

## **Green Clay Collection, 1810-1823 (1 Folder)**

Processed by Deborah L. Boggs, August 2005

### **Restrictions**

The original documents will not be paged until the researcher has consulted the photocopies and transcripts, and has demonstrated a legitimate research need to consult the original material.

### **Biographical Sketch**

“The life of General Green Clay [14 Aug 1757-31 Oct 1828] has been overshadowed by the accomplishments of his son Cassius Marcellus Clay. The elder Clay, a Revolutionary War soldier, was not like most of this pioneers who emigrated to Kentucky in the 18<sup>th</sup> century; he was able to make a success from the ‘Dark and Bloody Ground.’ Prompted by the spirit of adventure, Green left Virginia before he was twenty years old as a poor young man. Clay learned, as many of his fellows did not, that the secret of success in the wilderness of ‘Kaintuck’ was land, well chosen, and properly recorded. He died in 1828 as one of the richest men in Kentucky.” From **White Hall State Shrine: Home of General Green Clay and his son General Cassius Marcellus Clay** by David C. Greene. Located in University Archives (E415.9.C55 G73 1972).

### **Scope and Content Note**

The Green Clay collection is an artificial collection that consists of four documents; photocopies of originals are found in this collection, along with transcriptions of each. Three of the four documents are correspondence to or from Green Clay. Two letters are correspondence with Thomas Jefferson regarding a questionable treaty with the Cherokee Indians. The other letter is from J. Bledsoe to Green Clay. The fourth document is General Green Clay’s General Order book during the War of 1812.

### **Donor Information**

Unknown (0010-007)

### **Folder List**

**ALS** J. Bledsoe to General Green Clay, 25 Mar 1810. [1993-005] [transcript follows]

**ALS** Green Clay to Thomas Jefferson concerning a treaty with the Cherokee Indians, 4 May 1823. (photocopy only, original located at the Library of Congress) [transcript follows]

**ALS** Letter from Thomas Jefferson to Green Clay in response to the letter from Green Clay concerning Cherokee Indians, 23 May 1823. (photocopy, original in fire proof cabinet) [transcript follows]

**Doc.** General Green Clay’s General Order book during the War of 1812, 29 Mar 1813-Apr 1813. [Dorris Numbers, N.12, 283] [transcript follows]

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1810

Dear Genl

I have sent by Wm. Gravess Waggon for a load of the apple trees you were good enough to promise me; finding it inconvenient to send an additional one; I wish about 20 of the eating fruits and the ballance Crabs. They will require I suppose to be trimd and I should prefer them to be entirely reduced to the single principal stock with the main sprouts or bud untouched as they will soon put out branches again and the tree will be more vigorous and taller. I should be much Obliged if you add to your goodness by affording some assistance by one of your boys in taking them or and if it will not be too much trouble in seeing them loaded as otherwise they may be rubbed spoiled in carriage. [Illegible] I am told will preserve them. I hear you have gained your suit with Brooks I think it's a safe case. I am respectfully Yr. Friend and Obt Servt

J. Bledsoe.

Madison County. KY May 4, 1823

Sir)

I hardly Expect you recalled me, I am the Brother of Parson Charles Clay once of Albermarle Co. I went out with a troop of [light?] horse to the Northward in company with you Brother Randolph: in 1778. from your house.

The Object of this letter is to enquire of you if you have a knowledge or recollection of any Treaty made with the Cherokee Indians which was in force in 1779 at the opening of the land Office under the Comm[onweal]th of Virga. The first Treaty we have any knowledge of is the Treaty of Hopewell of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Jany 1786.

We think a Treaty might have been made with the Cherokees after the Decl[a]ration of Independence, which might not have been published: if such was the fact, we know of no person more likely to possess a knowledge of it, than yourself: The lands below the Tennessee River now the subject of controversy between Kentucky and Virga. May be effected by such a Treaty so far as respects Individuals only. The land law of Va. Expects from location of Treasury warrants The country and limits of the Cherokee Idns. & c[etc.] any Information in your power, which you may be pleased to give us on this subject will confer a lasting Obligation on Many Persens in this State and Virginia deeply Interested in this question. May God give you many days yet, in health and much happiness.

Green Clay

Monticello May 28, '23

Sir

Your favor of the 4<sup>th</sup> is just now received, and I am sorry if it not in my power to give you any information on the subject of you enquiries. Such a length of time has elapsed, so much is my memory impaired by age, and so much other matter has since past through it, unlodging what had preceded, that not a trace remains of any treaty with the Cherokees concerning the lands you mention. if such a one was concluded with the U.S. it would be found with their laws; if by the state of Virginia, it may have been among the records destroyed by the British, in which case it could only be found among the Cherokees, who may have preserved it. With my regret that I cannot aid you with any recollections be pleased to accept assurances of my high respect and esteem

Thomas Jefferson

Camp at Lexington

General Orders March 29<sup>th</sup> 1813

Joseph H. Howkins Esq. being nominated and commissioned Aide-de-camp—Asa K. Lewis Esq. Brigade Inspector—David Trumble Esq. Brigade quarter master—and Thomas H. Pindle Esq. Judge Advocate—To the present Detachment of Kentucky Militia now under marching orders.

