

[A]

To/ Dr F. Weedon
St. Augustine
Florida

[B]

St Mary:

My dear Captain

5th August 1837

I have seen in the Floridian of the 22nd Ult. a most base and violent attack on me by Governor Call, and to enable me to repel it, I must beg you to answer the following queries. – You can answer them as they are put, or in one continued narrative as may best suit your convenience, please be full and explicit. –

How long have you been in the Army of the United States and how many engagements were you in during the late war? Did you, or did you not command a Company of Regular Troops during the Engagement which took place between the Troops under my command and the Seminole Indians on the Ouithalacoochee on the 31st December 1835? Where was the first Indian rifle fired, and at which part of the Army, and by whom was it returned? – Did not Lieut. Colonel Fanning order a charge to be made, before I reached the Troops, and ~~which~~ ^{what} prevented it being carried fully into effect? What was the situation of the Battalion when I joined it, and did I or not, give an immediate order for it to extend to the left, and charge the enemy and was not the order obeyed, and while the Regulars and Volunteers that were on their left were advancing [in] a spirited and gallant manner on the Swamp, was there not a lar[ge] [body] of Indians seen on the left of the Swamp, and manifesting a [___ ___] to turn our right, and were not two of the Companies on the right [ordered] to charge them, and did they not do so, and drive the Indians [___ ___] the Swamp, and did they not appear a second time on our right an[d ___] again driven back, by another dash made at them by the Troops [on the] right, and were not these Companies ordered to extend and protect [___ ___] by the scrub as much as possible? Did I not dismount after [___ ___] was severely wounded in the neck, and encourage the men to the [___]

Overleaf, A

and did I not remount my horse, soon after the last charge, and remain mounted until I left the line for the river? Did I or not, give orders for the Companies to form a new line, and did I not lead several of the Companies to their positions, and did I or not remain some considerable time with the Troops after the line was formed, and ride frequently along the line to encourage the Troops to remain firm and collected? and how long do you suppose it was from the time the firing ceased until the time I left the line? What was my conduct during the action and what Troops were the last to recross the river and by whom commanded? How often, and where did you see General Call, while you were on the south side of the river? – I will thank you to answer the foregoing questions, or as many of them as you may think proper, and also share anything else you may recollect. –

If Captain Maitland & John Graham and Lieut. Ridgeley are with you, will you be so good as to show the foregoing questions, and say to them that they will confer a particular favor if they will answer them. and that I would write to each of them, if I had time, and knew that they were in St. Augustine – If either of the above named gentlemen should not be in St. Augustine will you be so kind as to let me know where they are, and also where Lieutenant Capron is stationed?

I remain with high respect

Your Friend

"signed"

D.L. Clinch
