

**Folder 40: Julius Kingsbury Estate, 1856-1891**

Document: Deed. Chicago. 1861. AD. 2 pages.

Deed for land in Chicago from Henry W. Kingsbury to Simon B. Buckner and Mary K. Buckner.

Document: Printed Court Appeal from Northern District of Illinois, October 1889. 7 pages.

Henry W. Kingsbury vs. Simon B. Buckner, et.al.

Document: Printed Court Reply Brief from Northern District of Illinois, October 1889. 15 pages.

Henry W. Kingsbury vs. Simon B. Buckner, et.al. Reply from John P. Wilson for Henry W. Kingsbury.

Document: Printed Court Reply Brief from Northern District of Illinois, October 1889. 12 pages.

Henry W. Kingsbury vs. Simon B. Buckner, et.al. Reply from Lyman Trumbull for Simon B. Buckner.

14 misc. envelopes

Document: Deed. Hart County, Kentucky, 1871. AD. 5 pages.

Deed for land from Saml. Seedom, James M. McCutchen and Jane McCutchen to Simon B. Buckner for land in Hart County, Kentucky.

Document: Land plat map: Plan of Long Meadow, Land of E F Murilly. Undated. AD. 1 page.

Drawing of the boundaries.

Document: Receipt. Capt. S.B. Buckner, Scovill House, 18 September 1856. AD. 1 page.

Receipt for Board 9 August to 19 September.

Document: Receipt. Capt. S.B. Buckner, Scovill House, 8 August 1856. AD. 1 page.

Receipt for 18 days board and Washing.

Document: Receipt. Capt. S. B. Buckner, New Haven, 7 February 1857. ADS. 1 page.

Receipt for \$17 for bill in the Maj. J.J. B. Kingsbury estate.

Document: Receipt. Capt. Buckner, New Haven, 18 September 1856. ADS. 1 page.

Receipt for \$16 for tenant and expense.

Document: Receipt, S.B. Buckner, Scovill House, 8 August 1856. ADS. 1 page.

Funds given to the estate of Major J.J.B. Kingsbury.

Document: Receipt, S.B. Buckner, No place, 14 August 1856. ADS. 1 page.

Receipt from Nelson J. Welton for making a plat of the land in the Kingsbury estate.

Document: Receipt, Capt. S. B. Buckner, Washington, D.C., 30 July 1856. AD. 1 page.

Receipt from the Willards' Hotel for \$17.

Document: Receipt, Mrs. J. C. Kingsbury, No Place, 2 July 1856. AD. 1 page.

Receipt for 82 cents for telegraph from Chicago to New Haven.

Document: Account sheet, Simon Smith and Co. account with S.B. Buckner, No Place, March 1855 through January 1857. AD. 4 pages.

Account showing income and deficit ending in a zero balance.

Document: Receipt, S. B. Buckner, Washington, D.C., 28 July 1856. AD. 1 page.

Receipt for \$20 from the estate of J.J.B. Kingsbury.

Document: Receipt, Major J.J.B. Kingsbury, Washington, D.C., 24 June 1856. AD. 1 Page.

Receipt from the Willards' Hotel for Kingsbury expenses of \$548.38.

Document: Land Plat, Julius J. b. Kingsbury, Waterbury, Ct., 18 July 1854. AD. 1 page.

Plat for about 4 acres of land owned by Kingsbury.

Note: Jane C. Kingsbury, Old Lyme, Ct. to S. B. Buckner, No Place, 18 February 1873. ANS. 1 Page.

A note about draft for \$2,000 on Farmers Loan and trust.

Letter: J.W. Allen, Washington D.C. to "Madam", No Place, 5 September 1856. ALS. 3 pages.

The letter discusses some money still owed to J.J.B. Kingsbury as well as some debt he owed.

Document: Receipt, Mrs. Kingsbury, New York, 1 July 1856. AD. 1 page.

A receipt for hats and veils.

Letter: Henry Bronson, New Haven. To Capt. Buckner, No Place, 19 September 1856. ALS. 1 page.

Encloses his account and is glad to hear Mrs. Kingsbury's health is improving.

Document: Account, Henry Bronson, 1856. AD. 1 page.

Account of expense owed from the Estate of Maj. J.J.B. Kingsbury.

Letter: M. Churchill, Sing Sing, to Maj. Kingsbury, No Place, 19 March 1856. ALS. 1 page.  
Discusses credit and his hopes that "young Henry" gets into West Point.

Document: Account, M. Churchill, 1855. AD. 1 page.  
Account of money owed to Churchill, by Kingsbury.

Letter: J. W. Allen, Washington, D.C., to Mrs. Kingsbury, No Place, 3 July 1856. ALS. 2 pages.  
Trying to coordinate the meeting of Capt Buckner with Mrs. Kingsbury as they travel.  
Letter: J H Arimund, Washington D.C. to Mrs. J. C. Kingsbury, Waterbury, Ct., 12 July 1856.  
ALS. 1page.  
The money owed could not be paid by the draft sent and request payment of \$548.38.

