

results which forbid any renewal of proposals from it to that Government.

If any further assurance of the desire of this Government for peace were necessary, it would be sufficient to observe that, being formed of a confederation of sovereign States, each acting and deciding for itself, the right of every other sovereign State to the same self-action and self-government is necessarily acknowledged. Hence, conquests of other States are wholly inconsistent with the fundamental principles, and subversive of the very organization of this Government. Its policy cannot but be peace—peace with all nations and people.

Very respectfully,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Messrs. McKaig, Yellott and Harding, Committee of Maryland  
Legislature.