

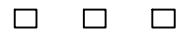
The War for Southern Independence

Part 5

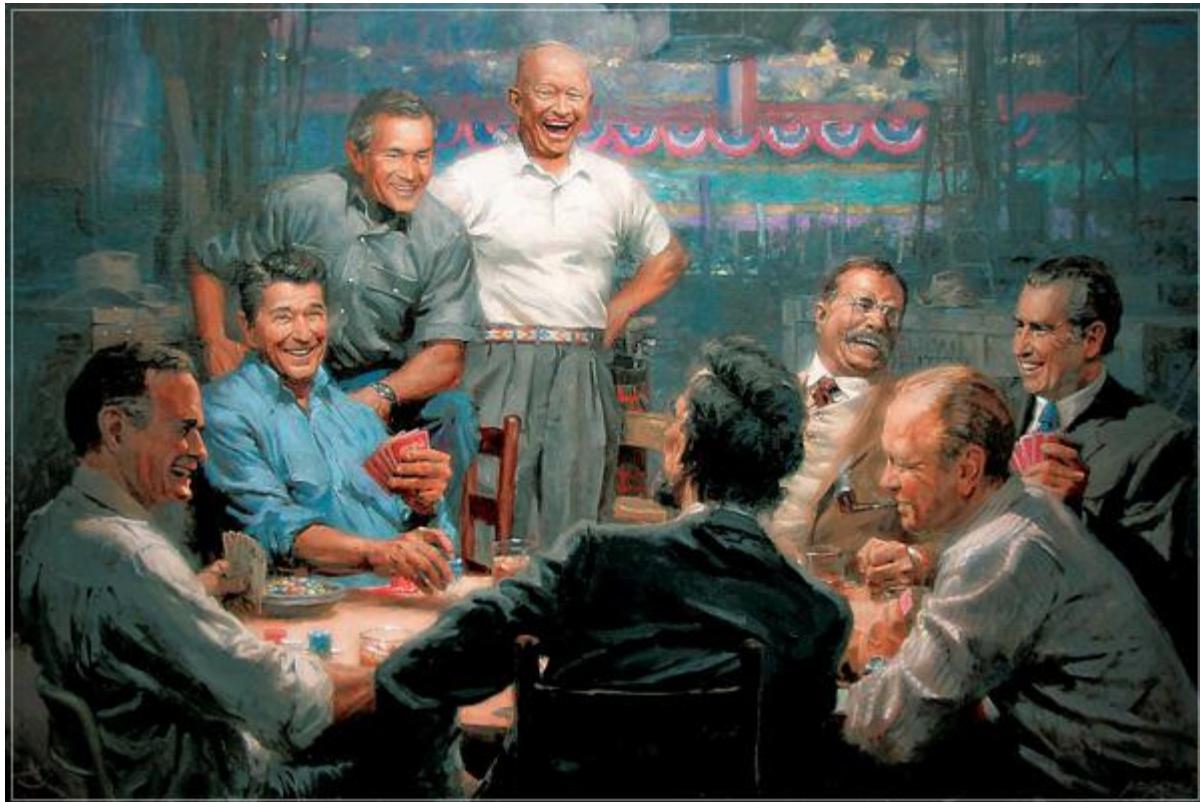
in
their own words

their own

words



How did you get the
nickname "Honest Abe"?
Did you think of that
all by yourself?



Introduction

These are quotes related to the Civil War. Most are from people who were involved in the war (in one way or another), or who observed it.

① John Adams (from Massachusetts):

Argument might have some weight in the abolition of slavery in Massachusetts, but the real cause was the multiplication of labouring white people, who would no longer suffer the rich to employ these sable rivals so much to their injury. The common people would not suffer the labor, by which alone they could obtain a subsistence, to be done by slaves. If the gentlemen had been permitted by law to hold slaves, the common white people would have put the slaves to death, and their masters too perhaps.

① “Aunt” Adeline (Slave, Fayetteville, AR):

After the war many soldiers [Yankees] came to my mistress, Mrs Blakely, trying to make her free me. I told them I was free but I did not want to go anywhere, that I wanted to stay in the only home that I ever known. . . . Sometimes I was threatened for not leaving but I stayed on.

① Articles of Confederation (in Article II):

Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom, and independence, and every power, jurisdiction, and right, which is not by this Confederation expressly delegated to the United States in Congress assembled.

Do not confuse the
Articles of Confederation
with the
Confederate Constitution.

① Jeremiah S Black (Judge, Pennsylvania):

John Quincy Adams, in 1839, and Abraham Lincoln, 1847, make elaborate arguments in favor of the legal right of a State to Secede.

① George Washington Bolton (Confederate soldier)

You seem to be in low spirits and
fearful we will not gain our
Independence. So long as there is
an arm to raise in defense of

Bolton, a member of the
Twelfth Louisiana Volunteer Infantry,
sent this in a letter home.

Southern liberties there is still hope. We must prove ourselves worthy of establishing an independent Government.

ⓘ) Gus Brown (Slave, Richmond, VA):

I cannot forget old massa. He was good and kind. He never believed in slavery, but his money was tied up in slaves and he didn't want to lose all he had. I know I will see him in heaven and even though I have to walk ten miles for a bite of bread, I can still be happy to think about the good times we had then.

ⓘ) James S Buckingham (1842, English abolitionist):

This is only one among the many proofs I had witnessed of the fact, that the prejudice of color is not nearly so strong in the South as in the North. [In the South] it is not at all uncommon to see the black slaves of both sexes, shake hands with white people when they meet, and interchange friendly personal inquiries; but at the North I do not remember to have witnessed this once; and neither in Boston, New York, or Philadelphia would white persons generally like to be seen shaking hands and talking familiarly with blacks in the streets.

ⓘ Don Carlos Buell (Union Gen)¹

[Turchin] allowed his command to disperse and in his presence or with his knowledge and that of his officers to plunder and pillage the inhabitants. . . . They attempted an indecent outrage on a servant girl . . . destroyed a stock of . . . fine Bibles and Testaments . . . defaced and kicked about the floor and trampled under foot. . . . A part of the brigade went to the plantation . . . and quartered in the negro huts for weeks, debauching the females. . . . Mrs Hollingsworth's house was entered and plundered. . . . The alarm and excitement occasioned miscarriage and subsequently her death. . . . Several soldiers . . . committed rape on the person of a colored girl. . . . The court finds the accused [guilty as charged] . . . and does therefore sentence . . . Colonel J B Turchin . . . to be dismissed from the service of the United States. . . . It is a fact of sufficient notoriety that similar disorders . . . have marked the course of Colonel Turchin's command wherever it has gone.

Gen Buell was commander of the Army of the Ohio. He wrote this regarding the court-martial of one of his officers, Col John B Turchin. It was published on

August 6, 1862.

AL responded to the court-martial conviction by promoting Turchin to Brigadier Gen of the United States Volunteers on

August 5, 1862

Also see: *Marcellus Mundy*.

ⓘ C C Burr (Editor of *The Federal Government: Its True Nature and Character*, by Judge Upshur):²

The name of our federation is not Consolidated States, but United States. A number of States held together by coercion, or the point of the bayonet, would not be a Union. Union is necessarily voluntary – the act of choice, free association. Nor can this voluntary system be changed to one of force without the destruction of “The Union”. The

¹ SRK, p30-31

² SRK, p32-34

Austrian Empire is composed of several States, as the Hungarians, the Poles, the Italians, etc, but it cannot be called a Union – it is Despotism. Is the relation between Russia and bayonet-held Poland a Union? Is it not an insult and a mockery to call the compulsory relation between England and Ireland a Union? In all these cases there is only such a union as exist between the talons of the hawk and the dove, or between the jaws of the wolf and the lamb. A Union of States necessarily implies separate sovereignties, voluntarily acting together. And to bruise these distinct sovereignties into one mass of power is, simply, to destroy the Union – to overthrow our system of government.

① Robert A Cameron (Union Gen):

I heard by rumor . . . one of [Union Capt Columbus Moore's] men had attempted to rape a mulatto girl and had shot and killed her for resisting.

① John Esten Cooke (Author, on Confederate Gen Wade Hampton):

It was plain that he thought nothing of personal decorations or military show, and never dreamed of producing an impression upon any one. . . . After being in his presence for ten minutes, you saw that he was a man for hard work, and not for display.