Document: Willard, Spencer & Wooster, Waterbury, Ct., 24 August 1856. AD. 1 page.  
An appraisal of Major Kingsbury's estate in Waterbury, Ct. that includes land and stock.

Letter: P. Clayton, Treasury Department, to Simon B. Buckner, No Place, 28 July 1856. ALS. 1 Page.  
Accounts for money owed to Maj. Kingsbury for service in the Army Infantry.

Document: Account, Julius J B Kingsbury, 9 March 1856 AD. 1 page.  
Account for money owed Kingsbury.

Document: Trust Deed, S. B. Buckner, No place, 1878, AD. 20 pages.  
A draft of a trust form dealing with the properties inherited by Buckner through his wife.

Document: Probate Court for the District of Waterbury, 13 November 1866. AD. 3 pages with tax stamp.  
Discusses the distribution of land to Buckner's wife and her sister after their mother's death.

Letter: Wm. Brown, Waterbury, Ct. to General S.B. Buckner, No Place, 24 November 1866.  
ALS. 4 pages.  
Discusses the division of land to the heirs of Major and Mrs. Kingsbury.

Document: Probate Court for the District of Waterbury, 21 November 1866. AD. 4 pages with tax stamp.  
Discusses disposition of lands in Waterbury, Ct.

Letter: W. C. Goudy, Ottawa, Illinois, to Gen. Buckner, No Place, 4 October 1871. ALS. 4 pages.

Discusses the rulings in Illinois Supreme Court dealing with the land dispute in Chicago.

Document: Agreement between Wooley, Goudy and Chandler with S. B. Buckner, 3 November 1870. ADS. 4 Pages.

Agreement about the lands in Chicago owned by Maj. JJB Kingsbury.

Letter: W.C. Goudy, Chicago, Illinois, to Col. Wooley, No Place, 10 March 1871. ALS. 2 pages.

Discusses the expenses incurred during the land dispute case for Buckner.

Document: S. B. Buckner and Hiram Boevik, Hart County Kentucky, 25 December 1884. AD. 4 Pages.

An agreement for services to be provided for by Boevik to Buckner.

Letter: George Chandler, Chicago, Illinois, to General [Buckner], No Place, 15 December 1884. ALS. 2 pages.

Discusses funds from the property in Chicago and the weather.

Document: Accounts, Ashland Block, 2 October 1884 to 31 August 1885. TD. 7 pages.

Account of Receipts and Disbursements.

Letter: Samuel Chandler, Chicago, to General S.B. Buckner, Hart County, Kentucky, 1 September 1885. ALS. 1 Page.

Discusses taxes on property and the collection of rent.

Letter: Samuel Chandler, Chicago, to General S.B. Buckner, Hart County, Kentucky, 7 September 1885. ALS. 1 Page.

He is sending some statements for a note to be collected.

Letter: Samuel Chandler, Chicago, Illinois, to General Simon B. Buckner, Hart County, Kentucky, 8 September 1885, ALS. 4 pages.

Chandler explains the changes needed to be made to boilers in a building to keep tenants.

Letter: Samuel Chandler, Chicago, to General S.B. Buckner, Hart County, Kentucky, 2 October 1885. ALS. 1 Page.

Discusses the condition of boiler in building.

Letter: George Chandler, Chicago, to General S.B. Buckner, Hart County, Kentucky, 15 October 1885. ALS. 3 Pages.

Discusses the price of boilers.

Letter: Samuel Chandler, Chicago, to General S.B. Buckner, Hart County, Kentucky, 19 October 1885. ALS. 1 Page.

He will deposit \$300 into Buckner's account with the Commercial National bank.

Letter: Samuel Chandler, Chicago, to General S.B. Buckner, Hart County, Kentucky, 27 October 1885. ALS. 1 Page plus a note from Commercial National Bank. TNS. 1 page

Sending a note from bank asking for pass book to issue checks.

Letter: W.C. Goudy, Washington D.C. to Gov. Buckner, No Place, 13 January 1889. ALS. 2 pages.

The arguments were made before the court and he is confident they will win.

Document: Agreement between S.B. Buckner and Goudy and Chandler, Chicago, Illinois, 5 February 1872, ADS. 1 Page.

Agreement for services and pay of \$62,500.

Document: Mortgage between S.B. Buckner and Farmers Loan and Trust Company, Louisville, Ky., 3 March 1872. AD. 6 pages.

Mortgage for \$300,000.

Newspaper Clipping: Chicago Tribune ,7 October. Original is damaged.

Settlement of the land dispute case giving Buckner a million dollars.

Document: Court Settlement, Supreme Court of the United States, 7 April 1890. TD. 20 pages.

Describes the settlement of the land dispute in Chicago.

**Folder 41: Bank of Attica vs. Simon B. Buckner regarding Kingsbury Estate, 1861**

Document: Legal Brief, Bank of Attica vs. Buckner, 1861, AD. 4 pages.

Timeline on the lawsuit over property in Chicago.

