeWitt. In March they moved to DeValls Bluff where the regiment was officially organized as the 18th Arkansas Infantry and assigned to Fort Pillow, Tennessee. As of February 20, 1862, and prior to conscription, Arkansas County sent 455 men to war, out of a voting population of 862. Company K of the 18th Arkansas Infantry was the final all-volunteer unit from Arkansas County prior to conscription. (iv)

The removal from the state by Van Dorn of everything resembling a war footing, compounded by a well-equipped invasion force advancing toward Batesville, caused an outcry that resulted in the arrival of Major General Thomas C. Hindman on May 30, 1862. This former Helena resident and Mexican War veteran earned a reputation as an energetic worker, having been promoted twice in ten months from the rank of Colonel. He immediately seized the state troops into Confederate service under the threat of conscription, and commandeered newly-arrived Texas Cavalry enroute to Mississippi. Shops to manufacture equipment, arms and ammunition were rapidly established at Arkadelphia and Camden. Records were taken from the State Library to obtain paper for making cartridges. (v)

He eventually declared martial law, vigorously enforced the Conscript Act of April 16, 1862, and appointed provost marshals (military police chiefs) to every county. All white males not subject to conscription were to be organized as provost guards (police details). It is not known how the enrollment officers systematically took conscripts between the ages of 17-35 from Arkansas County communities; the availability of courthouse records was probably a good starting point. From across the state, incomplete companies were forwarded to Little Rock where they were increased to 70-100 men according to the restrictions determined by the Major General Commanding. He completed the organization by assigning an officer of his own selection to command the companies. Unwilling conscripts could not desert because martial law controlled the countryside, requiring passes to travel between cities or between neighborhoods. Captain Marion Jennings Clay was appointed commander of a mounted Arkansas County unit. (vi)

Being mounted spelled an urgency stemming from Union naval developments. On June 6, Memphis fell to the U. S. Navy and by the 13th, a fleet of ironclad gunboats, the U. S. Navy's finest, was ordered to escort supply-laden transports (steamboats) up the White River to the relief of General Curtis's Army. General Hindman keenly anticipated the move and on May 29, he ordered the Engineer Officer from his staff to make St. Charles Bluff defensible by obstructing the river with felled timber. Also he was given authorization to procure steamboats and labor for that purpose. Hindman received telegraphic notice from Helena of the naval advance from Memphis on June 14. On that day, Clay's cavalry company was sworn into service at Little Rock and at once ordered to lower White River, by way of St. Charles. His instructions were explicit, firm, and herewith published for the first time: (vii)

"The Major General Commanding directs you immediately proceed with your company to the section of country bordering on White River below St. Charles, going by way of St. Charles,

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showing this letter of instruction to the commanding officer at that place who is authorized to give you orders in case of necessity, which you will report to these Headquarters. You will establish your Headquarters at some desirable point on the river, and have a line of couriers from that point to South Bend and report from time to time to these HQ and with great promptness in case of an attempted advance of the enemy. You will operate immediately on the river as far down as the cut-off, if the nature of the country will admit - if unable to reach that point - as far down as possible - disposing of your men along the river, having a strong advance at the cut-off or as near that point as far down as possible, so as to commence the fight, with effect at that point. You will instruct your men to use every effort to prevent the passage of the enemy's gunboats or transports, to dispute every inch of ground, following the boats - firing on them, to the last extremity, shooting the pilots and every man who shows himself on the boat, also to fell trees and to use the utmost endeavor to obstruct the river, both in front and rear of the boats checking them at a certain point where they can be fired on, with the greatest execution. You will strictly enforce the 'Conscription Act' against certain persons named in a letter from Jacob Haigh herewith sent.

To M J Clay,
Cmdg Cavalry Company

Capt R C Newton
Maj AA Genl"

One can imagine the swell of enthusiasm as the young blades galloped toward White River rejoicing at the opportunity of defending their home turf against the U. S. Navy's finest. After all, this is where many recruits from the townships of Polk, (Keaton) Crockett, and Prairie grew up hunting, fishing and swimming. More likely, a mood of apprehension prevailed, for these men were mostly reluctant volunteers and conscripts.

