

Barnbridge, Cal November 15<sup>th</sup> 1860

Hon Abraham Lincoln

Dear Sir - Pardon us (We) South-  
erners for this seeming impertinence, and forget  
not that patriotism and the Union's sake prompt  
this epistle. We honor and revere the memories of  
Clay and Webster; yea, we even have leaning-  
towards those who politically agreed with  
and supported them and their measures, even  
though many of them have departed from  
the Conservative, statesman-like paths they  
made. . . . Our Union of States is in

danger; the cause is easily accounted for.  
You have been Constitutionally elected Pres-  
ident, but you cannot claim to be the  
President of the Union - only that of a section.

The avowed principles of the party that  
has elected you are opposed to the most  
vital interests of the Southern States. We  
of the South expect you as the Representa-  
tive of your party, in furtherance of those  
measures as promulgated by Seward, Sumner,  
Wilson and others of like stamp. We have read  
these denunciations against us and our institu-  
tions. We have deemed their principles as

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throughout the Northern States, when they meet  
in the electoral college, to cast their votes  
for John Bell of Tenn. and Edward Everett  
of Mass. They are great, good and sound men,  
socially and politically. Such a course on  
your part will restore peace to our now-  
distracted country; drive Democracy from  
power; set up public virtue in the place of  
vice; besides it would prove you a patriot  
and the friend of the Union and the con-  
stitution; and further, it would show you to  
think respect the great interests of our country  
more, than a four-years seat <sup>in</sup> the presidential  
Chair.

We conjure you in the name of  
of truth, in the name of patriotism, and in  
the name of all the trials which Washington  
and his Compatriots endured to secure the blessing  
of liberty we now enjoy; and in the name  
of the glory which be decks our National  
Escutcheon; yes, we conjure you for your  
own sake and ours to ponder seriously  
over this tedious and imperfect Epistle.

Meantime, hoping for a short reply  
and a copy of your speeches, the principles  
in which we hope you shall maintain as  
President, accompanying - We are your fellow-  
Citizen and Henry Clay Whig -

Over Please

*David Herriott*

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impracticable; but no longer are these anti-slavery harangues a "sounding brass and tinkling symbol" - they are reality - yet operative in our midst. Can you blame the South for her opposition to you and your party's principles, when her very existence is threatened? Can you, Mr. Lincoln?

You know that this Union of States cost much gallant blood and goodly treasure. You know to what extent our common country has been an asylum to distressed and oppressed of other nations - and now our and your country, with all its varied yet common interests, is overshadowed with gloom, financially, politically and commercially. The Union of late has been only in name, not in fact - and can we to-day even say it is a Union in name?

Mr. Lincoln - on the 6<sup>th</sup> inst our Union in fact, in name and in common interest terminated its existence. Yet it seems to us there is yet a remedy that will restore all to wouled prosperity and the common weal of a great and glorious Republic! That remedy is: You resign, refuse to act as President, and ask or request your Electoral friends

*David Herritt*

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Your most Respectfully;  
Dear Mr Griffiths, &c  
Joseph Saw:  
Alex: S. Murphy

PAID

Mr. Abraham Lincoln

Springfield

From Georgia

Wm. W. W.



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