① Betty Curlett (Slave, Hazen, AR):

When Mars Daniel come home he went to my papa's house and says "John, you free". He says, "I been free as I wanter be whah I is". He went on to my grandpa's house and says, "Toby, you are free!" He raised up and says, "You brought me here from Africa and North Carolina and I goiner' stay wid you as long as ever I get sompin to eat. You gotter look after me!" Mars Daniel say, "Well I ain't runnin' nobody off my place as long as they behave". Purtnigh every nigger set tight till he died of the old sets. Mars Daniel say to grandpa, "Toby you ain't my nigger". Grandpa raise up and say, "I is too".

① Jefferson Davis: (Confederate President):

All we ask is to be let alone.

Regarding the “extension” of slavery into the territories.

The question was merely whether the slaveholder should be permitted to go with his slaves, into territory (the common property of all) into which the non-slaveholder could go with his property of any sort. There was no proposal nor desire on the part of the Southern States to reopen the slave-trade, which they had been foremost in suppressing, or to add to the number of slaves. . . . Indeed, if emancipation was the end to be desired, the dispersion of the negroes over a wider area among additional Territories, eventually to become States, and in climates unfavorable to slave labor, instead of hindering, would have promoted this object by diminishing the difficulties in the way of ultimate emancipation.³

From Davis's
Second Inaugural Address.

The people of the States now confederated became convinced that the Government of the United States had fallen into the hands of a sectional majority, who would pervert that most sacred of all trusts to the destruction of the rights which it was pledged to protect. They believed that to remain longer in the Union would subject them to continuance of a disparaging discrimination, submission to which would be inconsistent with their welfare, and intolerable to a proud people. They therefore determined to sever its bounds and established a new Confederacy for themselves.

The experiment instituted by our revolutionary fathers, of a voluntary Union of sovereign States for purpose specified in a solemn compact, had been perverted by those who, feeling power and forgetting right, were determined to respect no law but their own will. The Government had ceased to answer the ends for which it was ordained and established. To save ourselves from a revolution which, in its silent but rapid progress,

³ CWC, p8

was about to place us under the despotism of numbers, and to preserve in spirit, as well as in form, a system of government we believed to be peculiarly fitted to our condition, and full of promise for mankind, we determined to make a new association, composed of States homogeneous in interest, in policy, and in feeling. True to our traditions of peace and our love of justice, we sent commissioners to the United States to propose a fair and amicable settlement of all questions of public debt or property which might be in dispute. But the Government at Washington, denying our right to self-government, refused even to listen to any proposals for peaceful separation. Nothing was then left to do but to prepare for war. . . .

Fellow-citizens, after the struggle of ages had consecrated the right of the Englishman to constitutional representative government, our colonial ancestors were forced to vindicate the birthright by an appeal to arms. Success crowned their efforts, and they provided for their posterity a peaceful remedy against future aggression.

The tyranny of the unbridled majority, the most odious and least responsible form of despotism, has denied us both the right and the remedy. Therefore we are in arms to renew such sacrifices as our fathers made to the holy cause of constitutional liberty. . . .

Jefferson Davis' wife, regarding
Union Capt Charles T Hudson,
who after the war kidnapped
the Davis' adopted son, Jim Limber.

[He is] an extremely rude
and offensive man,
certainly no military
gentleman.

① George W Deitzler (Union Col)

The people complain bitterly of the outrages committed by a portion of [Union] Gen Mitchell's brigade.⁴

Written to Union Brig Gen Isaac F Quinby, Columbus, Kentucky, Jun 26, 1862.

① John A Dix (Union Gen):

[Union] Col Dodge . . . has allowed his men to plunder the country.⁵

Written to Union Gen John J Peck, Suffolk, VA, Feb 19, 1863.

① Sarah and Tom Douglas (Slaves, AL):

Slavery times wuz sho good times. We wuz fed an' clothed an' had nothin' to worry about. . . .

① George Cary Eggleston (Confederate veteran):

It was a soft, dreamy, deliciously quiet life, a life of repose, an old life, with all its sharp corners and rough surfaces long ago worn round and smooth. Everything fitted everything else, and every point in it was so well settled as to leave no work of improvement for anybody to do. The Virginians were satisfied with things as they were, and if there were reformers among them, they went elsewhere to work their changes. Society in the old Dominion was like a well-rolled and closely packed gravel walk, in which each pebble had found precisely the place it fits best. There was no giving way under one's feet, no uncomfortable grinding of loose materials as one walked about over the firm and long-used ways of Virginia social life. . . . The Virginians were born conservatives, constitutionally opposed to change. They loved the old because it was old, and disliked the new because it was new; for newness and rawness were well-nigh the same in their eyes.

⁴ SRK, p279

⁵ SRK, p279

◎ William H Emory (Union Brig Gen):

[Due to] the plunder of innocent women and children . . . death would not atone for their [his troops'] crimes.⁶

Morganza, LA, Jun 3, 1864,
in General Order Number 53,
regarding the conduct of his own troops.

◎ Nathan Bedford Forrest (Confederate Gen):

I am not an enemy of the negro . . . We want him here among us; he is the only laboring class we have, and more than that, I would sooner trust him than the white scalawag or carpetbagger.

I have no powder to burn killing negroes. I intend to kill the radicals [Radical Republicans]. . . . I have told them that they were trying to create a disturbance and then slip out and leave the consequences to fall upon the negro; but they can't do it.

◎ Captain Arthur L. Fremantle (British Military Observer):

This little episode of a Southern slave leading a white Yankee soldier through a Northern village, alone and of his own accord, would not have been gratifying to an abolitionist, . . . nor would the sympathizers both in England and in the North feel encouraged if they could hear the language of detestation and contempt with which the numerous Negroes with Southern armies speak of their liberators.

⁶ SRK, p280

① John C Fremont (Union Maj, St Louis, Aug 10, 1861):

Many [Southern citizens] . . . were fired upon not by single shots but volleys, in the presence but without the command of the [Union] officers. . . . [Union] Soldiers have repeatedly fired from trains at quiet, peaceful [Southern] citizens.⁷

① J F C Fuller (British military historian):

From the purely legal point of view, Jefferson Davis was correct; consequently, when in 1861 the Southern States seceded they had the law on their side. But what Jefferson Davis did not see was that the great industrial revolution was rapidly merging the individual states into 'one great consolidated State', and that the forces of circumstances had in fact replaced law.

① Jane Georgianna (Slave, AL):

Ole Marster dead an' gone an' Ole Mistis too, but I 'members 'em jus lak dey was, when dey looked atter us whenst we belonged to 'em or dey belong to us, I dunno which it was. De times was better fo' de war. . . .

① James Gill (Slave, Marvell, AR):

All dem good times ceasted atter a while when de War come and de Yankees started all dere debbilment. . . .

① Cora Gillam (Slave, Little Rock, AR):

I'll tell you lady, if the rough element from the North had stayed out of the South the trouble of reconstruction would not have happened. . . . They tried to excite the colored against their white friends. The white folks was still kind to them what had been their slaves. They would have helped them get started. I know that. I always say that if the South could of been left to adjust itself both white and colored would have been better off.

⁷ SRK, p278

① Ulysses S Grant (Union Gen, President):

War seems much less horrible to persons engaged in it than to those who read of battles.⁸

These are instructions issued by Grant to Maj Gen David Hunter, Aug 5, 1864.

In pushing up the Shenandoah Valley . . . it is desirable that nothing should be left to invite the enemy to return. . . . Such as cannot be consumed destroy . . .⁹

Rebellion has assumed that shape now that it can only terminate by the complete subjugation of the South. . . . It is our duty to weaken the enemy, by destroying their means of subsistence, withdrawing their means of cultivating their fields, and in every other way possible.¹⁰

Apr 11, 1863

The only way to whip an army is to go straight out and fight it.

My inclination is to whip the rebellion into submission, preserving all constitutional rights [including the right to slavery]. If it cannot be whipped in any other way than through a war against slavery, let it come to that legitimately.

⁸ CWC, p204

⁹ SRK, 283

¹⁰ SRK, p287-288

The Jews, as a class, violating
every regulation of trade
established by the Treasury
Department, and also
Department [of the Tennessee]
orders, are hereby expelled from
the Department [of the
Tennessee].

From Grant's General Order No 11,

issued Dec 1862.

