THE BRAVE MAJOR MONIAC AND THE CREEK VOLUNTEERS

By Carolyn Thomas Foreman

A Creek hero who should be celebrated among his people is apparently unknown in Oklahoma, the home of the Muskogee or Creek Indians. There seem to be no members of the Moniac family in this state, although there are descendants of other Creek volunteers who fought with the United States in the Seminole War of 1836.1

The Moniac family had its origin in Holland, and the name can be traced in this country to a time before the Revolution when it was said that there was never a Talasse or a Natchez Indian who took up arms against the colonists; this attitude was attributed to the influence of Dixon Moniac and James McQueen.2

McQueen, a Scotsman, and Dixon, or Dick Moniac appear to have been associated before the Revolution. They were instrumental in breaking up a small town built by the French at the junction of the Coosa and Tallapoosa rivers, near old Fort Jackson. McQueen had married a Talasse woman, and in 1756 he moved the members of her tribe down opposite Tuckabatchi and settled the Natchez, under Chief Chenubby and Dixon Moniac, at the Talasse old fields on the Talasschatchi Creek.3

Another well known half-breed was William Weatherford, the son of Charles Weatherford, a white man who went into the Creek country soon after the Revolution. William’s mother was a half-breed Tuskegee, and the daughter of a Scotsman named Malcolm McPherson. William Weatherford was described as: “a man of fine sense, great courage [who] knew much about the government and mankind in particular . . .”. He was not a chief, according to General Woodward, although the Handbook of American Indians accords him that position; at any rate he had great influence with the Indians. Malcolm McPherson’s daughter, Sehoy, who was reared in early youth by the family of Dixon Moniac, first married John Tate, last English agent among the Creeks. By him she bore a son whom she named David. As a man, he is said to have been

1 Various spellings of the name Moniac are McNac, McNack, Monica, Moniac. The last was sometimes used by Alexander McGillivray in letters delivered by “Moniack” (McGillivray of the Creeks, John Walton Caughey, Norman, 1938, pp. 82-84.)

2 “James McQueen was the first white man I ever heard of being among the Creeks. He was born in 1683—went into the nation in 1716, and died in 1811.” (Thomas S. Woodard, Woodard’s Reminiscences of the Creek, or Muscogee Indians, Tuscaloosa, Ala., 1939, pp. 110, 116.)

3 Ibid.
a person of fine sense, great firmness, and kind to his intimate
friends as well as remarkably charitable to strangers.

Charles Weatherford was the second husband of Sehoy Tate,
and by him she had four children. Their eldest daughter, Elizabeth,
mixed Sam Moniac who was the son of William Moniac and Polly
Colbert, a Tuskegee woman. There is an island in the Alabama
River, near the mouth of Nolan Creek, which is known as Moniac
Island, and it was there that William Weatherford settled his peo-
ple. He and Sam Moniac, together with other men, accompanied
Col. Benjamin Hawkins to the Hickory Ground (on the edge of the
modern city of Wetumpka) when he arrested the notorious William
Augustus Bowles, who was there at the head of 1,500 Indian war-
riors. That episode made Weatherford well known in Georgia.4

From Little Tallassie, on April 4, 1787, Alexander McGillivray
wrote to Governor Arturo O'Neill at Pensacola: "I am Sorry to
inform Your Excellency of the sudden Death of my Interpreter
Moniac who dyed of a dry Belly Ache. I feel his Loss. He was
a Just & faithfull man in his place. I Shall never have Such an-
other again." In another letter to O'Neill dated August 12, 1788,
he acknowledged his esteemed favor but he had no paper to write
till young Moniac came home with his pack horses.5

Sam Moniac, considered one of the most intelligent half-breeds
in the nation, was selected as interpreter by General McGillivray
at the time he visited George Washington in New York to make
his celebrated treaty of 1790. General Woodward wrote that he
had frequently seen the medal that General Washington gave Moniac
on that occasion. The Indian always kept it on his person, and
it was buried with him in his grave at Pass Christian, Mississippi.6

Sam Moniac was the owner of a tavern beside the Federal road
which ran some fourteen miles south and west of the city of Mont-
gomery; the inn was located at the junction of the Pinchona and
Pintlala creeks near an Indian mound. He also owned cow pens
on Pinchona Creek.7