Instructions were also given to Brigadier General John S. Roane at Pine Bluff to send Texas Captain Edward H. Vontress's Cavalry down the Arkansas River as far as the cut-off, with the same instructions given Captain Clay. Rounding out the picture were direct orders from Hindman to authorities at DeValls Bluff and Des Arc on deployment of their poorly armed forces to defend against the enemy relief expedition if and when it passed the St. Charles blockade. (viii) On the evening of the 17th, Hindman received a telegraphic dispatch from the Douglas Township post office community of South Bend. Clay reported arriving at St. Charles just when the action was over and quoted Naval casualties resulting from a boiler explosion aboard the ironclad gunboat *U.S.S. Mound City*, saying a great many were killed while swimming to shore. Also two heavy guns were spiked before capture by Federal land forces. He closed his report by speculating that the obstructions in the river would probably retard the enemy's progress for a few hours.

No doubt Clay didn't observe the disabled hulk of the gunboat, nor the lingering wisps of steam that indicated its demise. Instead, he got his reported intelligence from the retreating Confederate sailors and riflemen who made up the 114-man scratch force, driven from their positions by the plowboys from the 43rd Indiana Infantry, commanded by Colonel Graham N.

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Fitch. The naval incursion had been arrested approximately thirty hours by the loss of the formidable *Mound City* and the Fleet Commander in charge of the expedition. This time lapse afforded some rest for the horsemen while planning riverine action and arranging a courier line to South Bend by way of DeWitt. (ix)

Census records of 1860 reveal 72% of Clay's unit was from Arkansas County. These recruits, unlike the previous companies of '61, were reluctant volunteers and conscripts. It was highly irregular to conscript mounted units, but the exigency of the military situation demanded it. Hindman's resources of every kind were woefully short after Van Dorn's exit and Clay's mounted unit would remain as such only until the Major General deemed the White River emergency over. Captain Marion J. Clay in 1860 was a Little Rock lawyer and planter, born in Tennessee in 1827. He was worth \$80,000 in real estate and owned \$37,000 in personal property. Clay was not a Mexican War veteran like Hindman, but he was Hindman's choice to lead the unit. (x) The greater number were primarily yeoman farmers from DeWitt and the Casscoe - Mt. Adams area, plus a sprinkling from the most obscure locations in Arkansas County. There were only two or three recruits from Pulaski and adjoining counties. Records show two conscripts from Drew and Phillips Counties were added to complete the number required for company size.

Of the privileged sons of planters, there were very few, like the Ferguson brothers, from three miles west of Crocketts Bluff. They were born two years apart in Alabama in 1844 and 1846. Their energetic father, Austin H., spent much time in the state capitol as a legislator, but produced one hundred acres, mostly cotton, in 1851, just two years after arriving in Crockett Township. Twenty-three year old Corporal Phillip Trice was listed as a merchant in the 1860 census. His father, Matthew Sr., was a Virginia native and patriarch among a flock of children and young in-laws migrating to Casscoe in 1858. The agriculture census revealed a one hundred five bales of cotton production which should have satisfied a hefty installment payment on his section-sized plantation. Corporal Trice was later promoted to Sgt. Major of the 30th Arkansas (Hart's Regiment), a top administrative position. (xi)

Eighteen year old Oliver Stuttzman was conscripted on his uncle's farm in today's Sunshine Community. The family arrived from Indiana in the 1850s and soon had thirty acres under the plow with a small herd of dairy cattle. These German migrants were among the few cheese makers on the Grand Prairie. Lower down on the east side of Bayou Meto were the Amos Cato, Robert Scaff, and Elisha Stillwell farmsteads situated near the timber skirting that viable stream. All three were in their early thirties, non-slave holding, and well on their way toward financial self-sufficiency. The farm of the latter can more accurately be quoted as being on the east side of current Benson Lake. Situated about ten miles south of Stuttgart, the area evolved into the Stillwell community.