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Grant, in spite of appearances,
was not an anti-Semite. He didn't hate Jews;
he hated greedy people.

(1) Horace Greeley (Editor of the *New York Tribune*, abolitionist):

If the Declaration of Independence justified the secession of 3,000,000 colonists in 1776, I do not see why the Constitution ratified by the same men should not justify the secession of 5,000,000 of the Southerners from the Federal Union in 1861.

We have repeatedly said, and we once more insist that the great principle embodied by Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence that government derives its power from the consent of the governed is sound and just, then if the Cotton States, the Gulf States or any other States choose to form an independent nation they have a clear right to do it.

The right to secede may be a revolutionary one, but it exists nevertheless; and we do not see how one party can have a right to do what another party has a right to prevent. We must ever resist the asserted right of any State to remain in the Union and nullify or defy the laws thereof; to withdraw from the Union is another matter. And when a section of our Union resolves to go out, we shall resist any coercive acts to keep it in. We hope never to live in a Republic where one section is pinned to the other section by bayonets.

① Henry W Halleck (Union Maj Gen):

The conduct of the forces under Lane . . . has done more for the enemy in this State than could have been accomplished by 20,000 of his own army. . . . I receive almost daily complaints of outrages committed by these men in the name of the United States, and the evidence is so conclusive as to leave no doubt of their correctness. It is rumored that Lane has been made a brigadier-general. I cannot conceive of a more injudicious appointment. . . . Its effect . . . is offering a premium for rascality and robbing generally.¹¹

In a letter to Gen McClellan regarding Union Gen James H Lane.

General Grant . . . directs that . . . you . . . make all the valleys south of the Baltimore and Ohio road a desert.

Relaying instructions to his officers.

① Wade Hampton (Confederate Cavalry Commander):

If we were wrong in our contest, then the Declaration of Independence was a grave mistake, and the Revolution to which it led was a crime . . . If Washington was a patriot, Lee cannot have been a rebel; if the enunciation of the grand truths in the Declaration of Independence made Jefferson immortal, the observance of them could not have made Davis a traitor.¹²

I am willing to send negroes to Congress. They will be better than anyone who can take the oath and I should rather trust them than renegades or Yankees.¹³

¹¹ SRK, p285

¹² CWC, p296

¹³ CWC, p294

From my heart I wish that every old man and boy in my country who can fire a gun would shoot down, as he would a wild beast, the men who are desolating their land, burning their homes, and insulting their women.¹⁴

My own mind is made up. As to my course I shall fight as long as my government remains in existence, for I shall never take the oath of allegiance. I am sorry that we paused to negotiate, for to my apprehension, no evil can equal that of a return to the Union.¹⁵

Disenfranchised, an unpardonable and unrepentant rebel, I live solely to try to help my State, and failing that, to suffer with her.¹⁶

Are the people of the State, willing, by the adoption of a new and totally different constitution, to ignore all the teachings of the past, to subvert the whole order of society, to change, in a moment, its whole organization, and, in a word, to commit political suicide?¹⁷

Said during the South Carolina debate over adopting a new state constitution that Reconstruction authorities would accept.

Regarding the John Brown incident and the North's reaction to it.

I have not, sir, heretofore apprehended a dissolution of the Union – I have always desired its preservation. . . . But – I say this with deep conviction of its truth, though with profound regret – unless an entire revolution of public sentiment takes place at the North – unless that spirit of hostility towards us, that seems to have spread like some

¹⁴ CWC, p292

¹⁵ CWC, p293

¹⁶ CWC, p293

¹⁷ CWC, p293

dread pestilence through-out their land, is rebuked, and speedily and effectually by the good and true men of the North . . . unless that religion which preaches rapine and murder is superseded . . . I do not see how the Union can be or should be preserved.

◎ A P Hill (Confederate Gen):

'Tis a fact that the ladies of Mexico are beautiful – and oh how beautiful – but very few of them have ever read *Wayland's Moral Science* . . .¹⁸

Shame, shame upon you all,
good citizens. Virginia must
crawl unless you vindicate good
order or discipline and hang
every son of a bitch connected
with this outrage.

Hill's reaction to the news that in his home state
a black man accused of killing a white man
was hanged without a trial.

Did I not tell you to go away from
here, and did you not promise to
obey my orders? Why, one shot
from that battery over yonder may
presently deprive the Confederacy
of its President and the Army of Northern Virginia of its commander!

Hill, scolding his bosses,
Jefferson Davis and Robert E Lee,
when they didn't hurry off the battlefield.

◎ Elija Henry Hopkins (Slave, Little Rock, AR):

I was fed just like I was one of the [master's] children. They even done put me to bed with them. You see, this discrimination on color wasn't as bad then as it is now. They handled you as a slave but they didn't discriminate against you on account of color like they do now. In slavery times, a poor white man was worse off than a nigger.

¹⁸ CWC, p246

① S A Hurlbut (Union Gen):

The amount of plundering and bribery that is going on in and about . . . Memphis is beyond all calculation. . . . Soldiers are bribed, officers are bribed, and the accursed system is destroying the army.¹⁹

Mar 1863, in a report to Gen Grant.

① Thomas Jonathan (Stonewall) Jackson (Confederate Gen):

If the North denies Virginia the rights guaranteed to us by the Constitution of our country, if the North should endeavor to subjugate us, and thus excite our slaves to servile insurrection in which our families will be murdered without quarter or mercy, it becomes us to wage such a war as will bring hostilities to a speedy close. People who are anxious to bring on war don't know what they are bargaining for; they don't see all the horrors that must accompany such an event. For myself I have never yet been induced to believe that Virginia will even have to leave the Union.

Mrs Jackson, after the general's death, describing his views on slavery.

He would have preferred to see the negroes free, but he believed that the Bible taught that slavery was sanctioned by the Creator himself, who

maketh men to differ, and instituted laws for the bond and the free. He therefore accepted slavery, as it existed in the Southern States not as a thing desirable in itself, but as allowed by Providence for ends it was not his business to determine.

¹⁹ SRK, p283

Captain, my religious belief teaches me to feel as safe in battle as in bed. God fixed a time for my death. I do not concern myself about that, but to be always ready, no matter when it may overtake me. Captain, that is the way all men should live, and then all would be equally brave.²⁰

Jackson's response to a captain who asked how he (Jackson) managed to remain so unruffled in the heat of battle.

(i) Ku Klux Klan (General Order, Jul 17, 1867):

We are not the enemy of the blacks, as long as they behave themselves, make no threats upon us, and do not attack or interfere with us.

(i) Asey Ladd (Confederate POW):

I am condemned to be shot today between the hours of two and four o'clock PM, in retaliation for some men shot by Reeves (Major Wilson and six men.) I am an innocent man and it is

Ladd was being held in a Yankee prison camp. This was in his last letter to his father, Oct 29, 1864, from Gratiot Street Prison, St Louis, Mo.

hard to die for another's sins. You can imagine my feelings when I think of you, my wife and children. . . .²¹

(i) Robert E Lee (Confederate Gen):

In this enlightened age, there are few I believe, but what will acknowledge, that slavery as an institution, is a moral and political evil in any Country. It is useless to expatiate on its disadvantages. The blacks are immeasurably better off here than in Africa, morally, socially and physically.

²⁰ CWC, p236

²¹ SRK, p381-382

We see the course of the final abolition of human slavery is onward, and we must give it all the aid of our prayers and all justifiable means in our power.

I wish to live under no other government, and there is no sacrifice I am not ready to make for the preservation of the Union save that of honour. . . I wish for no other flag than the star-spangled banner . . . I still hope that the wisdom and patriotism of the nation will yet save it.

As for myself, while you young men might afford to go to bushwhacking, the only proper and dignified course for me would be to surrender myself and take the consequences of my actions.²²

I yet believe that the maintenance of the rights and authority reserved to the states and to the people, not only essential to the adjustment and balance of the general system, but the safeguard to the continuance of a free government . . . whereas the consolidation of the states into one vast republic sure to be aggressive abroad and despotic at home, will be the certain precursor of that ruin which has overwhelmed all those that have preceded it.²³

The South has contended only for the supremacy of the constitution, and the just administration of the laws made in pursuance to it. Virginia to the last made great efforts to save the union, and urged harmony and compromise. Who then is responsible for the war?²⁴

Although the South would have preferred any honorable compromise to the fratricidal war which has taken place, she now accepts in good faith its constitutional results, and

²² CWC, p111

²³ CWC, p110

²⁴ CWC, p110-111

receives without reserve the amendment which has already been made to the constitution for the extinction of slavery. That is an event that has been long sought, though in a different way, and by none has it been more earnestly desired than by citizens of Virginia.²⁵

The thought of abandoning the country and all that must be left in it is abhorrent to my feelings, and I prefer to struggle for its restoration and share its fate, rather than give up all as lost.²⁶

In response to an offer after the war to escape to Mexico.

