

The Southern Manifesto

Washington, December 13th, 1860

At the request of Hon. Reuben Davis of Mississippi, member of the Committee of States, the Southern members of Congress assembled at his room to-night and signed by those present. It had already been presented to the Committee of Thirty-Three. There were 30 signatures by Congressmen from Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Arkansas, Mississippi, North Carolina, Louisiana and Texas.

To Our Constituents: The argument is exhausted. All hope of relief in the Union, through the agency of committees, Congressional legislation, or constitutional amendments, is extinguished, and we trust the South will not be deceived by appearances or the pretence of new guarantees. The Republicans are resolute in the purpose to grant nothing that will or ought to satisfy the South. We are satisfied the honor, safety, and independence of the Southern people are to be found only in a Southern Confederacy – a result to be obtained only by separate State secession – and that the sole and primary aim of each slave-holding State ought to be its speedy and absolute separation from an unnatural and hostile Union.