Lieutenant Thaddeus N. Ferrell arrived from Tennessee in 1856 and accumulated prairie land on the north side of Tenth Street, west of Stuttgart, near Bayou Meto. Unlike next-door neighbor Colonel Samuel Mitchell, he didn't make his money with cotton. He was into raising cattle, and sending them to market from the boat landing at Aberdeen in adjoining Monroe

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County. The bulk of Clay's Cavalry were small farmers and tradesman termed "the yeoman class." They owned their land with few or no slaves, and were familiar with firearms, horses, mules, and outdoor living. They were probably more adaptable to outdoor life than their northern counterparts. (xii) At the bottom of the agricultural scale were the landless poor, who were farm laborers and tenant farmers. Lieutenant A. J. Gunnell was enumerated in the 1860 census as an overseer in the household of planter Wyatt Oates. His only real estate was a horse with a taxable valuation of ten dollars. Gunnell was a bachelor living close to his work, while having his laundry and food preparation done for him. During the organization of Clay's Cavalry, he was convalescing from a wound while serving in Captain Crockett's infantry company at Shiloh. He would join the mounted unit in August. (xiii)

Tradesman and merchants often tilled some land of their own, as did those in this company. Those in the professions had aspirations for the prestige that came with being planters, like Captain Clay, but not so for conscripted privates Augustus Neville and his brother-in-law Jerome B. Kennedy. They were recent arrivals from northern Kentucky and business partners under the name "Neville and Kennedy" in DeWitt. (xiv) On average, the 123 men in this unit were married and were older than the enthusiastic volunteers of '61. The average age was 27.5 years and 13% were over 30. Their nativity was evenly divided between states of the upper and lower South. It was not uncommon in the rural south to have kinship networks in every county. In 1860 all but one township in Arkansas County had neighboring kinfolk. The simple strategy of sharing and pooling resources, such as labor and credit, were encouraging steps toward building an independent farm. Captain Clay's company had its share of cousins, nephews, uncles, brothers, and in-laws. (xv) If there was one southern tradition that stood out among these men more than any, it obviously was horsemanship. There were moonlit hunts for raccoons, and predatory animals when livestock was threatened. Horseracing was a common activity on Halley's Prairie near Casscoe, but further south, it was a systematic and celebrated event. As early as April 1841, the *Arkansas Gazette* announced a Spring meet of the Arkansas Post Jockey Club, opening on June 7. (xvi)

Though the Navy was horrified at their misfortune, their resolve to achieve their mission wasn't diminished. Attention to the wounded and reducing the sunken boats obstructing the river occupied the remainder of the 17th. By mid-afternoon the next day, the fleet ascended and anchored for the night near a saw mill at Crocketts Bluff. They passed Mt. Adams at 8:20 a.m. Two hours later, when the large bulky crafts were working around a sharp curve, several reports rang out. A number of dismounted men had taken cover in the undergrowth which flanked both sides of the river, and opened fire. A sailor aboard the *St. Louis* fell; his back, shoulder and leg was riddled with buckshot. Within a matter of moments gun crews were sweeping the banks with deadly charges of canister and grape. The Confederates ceased fire and scattered. Less than two hours later, the vessels were fired into again. This time the hidden marksmen focused on the rear transport loaded with provisions for Curtis's Army. There was a wild scramble aboard as the Hoosiers piled up boxes of crackers and hay bales for protection. These unrelenting attacks

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continued through the hot afternoon, killing three men; a fourth fell overboard and drowned. At 3 p.m. the Navy angrily tied up at Clarendon, where a number of townspeople had gathered at the landing. Colonel Fitch firmly warned that if firing on the fleet was connived at by the citizens, they would be held accountable and their property destroyed. That said, the relief expedition pushed onward and spent the night at a point midway between DeValls Bluff and Clarendon. Besides the heat and harassment the Expedition Commander was distressed to observe the White River falling rapidly. So, on daylight of the 20th, the convoy turned around and moved downstream. Before long, the gunboat *St. Louis* grounded on a sandbar and required assistance getting off. On several more occasions, before reaching St. Charles, the ironclad behemoth scraped bottom where the commander alarmingly concluded, had he waited another twenty four hours, it would have been impossible to get the *St. Louis* out of the river.