It is well that war is so terrible – we should grow too fond of it.

If I had had Jackson at Gettysburg, I should have won that battle, and a complete victory there would have resulted in the establishment of the independence of the South.²⁷

Remark made after the war regarding the premature death of Stonewall Jackson.

No constraint upon your free will is intended: no intimidation will be allowed within the limits of this army, at least. Marylanders shall once more enjoy their ancient freedom of thought and speech. We know of no enemies among you, and will protect all, of every opinion. It is for you to decide your destiny freely and without constraint. This army will respect your choice, whatever it may be; and while the Southern people will rejoice to welcome you

Lee's proclamation to the people of (the Union state of) Maryland, where AL had suspended habeas corpus and established martial law.

²⁵ CWC, p111

²⁶ CWC, p150

²⁷ CWC, p241-242

to your natural position among them, they will only welcome you when you come of your own free will.²⁸

I know they [Yankees] watch my words, and if I should speak unadvisedly, what I say would be caught up by their speakers and newspapers, and magnified into a pretext for adding to the load of oppression they have placed upon our poor people; and God knows, . . .

. that load is heavy enough now. . . . If I had foreseen the use those people [Yankees] designed to make of their victory, there would have been no surrender at Appomattox Courthouse; no, sir, not by me. Had I foreseen those results of subjugation, I would have preferred to die at Appomattox with my brave men, my sword in this right hand.

Yankees have attempted to marginalize Lee by pointing out that after the war he had very little to say. Therefore, they speculate, Lee was satisfied with the outcome of the war, his heart was never really in it in the first place, he fought more to protect Virginia than for Southern independence, and possibly Lee even realized finally that the North had been right all along.

Gen Lee sets the record straight in a private conversation with Texas Governor Stockdale.

¶ Abraham Lincoln (Union President):

Describing Union Gen Phil Sheridan.

A brown, chunky little chap, with a long body, short legs, not enough neck to hang him, and such long arms that if his ankles itch he can scratch them without stooping.

I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so.

From AL's First Inaugural Address, less than two years before issuing EP.

²⁸ CWC, p55-56

We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies.

From AL's First Inaugural Address,
delivered just a few days
before he ordered the invasion of the South.

Aug 22, 1862, in a letter to Horace Greeley,
editor of the *New York Tribune*,
and an abolitionist.

AL issued EP one month later.

My paramount object in this
struggle is to save the Union, and
is not either to save or to destroy
slavery. If I could save the Union
without freeing any slave I would
do it, and if I could save it by
freeing all the slaves I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving
others alone I would also do that.

A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure
permanently half slave and half free. . . . Either the opponents of slavery will arrest the
further spread of it, and place it where the public mind shall rest in the belief that it is in
the course of ultimate extinction, or its
advocates will push it forward, till it shall
become alike lawful in all the States, old as
well as new – North as well as South.

In 1858, during AL's campaign
against Stephen Douglas
for an Illinois US Senate seat.

Whether slavery shall go into Nebraska, or other new territories, is not a matter of
exclusive concern to the people who may go there. The whole nation is interested that
the best use shall be made of these territories. We want them to be homes of free white
people. This they cannot be, to any considerable extent, if slavery shall be planted with
them. Slave states are the places for poor white people to move from.

Any people anywhere, being inclined and having the power, have the right to rise up and shake off the existing government and form a new one that suits them better. This is a most valuable – a most sacred right – a right, which we hope and believe, is to liberate the world. Nor is this right confined to cases in which the whole people of an existing government may choose to exercise it. Any portion of such people that can may revolutionize and make their own of so much of their territory as they inhabit.

1847

I hope to have God on my side, but I must have Kentucky. I think to lose Kentucky is nearly the same as losing the whole game.²⁹

Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican Administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension.

From AL's First Inaugural Address, just prior to unleashing Grant, Sherman, and other Union generals to demolish the South, starve its citizens, and kill innocent civilians.

This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing Government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it.

From AL's First Inaugural Address.

²⁹ CWC, p301

I only press upon the public attention the most conclusive evidence of which the case is susceptible that the property, peace, and security of no section are to be in any wise endangered by the now incoming Administration. I add, too, that all the protection which, consistently with the Constitution and the laws, can be given will be cheerfully given to all the States when lawfully demanded, for whatever cause—as cheerfully to one section as to another.

From AL's First Inaugural Address, just prior to assuming complete autocratic control of the nation, ignoring COTUS, defying SCOTUS, establishing martial law, illegally suspending habeas corpus in the North, shutting down thousands of Northern newspapers, charging thousands of journalists with treason, having many of his critics executed, and jailing more than 13,000 Northern political prisoners (who were usually held indefinitely without bail, never formally charged, not allowed legal counsel, and not allowed contact with family members (who were never told why or where or even if their loved ones were being held)).

There is a natural disgust in the minds of nearly all white people to the idea of indiscriminate amalgamation of the white and black races . . . A separation of the races is the only perfect preventive of amalgamation, but as an immediate separation is impossible, the next best thing is to keep them apart where they are not already together. . . . If white and black people never get together in Kansas, they will never mix blood in Kansas.

Racial separation must be effected by colonization of the country's blacks to foreign land. The enterprise is a difficult one, but where there is a will there is a way . . . Let us be brought to believe it is morally right and, at the same time, favorable to, or, at least,

not against, our interests, to transfer the African to his native clime, and we shall find a way to do it, however great the task may be.

I will say then that I am not, nor ever have been in favor of bringing about in any way the social and political equality of the white and black races -- that I am not nor ever have been in favor of making voters or jurors of Negroes.

AL made these remarks during the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates, four years before he was elected president.

Let the South go?

Let the South go!

Where then shall we get our revenues!

AL inadvertently revealed the truth of his motivation for rushing into an illegal, unconstitutional, immoral, and unnecessary war.

But why should emancipation South send free people North? . . . And in any event cannot the North decide for itself whether to receive them?

Regarding laws in Northern states barring new black settlers.

(1) John A Logan (Union Gen):

A major of colored troops is here with his party capturing negroes, with or without their consent. . . . They are being conscripted.

To Gen Grant.

↳ James Longstreet (Confederate Gen):

You could not keep [Union Gen Ulysses S] Grant out of a battle.³⁰

General Lee, I have been a soldier all my life. I have been with soldiers engaged in fights by couples, by squads, companies, regiments, divisions, and armies, and should know as well as anyone what soldiers can do. It is my opinion that no fifteen thousand men ever arrayed for battle can take that position.

Just before Pickett's Charge.

At least three years, and if it holds for five you may begin to look for a dictator.

Longstreet's response to a question about how long the war would last.

↳ George Lunt (Massachusetts):

Had [President] Buchanan in 1860 sent an armed force to prevent the nullification of the Fugitive Slave Law, as Andrew Jackson threatened to do in 1833, there would have been a secession of fifteen Northern States instead of thirteen Southern States. Had the Democrats won out in 1860 the Northern States would have been the seceding States not the Southern.

³⁰ CWC, p205

↳ George B McClellan (Union Gen):

I confess to a prejudice in favor of my own race, and can't learn to like the odor of either billy goats or niggers.³¹

Hill I am truly sorry you are going to leave us; but to be frank I cannot blame you. If I were in your place, I would do as you are about to do; but I am an Ohioan and will stand by my state, too.³²

Regarding Confederate Gen A P Hill's loyalty to the South.

I can do it all.³³

A brief demonstration of McClellan's infinite self-esteem.

If it is so, the fault will not be mine.

McClellan's motto, and his approach to every task, failure, or potential failure.

[He is] a dotard or a traitor . . . he is a perfect imbecile. He understands nothing, appreciates nothing and is ever in my way.³⁴

On his commanding officer, Gen Winfield Scott.

