

## Transcription

### "We are in favor of a National Convention"

#### Our Position.

*First.*— We are in favor of a National Convention to consider the causes of grievance between the North and South. We desire to meet the North face to face, and calmly, deliberately and firmly present our *ultimatum*. We wish to make no *demand* upon a sovereign State—for that would conflict with the doctrine of State Rights—but, appealing to the reason, the justice and patriotism of the North, lay down the conditions which we will resolutely stand by as a *sine qua non* to further existence in a common Confederacy. Failing in which, let there be a peaceable arrangement for division, upon pretty much the same idea that the M. E. Church separated.

*Second.*— Dissolution having been determined upon, we favor a *Border State Convention*, the object of which to be the declaration of the conditions upon which we are willing to unite in a Southern Confederacy, embracing two prominent specifications—a clause forever prohibiting the re-opening of the African Slave trade, and discountenancing any entangling alliances with any foreign power.

*Third.*— Should these terms be rejected by the Cotton States, then we will favor the formation of a Border State Confederacy, embracing Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, and if willing to unite, North Carolina and Georgia.

These are our views. We have no idea of "hitching" on to the Cotton States, on any other conditions than those we may prescribe ourselves. They must come to us—we can never go to them without depreciating our position and losing our self-respect. We have all to lose as Border States—they, as Gulf States, nothing, comparatively.

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