Document: Legal Brief, Bank of Attica vs. John Evans, Garnishee of Simon B. Buckner, 1861, AD. 8 pages.

Timeline and precedents dealing with the lawsuit over the Chicago property.

Document: Legal Notice, Bank of Attica vs. Simon B. Buckner, Chicago, 23 October 1861, AD. 1 Page.

Notice that the case will be held in the Superior Court of Illinois in the October term.

Document: Memo, Bank of Attica vs. Simon B. Buckner, 1861. AD. 1 page.

Memo with fees due in 1861.

Document: Legal Notice, Bank of Attica vs. Simon B. Buckner, Chicago, 20 September 1861. AD. 1 page.

Notice of motion to discharge Garnishee.

Note: D W Mitchell, No Place, Undated [ca.1861], ANS. 1 page.

“Charles E. Ray, Commission merchant on south Water Street nearly opposite Richmond Home.”

Document: Legal Notice, Bank of Attica vs. Simon B. Buckner, Chicago, 4 March 1862, AD. 1 page.

Notice that the court will take up cases tied to the land dispute.

Document: Legal Notice, Bank of Attica vs. Simon B. Buckner, Chicago 9 October 1861. AD. 1 page.

Notice that the court will be hearing a case involving the land dispute.

**Folder 42: Simon Bolivar Buckner Legal and Real Estate Papers, 1857-1908**

Bills of items to apply on S. Smith's note, December 17, 1857. ADS, 1 p.

List of payments, 1889-1890, 1 ½ pp.

Tax receipt of Simon B. Buckner, 1888.

Note, illegible, in two pieces. No date.

Indenture between Simon B. Buckner and the Northern Bank of Kentucky, July 18, 1877. Copy of mortgage.

Simon B. Buckner [assumed], Glenkily, Ky., to Henry Lafferty. March 18, 1875. Bill for goods, 1 p.

Simon B. Buckner, New York [NY], to Major Charles H. Hatch, New York [NY]. February 22, 1872. Copy, 2 1/3 pp.

Copy of letter from Buckner to Hatch relating to a case of a disputed will.

H. B. Buckner Statement, May 14, 1870.

S. B. Buckner, Louisville, Ky., promissory note, March 5, 1869, to A. S. Leedorn, for \$200 for purchase of Hart County lands.

H. W. Bruce, Louisville, Kentucky, to Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, Louisville, Kentucky. December 3, 1897. TLS, 1 p. [4 pp enclosure.]

Chief attorney for the Louisville and Nashville Railroad writes to Buckner regarding a judgment on a piece of land determined to be owned by Buckner; Bruce says that L & N does not need to provide Buckner with a quit claim deed. Includes Louisville Chancery Court Judgment from December 28, 1867, James Speed attorney for L&N RR.

S. B. Buckner to A. R. Spencer, Sale of Land deed. November 3, 1908. TDS, 2 pp.

W. T. Whitehurst and Myrtie Whitehurst, Hart County, Ky., to S. B. Buckner, Hart County, Ky., transferring interest in Old Clay Furnace Road. March 19, 1908. ADS, 2 p.

**Folder 43: Southern Hospital Association Materials, 1866**

Envelope, to General S. B. Buckner, President Commercial Insurance Company [?].

Note on the side reads "from Mrs. Clara Hawes, Rec'd January 15, 1867." Envelope is stationary of the Southern Hospital Association, image of woman giving a drink to a wounded soldier with the word "Gratitude" written below.

Certificate, Southern Hospital Association for Disabled Soldiers, New Orleans, Louisiana, no date [circa 1866].

Signed by J. B. Hood, President, S. B. Buckner, Vice President, and [P] G. T. Beauregard. Certificate of subscription, not filled out. Includes image of woman giving a drink to a wounded soldier with the word "Gratitude" written below.

Board of Directors, Southern Hospital Association, Meeting Minutes. New Orleans, [LA] November 27, 1866. 2 pp, with attachments

Signed by William C. C. Claiborne, Jr. Secretary. Appointing a clerk to help the president with his affairs. Report of Ladies' Committee regarding the Lady Directors of the Bazaar (attachment A) and Treasurer's Report (attachment B). Mention another enclosure, a letter of a former Confederate seeking relief, which is not extant.

Attachment A – Mrs. James Hewitt, "Report on Lady Directors of the Bazaar." December 1, 1866. ADS, 3 pp. – lists ladies of different districts who will work on Southern Hospital Association Bazaar.

Attachment B – J. C. Newman, Sr., Report of the Treasurer of the Southern Hospital Association. November 27, 1866. AD, 1 p.

**Folder 44: Simon Bolivar Buckner Cancelled Checks and Notes, 1869-1905**

Envelope, Hon. S. B. Buckner. Return address, Illinois Central R. R. Co., Chicago. Handwritten note: Cancelled Notes.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Louisville, Ky. March 5, 1869, ANS, ½ p.

Receipt promising to pay Mrs. Jane W. McCutchin two hundred dollars, the third installment on the purchase of Hart County lands, within twenty four months. Signature over five 2-cent stamps.