There is only one safe rule in war, to decide what is the very worst thing that can happen to you, and prepare to meet it.³⁵

³¹ CWC, p265

³² CWC, p248

³³ CWC, p264

³⁴ CWC, p272

³⁵ CWC, p268

The President is perfectly honest and is really sound on the nigger question.

Regarding his boss, Abraham Lincoln, who McClellan considered a *well-meaning baboon*.

However, McClellan changed his mind about AL after Lincoln changed his position on slavery and issued EP.

① Ormsby M Mitchell (Union Maj Gen)
The most terrible outrages, robberies, rapes, arsons, and plundering are being committed by lawless brigands and vagabonds connected with the [Union] army . . .³⁶

May 19, 1862, in a report to War Secretary Edwin M Stanton.

① Isaam Morgan (Slave, Mobile, AL):
Any time a slave worked over time or cut mo' wood dan he s'pose to, Massa pay him money for it, 'cauze when ever one of us slaves seen somp'n we lak, we did just lak de white folks does now. Us bought it. Massa never whupped none of his slaves. . . . No'm none of our slaves ever tried to run away. Dey all knowed dey was well off. . . . Dey [Yankees] offered me a hoss iffen I would go nawth wid dem, but I jus' couldn't leave de Massa even dough I did want dat hoss mighty bad.

³⁶ SRK, p283

① Marcellus Mundy (Union Col)

Papers . . . condemned . . . [Buell] very bitterly for his punishment of Colonel Turchin. The burden of the complaint in the papers was this: that General Buell was protecting the [Southern] people, rather than punishing them. . . . They seemed to advocate what they called a “vigorous war policy,” by which they seemed to mean general devastation.³⁷

Describing how Chicago newspapers in early 1863 handled the story of Union Gen Carlos Buell, who had tried to control the criminal behavior of some of his officers.

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Also, see: *Don Carlos Buell*.

① *New York Evening Post*

That either revenue from duties must be collected in the ports of the rebel states, or the ports must be closed to importations from abroad. . . . If neither of these things be done, our revenue laws are substantially repealed; the sources which supply our treasury will be dried up; we shall have no money to carry on the government; the nation will become bankrupt before the next crop of corn is ripe. . . . Allow railroad iron to be entered at Savannah with the low duty of ten per cent, which is all that the Southern Confederacy think of laying on imported goods, and not an ounce more would be imported at New York; the railways would be supplied from the southern ports.

Explaining why the North could not afford to allow the South to secede.

³⁷ SRK, p287

① *New York Times* (March 30, 1861):

The predicament in which both the Government and the commerce of the country are placed, through the non-enforcement of our revenue laws, is now thoroughly understood the world over. . . . If the manufacturer at Manchester [England] can send his goods into the Western States through New Orleans at a less cost than through New York, he is a fool for not availing himself of his advantage. . . . If the importations of the country are made through Southern ports, its exports will go through the same channel. The produce of the West, instead of coming to our own port by millions of tons, to be transported abroad by the same ships through which we received our importations, will seek other routes and other outlets. With the loss of our foreign trade, what is to become of our public works, conducted at the cost of many hundred millions of dollars, to turn into our harbor the products of the interior? They share in the common ruin. So do our manufacturers. . . . Once at New Orleans, goods may be distributed over the whole country duty free. The process is perfectly simple. . . . The commercial bearing of the question has acted upon the North. . . . We now see clearly whither we are tending, and the policy we must adopt. With us it is no longer an abstract question – one of Constitutional construction, or of the reserved or delegated power of the State or Federal Government, but of material existence and moral position both at home and abroad. . . . We were divided and confused till our pockets were touched.

Explain why the North could not afford to allow the South to secede.

↳ Innis N Palmer (Union Gen):

My order, No 5, . . .
 concerning the outrages
 committed at Little
 Washington has been
 severely commented
 upon in high places; not by my military superiors, but by Senators of the United States
 and others . . .³⁸

Regarding his circular issued on May 30, 1864,
 detailing many cases of plundering, insults, and arson
 that his troops had committed at Washington, NC.

The negroes will not go voluntarily, so I am obliged to force
 them. . . . The matter of collecting the colored men for
 laborers has been one of some difficulty. . . . They must be
 forced to go. . . . This may be considered a harsh measure, but . . . we must not stop at
 trifles.

To Gen Butler.

↳ John M Palmer (Union Maj Gen):

Pillaging by soldiers, and in some degree by the officers
 of this command . . . are chargeable to the negligence
 or collusion of the [Union] officers.³⁹

Near Chattanooga, TN.

↳ Simon Phillips (Slave, AL):

People has the wrong idea of slave days. We was treated good. My Massa never laid a
 hand on me the whole time I was wid him. . . . Sometime we loaned the massa money
 when he was hard pushed.

³⁸ SRK, p286

³⁹ SRK, p279

① John Pope (Union Gen):

They are to be treated as maniacs or wild beasts, and by no means as people with whom treaties or compromises can be made.

1862, describing Native Americans.

① David D Porter (Union Rear Admiral):

I have been . . . mortified by the conduct of persons in charge of some of the gunboats. These two [Union] officers . . . have committed offenses against the laws of justice and humanity. . . . They have . . . converted the vessel . . . into an instrument of tyranny.⁴⁰

In his General Order Number 158.

① William Rawle (An abolitionist from Philadelphia):

Regarding secession.

It depends on the state itself to retain or abolish the principle of representation, because it depends on itself whether it will continue a member of the Union. To deny

this right would be inconsistent with the principle of which all our political systems are founded, which is, that the people have in all cases, a right to determine how they will be governed. This right must be considered as an ingredient in the original composition of the general government, which, though not expressed, was mutually understood . . .

Rawle was a friend of Benjamin Franklin and George Washington, and he was the author of *Views of the Constitution*, which was used as a textbook on constitutional law at the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York.

⁴⁰ SRK, p279-280

① Lord Frederick Roberts (British Field Marshall):

In my opinion Stonewall Jackson was one of the finest natural geniuses the world ever saw. I will go even further than that – as a campaigner in the field he never had a superior. In some respects I doubt whether he had an equal.⁴¹

Roberts was Commander in chief of the British Army at the turn of the century.

① William S Rosecrans (Union Maj Gen):

The power to check them by inflicting the penalty of death is a nullity, for the delays necessary to get them a regular trial by general court-martial, and then holding them until the matter is reviewed and approved by the President, such a time elapses that the troops are relieved and the culprit escapes.

1863, part of a report to War Secretary Stanton regarding numerous crimes committed by US military forces in his area, including murder, arson, and rape.

① Lovell Rousseau (Union Gen):

[Union] officers in command of colored troops are in constant habit of pressing all able-bodied slaves into the military service of the US.

To Gen George Thomas.

⁴¹ CWC, p242

① Rufus A Saxton (Union Gen):

I found the prejudice of color and race here in full force, and the general feeling of the army of occupation [the Union] was unfriendly to the blacks. It was manifested in various forms of personal insult and abuse, in depredations on their plantations, stealing and destroying their crops and domestic animals, and robbing them of their money. . . . The women were held as the legitimate prey of lust.

In a report to War Secretary
Edwin Stanton.

① Raphael Semmes (Confederate Admiral):

The war had been a god-send for newspaperdom. The more extraordinary were the stories that were told by the venal and corrupt newspapers, the more greedily were they devoured by the craving and prurient multitude . . . without the least regard for the truth. . . . Such is the stuff of which a good deal of the Yankee histories of the late war will be made.⁴²

Regarding the war coverage
of Northern newspapers.

① William H Seward

The white man needs this continent to labor in and must have it.

1858, just prior to becoming Lincoln's Secretary of State.

⁴² SRK, p287

① Philip Sheridan (Union Gen):

If I owned hell and Texas, I would rent out Texas and live in hell.⁴³

Guerrilla parties . . . are becoming very formidable. . . . I know of no way to exterminate them except to burn out the whole country.⁴⁴

In a report to Gen Grant, Oct 11, 1864.

Damn them, I wish they had held out an hour longer and I would have whipped hell out of them.

His reaction to news that Lee had surrendered.

This country is too great and good to be destroyed.

Just before he went out to help destroy the country.