On the 21st it was decided to hang around the village two more days to await fresh instructions from Memphis and indulge in some cotton stealing on both sides of the river. Colonel Fitch was becoming annoyed by sniper activity. He organized a raiding party to send to Crocketts Bluff because he heard that, besides being a rendezvous for guerillas, there was a large amount of cotton stored there. But the fear-driven Navy thought better of the two-day break, insisting they at once steam for the mouth of the White River. (xvii) Previously while the Navy was anchored below DeValls Bluff, Clay halted his operations and reported to Little Rock his sharpshooting activity at every river bend within reach of his company's shotguns and rifles. He proudly declared, "My boys are getting so they can dodge a bombshell. At first they would break and some of them have not come up yet." Also, he had detailed men to supply him with ammunition where it could be had in the country. He reportedly burned 1000 bales of cotton hidden in the woods and in warehouses. There was no time to burn large quantities left on the river near Mt. Adams, Casscoe, and Aberdeen because the enemy came up too rapidly.

Three days previous to this, Hindman ordered Captain Patrick H. Wheat at Brownsville (Lonoke) to move his cavalry company to DeValls Bluff and not to delay for any reason. He was urged to buy, or impress, all arms and ammunition they needed along the way. The order was finalized with a terse, "Let me know when you start!" This was one of many sources of embarrassment for a Department Commander to endure: sending soldiers to confront an enemy invasion force while furnishing their own weapons on the march. The one-shot disablement of a top-of-the-line gunboat with 87% of its crew wiped out was equally bizarre. Finally, for the first time in the war, here were farmers on horseback resisting iron-clad gunboats with shotguns. (xviii) Though he didn't know it, Captain Clay was no longer under Hindman's direct supervision, and was junior in rank to Captain Wheat, who was under authority of Texas Colonel Allison Nelson, Commanding at DeValls Bluff. He followed the fleet back to St Charles and reported next day, June 24:

"CAMP NEAR SAINT CHARLES, *June 24, 1862, via DeValls Bluff.* Colonel [ROBERT CRITTENDEN] NEWTON, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

We returned to this place yesterday. The enemy have four gunboats and six transports. They are

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planking up their pilot houses and raising the cotton from the gunboat and placing it around their transports to prevent our shooting them through the cabin. They have not posted their guard out of range of their gunboats. Provost-Marshal Captain McLean has established his Headquarters or office on [Hockenberry] Prairie between Saint Charles and the cut off, and has detailed thirty of my men under command of Lieutenant [John A.] Trimble to bring before him those Union men. They are secreted in the bottom and on both sides of the river and beyond cut off. What shall we do with those liable to conscription? The balance of my company have been ordered by the provost-marshal to burn all the cotton on the river that may be likely to fall into the hands of the enemy, taking the names of the owners and number of bales burned and we are then required to receipt for all cotton burned belonging to Southern men. We have burned several hundred bales in the canebrake on the east side of the river, belonging to different men, whose loyalty to the Confederate Government is suspected.... Some of the citizens here desire me to know if they will be allowed to buy salt and bacon from them upon any terms. They say that salt they must have and some of them have been trading with them [the enemy] and still claim to be good Southern men. General Roane ordered me to report to him but as General [Thomas Carmichael] Hindman ordered me to report to you, I have reported to both.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

M. J. CLAY,

Captain Commanding,

Company [Partisan Rangers] C. S. Army.” (xix)

