

**LIFE AND TIMES OF
GEN. SAM. DALE, THE
MISSISSIPPI PARTISAN**

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Life and Times of Gen. Sam. Dale, the Mississippi Partisan by J. F. H. Claiborne

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THE CANOE FIGHT.

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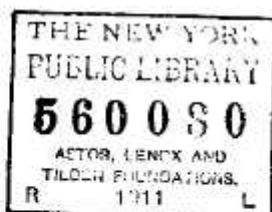
BY
JOHN F. H. CLAIBORNE.

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Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year one thousand eight
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TO

THE SURVIVING VOLUNTEERS OF MISSISSIPPI AND
LOUISIANA

(AND IN MEMORY OF THE DEAD),

WHO SERVED IN THE CREEK WAR OF 1812-14, UNDER THE
LATE BRIG. GEN. CLAIBORNE, THIS BIOGRAPHY OF
ONE OF THEIR NUMBER, BRIEFLY ILLUSTRAT-
ING THEIR PATRIOTISM, GALLANTRY,
AND SUFFERINGS,

Is Respectfully Dedicated.

ALABAMA LEGISLATURE.

An Act expressing the gratitude of the State of Alabama for the services rendered by Samuel Dale. Approved Dec. 15, 1821.

Sec. 1. Whereas the territory now composing the State of Alabama was, during our late war with Great Britain, subjected likewise to the barbarities of savage warfare; and whereas our venerable citizen, Col. Samuel Dale, was the first to interpose his aid for the defense of our people, and endured privations and hardships that have impaired his constitution and reduced him to indigence; and whereas the said Dale, not having had it in his power, owing to the situation of the country, to preserve his papers and vouchers to establish his claim on the United States government, and has failed to receive even justice from that quarter; and whereas we, the representatives of the people of Alabama, feel it a duty due to them and ourselves to manifest our gratitude for his distinguished services; therefore,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, that the treasurer be and is hereby required to pay to the said Col. Samuel Dale half the pay now allowed by the United States to colonels in the army. And that he is hereby declared a brigadier general by brevet in the militia of this state, and shall rank as such whenever called into service. And the governor is hereby required to commission him accordingly. And the treasurer is authorized and required to pay to the said brevet Brigadier General Samuel Dale, on the first day of January in each and every year, the half pay as aforesaid, for and during his life, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

P R E F A C E.

THE historical portion of this volume has been condensed from authentic MSS. never yet published.

The personal adventures of Gen. Dale were taken down from his own lips by Franklin Smith, Esq., the late Henry A. Garrett, Esq., and myself, at different periods. Those gentlemen—both accomplished scholars—turned over their notes to me some years ago, and I incorporated a memoir of Dale with a "History of the Southwest," on which I had been long engaged. When ready for the press, the MSS. were lost by the sinking of a steamer on the Mississippi. Until within a few weeks past I have never had leisure to reproduce the life of Dale.

He was a man of singular modesty, silent and reserved, and rarely alluded to his own adventures. He was a man of truth, and possessed the confidence and esteem of many eminent persons. As originally written, the narrative was almost literally in his own words. In the present memoir I have preserved his language in many parts, and faithfully expressed his opinions.

He was an uneducated, but by no means an ig-

norant man; a close observer of men and things, with a clear head, a tenacious memory, and always fond of the society of educated men. I venture to hope that his life, as here written, presents a fair exemplar of the genuine frontier man—modest, truthful, patient, frugal, full of religious faith, proud of his country, remorseless in battle, yet prompt to forgive, and ever ready to jeopard his own safety for the helpless and oppressed—a race of men such as no other country has produced—wholly American—a feature as prominent in our social and political history as the grand physical characteristics peculiar to this continent.

The sketch of the war of 1813-14 is necessarily cursory and brief, being confined mainly to events in which Gen. Dale was concerned. In a work now in preparation, a comprehensive view of those campaigns, with personal sketches of the prominent men engaged in them, will appear, compiled from the private journals and correspondence of several distinguished officers.

J. F. H. CLAIBORNE.

Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.