Death is popularly considered to be the maximum of punishment in war, but it is not; reduction to poverty brings prayers for peace more surely and more quickly than does the destruction of human life.⁴⁵

⁴³CWC, p306

⁴⁴ SRK, p290

⁴⁵ CWC, p305

I do not believe war to be simply that lines should engage each other in battle, and therefore do not regret the system of living on the enemy's country. These men or women [or children] did not care how many were killed, or maimed, so long as war did not come to their doors, but as soon as it did come in the shape of loss of property, they earnestly prayed for its termination. As war is a punishment, if we can, by reducing it [sic] advocates, to poverty, end it quicker, we are on the side of humanity.⁴⁶

Yes, Sheridan, Sherman, Grant, and Lincoln were quite the humanitarians.

Describing his plan for starving Indians by killing all the buffalo in the area.

Those men [buffalo hunters] have done more in the last two years and will do more in the next year to settle the Indian question than the entire regular army has done in the last thirty years. They are destroying the Indians' commissary; and it is a well known fact that an army losing its base of supplies is placed at a great disadvantage. Send them powder and lead if you will, and for the sake of peace let them kill, skin, and sell until they have exterminated the buffalo. Then your prairies will be covered with speckled cattle and the festive cowboy, who follows the hunter as a second forerunner of civilization.⁴⁷

That's Yankee humanitarianism and conservation in action.

The North must have been so proud of their generals.

⁴⁶ CWC, p304

⁴⁷ CWC, p307

① John Sherman (William Tecumseh Sherman's brother):

We do not like the negroes. We do not disguise our dislike. As my friend from Indiana said yesterday: "The whole people of the Northwestern States are opposed to having many negroes among them and that principle or prejudice has been engraved in the legislation for nearly all the Northwestern States".

April 2, 1862

① William Tecumseh Sherman (Union Gen):

Freedom of speech and freedom of the press, precious relics of former history, must not be construed too largely.

Even if the Southern States be allowed to depart in peace, the first question will be revenue. Now if the South have free trade, how can you collect revenues in eastern cities. Freight from New Orleans to St Louis, Chicago, Louisville, Cincinnati, and even Pittsburgh, would be about the same as by rail from New York, and importers at New Orleans, having no duties to pay, would undersell the East if they had to pay duties. There, if the South make good their confederation and their plan, the Northern Confederacy must do likewise or blockade. Then comes the question of foreign nations. So, look on it in any view, I see no result but war and consequent change in the form of government.

A government resting on the caprice of the people is too unstable to last. . . . [All] must obey. Government, that is the executive, having no discretion but to execute the law must be to that extent despotic. . . . We have for years been drifting towards an unadulterated democracy or demagogism. Therefore our government should become a machine, self-regulating, independent of the man.⁴⁸

⁴⁸ CWC, p141

Forrest is the devil. . . . I will order them [two of Sherman's officers] to make up a force and go out to follow Forrest to the death, if it costs ten thousand lives and breaks the Treasury. There will never be peace in Tennessee until Forrest is dead.

Regarding Confederate Gen Nathan Bedford Forrest.

I . . . began systematic and thorough destruction. . . . For five days 10,000 men worked hard and with a will . . . with axes, crowbars, sledges, clawbars, and with fire, and I have no hesitation in pronouncing the work as well done. Meridian, with its depots, store-houses, arsenal, hospitals, offices, hotels, and cantonments no longer exists.

In Sherman's report of his destruction of Meridian, Mississippi, to Gen Grant.

Stealing, robbery, and pillage has become so common in this army that it is a disgrace to any civilized people.

We are drifting to the worst sort of vandalism. . . . You and I and every commander must go through the war justly chargeable with crimes at which we blush.

In Sherman's report to Gen Grant at Vicksburg, Aug 4, 1863.

The Government of the United States has . . . any and all rights which they choose to enforce in war – to take their lives, their homes, their lands, their everything. . . . War is simply power unrestrained by constitution. . . . To the persistent secessionist, why, death is mercy, and the quicker he or she is disposed of the better.

Jan 31, 1864

... [I] profess . . . to fight for but one single purpose, . . . to sustain a Government capable of vindicating its just and rightful authority, independent of niggers, cotton, money, or any earthly interest.

I begin to regard the death and mangling of a couple of thousand men as a small affair, a kind of morning dash – and it may be well that we become so hardened.⁴⁹

I hope . . . you will proceed to Bledsoe's Landing and then destroy all the houses and cornfields for miles along the river on that side. . . . You should shell the whole river whenever one of these raids occurs.⁵⁰

Oct 19, 1862, regarding the appropriate Union response to a Southern attack on a Yankee gunboat.

In case of . . . destruction [of bridges] by the enemy, . . . the [Union] commanding officer . . . on the spot will deal harshly with the [Southern civilian] inhabitants nearby.⁵¹

In Sherman's General Order Number 127, Nov 23, 1864.

Too much looseness exists on the subject of foraging. The articles of war make it almost a capital offense for an officer or soldier to pillage, which means taking private property for his own use.⁵²

In Sherman's General Order Number 44, Jun 18, 1862.

⁴⁹ CWC, p150

⁵⁰ SRK, p280-281

⁵¹ SRK, p282

⁵² SRK, p281

The indiscriminate and extensive plundering by our men calls for a summary and speedy change.

In Sherman's General Order Number 2, Dec 6, 1862.

Ignorance of the rules of war as to pillage and plunder can no longer be pleaded.

In Sherman's General Order Number 3, Jan 12, 1863.

There is a class of people [Southern] men, women, and children, who must be killed or banished before you can hope for peace and order.

Jun 21, 1864, in a letter from Sherman to War Secretary Stanton.
Stanton approved.

Until we can repopulate Georgia [with Yankees], it is useless to occupy it, but the utter destruction of its roads, houses, and people will cripple their military resources.⁵³

In an Oct 9, 1864, report from Sherman to Grant.

I am satisfied . . . that the problem of this war consists in the awful fact that the present class of men who rule the South must be killed outright rather than in the conquest of territory. . . . A great deal of it, yet remains to be done. . . . Therefore, I shall expect you on any and all occasions to make bloody results.⁵⁴

To Gen Sheridan.

⁵³ SRK, p290

⁵⁴ SRK, p290

The people of the South . . . see . . . the sure and inevitable destruction of all their property. . . . They see in the repetition of such raids the inevitable result of starvation and misery.⁵⁵

Jan 21, 1865

¶) Alexander Stephens (Confederate Vice-President under Jefferson Davis):

Our new government is founded . . . its foundations are laid, its cornerstone rests, upon the great truth that the negro is not equal to the white man; that slavery, subordination to the superior race, is his natural and normal condition.

Few people in the South shared that view of blacks, but AL and most Yankees did.

¶) Thaddeus Stevens (Radical Republican, on his approach to Reconstruction):

Hang the leaders – crush the South – arm the Negroes – confiscate the land. . . . Our generals have a sword in one hand and shackles in the other. . . . The South must be punished under the rules of war, its land confiscated. . . . These offending States were out of the Union and in the role of a belligerent nation to be dealt with by the laws of war and conquest.

Out of the Union?

That would have come as quite a shock to AL, who had insisted that the Confederate states had not and could not secede.

A belligerent nation?

The South did not become *belligerent* until AL's forces attacked them. People do tend to get *belligerent* when forced to defend themselves.

⁵⁵ SRK, p291

① Fletcher Stockdale (Governor of Texas):

The people of Texas will remain quiet, and not again resort to forceful resistance against the Federal Government, whatever may be the measures of that government.

But, . . . candor requires me to explain the attitude of my people. The people of Texas have made up their minds to remain quiet under all aggressions and to have peace; but they have none of the spaniel in their composition. No, sir, they are not in the least like the dog that seeks to lick the hand of the man that kicked him; but it is because they are a very sensible, practical, common-sense people, and understand their position. They know that they resisted the Federal Government as long as any means of resistance was left, and that any attempt at resistance now must be in vain, and they have no means, and would only make bad worse. This is the view of the matter which is going to keep Texas quiet.

Explaining why Texans had remained so quiet after the war.

① JEB (Jeb) Stuart (Confederate Gen):

I'd rather be a private in Virginia's army than a general in any army to coerce her.⁵⁶

You are brave fellows, and patriotic ones too, but you are ignorant of this kind of work, and I am teaching you. I want you to observe that a good man on a good horse can never be caught. Another thing: cavalry can trot away from anything, and a gallop is unbecoming a soldier, unless he is going toward the enemy. Remember that. We gallop toward the enemy, and trot away, always.⁵⁷

Instructing his fresh cavalry troops.