Cancelled Check, printed, \$3000 to Simon Bolivar Buckner, Louisville, Ky., three months after January 4, 1876. Signature ripped off. Written by N. B. Field.

Has image of woman carrying a bundle of wheat, Webb & Breeding, Printers and Stationers, 77 Fifth Street.

Cancelled Check, printed, \$5000 to Masonic Savings Bank, Louisville, Ky., four months after January 7, 1876, at 10% interest. Signature ripped off, was S. B. Buckner and other.

Cancelled Check, printed, \$3000 to Masonic Savings Bank, Louisville, Ky., four months after November 26, 1875, at 10% interest. Signature ripped off, was S. B. Buckner and other.

Cancelled Check, printed, \$5000 to Masonic Savings Bank, Louisville, Ky., four months after May 10, 1876, at 10% interest. Signature crossed out, was S. B. Buckner and S. F? Chipley.

Has image of Native American Woman on side, "Maxwell & Co. Printers, Louisville, Ky.

Cancelled Check, printed, \$2000 to Masonic Savings Bank, Louisville, Ky., four months after July 11, 1876. Signature ripped off, was S. B. Buckner and other.

Cancelled Check, printed, \$1000 to S. B. Buckner, Louisville, Ky., sixty days after July 12, 1876, at 10% interest. Negotiable and payable at German Bank. Signature ripped off. Written by N. B. Field

Has image of woman carrying a bundle of wheat, Webb & Harding, Printers, 77 Fifth Street.

Cancelled Check, printed, \$7191.64 to Masonic Savings Bank, Louisville, Ky., four months after October 7, 1876, at 8%. Signature ripped off, was S. B. Buckner and other.

Has image of woman and two children looking over a wall.

Cancelled Check, handwritten, \$5000 to Masonic Savings Bank, Louisville, Ky., four months after March 2, 1878, at 8% interest. Signature ripped off, was S. B. Buckner and other.

Tax receipt, General S. B. Buckner, Hart County. 1905. Received payment November 28, 1905, signed by J. B. Isaacs, Sheriff.

**Folder 45: Simon Bolivar Buckner Investments, 22 January 1895**

Quotations at the New York Stock Exchange. Published by the Banking House of Henry Clews & Co. January 22, 1895. Printed, 4 pp.

**Folder 46: Simon Bolivar Buckner Mexican War Memoir (draft), undated**

Simon Bolivar Buckner. Mexican War account, handwritten draft. no date [describing 1846]. AM, 60 pp [incomplete].

Diary starts on May 9, 1846 as he is a professor at West Point. Pages 1-3: Hears about the start of the war with Mexico and gets out of his West Point position to fight. Pages 4-8: On July 13<sup>th</sup>, leaves on a boat headed south and comments on the weather while at sea. Page 9: Reports on sighting of whales and dolphins. Page 10: Reached the Carolinas on July 16<sup>th</sup>. Page 11-16: Discusses animals, weather, and geography of Florida and Caribbean coastlines. Page 17: Threw a dead soldier's body into the ocean near Deadman's Keys and spotted the mountains of Cuba on July 30<sup>th</sup>. Page 18: Describes the fortifications and city of Havana, Cuba. Page 19-24: Comments on the beauty of the sea and favorable weather. Page 25-26: On August 5<sup>th</sup>, finally reached destination on Texas coastline at the mouth of Madre. Pages 27-29: Details struggle to reach land. Page 30-31: Becomes 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant of the 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry because Major Brown of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry died. Page 32: Began his first march on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Page 33-34: Comments on ruined supplies. Page 35: States that General Taylor did not want any "intoxicating liquors" but General Lane had a large private storage of whiskey. Page 36-37: Traveled on the steamer "Aid" up the Rio Grande. Page 38-40: Provides a description of Mexican haciendas. Page 40: On August 11<sup>th</sup>, reached Matamoros, Mexico. Page 41-43: Discusses abilities of several generals and the town of Matamoros. Page 44: Expresses disappointment of not being able to be on battlefields. Page 45-7: Start of "Second Chapter: The Charms of Fort Paredes at the Rio Grande". Remains at that location from August 15<sup>th</sup> to November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Page 46: Page 48: Describes Mexican burial rituals. Page 49-50: Write about his perspectives of Mexican culture. Page 51: Encounters his old 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry. Page 52-55: Discusses pride, passion, and faults of Mexican men. Page 56: Describes the virtues of Mexican women. Page 57: Details perceptions of Mexican generals. Page 58-59: Comments on United States military movements. Page 60: Mentions is acquainted with the Army chaplain, Father McElroy.

**Folder 47: United States Army General Orders #1-16, 1858**

\S. Cooper, Adjutant General, General Orders 1, 3-16, United States Army. Washington, D.C. 1858. Printed documents, 43 pages.

**Folder 48: Simon Bolivar Buckner Fort Donelson Report, 11 August 1862**

General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Richmond, Virginia, 11 August 1862, ALS, 23 pages.

A copy of his report on the surrender of Fort Donelson, written after he was paroled from Union prison.