In 1811, when Tecumseh and his followers visited Tuckabatchi
Town to enlist the Creeks in Pontiac's conspiracy against the United
States, Moniac and Weatherford attended the talk where no white
persons were permitted. Tecumseh stated that if the object of his
mission could be attained, the Creeks would be in a position to re-
cover all of the land that the whites had taken from them, and the

4 Woodward, op. cit., pp. 42, 49, 89; Dr. Marion Elisah Tarvin manuscript,
September, 1893, in library of Grant Foreman.
6 Woodward, op. cit., p. 94.
7 Authority of Mr. Peter A. Brannon, Department of Archives and History,
Montgomery, Alabama, in a letter to the writer, January 20, 1944; Woodward,
op. cit., p. 93. Pintlala Creek flows southeast into Alabama River, sixteen miles
below Montgomery (Lippincott's Gazetteer, Philadelphia, 1888.)
British would respect their rights. Sam Moniac was the first man to oppose the great Shawnee; he declared that the talk was a bad one and that Tecumseh should leave the Creek Nation.

Sam Moniac, with Weatherford, in 1813, made a trip to the Chickasaws in Mississippi Territory for the purpose of trading in beef cattle. When they returned they found an assembly of several chiefs engaged in taking the black drink. The families of Moniac and Weatherford were present on the square, and the chiefs warned the two men that they must join in the hostilities against the United States, or be put to death. Moniac boldly refused, and had mounted his horse, when Josiah Francis, his brother-in-law, seized his bridles. Seizing a war club from the hand of Francis, David dealt him a hard blow and dashed away, followed by a shower of bullets.\(^8\)

Sam and Sehoy Moniac became the parents of several children; their son David, because of the "faithful and disinterested friendship of his father to the whites," received an appointment to the United States Military Academy on September 18, 1817, when fifteen or sixteen years of age.\(^9\)

David Moniac's ancestry and background explain the eagerness of the youth to become a soldier. From his relatives and friends he must have heard tales of the Revolution, the War of 1812, and of his countrymen who had participated in the battles.

David Moniac went to West Point from his father's home in the central part of Alabama, where he lived before he moved to his plantation on Little River.\(^10\)

It is said that David could not read when he left home, but after a six month's course of study under an Irish tutor he passed the examination for West Point.\(^11\) Three months before his graduation from the Military Academy young Moniac received the following disturbing letter from his uncle, David Tate:

"Cadet David Moniac, West Point, New-York.
April 23rd, 1822. Dear Nephew

"Your letter came safe to hand, & the contents was particularly attended to, you will excuse my not writing you earlier as I was waiting to hear from your father & mother, but no opportunity offered from that quarter, I have this moment taken up my pen to answer your letter. You requested me to endeavor to get what property was left off your fathers in my possession until you could return to take charge of it yourself, but it was too late, your father had partly waisted all, long before you wrote me. I took it upon myself to advise your father not to waist his property but it had no effect he kept continually drunk, & made bad trades, & every advantage was taken. Your father has at this time little or no

\(^8\) Woodward, op. cit., pp. 95-96.
\(^9\) Woodward, op. cit., p. 89.
\(^10\) Authority of Peter A. Brannon; The American State Papers, "Military Affairs" (Vol. 7, p. 27) credit David Moniac's appointment to the Military Academy to Mississippi, while Heitman, in his Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, (Vol. I, p. 719) says he was appointed from Alabama.
\(^11\) Authority Peter Brannon, March 2, 1944.
property & has been compelled to move into the nation to save what little he has, you need not make any calculations on your fathers property as I am fearful that he will be without any in a short time.

"Your mother still holds her property, perhaps you may calculate on some from her. I would advise you to get home as quick as you can conveniently do it, as your presence is very much wanted at home. Your sister has been living with me for two years & going to school, she has some of your mothers negroes which are at this time in my possession. As it is entirely out of the power of your father to assist you to any money should you need it to get home, I have made an arrangement for you to get what will be necessary to bring you home. You will call on T. B. Wakeman Esqr No. 187 Pearl Street New York. Should an opportunity offer to get a passage to Pensacola Mobile or Blakely whenever you are ready to start for home, I would advise you to come by water, should you land in Pensacola enquire for Mr. Collins, who will assist you in getting as far as my house, should you land in Mobile enquire for Messrs Sheffield & Leavens living in Blakely & they will assist you in getting as far as my house.

