

U.S.S. Racer

Office Paymaster Mortar Flotilla
Navy Yard Washington D.C.
December 4th 1862

Sir

You are hereby appointed
Paymaster Steward in charge, and will
report without delay to the Commanding
officer of the U.S. Mortar Schooner "Racer"
at Baltimore Md. for duty.

Recd. by Mr. Kelley being two months ad-
vance on the order of the Navy
Dec 12: 1862
Wm. H. Brown
clerk

pm
L. Davis
C. Hart
Indiana

I am Sir very respectfully
Dear obdy servant
C. H. Kirkendall

Reported Dec 11th 1862 Paymaster Mortar Flotilla
Morr. Phinney
Act. Master Comdr. "Racer"

Mortar Flotilla.

Special

William Lewis Bay

Engineer's Clerk

W. L. Bay

Promoted to Paymaster Clerk aboard U.S. Racer in the Potomac Flotilla on April 8, 1863 at an annual salary of \$400 and one ration.

U. S. S. "Racer"
Potomac Flotilla
April 8th 1863

Sir,

In consideration of the satisfactory manner in which you have performed your duties as Paymaster's Steward of this vessel, I have this day promoted you to the position of Paymaster's Clerk of the vessels of which I have the accounts - this appointment to date from the first inst. Your pay as Clerk will be \$400 - per annum and one ration - Trusting that this change will be as acceptable to you as it is

agreeable to me, I remain truly Yours
W. J. Davis Esq 3
Paymaster's Clerk 3
A. Kirkcudall Esq. Paymaster

U.S.S. Black Hawk

Transportation to U.S.S. Black Hawk on April 17, 1864 ordered by K.R. Breese, along with four other men. Davis received a cabin; the other four did not. Transport pass notes Empire Parish, presumably the steamer. Breese commanded Admiral Porter's flagship

U. S. S. Black Hawk
Alexandria La
April 17th 1864

Dear Sir

Will you please give transportation to this ship of Mr Davis Pay & Clerk and four men and oblige

Yours Obedt Servt.

K. R. Breese
Lieut.

Capt Welch
Pass for him
Alexandria

No. 300 DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF,
Office of Post Quartermaster,
ALEXANDRIA, LA., April 20, 1864.

Captain of any Steamer in the Government Employ will furnish transportation for Mr William Davis, Paymaster
asst clerk in the Navy and four men
to the Flag Steamer Black Hawk
Empire Parish
Thy Men of Ex Passage Capt. & A. C. M.

A second directive from K.R. Breese of April 17, 1864 to the "Paymaster of the first gunboat arriving in Alexandria."
Unidentified "naval stores" in Alexandria were to be receipted to Charles Kirkendall per orders from Admiral David D. Porter.
Would cotton have been delivered to a paymaster? Under command of Frank Church, the navy did guard cotton in Alexandria
April 15-22, 1864 and Will Davis did receive prize money for capturing cotton while serving on the Black Hawk.

Flag Ship Black Hawk
Alexandria -

April 17th 1864

Sir

You will take charge of the
Naval Stores at Alexandria and receipt
for them to Mr Kirkendall

By order of Admiral David D Porter

K R Breese

Lieut Comdr

To the

Paymaster of

First Gunboat arriving at Alex^a

7-13

13th April 1864
The Paymaster of the First Gunboat
arriving at Alexandria

Awarded \$37.73 (\$707 today) in prize money for his participation while serving on the U.S.S. Blackhawk when it captured cotton, probably in General Bank's Cotton Campaign at Red River, awarded by Smith Cutter of the Treasury Department on October 1, 1866 and notified on October 20, 1866, in keeping with an audit by Stephen J.W. Tabor. (Tabor had been appointed Fourth Auditor of the United States Treasury in 1863 and served for fifteen years)

Treasury Department,

Fourth Auditor's Office,

Oct 1st, 1866.

Sir,

Your letter of the 24th ultimo has been received. There is a balance of \$37.73 prize money due you for the U. S. S. "Black Hawk", and a certificate for same will be issued and forwarded as early as possible.

Very respectfully,
Your obt. Servant,
S. J. W. Tabor,
Auditor.

Will. J. Davis, Esq.
Chicago,
Illinois.

J.E.L. Care, Smith Cutter & Co.

Treasury Department,

Fourth Auditor's Office.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Stephen J. W. Tabor,
Auditor



Will. L. Davis

Chicago.

Care, Smith Cutler & Co.

Minneapolis.

(No. 27.)

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

FOURTH AUDITOR'S OFFICE,

October 30, 186*6*

SIR:

Herewith you will receive a Certificate for \$ *37.73*, payable by the
Paymaster at *New York*, which sum is
due *you as your* share of PRIZE MONEY accruing from
the CAPTURE of *the cotton*
by the U. S. S.

"Blackhawk"

Wm J. Davis

care Smith Cutler & Co

Adm. sir, respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

Chicago
Ills

S. J. W. Taber
Auditor.

James

Will Davis's souvenir ribbons. In mid August 1884 Davis attended the 17th reunion of the Army of the Tennessee in Lake Minnetonka, Minnesota commemorating the Vicksburg and Savannah campaigns. The gathering was presided over by General William Tecumseh Sherman. Former Minnesota governor Davis gave the keynote address, reading a letter from Ulysses S. Grant who had been scheduled to deliver the address but was still on crutches as a result of a fall and unable to attend.

