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**Letter from the Secretary of War, on the resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Georgia, in relation to the suffering condition of the friendly Creek Indians, &c. which had been referred to him by the House of Representatives to report thereupon.**

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**FRIENDLY CREEK INDIANS.**

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**LETTER**

FROM

**THE SECRETARY OF WAR,**

ON THE

RESOLUTIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA,

IN RELATION TO

**THE SUFFERING CONDITION**

OF THE

**FRIENDLY CREEK INDIANS, &C.**

WHICH HAD BEEN REFERRED TO HIM BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO  
REPORT THEREUPON.

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FEBRUARY 6, 1827.

Read, and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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WASHINGTON:

PRINTED BY GALES & SEATON.

1827.

THE RECORDS OF THE

OF THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF

1878

OF THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF

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OF THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF

## DEPARTMENT OF WAR,

2d February, 1827.

To the Hon. the SPEAKER  
of the House of Representatives of the U. S.

SIR : I have the honor, under the order of the House of Representatives, of the 23d instant, discharging the Committee of Indian Affairs from the further consideration of the resolution of the Legislature of the State of Georgia, in relation to the suffering condition of the friendly Creek Indians, and referring the same to the Secretary of War, with instructions to report thereupon to the House of Representatives, to state, that there is no data on which to form an estimate of the claims of those citizens of Georgia, in whose behalf the resolution of the Legislature of that State of the 20th ultimo was adopted ; and if there were, that there are no means at the disposal of the Executive to afford it.

Should the claimants, respectively, think proper to submit their claims, they will be acted on, as other claims have been ; or, if necessary, referred to Congress for its consideration, together with such evidence in support of them, as may be furnished. Measures were taken with the view of relieving the suffering condition of the "friendly Creek Indians," at the period of the rupture of those ties which had previously bound them together, and when the friends and followers of the late General McIntosh fled from their homes to the frontiers of Georgia—the nature of which may be inferred from the following extracts of letters addressed by the Department on the 18th May, 1825, and 30th January, 1826 ; the first to Major General Gaines, the last to the Honorable Thomas W. Cobb, to whom the contractors, Messrs. Baley and Ware, had transmitted their claims for rations, &c. for settlement with the Department.

*Extract to Major General Gaines.*

"Governor Troup informs us, that a considerable number of the Creeks have fled their country, from an apprehension that they might become the victims of their enemies, and must be reduced to great necessity ; humanity requires that their calamitous condition should be mitigated as far as practicable. You will cause rations to be distributed to them, and those that are disposed to return to their country, you will take under your protection."

*Extract to the Honorable Thomas W. Cobb.*

"Although orders were given that, after a given period, supplies of rations to the Indians for subsistence would cease, yet the Department will not only open the case, as stated, in regard to the present

claim, but will include in it any *well authenticated claim* which may be submitted in the usual form of ration returns, even up to the time when the fate of these People may be decided on by the present Congress."

All accounts that have been received at the Department in regard to this subject have been acted on, either by a settlement, or reference for settlement; and such as may come in will be attended to in like manner, unless, from their character, it may be deemed best to lay them before Congress. Under either mode, however, where an allowance may be made, it will require an appropriation to pay it, the appropriation that could have been made applicable to this object being exhausted.

The treaty concluded in this city on the 24th January, 1826, and the acts of Congress touching the subject of the Creek Indians, have been all acted on.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES BARBOUR.