"All I have to say to my Dear Nephew is to use no extravagance and not to call on Mr. Wakeman until you are ready to start for home.

"Your sister & your nieces all send their best respects to you and are anxious to see you arrive safe, your uncles William & John Weatherford & family are all well. Nothing worth your attention in this quarter only hard times. You will answer my letter & say when we may expect you.

"I am yrs my Dear Nephew &c &c

"David Tate,

"You had best advise with Mr. Wakeman the best way for you to get home & go agreeable to his directions and let him provide for you.

D. Tate."12

Moniac stood number 39 in his class when he was graduated on July 1, 1822; he was assigned as a brevet second lieutenant to the Sixth Infantry, but immediately afterward he was granted a leave of absence to December 31, 1822. When that date arrived, he resigned from the army, no doubt feeling that it was his duty to remain at home to attempt to help his family. It was a pity that he left the service, as he was the first Indian to be graduated from West Point.13 A search discloses that eighteen officers in Moniaec's class of 1822 resigned from the army within a few years.

After the Dade massacre the government ordered a pursuit and punishment of the Seminole Indians, and suggested the enlistment of Indian fighters in the campaign. Gen. Thomas S. Woodward, of Macon County, Alabama, was authorized, on March 14, 1836, by Gen. Winfield Scott to secure the services of five hundred Creek warriors, to be used as auxiliaries against the Seminole Indians. United States agents in the Creek Nation were ordered to give every facility to raising and despatching this force.

12 Military Records Division, Alabama's Department of Archives and History, Montgomery.
13 Cullum, Biographical Register of the Officer Graduates of the United States Military Academy, New York, 1868, vol. I, p. 239.
"Commissions, of course, cannot be granted to the gentlemen who may be employed with this force, but the commander will be considered as having the rank of lieutenant colonel, the next officer the rank of major, and the third that of captain..."\[14\]

General Woodward, employed at that time in operations of Creek removal to the West, declined to attempt to raise the volunteers, declaring that he had no influence with the Indians, but if they were raised, and no better man could be found, he would go with them; this project would have delayed emigration of the Creeks, and Woodward disapproved of it on that account.\[15\]

Secretary Cass wrote to Hogan from Washington, April 12, 1836, as follows:

"I would rather that the campaign should be brought to a successful termination without the aid of the Creek Indians. Still, if from the nature of the operations this cannot be done without sacrificing our own troops to the unhealthfulness of the climate in the sickly season of the year, the department will consent to have a corps of these Indians raised, if they are willing to be employed."

On July 11, Cass wrote to Maj. Gen. Thomas S. Jesup at Fort Mitchell, Alabama:

"It has been suggested that a few Creek warriors might be useful to Governor Call [of Florida], and might be willing to be employed in the contemplated expedition against the Seminole Indians. You will please to correspond with Governor Call on this subject, and if he should desire it, I would thank you to raise a small corps of this description, not exceeding two or three hundred, and send them to Florida. They may be paid and organized as volunteers, but would be placed under the command of some white man, well acquainted with them, and who has their confidence..."\[16\]

General Jesup, in command of the forces in Florida, appointed Capt. John F. Lane, Second Dragoons, and only twenty-six years old, to command the Indian force.\[17\] David Moniac, who had volunteered, was made a captain, and the other officers were white men. No doubt Colonel Lane was glad to have a man with Moniac's training as an officer in his regiment, particularly one with his standing in the Creek Nation, and one who would be an inspiration to the other Indians. Under instructions of the commanding general, the band of friendly Indian warriors was to be "mustered into the service, mounted, equipped, supplied and paid as volunteers, for twelve months."\[18\]

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\[16\] *Ibid., "Military Affairs,"* vol. VI, p. 1047.

\[17\] *Army and Navy Chronicle*, November 17, 1836, p. 311. Lane had served on the Staff of General Jesup during the Creek war.

\[18\] *House Document No. 27, Twenty-fifth congress, first session, Indians in military service. "Headquarters Army of the South, Fort Mitchell, July 25, 1836, Order No. 50."*
Among the Creek volunteers were two celebrated men of the tribe: Tustennuggee Emathla, commonly called Jim Boy, and Paddy Carr. The first was described as "a fine-looking savage, and has a certain air of importance in his appearance and bearing that marks him out as a 'great chief.'"19