The officers and troops composing said detachment will receive and recognize those gentlemen in the respective offices dictated. Furloughs from inability to perform duty and discharges from service can only be obtained through certificates from Regimental surgions—As to the disability of the applicant, nor will any be discharged except by order of the commander of the detachment. Substitutes can only be received through commandants of companies subject to the inspection of retification or rejection of the brigade Inspector. The Commandant of the 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment will cause the same to be paraded for review at 10 o'clock on the 30 Instance. And after the review the commandant will cause the regiment to be paraded by Companies, when the officers and soldiers will receive apart of their pay in advance. And proceed withouth loss of time, the whole regiment to Newport. The Contractor for the district will use every exertion in his power to supply the troops with provisions on the route and at such places as Shall be here after designated

A Copy Testi.

N. Prewit Adjt. 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment

Green Clay

Brigadeer Gen.

Camp at Lexington March 31<sup>st</sup> 1813

General Orders

Gentlemen—You will as soon as possible cause to be made out a Complete return of the Camp Equippage Camp Kettles Canteens Knapsacks Arms and Accouterments excluding such as may be unfit for service.

Green Clay B. gel

Lieutenant Col.  
William Dudley  
Will E. Boswell of  
first Brigade Militia  
detachment from Kentucky  
Cincinnati Apl 6<sup>th</sup> 1813  
General Orders

Lieutenant Christ' Irvine of Capt. Dejannetts Company is appointed Secretary to the Commanding General and will be recognized and received in that Capacity.  
A Copy Testi. N Prewitt Adjt.

Green Clay Bgl

Cincinnati April 7<sup>th</sup> 1813 Gel. Orders

The officers Composing this detachment will as soon as possible prepare such of their baggage as can be conveniently packed on Horses such as can not be conveniently packed will follow on in Wagons Tents Camp kettles Axes and utensils furnished the men must be packed as soon as Horses are furnished.

A Copy

Testi. N Prewitt Adgt. 13<sup>th</sup> R KY D.

Green Clay Brig Gel.

Cincinnati April 9<sup>th</sup> 1813 Gel. Orders

The Commandants of Regiments will cause immediately to be made a Regimental report of those men who have failed to Join the detachment. And those who have deserted.

Specifying as near as possible the description of their persons and their places of residence

A Copy

Testi. N Prewitt Adgt. 13<sup>th</sup> R.K.D.M.

Green Clay Brig Gel

General Orders—At Camp two miles in advance of Cincinnati a vacancy having taken place by the resignation of Major Richardson. Hendron of the first Battalion of the 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Kentucky militia now on their march to join the North Western Army under the Command of Major Gel. William H. Harrison the following appointments are made Protem until the Governors pleasure shall be known and his Orders received to Wit. James Dejannett is appointed Maj. of the first Battalion. Christopher Irvine, Captain James Dejannetts place promoted Joel Ham Lieutenant in place of Lieutenant Christ. Irvine promoted Robert R. Right Ensign in the place of Ensign Joel Ham promoted

April 10<sup>th</sup> 1813 Green Clay Brig. Gel.

A Copy

Testi N. Prewitt Adgt. 13<sup>th</sup> Reg K.D.M.

General Orders Caldwell's tavern April the 11<sup>th</sup> 1813

In order to facilitate the march of the troops of the 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Detachment of the Kentucky Militia. It is ordered that the Commandant of said Regiment Cause the troops to march on immediately by companies to Piqua by the route of Dayton there shall be attached to each company one waggon and a just proportion of pack horses to transport their Baggage. The Company officers will see that a sufficient number of men be detailed from their companies to take Charge of their Company waggon and packhorses. There must be a Regimental detail of men to furnish guards for the baggage of the General and General Staff and field officers and Regimental Staff.

Green Clay brig. Genl.

A Copy testi. N. Prewitt Adgt. 13<sup>th</sup> R.K.D.M.

General Orders Franklin April 12<sup>th</sup> 1813

Doctor Henery Surgeons mate to Col. Boswells Regiment informs me that three privates belonging to his Regiment are here Sick. The Doctor thinks that the men Could be taken along if they have a Horse each to ride. You will please furnish those sick men with each a horse if possible so that they may join their Regiments. I am respectfully your most obedient Green Clay Brig. Genl.

