# Crockett Notes on the Florida Expedition in the Creek Wars. (Vic Campbell)

Primary Sources -Crockett's Autobiography,
Military Notes from Uriah Blue ..... CHILI RECIPE Scavenger Hunt ... (end of these pages)
Notes and more from above compiled by Gert Petersen - Link Below
<a href="https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Historic-David-Crockett-Homepage/196361147617?sk=info&tab=page\_info">https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Historic-David-Crockett-Homepage/196361147617?sk=info&tab=page\_info</a>

#### THIS HISTORIC DAVID CROCKETT HOMEPAGE on FB is a great resource "LIKE" it.

<u>Dr. Brian Rucker - Historian</u> (see youtube and more)

Cary Ellis, Jr. of Bogia -- A Creek Chief who has a very fine sense of history and the connections. Al Bouler -- a fantastic DOCENT at ALABAMA OLD TOWN in Montgomery. Al often represents the Character of David Crockett and is quite good at it.

The Ballad of Davy Crockett

MAP of the 1814 Campaign landmarks

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VL7XS 8qqXM

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=daPwQBf3G8A

Blue returns to Escambia for repair after the hungry march to and from Holmes Creek

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle of New Orleans

#### **CROCKETT AT FORT MONTGOMERY** (spelling from original)

(PART 107) 200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREEK WAR 1814. DAVID CROCKETT MEETS WITH AN EYEWITNESS TO THE FORT MIMS MASSACRE. When David Crockett returned from Pensacola in November 1814 to Fort Montgomery, which was located a few miles from the old Fort Mims, he met with a young man, who was an eyewitness to the Fort Mims massacre. Crockett tells the following story: As it gave rise to so much war and bloodshed, it may not be improper here to give a little description of Fort Mimms, and the manner in which the Indian war commenced. The fort was built right in the middle of a large old field, and in it the people had been forted so long and so quietly, that they didn't apprehend any danger at all, and had, therefore, become quite careless. A small negro boy, whose business it was to bring up the calves at milking time, had been out for that purpose, and on coming back, he said he saw a great many Indians. At this the inhabitants took the alarm, and closed their gates and placed out their guards, which they continued for a few days. But finding that no attack was made, they concluded the little negro had lied; and again threw their gates open, and set all their hands out to work their fields. The same boy was out again on the same errand, when, returning in great haste and alarm, he informed them that he had seen the Indians as thick as trees in the woods. He was not believed, but was tucked up to receive a flogging for the supposed lie; and was actually getting badly licked at the very moment when the Indians came in a troop, loaded with rails, with which they stop'd all the port-holes of the fort on one side except the bastion; and then they fell in to cutting down the picketing. Those inside the fort had only the bastion to shoot from, as all the other holes were spiked up; and they shot several of the Indians, while engaged in cutting. But as fast as one would fall, another would seize up the axe and chop away, until they succeeded in cutting down enough of the picketing to admit them to enter. They then began to rush through, and continued until they were all in. They immediately commenced scalping, without regard to age or sex; having forced the inhabitants up to one side of the fort, where they carried on the work of death as a butcher would in a slaughter pen.

The scene was particularly described to me by a young man who was in the fort when it happened, and subsequently went on with us to Pensacola. He said that he saw his father, and mother, his four sisters, and the same number of brothers, all butchered in the most shocking manner, and that he made his escape by running over the heads of the crowd, who were against the fort wall, to the top of the fort, and then jumping off, and taking to the woods. He was closely pursued by several Indians, until he came to a small byo, across which there was a log. He knew the log was hollow on the under side, so he slip'd under the log and hid himself. He said he heard the Indians walk over him several times back and forward. He remained, nevertheless, still till night, when he came out, and finished his escape. The name of this young man has entirely escaped my recollection, though his tale greatly excited my feelings.

<u>VIDEO Collection Fort Mims</u>. <u>VIDEOS</u>

<u>Pictures from 2011</u> at Fort Mims Commemoration .. photos..

