

**Andrew Jackson to John Coffee, September 25, 1813,
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by
John Spencer Bassett.**

TO JOHN COFFEE.1

1 Copy.

Headquarters, Nashville, September 25, 1813

Order

The Colonel Commandant of the volunteer Cavetry will forthwith detach by companies or Batalions as soon as paid under command of a Lieutena[n]t Colonel and Major Lodderdale, who are to reach Huntsville by forced marches. Let it be rumered so that it may reach the Creeks that this force is to march for the protection of Mobile,² and that it is the whole force organized. Your Order of March will be delivered to yourself tomorrow under a belief you will be able to march on monday with the whole detachment

² Carrying out this ruse Jackson, on the following day, sent Coffee the following order: "Colonel Coffee will proceed forthwith with his Regiment of volunteer Cavetry and mounted Riflemen, that have attached themselves thereto, to Fort St. Stephens on the mobile river by the way of Huntsville Madison County Mississippi Territory, at Huntsville you will make a halt, and form an incampment at such point, or place as will be best calculated for the protection of the frontier, and there remain until it can be ascertained whither the Indians are in force in that neighbourhood, and until the volunteer infantry and militia ordered into service can reach the borders of that frontier, From Huntsville you will proceed by the nearest and best rout to fort St. Stephens and when you reach that point, you will report yourself to the commanding General of that District, or on that Frontier; you will be carefull

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and vigilant to prevent ambuscade or surprise on your march, Strong guards by night and carefull Spies and patrols by day can alone prevent this: If danger presents itself let me suggest the propriety of marching in three colemns, the right and left at least sixty yards distance from the center, Whilst at Huntsville you will communicate with me by express before you proceed on your march agreeable to this order.”