

"patriotism of Tennessee leave no doubt but that a succession of
 "cases competent to the objects of government, will be reg-
 "ularly provided." Thus you perceive that the President
 had resolved not to exercise the discretionary power, ves-
 ted in him by the act of 1812, of suspending the act of 1795,
 by calling out the militia for a greater term than three
 months. Gov. Blount, in his letter of the 5th of January
 1814, to the Secretary of War, written many days before
 the Secretary's reply to his letter of the 10th of Dec. could
 possibly have reached him, expressed the opinion, that
 the term of three months would be better for the pub-
 lic's service, & less disgusting to the militia, than a lon-
 ger term. It is as follows. "The troops here to fore order-
 "ed out on that expedition, (against the Creeks,) having
 "performed a ³three months tour, & thereby having, in their o-
 "pinion, done their duty, (and there being here no in-
 "structions to the contrary,) having mostly returned to
 "their homes, is a reason why my order was given,
 " & from a sense of duty arising from my belief of
 "the actual necessity of keeping up an imposing force
 "in this quarter for the safety of this frontier, & to meet
 "the just expectations of Government in relation to
 "an effective force being in the field to effect the ob-
 "jects of the Campaign ordered against the Creeks.
 "The tour of duty mentioned is the most congenial to
 "the feelings & expectations of militia; hence the bet-
 "ter to promote the good of the service, that term was
 "mentioned, together with the hope that in time, the cam-
 "paign would be over. The idea of a longer term
 "to militia, who, I believe are all alive to a sense
 "of duty, and anxious for a vigorous & effectual
 "prosecution of the Campaign to the final accomplish-