The Creeks were recruited under Jim Boy,20 and doubtless these warriors had great respect for him. He stood over six feet, had a martial appearance and great physical strength. He was instructed by General Jesup not to engage in hostilities with the Seminoles until he had attempted to induce them to abandon their hopeless contest against the whites.21

Paddy Carr (Patrick Carey), an intelligent half-breed, had acted as an interpreter with the Creek delegation to Washington in the spring of 1831; during the Creek removal to the west he was associated with a band of citizens of Columbus, Georgia, who attempted "the most detestable and heartless frauds upon the Indians to be found in history." Echo Hadjo,22 sent out with a white flag to offer peace to the belligerent Indians, was greeted with the question: "What have ye come here for?" by the hostile chief, who also demanded: "What have you to do with the business?" To which Echo Hadjo replied: "We have come to offer you peace. . . . We have entered into the service of the United States for the purpose of persuading you to make peace." The Seminoles were very boastful regarding their past battles, and some of the young warriors were about to kill Echo Hadjo and his delegation, when the chief interfered. When departing the Creek was informed that he had narrowly escaped death, and that if another party was sent to the Seminoles they would be killed.23

On September 20, 1836, the Creek volunteers boarded steamboats twelve miles below Fort Mitchell for Tampa Bay; leaving there, the force was engaged in several skirmishes and the soldiers captured 500 head of cattle before arriving at Fort Drane, on October 19. Colonel Lane was seriously ill when he reached Fort Drane,24 and while sitting in Captain Galt's tent, complained of severe pain in his head, inquired if the tent was not very warm; Captain Galt went out to raise the tent when he heard a groan. He returned at once and found Colonel Lane on his knees, with the point of his sword

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20 Army and Navy Chronicle, IV, p. 8; Foreman, ibid., p. 348, note 15.
22 Echo Hadjo and two of Jim Boy's sons served with the Creek volunteers in the Seminole war. Foreman, Indian Removal, pp. 107, 130, notes 6 and 7.
in his right eye. He did not speak again, and died in a few minutes. His friends thought that he had brain fever, as there was no cause for him to have committed suicide. "He was highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him. No officer had been more rapidly advanced . . . or enjoyed a greater degree the confidence of his commanding officer . . ."

The officers of the Creek volunteers held a meeting at Fort Drane on October 23, to adopt resolutions to express their regret at the loss they had sustained by the death of Colonel Lane. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey Brown occupied the chair, and the resolutions were signed by him, by Wm. G. Freeman, captain and adjutant; Major W. W. Morris, and the captains of the volunteers, including David Moniac.

*The St. Augustine Herald*, November 2, 1836, reported the following particulars regarding the position and intended movements of the army under General Call at Fort Drane, on October 30:

". . . the regiment of Creek volunteers are all ready to march at a moment's warning, in the best of temper and spirits." The vacancy caused by the death of the "lamented Lane, will be ably filled by Colonel Pierce, for whom the Indians, from former acquaintance in the Creek Nation, have testified the greatest respect and regard. Under his command, and associated with the gallant veterans of the army, whom he will lead in the field, they will prove a most efficient corps."

The army left Fort Drane on November 12 for the Withlacoochee, and three days later Moniac became a major. The *Jacksonville Courier*, on November 10, reported: "Colonel Pierce was ordered . . . to proceed to the nation. They go again to that charmed spot, where nearly all of our forces have met defeat, the Withlacoochee; . . . where Osceola, proud monarch of the wilderness, reigns triumphant."

On November 26 Colonel Pierce, commanding the right division, reported to Governor Call from "Camp near Volusia . . . the 3d

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25 Harvey Brown of New Jersey was appointed to the Military Academy October 11, 1814, and upon his graduation entered the artillery branch of the service. He held the rank of captain in the Fourth Artillery until he became connected, as lieutenant-colonel, with the Creek volunteers. He was brevetted major November 21, 1836, for gallant conduct on several occasions, and general efficiency in the war against the Florida Indians. (Heitman, *op. cit.*, vol. I, p. 251.)

26 William Walton Morris of New York entered the Military Academy in 1815. He became a captain in the Fourth Artillery December 17, 1836; he received a brevet for gallantry on several occasions in the campaign against the Seminole Indians in Florida. (Heitman, *op. cit.*, vol. I, p. 728.)

27 *Army and Navy Chronicle*, November 17, 1836, pp. 310-11, 315.