⁵⁶ CWC, p310

⁵⁷ CWC, p311

① Mrs Robert Tansill

Capt Robert Tansill, US Marine Corps, was serving aboard the USS Congress when he heard of AL's inauguration. When Tansill submitted his resignation, the Secretary of the Navy (Gideon Welles) refused to accept it, firing him instead. That evening Tansill was arrested and jailed at Fort Lafayette. He wrote letters to AL, asking about the charges against him, but Tansill received no reply. His wife was eventually granted a meeting with AL, and this is part of her account of what happened at that meeting:

He spoke, still looking me full in the face. "I did receive that letter and it has got all the answer it will have." Mr President, I said, you are aware of the circumstances under which my husband was arrested – of his having just returned from sea after an absence of two years from his family and of his being hurried off like a common felon to prison, without giving him any reason for it. Was it, I asked Sir, for any other reason than his having resigned? His face then turned perfectly livid. He jumped up from the table at

which he was sitting, and brought his clenched hand down hard upon it with an oath. . . . He began to walk the room in violent excitement, stamping his feet, and averting his head from me. . . . Mr Lincoln, you understand, I hope that the only object of my call upon you was to ask if my husband's letter had reached you, and I have received my answer! "You have most positively!" was his reply, with head turned from me. I took my little son by the hand, and closed the door, and thus shut away from my sight, I trust for evermore, the greatest despot and tyrant that ever ruled a nation.⁵⁸

⁵⁸ SRK, p28-29

① Richard Taylor (Confederate Gen):

The people of the Confederacy struggled in all honorable ways, and for what? For their slaves? Regret for their loss has neither been felt nor expressed. But they have striven for . . . the privilege of exercising some influence in their own government. Yet we fought for nothing but slavery, says the world, and the late vice-president of the Confederacy, Mr Alexander Stephens, reechoes the cry, declaring that it was the corner-stone of his government.

Richard was the son of President Zachary Taylor.

① George H Thomas (Union Gen):

In the sudden transition from slavery to freedom it is perhaps better for the negro to become a soldier, and be gradually taught to depend on himself for support, than to be thrown upon the cold charities of the world without sympathy or assistance.

The sole cause of this and similar offenses lies in the fact that certain citizens of Rome, [Georgia] and a portion of the people of the States lately in rebellion, do not and have not accepted the situation, and that is, that the late civil war was a rebellion and history will so record it. Those engaged in it are and will be pronounced rebels; rebellion implies treason; and treason is a crime, and a heinous one too, and deserving of punishment; and that traitors have not been punished is owing to the magnanimity of the conquerors. With too many of the people of the South, the late civil war is called a revolution, rebels are called "Confederates," loyalists to the whole country are called d--d Yankees and traitors, and over the whole great crime with its accursed record of slaughtered heroes, patriots murdered because of their true-hearted love of country, widowed wives and orphaned children, and prisoners of war slain amid such horrors as find no parallel in the history of the world, they are trying to throw a

Written in a letter to the mayor of Rome, Georgia, who had used Confederate flags in celebrating Georgia's secession day.

gloss of respectability, and are thrusting with contumely and derision from their society the men and women who would not join hands with them in the work of ruining their country. Everywhere in the States lately in rebellion, treason is respectable and loyalty odious. This, the people of the United States, who ended the Rebellion and saved the country will not permit.

◎ Alexis de Tocqueville (French political thinker and historian):

Race prejudice seems stronger in those states that have abolished slavery than in those where it still exists, and nowhere is it more intolerant than in those states where slavery was never known. . . . In the South, where slavery still exists, less trouble is taken to keep the Negro apart; they sometimes share the labors and the pleasures of the white men; people are prepared to mix with them to some extent; legislation is more harsh against them, but customs are more tolerant and gentle.

The confederation [the Union] was formed by the free will of the states; these, by uniting, did not lose their nationality or become fused in one single nation. If today one of those same states wished to withdraw its name from the contract, it would be hard to prove that it could not do so.

◎ Anthony Trollope:

The South is seceding from the North because the two are not homogeneous. They have different instincts, different appetites, different morals, and a different culture. . . . [the South] had become a separate people, with different habits, morals, institutions, pursuits, . . . modes of thought and action.

He was a Brit who travelled in both the North and South during the early Civil War.

① Lyman Trumball (US Senator from Illinois):

We, the Republican Party, are the white man's party. We are for the free white man, and for making white labor acceptable and honorable, which it can never be when Negro slave labor is brought into competition with it.

① Lyon G Tyler (Son of President John Tyler):

During the war for Southern independence the Northern generals everywhere disregarded the international law. The policy everywhere was cruel imprisonment, waste and destruction. Unlike General Lee, Lincoln reveled in using hard language – “Rebels”, “Insurgents”, etc, occur everywhere in his speeches, letters and messages. Because these terms are recognized as insulting, . . . such words were greatly objected to by our Revolutionary fathers, and a committee of the Continental Congress imputed to this habit of the British the licentious conduct of the British soldiers. They were taught by these words to look down upon the Americans, to despise them as inferior creatures. And the same influences operated upon the Northern soldiers, who plundered the South. Lincoln taught them. The North having no just cause for the invasion and destruction of the South, which only asked to be let alone, has ceaselessly tried to hide its crime by talking “slavery”. But logically flowing from this attitude is the idea that slavery deprived the South of every right whatever, which was the doctrine of the assassin, John Brown. General Sheridan’s philosophy of war was “to leave to the people nothing but their eyes to weep with over the war.” General Sherman’s, “to destroy the roads, houses, people, and repopulate the country”. General Grant’s to leave the Valley “a barren waste” and shoot “guerrillas without trial”; and President Lincoln’s the adoption of “emancipation and every other policy calculated to weaken the moral and physical forces of the rebellion”.⁵⁹

⁵⁹ SRK, p292-293

① Dan Vorhees:

From turret to foundation you tore down the government of eleven States. You left not one stone upon another. You not only destroyed their local laws, but you trampled upon their ruins. You called conventions to frame new Constitutions for those old States. You not only said who should be elected to rule over these States, but you said who should elect them. You fixed the quality and the color of the voters. You purged the ballot box of intelligence and virtue, and in their stead you placed the most ignorant and unqualified race in the world to rule over these people. Let the great State of Georgia speak first. You permitted her to stand up and start in her new career, but seeing some flaw in your handiwork, you again destroyed and again reconstructed her State government. You clung to her throat; you battered her features out of shape and recognition, determined that your party should have undisputed possession and enjoyment of her offices, her honors, and her substance. Then bound hand and foot you handed her over to the rapacity of robbers. Her prolific and unbounded resources inflamed their desires.

In 1861 Georgia was free from debt. Taxes were light as air. The burdens of government were easy upon her citizens. Her credit stood high, and when the war closed she was still free from indebtedness. After six years of Republican rule you present her, to the horror of the world, loaded with a debt of \$50,000,000, and the crime against Georgia is the crime this same party has committed against the other Southern States. Your work of destruction was more fatal than a scourge of pestilence, war or famine.

Rufus B Bullock, Governor of Georgia, dictated the legislation of Congress, and the great commonwealth of Georgia was cursed by his presence. With such a Governor, and such a legislature in perfect harmony, morally and politically, their career will go down to posterity without a rival for infamous administrations of the world. That Governor served three years and then absconded with all of the gains. The legislature

He was a member of
the House of Representatives
from Indiana.

Spoken on the House floor,
Mar 23, 1872.

of two years spent \$100,000 more than had been spent during any eight previous years. They even put the children's money, laid aside for education of white and black, into their own pockets.

There is no form of ruin to which she has not fallen a prey, no curse with which she has not been baptized, no cup of humiliation and suffering her people have not drained to the dregs. There she stands the result of your handiwork, bankrupt in money, ruined in credit, her bonds hawked about the streets at ten cents on the dollar, her prosperity blighted at home and abroad, without peace, happiness, or hope. There she stands with her skeleton frame admonishing all the world of the loathsome consequences of a government fashioned in hate and fanaticism, and founded upon the ignorant and vicious classes of manhood. Her sins may have been many and deep, and the color of scarlet, yet they will become as white as snow in comparison with those you have committed against her in the hour of her helplessness and distress.

