

**Extract of a Letter from Augusta, 15 October, Charleston *Columbian Herald*, 22 October 1787**

It is now two weeks this day since my arrival here, at which time only thirty members of the Assembly attended. There being a great necessity for forming a house, ten days further was allowed for collecting, and those who had been here some time were permitted to return home during that period. This is the day [15 October] on which they were to return; but, as they come in very slow, we begin to fear we shall not be able to form a house—if we do not by the 18th, we shall give up all hope and return to Savannah. Our lower country members are tardy, and our upper ones are generally engaged in defending their families and property on the frontiers. Should we fail in making a house, I know not what will be the consequences. It now appears absolutely necessary that an army of at least 2000 men be raised against the savages, who are numerous on our frontier counties, and in force round and near the forts and stations in which the inhabitants have taken shelter. They have killed, in all, fifty-one white and black. The ground on which General [Elijah] Clark fought first has been since examined and twenty-eight dead Indians found; his loss was six killed and twelve wounded. We have now on our frontiers a sufficient force to act on the defensive and cover the settlements from the depredations of the savages. In case the legislature does not meet, the Executive will declare the state in alarm, when martial law will in some measure take place. Much confusion and destruction of property may be then expected.

Cite as: The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution Digital Edition, ed. John P. Kaminski, Gaspare J. Saladino, Richard Leffler, Charles H. Schoenleber and Margaret A. Hogan. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2009.

Canonic URL: <http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/founders/RNCN-02-03-02-0003-0006-0005> [accessed 19 Nov 2012]

Original source: Ratification by the States, Volume III: Delaware, New Jersey, Georgia, and Connecticut