**Folder 49: Draft of Simon Bolivar Buckner Proclamation "To the Freemen of Kentucky",  
14 September 1862**

General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Glasgow, Ky., 14 September 1862, 7 pages, handwritten.

A proclamation issued to the people of Kentucky to encourage them to support the Confederacy and its invasion of Kentucky. An appeal to raise troops for the CSA.

**Folder 50: Simon Bolivar Buckner Civil War Papers, Notes on Chickamauga Campaign,  
September 1863**

Simon Bolivar Buckner, Notes on the Chickamauga Campaign. September 9-19, 1863. 1 volume, 42 pp.

Notes in front and of book on drawing pay, location of trunks, different people.

*Transcription:*

[Page 1] Positions of the Army of the Tenn. on night of 9<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1863.

=====

Polk's corps (Cheatham's & Hindman's Divisions) at Lee & Gordon's Mills.  
Hill's Corps (Breckinridge & Cleburne) at Lafayette and Dry Gap on Pigeon Mountain.  
Walker's Reserve at Lafayette  
-Buckner's Corps (Stewart & Preston at Rockspring

=====

Position of enemy as nearly as ascertained at same time  
-Crittenden's Corps (3 divisions) near Greysville  
-Thomas' Corps (4 Divisions) descending into McLemore's Cove by Cooper & Stephen's Gaps  
-McCook's Corps (3 division) [page 2] Near Altamont.  
Granger's Reserve Corps not yet in line.

Hindman's and Cleburne's divisions were ordered to move about midnight, the first from Lee & Gordon's mills, the second from Dug Gap, to concentrate at Davis X Roads in the Cove, for the purpose of attacking a force "reported to be about 4000 or 5000 at Stephen's Gap."  
Cleburne could not move on account of obstructed road. Buckner's Corps was ordered the {??} to replace him. Buckner moved by Dr. Anderson's, following after [page 3] Hindman, whom he overtook about five miles from Davis's X Roads at Sunset on the 10th.

Sept. 10. General Hindman called a council at night. Gen. Bragg reported that Crittenden was advancing upon Cheatham. The general state of affairs was discussed. The enemy had advanced from Stephen's Gap to Davis X Roads and into Dug Gap. They were reported there in hearing but uncertain force. Buckner urged that the best movement would be to march at once with nearly the whole army against Crittenden's isolated corps, [page 4] while Cheatham, simulating a retreat, should draw him still nearer to the army; that a rapid movement would place us on Crittenden's right flank cut him off from Chattanooga, in which case we could crush him and then either march upon Chattanooga and cross the Tenn. with a view of intercepting the retreat of the rest of Rosecrans's army, or else turn upon the remaining fragments and beat them in detail. Those, after some discussions were the views of the council; and were urged [page 5] by General Hindman in substance in a letter to Gen. Bragg, then at Lafayette.

The views were not adopted but an attack was ordered by Hindman's force, increased by mine on the enemy's position in our front to be joined in by Hill's corps to the east of Dug gap.

Sept. 11 - Advanced toward Davis X Roads with orders from Hindman not to attack until something of the enemy's strength & position were known. It was noon before reliable reconnaissance could be effected, and [page 6] Buckner's corps deployed in the dense woods and undergrowth. Even then Hindman had taken no steps for the deployment of his division under Anderson. The position of Hill was yet uncertain. About 3 p.m. I was about to advance under orders from Hindman when a dispatch from Bragg was received, directing him, if in his judgment the enemy developed a force which rendered it "imprudent" for him to attack with his force, he should retire at once by Catlett's Gap to Lafayette. [page 7] This induced hesitation to await further developments which showed the enemy in retreat. The attack was then ordered and we moved forward about 5 P.M. The engagement was slight. The pursuit was continued until after dark; when all the troops were ordered to Lafayette, leaving guards at the passes.

Sept. 12. - Hill, Buckner, Hindman and Walker around Lafayette. Cheatham in march for or near Lafayette.

Enemy – McCook at Summerville, Thomas in McLemore's Cove in front of Dug and Catlett's Gaps; Crittenden, following Cheatham, on Ringold road near [page 8] Peavine Church.

Polk, with his corps and Walker's division ordered to march northward to meet Crittenden and "feel" him. They take position at night at Rock Spring Church. Crittenden in their front near Peavine Church.

Sept. 13 - Buckner's Corps moves north 5 miles to Coldweather Spring, 3 miles south of Rock Spring.

Polk awaiting an attack from Crittenden moves against him finally and discovers he has decamped and moved by his right flank to Lee and Gordon's mill, where he forms a junction with Thomas. The same day McCook [page 9] makes a reconnaissance toward Lafayette and finding Hill's corps near there retreats from Summerville to Alpine, thence moving northward along the mountains to concentrate with Thomas and Crittenden.

The whole of our army again concentrates at Lafayette; permitting by our indecision and inaction the scattered fragments of Rosecrans to reunite at leisure.

Sept. 14 - Burning time at Lafayette.

