

Article Title: Savannah, Feb. 16. Extract of a letter from a gentleman at St. Mary's. Bowles has raided the Fatio plantation of slaves and has also harmed the settlement of Judge Hull near Smyrna.

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SAVANNAH, Feb 16.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in the town of St. Mary's, dated 10th February, 1802stating a few absolute facts.

" I am sorry to inform you that our neighbours in East Florida are in a dreadful situation at present. That infamous fellow Bowles has at length brought the Indians and Spaniards to open hostility. Four months past, the Machasooky Town Indians, (where Gen. Bowles makes his head quarters) took from the plantation of F. P. Fatio, Esq. on the river St. John's, 49 of his negroes, which were conveyed to Bowles ; Mr. Fatio's son followed a few weeks after to the Indian town, and saw Bowles, but could not recover one of his negroes, and not without great difficulty got back himself, being greatly insulted, and having his horses taken from him. A gentleman from New England named Hull, (commonly called Judge Hull) obtained from the governor of Florida, leave to form an extensive settlement at the Metanzas, about 60 miles to the southward of St. Augustine, the same spot where Dr. Turnbull had his Creek Settlement. Mr. Hull had brought from the northward, a number of settlers, with whom he began to prepare for planting : but Bowles's Indians came ; whipped some ; plundered the whole of them of every thing they had, and drove them out of the country. This took place about a month or six weeks past.About 3 weeks ago a party of the same Indians plundered Mr. Dupong, who lived about 30 miles south of St. Augustine, of ten grown negroes, and the same day killed a young man named Bonnelly, carried off his mother and three sisters.Four days past, a party of friendly Indians, who had been selling their deerskins, horses, c. in this town, and who were well known to belong to towns who never favored Bowles's measures where met by some of the inhabitants of Florida, within three or four miles of this place, on the Spanish territory, when four of them were shot. This ill-timed imprudent act, will in all probability, bring a Creek war on the Floridas. The thinly scattered inhabitants are flying in all directions for safety some to St. Augustine, some to the Islands on the sea coast, and several have come on our side of the St. Mary's river. It is now evident that all the settlements in Florida will be totally broke up ; and of course, those restless Americans who have gone there, will with themselves once more quietly settled under a government which is both willing and able to protect the lives and property of its citizens. What renders the situation of the planters in Florida more deplorable is, that the whole force of the province, (militia included) is by no means equal to meet three hundred Indians in the woods. And to this, that there is not a single military post on the frontier towards the Indians. Poor encouragement this, indeed, for emigrants to that country."