<u>Pictures from 2013 - 200 year anniversary remembrance - photos</u>

Year Without a Summer 1816 summer.png 1816 summer temperature anomaly compared to average temperatures from 1971–2000 Volcano Mount Tambora

Date April 10, 1815 Type Ultra Plinian Location Lesser Sunda Islands, Dutch East Indies 8°15′S 118°0′E VEI 7 .... Google -- the weather and the history

Impact Caused a volcanic winter that dropped temperatures by 0.4 to 0.7 °C worldwide
The year 1816 was known as the Year Without a Summer (also the Poverty Year, the Summer that Never Was, Year There Was No Summer, and **Eighteen Hundred and Froze to Death**[1]), because of severe summer climate abnormalities caused average global temperatures to decrease by 0.4–0.7 °C (0.7–1.3 °F).[2] This resulted in major food shortages across the Northern Hemisphere.[3] Evidence suggests the anomaly was caused by a combination of a historic low in solar activity with a volcanic winter event, the latter caused by a succession of major volcanic eruptions capped by the 1815 eruption of Mount Tambora, in the Dutch East Indies (Indonesia), the largest known eruption in over 1,300 years. ... WHILE THIS EVENT happened AFTER the war ended, the volcanic activity for the two or three years prior were already adding to the world atmospheric dust - PLUS the Sun cycles seem to have eased off a bit ahead of the big volcanic event of 1815.

ADDING to the woes of the "red stick" Creeks ( the hostile Creeks) Was a shortage of game to hunt and feed their people. In the years prior - the older more established Creeks along the trading trails had stripped the region of game to supply skins to the Leslie Panton traders in Pensacola. Some Creeks became wealthy from this and land ownings while many younger and less malleable Creeks (the red sticks) fell into an admiration of the OHIO Shawnee Chief Tecumseh's message to "go back to the old ways" and "kill all the white people". It was these disaffected Creeks that seethed with hatred and opened up the hostilities with the massacre at Fort Mims (SEE END OF NOTES). It did not help that Tecumseh's message was greatly encouraged by the British who needed them as allies on the Gulf Coast front in the War of 1812. The Spanish - in Pensacola were political tools of the British (Whom they owed for keeping Napoleon out of their hair in Europe) but capitulated quickly once Jackson arrived. The reason the deer population and other game was scarce - largely was the blame of a cattle disease in Europe some years before. The surviving cattle were not enough for the leather demand of the pre industrial age. SO the Gulf Coast of America became a ripe market for deer skins to supply Europe. Thus we read of Crockett foraging in the Panhandle without finding anything to eat or to supply for the troops to eat. They nearly starved to death.

#### **COON SKIN CAP 1950's**

Crockett's new popularity initiated a fad among boys all over the United States as well as a Davy Crockett craze in the United Kingdom. The look of the cap that was marketed to young boys was typically simplified; it was usually a faux fur lined skull cap with a raccoon tail attached. A variation was marketed to young girls as the Polly Crockett hat. It was similar in style to the boys' cap, including the long tail, but was made of all-white fur (faux or possibly rabbit). At the peak of the fad, coonskin caps sold at a rate of 5,000 caps a day.[5] By the end of the 1950s, Crockett's popularity waned and the fad slowly died out. The fad is recalled by numerous cultural references, such as the wearing of coonskin caps as part of The Junior Woodchucks uniform in Disney's Donald Duck comics.

#### JACKSON AT PENSACOLA early NOV

(PART 102) 200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREEK WAR 1814. THE BRITISH BLEW UP FORT BARRANCAS AT PENSACOLA ON NOVEMBER 8, 1814. Though Fort San Miguel at Pensacola had surrendered to Major General Andrew Jackson on November 7, another fort – Fort Barrancas , some six miles south of the town – was still in the hands of the British and the hostile Creek Indians, and had not surrendered. General Jackson therefore prepared to march and storm the fort, but on the morning of November 8, a tremendous explosion was heard. The British had blown up the fortifications of Barrancas themselves, and soon after the whole British force left the port on their vessels. The hostile Creek Indians fled to the east side of Pensacola Bay. Photo Fort Barrancas as it looks like today. (Actually the fort blown up was not the current Barrancas of pre Civil War time - but more an extension of Fort San Carlos - the Spanish battery there).