Sept. 15 The same. At a council, at which were present Gens. Bragg, Polk, Hill, Buckner, and Walker, without a dissenting opinion [page 10] it was resolved to meet the enemy.

Buckner urged a march across the mountains in the direction of Bridgeport or Stevenson, basing ourselves upon Rome, in case of failure. He contended that if we move toward Chattanooga the enemy would fight behind the Chickamauga, that if we were victorious, the enemy would retire behind his works; that to get him out we would then be under the necessity of accomplishing a turning movement with a crippled army, which we could better do with the army intact as now; that the [page 11] object of the campaign was not to fight for Chattanooga, but, if possible, to first win Chattanooga by a march as the enemy had done and then to fight for the country beyond, which could be done by compelling the enemy to evacuate Chattanooga and meet us on his communications at Stevenson or beyond.

Gen. Bragg and Gen. Polk pronounced the march impracticable on account of the difficulty of supplies. Gen Walker agreed with Buckner. Gen. Hill yielded to the question of supply. It was finally understood [page 12] that the movement was to be made with the whole army in such a manner as to press the enemy's left with a view, if he were defeated, to intercept his march upon Chattanooga. Buckner adopted this view when his suggestions were not carried.

Sept. 16. Army stationary but preparing rations; the subsistence question being a very difficult one. Orders were issued to move at daylight on the morrow.

Sept. 17 – With accustomed indecision the order to move at daylight was countermanded, but the order to march was again reiterated so that the [page 13] movement began about 9 A.M.

Buckner, by modified orders, camped on Peavine Creek 1 ½ miles N. E. of Rockspring Church. Walker, at and near Leets Tan Yard. Polk at and near Rockspring Church. Hill remained in position at Lafayette, Dug Gap, and Catlett's Gap. The cavalry demonstrated through those gaps.

Sept. 18 – Johnson's brigade of Stewart's division detached at Ringold, reinforced by four brigades of Hood's division, Longstreet's corps, from Virginia, march from Ringold to conform to the general movement [page 14] of the army. The following orders, successively issued on the 18<sup>th</sup> directed the movements.

“H. Q. A. Tenn. Leets Tan Yard  
Sept. 18, 1863

#### Circular

I. Maj Gen. W. H. T. Walker's division will move to Alexander's bridge or Byram's ? ford and then cross the Chickamauga

II II. Maj. Gen. Buckner will move on T[h]edford's ford and there cross the river.

Both these columns will be put in motion at 6 ½ a. m. this day.

None but ambulances and artillery wagons will move with the columns.

II.II.II. Lt. Gen. Polk will [page 15] move at the same hour and by pressing engage the attention of the enemy at Gordon's Mills and be prepared to move by his right flank to cross the river at the nearest ford.

II V. The cavalry of Gen. Pegram will cover the front of Buckner and Walker; and that of Gen. Armstrong the front of Gen. Polk.

By command of Gen. Bragg,  
(signed) George Wm. Brent  
A.A.G.”

These movements were in process of execution. The general staff had not arranged the routes well. Walker's column and Buckner's {encountered?} on the same road, part of [page 16] which was unnecessarily common to the two columns. Walker's column passed while Buckner waited and Cheatham was halted for Buckner at the {Hunts?} or Dalton's Ford Road. Before reaching positions at the river the following addition order was received.

“H. Q. Army of Tenn.  
In the Field  
Leet's Tan Yard

Sept. 18, 1863

Circular

- I. "Johnson's Column" (Hood's) on crossing at or near Reed's Bridge will turn to the left by the most practicable route and sweep up the Chickamauga toward Lee & Gordon's Mills. [page 17]
2. Walker crossing at Alexander's bridge or the fords near, will unite in this move and push vigorously on the enemy's flank and rear in the same direction.
3. Buckner crossing at T[h]edford's ford will join in this movement to the left and press the enemy up the stream from Polk's front at Lee & Gordon's mill.
4. Polk will press his forces to the front of Lee & Gordon's & if met by too much resistance to cross, will bear to the right and cross at Dalton's ford or T[h]edford's, as may be necessary, and join in the attack, wherever the enemy [page 18] may be.
5. Hill will cover our left flank from any advance of the enemy from the Cove upon our rear, and by pressing the cavalry in his front ascertain if the enemy is reinforcing at Lee & Gordon's, in which event he will attack them in flank.
6. Wheeler's cavalry will hold the Gaps in Pigeon Mountain and cover our rear and left, and bring up all stragglers, etc. etc.
7. All trains? etc. not with troops should go toward Ringold & Dalton beyond Taylor's Ridge. All cooking should be done at the trains; rations when [page 19] cooked will be forwarded to the troops.
8. The above movements will be executed with the utmost promptness, vigor, and persistence.