28 Benjamin Kendrick Pierce was appointed to the army from New Hampshire, of which state he was a native. He entered the service in 1812; became a major of the First Artillery on June 11, 1836, and lieutenant colonel August 21, for distinguished service in affairs at Fort Drane, Florida; died April 1, 1850.

29 *Army and Navy Chronicle*, November 24, 1836, p. 331.
and 4th columns composed of Creek volunteers commanded by Lieut. Col. Brown and Major Morris; after marching about five miles and within 400 yards of the Wahoo swamp, the enemy appeared in force on the edge of the Hammock which skirts the swamp, and by their war whoops and other indications showed themselves in readiness to give battle . . . the Creek volunteers under Lieut. Col. Brown penetrated the extreme left. . . .”

In this battle the regulars and Tennesseans took a trail to the right and became stranded in a morass where the men were obliged to wade waist-deep in mud and water and the horses could not move.31

Colonel Brown had found a trail to the left which avoided the morass and passed over dry land through a dense hammock. He pressed forward with great intrepidity, at the head of one hundred and fifty Creeks, and soon became engaged with a large body of Seminoles, strongly posted in a cypress swamp, on the opposite side of a deep and boggy stream. A severe fight ensued, and while the “brave Major Moniac” of the Creek regiment, was advancing to head a charge across the stream, he fell and sank into the water. The Creeks continued to battle against the fearful odds with which they were engaged.32 According to Colonel Pierce, the force pushed through a large swamp and hammock, driving the enemy before them for a distance of a mile and a half. “A portion of our friendly Indians at length reached a deep and difficult morass, on the opposite side of which the enemy were posted. In attempting the passage of this, Major Moniac was killed and sunk in the stream.”

A sharp engagement was then commenced by the Creeks under Colonel Brown and Major Morris. The loss in Pierce’s division consisted of Major Moniac, an Indian chief, two Indian enlisted men killed; Captain Ross, U. S. Marine Corps, and three Indians wounded, of the Creek volunteers.33

Major Moniac’s grave was added to the two large burial places containing the men of Dade’s company massacred by the Seminoles on December 28, 1835.34

Moniac was thirty-four years old when killed. He was graduated in the same class at West Point with Major General George A. McCall and Major Eustace Trenor who saw much service at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, as young men. A contemptible story con-

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30 Ibid., January 5, 1837, p. 8.
32 Army and Navy Chronicle, December 15, 1836, Call’s Report to Secretary of War, p. 374; Drake, op. cit., p. 467; Niles’ Weekly Register, December 24, 1836, pp. 260-61, from Charleston Courier, December 5, 1836.
33 Army and Navy Chronicle, December 15, 1836, p. 374; Sprague, op. cit., p. 165.
cerning the gallant Major Moniac appears in a book written by an army officer. He declares that Moniac stood well at West Point, "but, upon going South and getting among his old companions, true to his Indian instincts, he stripped off his uniform and changed it for a blanket." It is not likely that Moniac, after four years of training at the United States Military Academy, would have become a blanket Indian after returning to his people. That unfortunately happened among members of the savage tribes, but it does not seem possible with a man of Moniac's position. He left a daughter, and two of his sons were county office-holders; one was a sheriff in the late fifties. One or two of the Moniac family are living on a farm in the northern part of Baldwin County, Alabama.

Captain John Sprague, in describing the battle of Wahoo Swamp, recounted: "Lieutenant Colonel Brown, with the Creek volunteers, aided by the gallant Major Morris and the lamented Moniac . . . moved nobly into the action, and for a considerable time sustained an unequal combat with the enemy, holding him in check until the arrival of the artillery and volunteers."

Cullum stated that the civil history of Major Moniac was unknown, but through the courtesy of Mr. Peter A. Brannon some facts of his life before he returned to the army may be given. He married Mary Powell, a cousin of Osceola, and several children of the union are said to have been "quite good size" at the time of their father's death. The house in which David's children were born is still standing, and is in fairly good condition.

An account of the temporary post, named in honor of Major Moniac, who died a heroic death at the battle of Wahoo Swamp, is contained in a letter which appeared in the Army and Navy Chronicle, August 23, 1838:

"Camp Moniac, Hogan's Ferry, E. F. August 5, 1838.

"I am alone with my company, in a perfect wilderness of pine woods and cypress swamps. . . .

