

Transcription

Recognize the independence of the Confederate States

Mr. President, I beg leave to offer the following resolutions, which I ask may be referred to the Committee on Federal Relations:

Resolved, That, in the present political complications of our country, it is the duty of the Congress of the United States to recognize the separate and independent nationality of the States that have united themselves under the name of the Confederate States of America.

That, concurrently with such recognition, a treaty should be made between the two Governments, which treaty should, among other things, fix, 1st, the perpetual prohibition of the African slave trade, and 2d, the free navigation of the Mississippi river.

Citation: Speech of John Echols, of Monroe County, in the Virginia Convention, March 1, 1861, printed in George H. Reese and William H. Gaines, Jr., eds., *Proceedings of the Virginia State Convention of 1861* (Richmond: Virginia State Library, 1965), 1:275–276.