

**Nicholas Gilman to President John Sullivan, New York, 7 November 1787
(excerpt)**

The most important news we have here is from Georgia, where they are under the greatest apprehensions of an open war with the Creek Nation, which, according to the account of the Georgia delegates, consists of seven or eight thousand fighting men. But, be that as it may, they have had several skirmishes, and the Indians' preparation for war is so alarming to the state, that they have thought proper to order all the slaves upwards of sixteen years of age within sixteen miles of Savannah, to be employed in fortifying that town. How these things will end time must reveal, but if we are to be much longer unblest with an efficient national government, destitute of funds and without public credit, either at home or abroad, I fear we shall become contemptible even in the eyes of savages themselves.

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