"I was ordered to establish myself and company at this place (near the head of the St. Mary's and the S. E. corner of the Okef onokee swamp, in Florida), rather east from Fort Gilmer and 28 miles from it, and the same distance from Trader's Hill, the head of navigation of the St. Mary's, whence I derive my supplies. I arrived here on the 24th ult., having erected a block house, store house, etc., and call my fort FORT MONIAC, after the late Major David Moniac, a Creek and an officer of the regiment of Creek Volunteers, who was killed in action with the Seminoles . . . in 1836. He was a friend and classmate of mine at West Point, and as a small tribute of respect to his memory I call my fort in the wilderness by his name."
The name of the writer of the above letter was not printed in the magazine, but a search in Cullum discloses that Captain John J. Abercrombie of the First Infantry was the only member of Major Moniac's class at West Point stationed in Florida on the date it was written. He served in the Florida War from 1837 to 1840, and was engaged in the battle of Okee-cho-bee, December 23, 1837.

A writer at Fort Heilman, East Florida, on September 18, 1838, telling of the distribution of troops in that state, reported that part of the Second Infantry was located at Fort Moniac. 37

Although the Indians had been enlisted for one year, the government decided to retain them in the service until the Seminoles were conquered. They were to receive the pay, equipment and emoluments of soldiers in the regular army, "and such plunder as they may take from the Seminoles." This offer was understood by the Creeks to authorize them to retain the slaves captured in Florida. This loot amounted to ninety Negroes who were carried to Fort Pike. After many fraudulent claims to these slaves were made by traders of Florida and Georgia, they were sold to James C. Watson for between fourteen and fifteen thousand dollars. 38

"When the Indian regiment was raised in the Creek country, for service in Florida, it was distinctly understood by them, as well as by me, that they were to be allowed to return to Alabama in time to remove to the country assigned to them, west of the Mississippi, before the season for planting their corn.

"I found it necessary to retain them in service up to this time, and it is important that they remain until the Seminoles remove. . . . Had they left on the 1st of February, according to assurances given to them, I must have called into service at least two regiments of militia or volunteers to have taken their places, at a heavy expense . . . From a careful consideration of all the circumstances in which I found myself, as well as from the situation of the enemy and the nature of the country in which we were operating, I was decidedly of the opinion that sound policy, as well as considerations of economy, made it proper to retain the Indian force. . . ." 39

On March 27, from the war department, Secretary Joel R. Poinsett wrote General Jesup: " . . . respecting the further continuance of the regiment of Creek warriors in the service of the United States. The reasons given by you for adopting this measure are entirely satisfactory, and the department therefore approves it. . . ." 40

Some of the Creek soldiers succumbed to the unhealthful climate; others were sent to their people at Pass Christian, Mississippi, where they were waiting to be sent to the west. General Jesup

37 Army and Navy Chronicle, October 11, 1838, p. 236.
39 General Jesup to Hon. B. F. Butler, secretary of war ad interim, dated Fort Dade, March 7, 1837.
ordered Lieut. Frederick Searle to go to Pass Christian in September to muster out the Creek troops.\footnote{Foreman, op. cit., pp. 348, 349. General Woodward, engaged in removing the Creeks, states that Sam Moniac is buried at Pass Christian. He may have been connected with Woodward in the work of sending his tribesmen to the West, and have died far from his family and home.}

Jim Boy and other Creek warriors were incensed, upon their return to Alabama, to find that the government had not kept faith with them regarding the removal of their families. Jim Boy's family had been exempted from the enforced removal until he joined his two wives and twelve children. They sailed down the Alabama River to Mobile, but were soon moved on to Pass Christian because of the panic among the Indians caused by a great number of deaths at Mobile Point. Jim Boy and some other chiefs arrived at New Orleans on October 16; he and his family sailed aboard the ill-fated steamboat Monmouth, and four of his children were drowned when the boat was cut in two by the ship Trenton.\footnote{Foreman, op. cit., pp. 184, note 17, 185, 187.}

In answer to a resolution in the House of Representatives, September 18, 1837, asking the number of Indians employed in the military service since the commencement of the Seminole war, the war department reported that an examination of the files in the adjutant general's office showed that "a regiment of Creek Indians, composed of 15 companies, and amounting to an aggregate of 749, was received into the service of the United States on September 1, 1836, by Major General Jesup's order . . ."\footnote{House of Representatives, Document No. 27, Twenty-fifth congress, first session.}

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