

of sister Southern States in a new Confederacy, based on the same principles as the present. Having no ulterior and unavowed purposes to accomplish, seeking peace and friendship with all people, determined that her slave population, not to increase by importations from Africa, shall not be localized and become redundant by excess of growth beyond liberty of expansion, she most cordially invites the concurrent action of all States, having common sympathies and common interests. Under an abolition government, the slave-holding States will be placed under a common ban of proscription and an institution, interwoven in the very frame-work of their social and political being, must perish, gradually or speedily, with the government in active hostility to it. Instead of the culture and development of the boundless capacities and productive resources of their peculiar system, it is to be assaulted, humbled, dwarfed, degraded and finally crushed out.

To some of the States, delaying action for new territories, the question of submission to a dominant abolition majority, is presented in a different aspect from what it was a few weeks ago. One State has seceded, others will soon follow. Without discussing the original propriety of such a action, the remaining Southern States must act on the facts as they exist, whether of their creation or approval or not. To unite with the seceded States is to be their peers as Confederates and have an identity of interests, protection of property and superior advantages in the contests for markets a monopoly of which has been hitherto enjoyed by the North. To refuse Union with the seceding States is to accept inferiority, to be deprived of an outlet for surplus slaves and to remain in a hostile government in remediless dependence and a hopeless minority.

It gives me pleasure to be the medium of communication with you and through you to the Legislature of Maryland, when it shall be convened.

I trust that between Maryland and Alabama and other States, having a homogeneous population, kindred interests and an inviting future of agricultural, mining, mechanical, manufacturing, commercial and political success, a Union, strong as the tie of affection and lasting as the love of liberty, will soon be formed, which shall stand as a model of a free, representative, Constitutional, voluntary Republic.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,
 Your obedient servant
 J. L. Curry
 Annapolis, Maryland.