I challenge the darkest annals of the human race for a parallel to the robberies which have been perpetrated on these eleven American States. Had you sown seeds of kindness and good will they would long ere this have blossomed into prosperity and peace. Had you sown seeds of honor, you would have reaped a golden harvest of contentment and obedience. Had you extended your charities and your justice to a distressed people you would have awakened a grateful affection in return. But as you planted in hate and nurtured in corruption so have been the fruits which you have gathered.

① Richard Weaver (Professor):

[Religion in the Old South was] a simple acceptance of a body of belief, an innocence of protest and heresy which left religion one of the unquestioned and unquestionable supports of the general settlement under which men live.

① Daniel Webster (Yankee statesman):

The States are Nations.

If the states were not left to leave the Union when their rights were interfered with, the government would have been National, but the Convention refused to baptize it by the name.

Feb 15, 1833

If the Union was formed by the accession of States then the Union may be dissolved by the secession of States.

Feb 18, 1833

The Union is a Union of States founded upon Compact. How is it to be supposed that when different parties enter into a compact for certain purposes either can disregard one provision of it and expect others to observe the rest? If the Northern States willfully and deliberately refuse to carry out their part of the Constitution, the South would be no longer bound to keep the compact. A bargain broken on one side is broken on all sides.

1851

① Thomas Williams (Union Brig Gen):

These [Union] regiments, officers and men, with rare exceptions, appear to be wholly destitute of the moral sense, . . . they regard pillaging not only right in itself but a soldierly accomplishment.⁶⁰

Baton Rouge, LA,

May 27, 1862.

① Walter E Williams (Conservative columnist):

The first secession was a success (that from England) and the second a failure (the War between the States). I say why not break the tie?

⁶⁰ SRK, p279

① Author(s) Unknown or Unspecified

We were most civilly treated by the rebels, whom we found to be . . . men like ourselves; only the rebels were not nearly as profane as our men – in fact, they used no profane language at all. They shamed us.⁶¹

A captured Yankee soldier.

They [Union military personnel] are no better than a band of robbers; they cross the line, rob, steal, plunder, and burn whatever they can lay their hands upon.⁶²

In a report from a Union officer to War Secretary Edwin M Stanton, Jan, 1862, from western Missouri.

No squad of men . . . can live anywhere we have been. The people have neither seed, corn, nor bread, or mills to grind the corn in if they had it, as I burned them wherever found. . . . I have taken from these people the mules with which they would raise a crop the coming year, and burned every surplus grain of corn.

In a report from a Union officer sent from northern Louisiana.

Instead of temporizing and arguing with traitors, I would urge the most prompt and effective measures of force to quell and exterminate them.⁶³

The response of a carpetbagger to a man's attempt in Vicksburg, MS, to recover his land.

⁶¹ CWC, p254

⁶² SRK, p283

⁶³ SRK, p291

I suppose dem Yankees wuz all right in dere place, but dey neber belong in de South. . . . An' as for dey a-setting me free! Miss, us [Negroes] . . . wuz free as soon as we wuz bawn. I always been free!⁶⁴

A former slave.

The negroes were sad. . . . Sometimes whole plantations, learning what was going on, ran off to the woods for refuge. . . . This mode of [enlistment by] violent seizure . . . is repugnant.

In a message to Salmon Chase,
Secretary of the Treasury,
received in 1862.

On some plantations the wailing and screaming were loud and the [black] women threw themselves in despair on the ground. On some plantations the people took to the woods and were hunted up by the soldiers. . . . I doubt if the recruiting service in this country has ever been attended with such scenes before.

From the same plantation
the following day.

About a dozen of the soldiers did escort him. . . . They tied him to a tree, and stripping him to the waist lacerated his back with a cowhide, the marks of which Sam will carry to his grave.

Regarding Sam Marshall,
a black man serving in the Union Army,
who tried to visit his family.

⁶⁴ SRK, p96

The train which arrived from Nashville last evening brought up from the South 249 women and children, who are sent here by orders of Gen Sherman to be transferred north of the Ohio River. These people are mostly in a destitute condition, having no means to provide for themselves a support.

From a newspaper article,
Louisville, Kentucky.

Women gathering their helpless babes in their arms, rushing frantically through the streets with screams and cries that would have melted the hardest hearts to tears; little boys and girls running hither and thither crying for their mothers and fathers; old men leaning on a staff for support to their trembling limbs, hurrying away from the suffocating heat of their burning dwellings and homes.

From a newspaper article,
St Louis, describing the scene
when Yankees burned the town
of Alexandria, Louisiana,
without warning.

Mr Pelton . . . reported that a [Union] soldier had shot and killed a little girl and had fired at a negro man on his plantation. I . . . proceeded to the place, where I found a mulatto girl, about twelve or thirteen years old, lying dead in a field. I learned from the negro man . . . that the girl had been shot by a drunken [Union] soldier, who had first fired at one of the men . . . [who] had witnessed the killing.

From a description of an incident following the Sixteenth Indiana Mounted Infantry's invasion of Bayou Grande Cailou, Louisiana.

I was a soldier in Virginia in the campaigns of Lee and Jackson, and I declare I never met a Southern soldier who had drawn his sword to perpetuate slavery. . . . What he had chiefly at heart was the preservation of the supreme and sacred right of self-government. . . . It was a very small minority of the men who fought in the Southern armies who were financially interested in the institution of slavery.

A Confederate soldier.

The hard fighting will come off here and our boys will have a fine opportunity of showing the enemy with what determination we intend to fight for liberty, and independence. . . . History will record this as being the greatest struggle for liberty that was ever made. . . .

A Confederate soldier,
in a letter home.

He was an excellent soldier and a brave young man. The company deeply mourns his loss but he is gone, another martyr to the cause of Southern Independence.

A Confederate officer,
in a letter to the family of a dead soldier.

It is a beautiful Sabbath morning indeed. I feel that I ought to be at Alabama Church this morning. The merry birds are sweetly singing their songs of spring. Oh, that I could sing in truth the songs of peace and liberty this morning to our confederate states.

A Confederate soldier,
in a letter home during the siege of
Port Hudson, Louisiana.

... With proud hearts and strong arms we are more determined than ever to apply every energy until our independence is achieved.

A Confederate soldier, Company K, Seventh Louisiana Infantry, in a letter home, March, 1865.

I firmly believe that we will yet achieve our Independence.

Confederate soldier, Shreveport, Louisiana, April 1865.

The Southern Confederacy will not employ our ships or buy our goods. What is our shipping without it? Literally nothing. The transportation of cotton and its fabrics employs more ships than all other trade. It is very clear that the South gains by this process, and we lose. No – we MUST NOT “let the South go”.

A Manchester, New Hampshire newspaper editorial, explaining why the North could not allow the South to secede.

The free colored people were looked upon as an inferior caste to whom their liberty was a curse, and their lot worse than that of the slaves.

From authors of William Lloyd Garrison's biography, regarding free blacks in the North.

The people of this [state] have the sole and exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign, and independent State; and do and forever hereafter shall exercise and enjoy every power, jurisdiction, and right which is not, or may not hereafter be, by them, expressly delegated to the United States.

From the New Hampshire state constitution adopted in 1792 (three years after COTUS was ratified), disproving the assertion that state sovereignty either never existed or did not survive the 1787 US Constitution.

I loved him, and I can say that every colored man he ever owned loved him.

An elderly slave, regarding Jefferson Davis.

A biographer, regarding Confederate Gen James Longstreet.

There was something curiously unSouthern about him. He was serious and stolid, not romantic as proper Southerners of that age were, more materialistic than idealistic.

Six feet tall, broad as a door, hairy as a goat, there was something about Longstreet that would have inspired confidence even if his dogmatic utterances on all subjects had not done so. . . . It was hard to resist that Viking, with his immense Lombard beard, his rugged power, and his invincible certainty.

A biographer, regarding Confederate Gen James Longstreet.

A most striking figure, about forty years of age, a soldier every inch, and very handsome, tall and well proportioned, strong and active, a superb horseman and with an unsurpassed soldierly bearing, his features and expression fairly matched; a full brown beard, head well shaped and poised.

A member of Confederate
Gen James Longstreet's staff.