By command of Gen. Bragg  
(signed) George Wm. Brent  
A.A.G"

The above orders are subject to this general criticism – that whereas the enemy had been previously scattered and our army concentrated these orders dispersed our army on a number of disconnected routes, each column liable to make a partial and unsupported attack, while the enemy was concentrated in a central position. [page 20]

Early in the afternoon, after a brisk skirmish, Buckner occupied the crossing at T[h]edford's ford with Stewart's division, and of Hunts, or Dalton's ford with Preston's division. About the same time Walker with the loss of over 100 men, forced his way to Alexander's bridge; but being unable to cross on account of its partial destruction was compelled to move below and cross at Byram's? ford, which he did after dark.

In the meantime Hood crossed about night at Reed's bridge.

Orders were sent Buckner [page 21] and Walker to cross during the night and effect a junction in the forest beyond with Hood by unknown paths, without guides, and at the hazard of mistaking each other for the enemy. The impracticability of this being strongly represented the movement of Buckner and Walker was delayed until daylight. The positions then on the night of the 18<sup>th</sup> were about as follows:

Hood, on the west side of West Chickamauga opposite T[h]edford's Ford.

Walker, crossing at Byram's? ford and placing himself in communication [page 22] with Hood.

Buckner à cheval the Chickamauga at T[h]edford's and Hunt's (Dalton's) ford.

Cheatham in rear of Hunt's ford.

Hindman in observation of Lee & Gordon's mills.

Hill's corps, in observation of McLemore's Cove near Lafayette.

The enemy well concentrated in the vicinity of Lee & Gordon's mills. The movements of the day had been delayed from two causes which might have been foreseen. 1<sup>st</sup> from the long turning movement of Hood, who had been first marched from Ringold for Leet's [page 23] Tanyard, and afterwards countermarched via Ringold for Reed's bridge.

2<sup>nd</sup> The broken bridge at Alexander's which delayed the movement of Walker.

After night Buckner sent an urgent message to Gen. Bragg by Major Clare of Bragg's staff to this effect – that the demonstrations of the army during the day had fully developed our plan; that the enemy would necessarily make {dispositions?} during the night to meet the attack, and that, in order to carry out the plan and [page 24] force the enemy's left, our army should be directed the following morning to points lower down the Chickamauga; so that, in case of success, we could interpose between the enemy and Chattanooga. If this message was delivered it was not heeded. Orders were given to cross at daylight and carry out the movements prescribed for the previous day. During the night a {cou?tant} movement, apparently of artillery carriages was heard, tending to positions north of Lee & Gordon's mills. The [page 25] result showed that the enemy, {vesting? resting?} his right on Lee & Gordon's mills, had formed and partially intrenched a line facing the Chickamauga and covering the Chattanooga road; his left reaching to the vicinity of Reed's bridge in which vicinity, as also at Lee & G's Mills, his chief force was cavalry.

Sept. 19 – At daylight Buckner's corps completed the crossing at T[h]edford's and Hunt's.

Walker joined Hood. Cheatham crossed and formed in rear of Buckner. The following diagram will illustrate the positions [page 26] of our troops after the first formation of the morning, and continuing until nearly 10 o'clock A.M. {HAND DRAWN DIAGRAM OF AREA}

Notwithstanding the evident changes of position of the enemy during the night, Gen. Bragg seemed resolved [page 27] upon advancing upon Lee & Gordon's Mills. All remonstrations against the propriety of such a proceeding were vain. Gens. Hood & Walker urged its impolicy until reconnaissance should show the position of the enemy. From their bivouac in the position represented on the sketch, the mounting of artillery carriages had revealed a movement of the enemy toward their left. The sound of axes had also indicated the probability of their throwing up breastworks. These discussions took place while Buckner's corps was forming on Hood's left. Pending the discussions, Col. [page 28] Sheliha and Capt {Woolly?}, of Buckner's staff reported that from a height not far from Alexander's bridge they discovered a dense mass of dust over the Chattanooga road, which they estimate to be five miles long, and which, in their judgment indicated a concentration of the enemy towards his left. "{Alas? See?}," exclaimed Gen. Bragg, "I was afraid they would escape me." "I feared they would not fight me." But the determination maintained to press forward to Lee & Gordon's mills; and orders were given that, as soon as Buckner's corps [page 29] should be deployed, the whole front line of Hood & Buckner should move by the right flank, so that Preston's division should be {uncovered?} by the creek {preparing?} to a general advance.

Cheatham was to support Buckner in the movement, and Walker was to support Hood.

To the generals present the movement seemed worse than absurd. All remonstrated as fully as the position of subordinates permitted. It was their impression that we were {certainly?} out of positions, that the {distance?} of the attack was improper, [page 30] and that, with Hill's corps and half of Polk's out of the fight, the rest of the army was to encounter the whole force of

Rosencrans. Buckner, addressing Gen. Bragg, remarked, "Gen., I hope you will excuse my suggestions, but it seems to me that the movement you propose is extremely hazardous. Your right flank as you advance is, to use the French term, 'in the air,' and is liable to attack by the enemy's line on its flank, as you advance." "But General," exclaimed Bragg petulantly, "Where is the enemy to {cross? come?} from?" [page 31] "They may be, and probably are," replied Buckner, "in line of battle on the Chattanooga Road. We know that their movement last night tended toward their left, and there were indications of their throwing up entrenchments. It seems to me that you should not advance in the direction of the mills until you know the enemy's position." "But general," exclaimed Bragg, evidently with vexation, "do you suppose the enemy would take such a position and give us the water? He has no water in that position and he cannot therefore occupy it?" [page 32] "He has water in his rear as we have," returned Buckner, "and for that matter, can do without for a time as we can." This was in substance the conversation. It made no impression upon Gen. Bragg.