Coln. William Dudley

or the Commandant of the 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment K. M.

General orders

Dayton Ohio April 14<sup>th</sup> 1813

Lieutenant Coln. William Dudley will cause a guard of light men to take Charge of and aid in their progress two waggons engaged in the transportation baggage and medical Stores now in the rear of the Regiment. The guard will remain at Dayton until the Waggons arrive.

A Copy

Green Clay Brig Genl.

testi N Prewitt Adgt. 13<sup>th</sup> Regt. K. D.

Regimental Orders. Camp at the foot of the Dry Ridge. April 6<sup>th</sup> 1813. The Commandant of the 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment Orders that there shall not be any Spiritous liquors sold to his Soldiers in Camp unless the Soldiers are permitted by some one of the Commissioned Officers belonging to the same company. The Commandant of the Regiment requests that each and every Commissioned officer shall be particular in parading their respective companies on tomorrow morning at Reveille in good order and that they shall see that every Soldier shall be in his proper place and so kept during the day—The Commandant particularly enjoins on the officers that they shall endeavor to surpress all disorder that may come under their notice in common or on the march—further the Commandant Orders that there shall be a Commissioned officer appointed to take charge of the sick that may be in his Regiment and that the Commant. of each Company shall have the sick if any there should be in his or their respective companies. Conducted by a non Commissioned officer to the center of the Regiment at the time when the Regiment parades. Where they will be placed under an officer who will take charge of them and march them in front

of the Regiment as much of their case as practicable or convenient and in case there should be any too unwell to march there will be waggons provided for their conveyance The Commandant of Companies will have their respective Companies paraded at Sunrise in the morning ready for a march

A Copy testi  
N Prewitt Adjt.  
13<sup>th</sup> Regt K M

Will Dudley Lieut.  
Col Commandant of the  
13<sup>th</sup> Regt. K M

Riqua April 1813 General Orders

The troops will march from this encampment in the following Order. Conforming to the annexed plan as near as may be. The Brigade will march in three columns. The Flanking lines will consist of one Battalion each.

The Baggage will move in the center in close order covered on each side by a line in single file in open order. On the right of the right and left of the left flank at the distances of two hundred paces, A sub: officer & 12 men including 4 non commissioned officers will form a line of flanking scouts or spies.

A company of 50 men will march in front of the center 50 paces in front of the baggage and one in front with the flanking lines by double files in close order 200-paces in front of the 3 columns a company will march by double files in Close order 200 paces in the rear of the tree lines a company will march by double files in Close order In case of an attack or a probability of a sudden attack the whole army halt and form a hollow square of three columns. If an attack is made in front the vanguard will display column as in the annexed plate receive the enemy with firing and maintain their ground if possible until reinforced by the company of 50 who will display column and advance to relief of the vanguard 100 men from the front of each flank line must face to the right about and file off at right angles to the center column from the front line and stand firm either to receive the enemy there await Orders should the two companies in Advance and in Action not be able longer to sustain an attack they will fall back dress in the best possible order in the rear of the front line who will open their files and let them pass. It is probable the front line will be greatly pressed by the enemy the two companies in front of the center columns will display to right and left from the center and fall in rear of the front line and support them in maintaining their ground to the last extremity when they will be supported if possible by reinforcements from other parts of the line. If an attack is made in the rear the same order must be observed by the rear guard as by the vanguard and the rear line formed in the same order and reinforced in the same manner by the two rear companies in the center column should an attack be made on one of the flanking lines they must be immediately reinforced and supported by the two companies from the center line nearest the flanking line attacked. The two other companies in the center line on the opposite side of the baggage from the line attacked must repair to advance as a second reinforcement to the line attacked and until the van & rear guards can be called into the center of the hollow square of such other positions as they may be ordered to occupy. This they must do with speed and good order to facilitate which movement the lines must open and let them pass. The Subaltern and his Command on the flanks in Case of an attack on the front rear or opposite flank must turn fast on the ground they occupy in the line of march and under no Circumstances depart their plan, unless driven in by the force of the enemy.

When an attack is made or greatly apprehended the hollow square will be formed the whole face to the front and that ground maintained to the last extremity all possible succer will given to the point where the enemy makes the most violent attack. In case of an attack on the rear the rear guard may face to the right about and display the column from the front where 30 paces. Or if greatly pressed by the enemy they may display from the front in the order of march but it is desirable that they form the line of battle, at the greatest possible distance from the rear line. The troops will be furnished with ammunition before they leave their present encampment and henceforthe all firing except at the enemy is positively prohibited. Commandants of Companies and Subalterns will take care in all cases to see that their companies are appressed of general orders and copies therof entered in their proper books, and every officer of the detachment to see all Orders ridgely observed and every instance to report delinquents and disobedience of orders

(See the annexed on the right)