Major General U.S. Grant had taken charge of activity to support Curtis’s Army. His solution to the low water problem was sending five additional transports loaded with reinforcements and supplies escorted by a light gunboat to the mouth of the White River. General Curtis’s Army of the Southwest had to be resupplied if it was to take Little Rock. He gave authorization for Fitch to turn back if the obstacles were too great. Shoving back up the White, the fleet approached St. Charles observing two 32-pound cannons exposed by the falling water. They were pushed over the bluff after the 17 June action. A tugboat made fast to the guns and pulled them off into the channel. (xx) The reinforcements stared incredulously at the hardened mud on each side of the river formed into a weird patchwork by unending deep cracks. The receding water also revealed numerous blackened stumps, or snags, with jagged tops so solemnly standing - so eerie and forbidding. While gazing at the nearby foliage, in its lush green abundance covering the banks, many shots rang out. When they got to Clarendon, a total of eight killed and wounded were counted. The fleet commander repeated the drill of putting his best pilot on the tug to recon above Clarendon, because several of his vessels had scraped bottom a mile below the town. Colonel Fitch mounted a detachment on horses and sent them on the road to DeValls Bluff to get another look for Sam Curtis. They instead collided with some hard riding Texans and were driven off. A few hours later, the tug boat came back, the pilot reporting the river still falling, and that there were many dangerous sandbars. Some of Fitch’s scouts reported hearing the

rumbling of artillery which inspired the Navy to scoot back up toward DeValls Bluff, but learned nothing. It wasn't Sam Curtis closing in as they thought. In truth, it was the defenders at DeValls Bluff being drilled at their guns. Clarendon was abandoned on the morning of July 2. (xxi)

A little previous to this, Captain Wheat said in a message to Colonel Nelson that it was almost impossible to effect much because of the heat, fatigue, and drought. He requested some help be sent to Aberdeen. He received a detachment from Colonel Nickalous Darnell's 18th Texas Cavalry, recently assigned to the Bluff. While moving downriver, the Federals stopped at Crocketts Bluff to decide their next move. On the national holiday of July 4, their spirits were so lifted by patriotic singing and speech-making, that the Navy invited Fitch to recon to DeValls Bluff. Also on this day the vanguard of General Curtis's weary Army of the Southwest arrived in Augusta. As the flotilla passed Mt. Adams, the lead gunboat was fired into by Rebel snipers, which then sprayed the underbrush with canister and grape. The convoy arrived at Aberdeen at 8:30 a.m. and anchored. Four companies went ashore to recon the town and returned informing Fitch that it was deserted. Shortly before nightfall, a detachment of Wheat's horsemen infiltrated through the enemy's perimeter. Making their way to the river, they opened fire on a large number swimming. For the next hour, the big naval guns were roaring at the woods while the Rebs were beating a hasty retreat. (xxii)

On the morning of the 6th, the Hoosier infantry set out with a curious marching arrangement of three 200-man detachments, separated at thirty-minute intervals. After about four miles towards DeValls Bluff, Federal scouts attacked and scattered a small outpost. A strong force of Arkansas and Texas Cavalry charged and were beaten back. The Rebels regrouped in the cover of the timber. When the action was renewed, they tried to encircle the enemy flanks. The fighting was desperate as the horsemen closed within twenty paces before giving way in the face of crashing volleys. Hearing shooting, the Federal detachment raced onward and turned onto the wrong road and missed the fighting altogether. When the action was over, Colonel Fitch rode up at the head of the third column, which was terribly afflicted with heat exhaustion. The Federals claimed twenty one casualties, Wheat took eighty-six. Captain Clay came out with one killed, six wounded, and fifteen missing. Twenty-two year old private Christopher C. Henderson from near DeWitt was killed.

With a thirty-minute truce in effect, Wheat sent his wounded to DeValls Bluff, which was placed on high alert. Seeing no effective pursuit could be made on foot, the Hoosiers withdrew to the river later. An all-night march was made up the DeValls Bluff Road to Clarendon, which again yielded no information concerning a lost army. (xxiii) After resting at Clarendon, Fitch had all his regiments lined up and ready to make a thrust toward Cotton Plant, at 6 p.m. of the 8th. He felt justified at placing Curtis's Army thirty miles away after evaluating many existing rumors. A dispatch abruptly arrived from Grant, who thought he needed to be reinforced if he were to find Curtis. He then suggested that Colonel Fitch remain at St. Charles until he heard something definite from Curtis.