Gen. Forrest arrived. He reported that the enemy had seized and set fire to Reed's bridge, but had been driven away. He wanted infantry to support his cavalry in holding it against another threatened attack. Buckner remarked that this was another evidence of the enemy's concentration on his left. [page 33] For a moment Gen. Bragg seemed impressed with the fact, but the idea of Lee & Gordon's Mills was still too prominent in his mind to make room for any other. He ordered Gen. Walker to detach a brigade to support Forrest, but now delayed his advance toward the Mills until he could receive a report from an officer sent to reconnoiter. "He won't do," said Hood to Buckner. It was now near ten o'clock when a furious musketry fire, accompanied soon by that of artillery opened in the direction [page 34] of Walker's extreme right, which was the right near of the general line as it faced towards Lee & Gordon's Mills. "What the devil does that mean?" exclaimed Walker. "I believe it is an attack on my 'crowd'," he added, in a moment mounting his horse and galloping rapidly off in the direction of his troops.

A dispatch captured {near?} Buckner's bivouac on the battle-field on Kelly's farm on the night of the 20<sup>th</sup> will explain this firing. It is as follows. [page 35]

"Near Mc Daniel's House  
Sept. 19, 9 A. M.

Maj. Gen. Palmer,

The Rebels are reported in quite a heavy force between you and Alexander's Mills. If you advance as soon as possible on them in front while I attack them in flank I think we can use them up.

Respectfully, yr. obt. svt.  
(signed) Geo. H. Thomas  
Maj. Gen. Commanding."

To which the following reply was sent.

"H. Q. 2<sup>nd</sup> Div 21 Army Corps  
Gordon's Mills Sept. 19, 1863  
10 o'clock A. M.

"Gen.

Your note of 9 A.M. [page 36] rec'd. Col. Grose is gone on reconnaissance on our flank. As soon as he returns will advance as you propose.

Very respectfully,

(signed) J. M. Palmer”

“Maj Gen. Thomas,  
14<sup>th</sup> A. G.”

Thomas made his attack on the flank, which was the rear of Walker as he prepared to march and the right of his line as he faced when halted, about twenty minutes past ten A. M. Forrest had taken two of Walker’s brigades instead of one. They sustained the first attack of [page 37] Thomas’s corps and were driven back before the fearful odds. The gallant division commander rallied them and carried Liddell’s two brigades to their assistance. The enemy were first driven back; but Walker’s gallant division was again compelled to recoil before such preponderating numbers. Cheatham was hurried from his position to sustain Walker. He checked the enemy; drove them and in turn was driven back. Stewart’s division was sent to sustain Cheatham [page 38]. He entered the action on Cheatham’s left, drove the enemy by his attack, captured guns and prisoners; but Thomas’s reinforcements compelled him in turn to relinquish the conquered ground. In the meantime Palmer’s attack was made upon Hood who had advanced, making a partial conversion towards the right. For a time our men yielded to the attack. Hood’s left was driven for a short distance, and the enemy penetrated near the right of Preston, who [page 39] had been deployed in a single line, to occupy the space vacated by Stewart. But the fierce onset of the Virginia Veterans finally drove the enemy gradually backwards; aided, in the afternoon, by Trigg’s brigade of Preston’s division, sent to their support. In the meantime, at the beginning of the action, orders had been sent to hasten the march of Hill’s corps and the absent half of Polk’s corps. But they were not expected until late in the afternoon. The brunt of the battle was to be borne by [page 40] the troops already engaged, with two brigades of Preston holding the height on the left of the line which might serve as on pivot on which to turn in case of disaster. With varying fortune the day was fought. The roll of musketry, with occasional artillery, was incessant from 10 ½ A.M. until 5 P.M. when it ceased as if by {magic?}. About 4 P. M. Hindman arrived and was sent to sustain Hood; and about the same time Cleburne was sent to sustain the right; now under Lt. Gen. Polk who had arrived and assumed the direction of that part of the line. About dark, under his directions Cheatham made a sudden advance, taking possession after a brief, bloody contest, of an advantageous position in his front. After dark, Breckinridge arrived, crossing at Reed’s bridge, and was placed in line on the extreme right.

The advantages of the day were nearly equally balanced. We had gained some ground. Attacked at disadvantage, [page 42] we had fought, as it were by detachments, against a concentrated mass. Our loss had been heavy, but that of the enemy was greater. A part of Stewart’s line had at once time crossed the Chattanooga road, but had been compelled to retire. By night-fall, our lines had succeeded in fighting themselves into something like the following positions.

*Here ends the diary.*