

Auguste Genevieve Valentin Davezac to Andrew Jackson, April 6, 1815, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

MAJOR AUGUSTE DAVEZAC TO JACKSON.1

1 Major Auguste Davezac de Castera was a creole from Santo Domingo and served Jackson as an aide and judge-advocate. He remained a loyal friend of Jackson's after the war. He was the brother of Mrs. Edward Livingston.

New Orleans, April 6, 1815.

General, I hasten to comply with the request you have just made, that I should state where I met Governor Claiborne, on the morning of the 8th of January 1815. I had the Honour to be near Your person on that day. The firing began to decrease, and the English who had entered the right Bastion were either killed or taken, the prisoners captured then were mostly wounded. you ordered me to escort them to the Hospital, and you directed that they should be searched, with a view of discovering if possible their plan of attack, and thus be enabled to guard against any ulterior movements on the part of the enemy. I obeyed your command. The prisoners were delivered to Dr. Kerr and they were directed to be searched, it was at that moment, when the action was almost at an end, that I saw Governor Claiborne, he was in the interior of the Hospital, where the wounded were deposited. I spoke to him, informed him of the glorious result of the day and as I was hastening to resume my post near you, I asked, in a pointed manner and looking at him, if any one was going to the lines. I received no answer and returned alone. by the time, I reached the place, where you stood near the powder magazine, on the right of the line; the fire of the musketry had entirely ceased, our Cannon alone kept firing and now and then the enemy returned a few shots or Congreves.

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I have the Honour to be, sir, with respect

I saw Governor Claiborne during the Battle of 8th of Jany and I think very near its close sitting upon his horse behind the hospital, where he was entirely shelter'd from the balls of the enemy.

David C Ker Hosp: Surgeon