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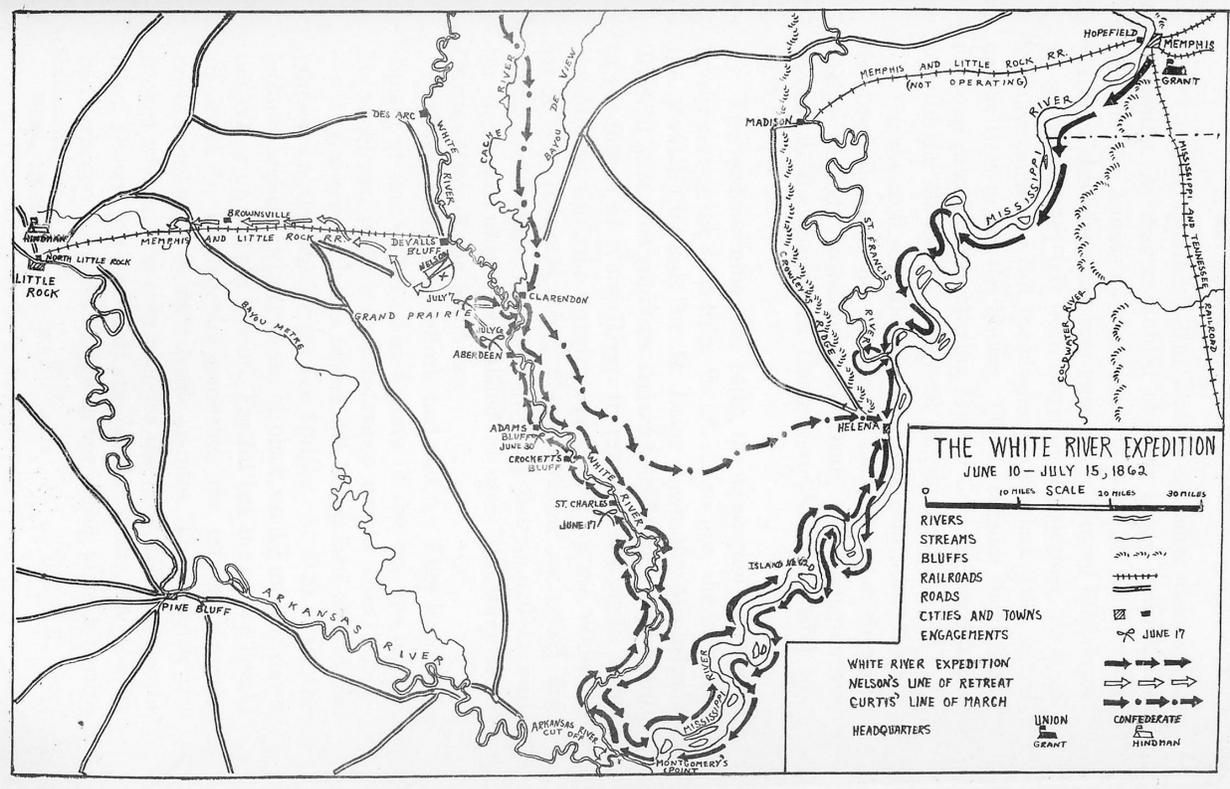
For the most part, the famished Army of the Southwest arrived in Clarendon on July 9-11 and missed their groceries by approximately twenty hours. With their departure, Little Rock was spared the horror of war for another fourteen months. Curtis's next move was to Helena, where the cavalry arrived on the 12th. A local ferryboat was sent racing to St. Charles while a passing steamer sent word to Memphis for supplies. St. Charles was evacuated on July 15 and the White River Expedition was over. Colonel Graham Fitch resigned from the Army two days later. His July 8 assessment of the thirty-mile proximity of the Army of the Southwest was actually off by eight miles in their favor. In other words, less than a day's march from each other if they were moving simultaneously. The connection would have insured the long awaited solution for a stalled and weary army while guaranteeing a promotion to Brigadier General to Colonel Fitch, but considering the tactical blunder made in moving three infantry columns beyond support of each other, such speculation is questionable, more had he been the loser. For a hard thirty days, Clay's troopers performed the tactical role of cavalry by incessantly providing intelligence to the Major General commanding at Little Rock. This was probably the only time during the Civil War when the Federal Navy sustained constant harassment from mounted forces.