THE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS From <u>Crocketts own story</u> with some TIME markers taken from the military notes of Major Blue ... In Crockett's story - begin about page 82.

#### **CROCKETT in FLORIDA**

(PART 134) 200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREEK WAR 1814. THE EXPEDITION INTO SPANISH FLORIDA FROM DECEMBER 8 TO DECEMBER 27, 1814. The Major Uriah Blue Expedition into Spanish Florida, in which David Crockett participated, took place from December 8 to December 26, 1814. We have two sources to tell us what happened on that mission. David Crockett's book "A Narrative of The Life" is one source, and the other one is Major Blue's reports to General Andrew Jackson of December 7, December 18, and December 27, 1814. Comparing Crockett's story with the military reports we get a good picture of this war mission, the enemy, how hard it was, the cold weather, their starving problems. Blue adds with geographical names of locations and dates.

(PART 136) 200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREEK WAR 1814. MAJOR BLUE'S EXPEDITION IN DECEMBER 1814 – NOT A CHRISTMAS PICNIC – "THE WHOLE COUNTRY WAS COVERED WITH WATER" DAVID CROCKETT TELLS. With scare provisions, extremely cold weather, and heavy rains Major Blue detached his regiment into smaller units with different missions. Old Major William Russell was ordered northeast along Escambia and Conecuh River to make clean-up operations there. Russell selected sixteen white men, of which number David Crockett was one, to be in his scouting party, and together with the friendly Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians they crossed the Escambia River the same evening. To quote Crockett's story of the event: "We encamped on the opposite bank that night, and early in the morning we set out. We had not gone far before we came to a place where the whole country was covered with water, and looked like a sea. We didn't stop for this, tho', but just put in like so many spaniels, and waded on, sometimes up to our armpits,

until we reached the pine hills, which made our distance through the water about a mile and a half. Here we struck up a fire to warm ourselves, for it was cold, and we were chilled through by being so long in the water."

Below - COLBERT (PICTURE) - Choctaw from NW AL region. Allied with US Troops against the Red Sticks. The Colberts of the Choctaw had made a fortune running ferrys on the Tennessee RIver in NW ALabama and NE Mississippi. The Natchez Trace from Nashville to Natchez was the key route to New Orleans before Steam arrived on the rivers. The Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes were traditional enemies of the Creeks - who had decades before displaced them from lower Alabama and NW Florida. They were a natural ally for the Americans in the war against the Creeks (after the massacre at Ft. Mims).

(PART 137) 200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREEK WAR 1814. THE CHOCTAW AND CHICKASAW INDIANS CALLED ME WARRIOR – WARRIOR. David Crockett, on the scouting mission up the Escambia River near the mouth of Conecuh River in December 1814, told this story: "We again moved on, keeping our spies out; two to our left near the bank of the river, two straight before us, and two others on our right. We had gone in this way about six miles up the river, when our spies on the left came to us leaping the brush like so many old bucks, and informed us that they had discovered a camp of Creek Indians, and that we must kill them. Here we paused for a few minutes, and the prophets pow-wowed over their men awhile, and then got out their paint, and painted them, all according to their custom when going into battle. They then brought their paint to old Major Russell, and said to him, that as he was an officer, he must be painted too. He agreed, and they painted him just as they had done themselves. We let the Indians understand that we white men would first fire on the camp, and then fall back, so as to give the Indians a chance to rush in and scalp them. The Chickasaws marched on our left hand, and the Choctaws on our right, and we moved on till we got in hearing of the camp, where the Indians were employed in beating up what they called chainy briar root. On this they

mostly subsisted. On a nearer approach we found they were on an island, and that we could not get to them. While we were chatting about this matter, we heard some guns fired, and in a very short time after a keen whoop, which satisfied us, that wherever it was, there was a war on a small scale. With that we all broke, like

