

Thomas Pinckney to Andrew Jackson, November 16, 1813, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

THOMAS PINCKNEY TO JACKSON.

Charleston, S. C., November 16, 1813.

Head Quarters Sixth District

Sir, The mail which arrived on Sunday last brought to me the President's order to take the direction of the expedition against the Creek Indians: I purpose in consequence thereof to set out for Milledgeville as soon as I shall have made some indispensable arrangements here.

1 Nov. 7, 1813, Daniel Parker, chief clerk of the War Department, notified Governor Blount that "Governor Mitchell [of Georgia] having declined a re-election, the President has ordered Major-General Pinckney to take direction of the Expedition against the hostile Indians".

I am as yet unapprized of the directions given by Governor Mitchell to whom the Command of the expedition was originally confided by the President, nor am I accurately informed of the present positions or actual force of the Enemy or of our own detachments. Until I shall have received more correct intelligence, it would be improper to issue instructions a compliance wherewith might be rendered inexpedient by circumstances of which I am ignorant: I think it right however to communicate to you a general outline of the mode in which I am at present of opinion this Campaign should be conducted which is herewith inclosed: but as more ample information may occasion an alteration in that

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opinion, you will please to act in conformity to it, only so far as your knowledge of the present circumstances may induce you to think it expedient.

You will please, Sir, by the return of the Messenger who conveys this, to inform me of your present position and intended movements, of your present supply and future prospect of provision and other necessaries, together with all the information concerning the Enemy which you may have obtained.

You will also please to order the Officer acting as Adjutant General to the detachment under your command to make a return of the Troops of the State of Tennessee in the Service of the United States upon the expedition against the Creek Indians, to the Adjutant General of the 6th Military District at Milledgeville: and if you will please, Sir, to communicate to me your ideas of the best mode of conducting the operations of the Campaign your suggestions will be received and attended to with all the respect due to your military rank and personal character.

I have the honor to be very respectfully