Captain Wheat merged with Colonel James Monroe's 1st Arkansas Cavalry Regiment. Clay's company was detailed off and on hunting deserters until dismounted and placed into Colonel Robert A. Hart's 30th Arkansas Infantry in October 1862.

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- (i) Christ, Mark K., *Rugged and Sublime: The Civil War in Arkansas*, (University of Arkansas Press, 1994), 38.
 - (ii) Hughes, Nathaniel Chairs, Jr., *Sir Henry Morton Stanley, Confederate*, (Louisiana State University Press, 2000), 101-102.
 - (iii) *Ibid.*, 99
 - (iv) Dougan, Michael B., *Confederate Arkansas: The People and Policies of a Frontier State in Wartime*, (University of Alabama Press, 1976), 73.
 - (v) Christ, Mark K., *Rugged and Sublime*, 38.
 - (vi) Dougan, Michael B., *Memoirs of Colonel John C. Wright*, (Pine Bluff: rare book), 71-72.
 - (vii) Bearss, Edwin C., "The White River Expedition, June 10 - July 15, 1862," *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* 21 (1962): 305-362; *Trans-Mississippi Telegram Copy Book* (June-October, 1862), "Peter Wellington Alexander Papers," Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University, New York; Fifty-year-old Jacob Haigh resided seven miles due west of Crocketts Bluff.
 - (viii) General Thomas Hindman to Captain Edwin Vontress, *Telegram Copybook* (14 June, 1862), "Alexander Papers."
 - (ix) Lieutenant John W. Dunnington to Stephan R. Mallory, Confederate Secretary of the Navy, *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies*, Series 1, v. 23: 202-204.
 - (x) Correspondence, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee, 2006.
 - (xi) Claud P. Trice, "The Matthew Anderson Trice Family of Casscoe," *Grand Prairie Historical Bulletin* 11 (Jan. 1968): 6-9.
 - (xii) *Federal Census, 1860, Arkansas County*, 12-13. Production of Agriculture Schedule 4, Page 5, Maurice Township, June 19, 1860.
 - (xiii) Hammock, John C., *With Honor Untarnished*, (Pioneer Press), 154; Bolton, Charles S., *Arkansas, 1800-1860: Remote and Restless*, (University of Arkansas Press, 1998), 99.
 - (xiv) McNeilly, Donald Paul, *The Old South Frontier*, (University of Arkansas Press, 2000) 125-131; footnote 14, *Grand Prairie Historical Bulletin* 33 (April 1990): 42.
 - (xv) *Ibid.*, 116-117.
 - (xvi) Hampton, Mildred, "Huntin', Fishin' Better in *Gone With The Wind* Times," *Grand Prairie Historical Bulletin* 41 (July 1998): 13.
 - (xvii) Bearss, "The White River Expedition," 339-341; Colonel Graham N. Fitch to Charles Belknap, 21 June, 1862, "Alexander Papers," Columbia University.
 - (xviii) Hindman to Wheat, 17 June, 1862, "Alexander Papers," Columbia University.
 - (xix) *Telegram Copybook*, 22-24 June, 1862, "Alexander Papers," Columbia University.
 - (xx) Bearss, Edwin C., "The White River Expedition," 345.
 - (xxi) *Ibid.*, 346.

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- (xxii) *History of the Forty-Sixth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, September, 1861-September, 1865*, (Logansport Press of Wilson, Humphrey's Company, 1888), 36. It's safe to contend a portion of the Arkansas troops had native familiarity that came with growing up locally which enabled them to penetrate enemy security. It must be noted, however, a number of Texans matured on the Western frontier where stealth and surprise were painfully learned from the Comanche Warrior Tribe.
- (xxiii) *Ibid.*, 37; Banasik, *The Prairie Grove Campaign of 1862*, 36-37. This minor engagement, sometimes called The Battle of Grand Prairie, was followed the next day by a Confederate defeat, four miles east of Des Arc, and may have influenced General Hindman to order Colonel Nelson to remove toward Bayou Meto on 8 July.



Reproduced from Bearss, Edwin C., "The White River Expedition, June 10 - July 15, 1862," *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* 21 (Winter 1962): 311.