quarter horses, for the firing; and when we got there we found it was our two front spies, who related to us the following story:—As they were moving on, they had met with two Creeks who were out hunting their horses; as they approached each other, there was a large cluster of green bay bushes exactly between them, so that they were within a few feet of meeting before either was discovered. Our spies walked up to them, and speaking in the Shawnee tongue, informed them that General Jackson was at Pensacola, and they were making their escape, and wanted to know where they could get something to eat. The Creeks told them that nine miles up the Conaker, the river they were then on, there was a large camp of Creeks, and they had cattle and plenty to eat; and further, that their own camp was on an island about a mile off, and just below the mouth of the Conaker. They held their conversation and struck up a fire, and smoked together, and shook hands, and parted. One of the Creeks had a gun, the other had none; and as soon as they had parted, our Choctaws turned round and shot down the one that had the gun, and the other attempted to run off. They snapped several times at him, but the gun still missing fire, they took after him, and overtaking him, one of them



struck him over the head with his gun, and followed up his blows till he killed him.

The gun was broken in the combat, and they then fired off the gun of the Creek they had killed, and raised the war-whoop. When we reached them, they had cut off the heads of both the Indians; and each of those Indians with us would walk up to one of the heads, and taking his war club would strike on it. This was done by every

one of them; and when they had got done, I took one of their clubs, and walked up as they had done, and struck it on the head also. At this they all gathered round me, and patting me on the shoulder, would call me "Warrior—warrior." Photo: Livi Colbert of the Chickasaw nation. One of his associates must have been Chief Squirrel King - father of Mary King who married Benjamin Jernigan (beef and goods supplier to Jackson's Army )

(PART 139) 200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREEK WAR 1814. WHERE DID CROCKETT SPENT

CHRISTMAS 200 YEARS AGO? According to Major Uriah Blue's report of December 27, 1814, to General Andrew Jackson, Blue's troops including David Crockett had reached Holm's Village. Holmes Village was an Indian town located on Holmes Creek, a tributary to Choctawhatchee River in present Washington County, Florida. But no Christmas dinner awaited them; Crockett explains why: "We were in extreme suffering for want of something to eat, and exhausted with our exposure and the fatigues of our journey. I remember well, that I had not myself tasted bread but twice in nineteen days ... At length, one night our spies came in, and informed us they had found Holm's village on the Chatahachy river; and we made an immediate push for that place. We travelled all night, expecting to get something to eat when we got there. We arrived about sunrise, and near the place prepared for battle. We were all so furious, that even the certainty of a pretty hard fight could not have restrained us. We made a furious charge on the town, but to our great mortification and surprise, there wasn't a human being in it. The Indians had all run off and left it. We burned the town, however; but, melancholy to tell, we found no provision whatever. We then turned about, and went back to the camp we had left the night before, as nearly starved as any set of poor fellows ever were in the world."

So with no food, far away from his family, David Crockett spent Christmas 1814 in Spanish Florida. (PART 140) 200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREEK WAR 1814. MAJOR URIAH BLUE AT HOLMES CREEK SPANISH FLORIDA. With no provisions found at Holmes Village Major Uriah Blue now realized that he could not move his troops further east, and that he had to give up his plan to reach Apalachicola River, to where the hostile Creek Indians had retired, and where they were supported by the British. In his report of December 27, 1814, to General Andrew Jackson, Blue tells: "... My command at this time are without provisions of any kind; the horses are unable to go any farther - I am on my return march to Fort Montgomery - I will endeavor to scout what Indians may be on yellow water. If I had been able to procure provisions at Holmes as I had calculated on I would have routed all the Indians in this quarter, but owing to the want of provisions I am compelled to return "

Major Blue now divided his troops of one thousand men. Major William Russell and his battalion of five hundred mounted gun men, including David Crockett, were ordered north to Fort Jackson by the way of Fort Decatur on the Tallapoosa River, while Major Blue, major John Child's battalion and the friendly Choctaws and Chickasaws returned to Fort Montgomery, which they reached on January 10, 1815.

Meanwhile, Jackson is at NEw Orleans in battle from Dec 23 to January 8.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VL7XS\_8qgXM http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle of New Orleans

. . . .

