

Transcription

"Our Convention hesitates to secede"

Lincoln threatens coercion, yet our Convention hesitates to secede; the Peace Conference patch-work is repudiated by Congress, yet the Convention hesitates to secede, the starved forces of the Government are whistled from Fort Sumter, and thrown into Fortress Monroe or Washington city, yet the Convention hesitates to secede; the brand of infamy and inequality is ready to be impressed, hissing hot, into our flesh, yet the Convention hesitates to secede; the Southern Confederation opens wide its gates and beseeches Virginia to take her stand under the folds of that banner which bears upon it the blessed motto of Constitutional freedom and State equality, yet the Convention hesitates to secede. Are the Freemen of Virginia ready to acknowledge the inequality and inferiority of their State?— Have they prepared their minds to witness the most revolting spectacle ever yet presented to the gaze of civilization—the voluntary abandonment, by representatives of a free people, of all that ennobles humanity and elevates social existence? Honor, freedom, justice, good faith, all are to be crushed under the Juggernaut of abolition villainy.

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