

inches On November 17th, 1864, the Right Wing marched from McDonough to Jackson, Enroute to Planter's Factory on the Ocmulgee River, where it was to cross into Jasper County the next day. South of Locust Grove, Woods' and Hazen's divisions, to facilitate the movement, took a road to the west of Jackson and camped near Liberty Church. Smith's and Corse's divisions continued their march through Jackson and camped east of town.

That same night, November 17th, the 14th Corps (Left Wing), commanded by Maj. Gen. J. C. Davis, had camped on the west bank of the Yellow River. Both the railroad and wagon bridges over the river having been destroyed. The Right Wing camped around Jackson the night of November 17th. That night Osterhaus (15th Corps) sent the 29th Missouri Mounted Infantry to seize the ferry at Planters' Factory on the Ocmulgee River at Seven Islands and to secure both banks of the river at that point for the passage of the troops on the next day.

On the morning of the 18th the Right Wing moved from its bivouacs to effect the passage at Planters' Factory on pontoon bridges to be laid by the 1st Missouri Engineers. Smith's division (15th Corps) moved first. Upon arrival, the 1st Brigade (McCowan), with the 4th Minnesota Infantry in advance, crossed on the ferry and entrenched on high ground east of the river. At 11:00 a.m. the pontoons arrived and, by 1:00 p.m., two bridges were ready.

Smith completed his crossing that afternoon and camped two miles from the river on the Hillsboro road, to wait for Hoods' and Hazen's divisions and to permit the cavalry to pass to the front. During the night Blair's 17th Corps crossed and moved via Monticello and Blountsville to avoid congestion on the Hillsboro road.

On the 19th, Kilpatrick's cavalry crossed and took the advance. He was followed by Woods and Hazen and several wagon trains. Heavy rains had made the steep hills on the east bank extremely difficult and the passage was not completed until the afternoon of the 20th when Corse's division of the 15th Corps

cleared the bridge site. Smith moved through Hillsboro and camped near the Jasper-Jones county line. Woods' and Hazen's divisions, 15th Corps, and the Artillery Brigade followed and camped in and around Hillsboro. Headquarters Right Wing (Howard) and Headquarters 15th Corps (Osterhaus) were established there for the night. On the 20th Smith, Woods and Hazen moved to Clinton and Blair to Blountsville (southeast). Corse,

who was crossing the Ocmulgee that day, did not reach Hillsboro until the 21st.

Kilpatrick, who had crossed the Ocmulgee on the 19th, reached Clinton that day and turned toward Macon, the Right Wing continuing toward Gordon. The infantry had marched from Atlanta almost unopposed but Kilpatrick had skirmished steadily with Wheeler who was now contesting his advance toward Macon.

The next morning he attacked the defences of East Macon. Repulsed by Wheeler and the Georgia Militia, he retired east to Griswoldville where he found Walcutt's Brigade, 15th Corps, posted there to protect the passage of the wagon trains of the Right Wing. They destroyed several miles of track, and burned the pistol factory, a soap and candle factory and other facilities in Griswoldville, but no further attempt was made on Macon during the March to the Sea.

The Right Wing was moving southeast toward Gordon where it would be in communication with the Left Wing at Milledgeville, to receive orders for the next move. The more direct roads to Gordon were already crowded with the troops and trains of the 15th Corps and with Kilpatrick's cavalry. So Blair's 17th Corps marched via Monticello and Blountsville toward Gordon. On the night of the 20th, the 17th Corps camped at Blountsville and along the road to Haddock with its advance guard near Fortville, well abreast of the 15th Corps which had reached Clinton that day.

On the 21st