#### There remained action in Pensacola ..

After the New Orleans disaster for the British, some British ships tried to make a re-landing at Fort San Carlos (Barrancas - the Naval Station).

And there was a report of Red Stick Creeks trying to take what is now Fort Morgan (was fort Bowyer then) on Mobile Bay.

URIAH BLUE made two separate marches from Fort Montgomery (about 40 miles away on the Alabama RIver) to take on the threats. The Bowyer threat faded away before they arrived. With a hundred or so Chickasaw Indian allies, they waded Bayou GRANDE north of Ft San Carlos in freezing weather - icicles forming in their

hair to retake the fort. But the British just got word of the treaty and had barely left as they arrived. Uriah Blue marched BACK AGAIN to Ft Montgomery (near the burned out Ft. Mims) and presumably took a well needed nap.

**AS THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS raged ...** Crockett had already left Blue's Force after Christmas -- on the march back from HOlmes Creek (a hundred miles east of Pensacola) and begun their trek back up to Tennessee by way of Fort Jackson (near the current day Montgomery, AL -- not the same place as Ft. Montgomery). Crockett and the Tennessee Volunteers were going back home as the New Orleans Battle came to be. Blue was in the Mobile / Pensacola region as a blocking force.

. . . .

THis last bit of information was given to us by Dr. Rucker when I presented this talk at the Jay Museum. In February - Dr. Rucker will give his full presentation at the Santa Rosa Genealogical Society meeting.

More interesting ties to the war in the South with the British, Creek Indians and Spanish and Americans all in flux. .....

http://me3tv.blogspot.com/2012/08/heartless-panther-filmed-at-fort-mims.html

An author tells about his book -- centers on Fort Mims the massacre.

Fort Mims ... https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL\_JIKmXXo6lyHCDDI5hCQuYOSpXsiDDjR

Fort Mims ... https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL\_JIKmXXo6lwP3pl3fRIPtNtY4f9RqBxp

Fort Mims ... https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL JIKmXXo6lzwDDK5UM5rVAuoXM0y-d0A

Fort Mims -- 500 settlers massacred (about 40 miles NW of Pensacola. This fort is the burn point for a MAP of the Indian Wars that begins the DAVY CROCKETT series by Walt Disney that made Fess Parker famous. THIS IS what turned all eyes to the SOUTH and the INDIAN problem just ahead of the British plan to invade via Spanish Florida. The sudden appearance of American troops to quell the Red Stick Creeks (with as much as half their troops from other tribes) foiled the British plan to land at Pensacola. by the time they had a plan for New Orleans, Pensacola and Mobile were in American hands and the British were unable to make headway at New Orleans.

SO.... the Creek Indian war actually coaxed the American Army into the region JUST IN TIME to stop the British. Only a few months before, the British had BURNED DOWN the White House in Washington DC. There was a lot going on in 1814-15.

THIS FIRST POST in this SEARCH FOR THE SECRET INGREDIENT

#### **NEXT PAGE - THE NEXT CLUE AND INGREDIENT**



REGARDING MS Marilyn's Chili Cook-off fundraiser for the child-care center. Ms. Marilyn's Little Olives fundraiser is extended by this "web based" scavenger hunt. You can shop for some CHUMUCKLA items at the teespring store. Those profits for this effort in SPRING 2020 will go to funds that support some of the children's care at the daycare center. Ms Maryilyn's is a new business for the village and we wish them success. Please consider buying a "chumuckla item". For each clue - as at least one item is bought - the next clue was revealed. Any order will support the scholarships - it does not have to be a scavenger hunter or chili tester or contestant. (So share the links to the game)

THE GOALof this exercise is to reach the total ingredient recipe for Vic's winning chili entry at the cook-off. The secret ingredient will be revealed in the final linked post.

**THE Prior clue** revealed dried onion flakes or dried diced onions as an extra ingredient in Vic's winning recipe. They were added late in the mix and simmered with the chili as the final and secret ingredient was placed in line for addition. The chili sat overnight which allowed for savory flavors to permeate the dish.

**THIS CLUE REVEALS** -- the meat process. I used very very lean hamburger beef . 90% fat free. It was browned in a skillet and gradually broken up into smaller chunks as it cooked. There was very little grease, but what there was drained off easily from the pan. Some more was dabbed off with a clean paper towel Cooking the meat to a done state is the FIRST step in making my chili.

#### Getting to the NEXT CLUE ...

Have you learned something totally new about the history of Chumuckla in this document? It is fascinating. This part of history could be a whole book on JUST THIS Village.... And the connections. Leave a facebook comment under the CHILI COOKOFF RECIPE post. Share the fun.

Get the next LINK in the search for the secret recipe! Links will eventually arrive at the secret recipe ingredient.

THIS LINK IS LIVE - To the NEXT INGREDIENTS--- Enjoy the links in these pages until we get to the SECRET - (award winning) INGREDIENT

### **TEESPRING STORE**





#### (SUMMARY OF RECIPE HUNT SO FAR)

HERE is the first clue. A breadcrumb to a link to the "SO FAR" secret Chili recipe ingredient. AND MORE PRIZES. The link will be to some essays by a woman who grew up poor - in Chumuckla ... and left us with some poignant words. You will need to read through some of the essays to get to the clue. THE LINK TO THE NEXT CLUES will be in place but wont go live for another day or so. Absorb the pages you find. Soon the next clue will "go live"

### CLUE - CLUE -- The 2nd clue of FIVE toward the CHILI COOKOFF RECIPE

for Ms Marilyn's Little Olive's Daycare is HERE.

I hope you enjoyed Joyce Joiner's essay. Read more of them below. She passed on but it is her soul and many like hers that put spirit into the Chumuckla we enjoy today.

#### Pay attention.

One of the key ingredients of Vic's winning Chili is a half cup of chopped dried onions. Not to worry, they swell up and add flavor and crunch to the palate. There are more ingredients to follow and of course the special SECRET

#### **NEXT CLUE**

CHUMUCKLA ITEMS at TEE SPRING

THIS LINK RIGHT HERE will take you to the next CLUE

Profits on these sales will go to Ms Marilyn's Scholarships

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**NEXT PAGE - THE NEXT CLUE AND INGREDIENT** 



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#### **TEESPRING STORE**



#### XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

## HINT THREE -- THE CHILI SECRET INGREDIENT ALRIGHT --

Next ingredient is

1-2 tablespoons of dried granulated garlic powder ...
Use a pack of McCormicks Chili Season Package. (not the whole thing.)

OK - you have your cooked beef that is drained of fat.

Mix in cooking pan - over medium heat with Ingredients...

1 - 15 oz can chopped tomatoes

1- 15 oz can of black beans

CHECK out our TEESPRING Chumuckla Heritage Store and see if you can find a TeeShirt or mug or something that you love.

Those sales will provide profit toward the scholarship funds for MS Marilyn's Little Olives. Scholarship checks will be given to Ms. Marilyn's Little Olives who are in college now.

### THE NEXT LINK TOWARD THE SECRET INGREDIENT IS HERE HERE HERE

The LAST post of course will include the SECRET INGREDIENT! Help this move along. See the store link below. Share the link to start the scavenger hunt. 12ponder.com

#### CHUMUCKLA HERITAGE STORE at TEESPRING

Here are some items you will find there. There are more. One my favorites is the poster of the 1912 Advertisement to attract tourists to the Chumuckla Springs Hotel!







#### XXXXXXX

HERE IS HINT NUMBER 4 Toward VIC"s AWARD WINNING CHILI RECIPE ....

.....

Now that you are here --

THE NEXT INGREDIENT in the Recipe is

PEPPER! Add about a 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon of ground black pepper.

THE NEXT and FINAL WINNING INGREDIENT will be posted at a
page LINKED FROM HERE within the next WEEK. Share the contest and the fun
with your friends. They can begin the scavenger hunt for the complete recipe as

(hopefully) you did at 12ponder.com.

Please check out our Chumuckla Heritage TEESPRING STORE.

https://teespring.com/stores/chumuckl.