

Montgomery Alabama,  
February 4<sup>th</sup> 1861.

His Excellency

Andrew B. Moore

Governor of The State of Alabama,

Sir:

I had the honor to address your Excellency on the 7<sup>th</sup> ultimo, in submitting the report of my official visit as Commissioner from the State of Alabama to His Excellency Joseph E. Brown Governor of Georgia; and now I have the honor further to report, that on the 14<sup>th</sup> ultimo I received from the Hon. William M. Brooks, President of the Convention of the State of Alabama, the following communication.

Montgomery, Ala., January 14<sup>th</sup> 1861.

Hon. John Gill Shorter:

Dear Sir:

The following resolution was passed by the Convention in session to day:

“Resolved by the people of the State of Alabama in Convention assembled, That the Commissioners heretofore appointed by the Governor of this State to the several slaveholding States, be and they are hereby directed to present to the Conventions of said States, the Preamble, Ordinance and Resolutions adopted by the people of the State of Alabama, in Convention, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of January 1861, and to request the consideration of and concurrence in the first resolution.”

With the above resolution is transmitted to you, by order of the Convention, a certified copy of the Preamble, Ordinance, and resolutions referred to.

Respectfully,

William M. Brooks,

President of the Convention.



In further discharge of the duties assigned to me by your Excellency, and in obedience to the instructions of the Convention of the State of Alabama, I repaired to Milledgeville Georgia, on the 16<sup>th</sup> ultimo, where and when the Convention of the State of Georgia had assembled, and officially communicated to the Hon. George W. Crawford, President of the Convention, the fact of my presence, together with my credentials and the nature of my instructions. This correspondence having been duly submitted, and five hundred copies ordered to be printed for the use of the Convention, I enclose your Excellency a printed copy of the same.

I was not only officially but cordially received by the Convention; and upon invitation of that body addressed the Convention on the next day, and in person had the honor to present the Preamble and Ordinance of Secession, together with the resolutions adopted by the Convention of the State of Alabama.

And it is with the most heartfelt satisfaction that I advise your Excellency that the Convention of the Sovereign State of Georgia, by a majority of one hundred and nineteen, on the 19<sup>th</sup> ultimo, adopted a solemn Ordinance dissolving her connection with the United States of America; and on a subsequent day by resolution accepted the invitation of Alabama to meet with the delegates of the Slaveholding States in the city of Montgomery, on this day, for the purpose of consulting with each other as to the most effectual mode of securing concerted and harmonious action in whatever measures may be deemed most desirable for our common peace and security.

With high regard I am

Yours Excellency's

Obedt Servt - Joseph Shorter



**LETTER**

**OF JOHN GILL SHORTER, COMMISSIONER OF ALABAMA, TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE GEORGIA CONVENTION.**

MILLEDGEVILLE, GEORGIA, }  
January 16th, 1861. }

*Hon. George W. Crawford, President of the Convention of the State of Georgia :*

SIR—I have the honor herewith to transmit the certificate of my appointment as Commissioner from the State of Alabama to the Convention of the State of Georgia, and also a duly authenticated copy of the Ordinance of Secession, and accompanying Resolutions adopted by the Convention of Alabama, on the 11th inst.; together with a resolution of the Convention covering my instructions, in which I am particularly directed to request of the Convention of the State of Georgia, the consideration of, and concurrence in the first resolution adopted by the Convention of the State of Alabama, inviting the people of Georgia, and of the other slaveholding States, to meet the people of Alabama, by their Delegates, in Convention, on the 4th day of February, 1861, at the city of Montgomery, in the State of Alabama, for the purpose of consulting with each other, as to the most effectual mode of securing concerted and harmonious action in whatever measures may be deemed most desirable for our common peace and security—it being the desire and purpose of the people of Alabama to meet the slaveholding States, who may approve such purpose, in order to frame a provisional as well as permanent Government, upon the principles of the Constitution of the United States.

I have the honor to be, with high consideration,

Your obedient servant,

JNO. GILL SHORTER.

**COMMISSION OF JNO. GILL SHORTER AS STATE COMMISSIONER FROM ALABAMA.**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }  
MONTGOMERY, ALA., Dec. 21st, 1860. }

WHEREAS, the election of Abraham Lincoln, a Black Republican to the Presidency of the United States, by a purely sectional vote, and by a party whose leading and publicly avowed object is, the destruction of the institution of slavery, as it exists in the slaveholding States; And, WHEREAS, the success of said party and the power which it now has and soon will acquire, greatly endanger the peace, interests, security and honor of the slaveholding States, and make it necessary that prompt and effective measures should be adopted to avoid the evils which must result from a Republican administration of the Federal Government: And as the interests and destiny of the slaveholding States are the same, they must naturally sympathize with each other; they, therefore, so far as may be practicable should consult and advise together as to what is best to be done to protect their mutual interests and honor.

Now, therefore, in consideration of the premises, I, ANDREW B. MOORE, Governor of the State of Alabama, by virtue of the general powers in me vested, do hereby constitute and appoint Hon. JOHN GILL SHORTER, a citizen of said State, a Commissioner to the sovereign State of Georgia to consult and advise with His Excellency, Governor JOSEPH E. BROWN, and the members of the Convention to be assembled in said State, as to what is best to be done to protect the rights, interests and honor of the slaveholding States, and to report the result of such consultation in time to enable me to communicate the same to the Convention of the State of Alabama, to be held on Monday the 7th day of January next, if practicable.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed in the City of Montgomery, this 21st day of December, A. D. 1860.

A. B. MOORE.

*To Dissolve the Union between the State of Alabama and other States united under the Compact styled "The Constitution of the United States of America."*

WHEREAS, the election of Abraham Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin to the offices of President and Vice President of the United States of America, by a sectional party, avowedly hostile to the domestic institutions and to the peace and security of the people of the State of Alabama, preceded by many and dangerous infractions of the Constitution of the United States by many of the States and people of the Northern section, is a political wrong of so insulting and menacing a character as to justify the people of the State of Alabama in the adoption of prompt and decided measures for their future peace and security, therefore,

*Be it declared and ordained by the people of the State of Alabama, in Convention assembled, That the State of Alabama now withdraws, and is hereby withdrawn from the Union known as "the United States of America," and henceforth ceases to be one of said United States, and is, and of right ought to be a Sovereign and Independent State.*

Sec. 2. *Be it further declared and ordained by the people of the State of Alabama, in convention assembled, That all the powers over the Territory of said State, and over the people thereof, heretofore delegated to the Government of the United States of America, be and they are hereby withdrawn from said Government, and are hereby resumed and vested in the people of the State of Alabama.*

And as it is the desire and purpose of the people of Alabama to meet the slaveholding States of the South, who may approve such purpose, in order to frame a provisional as well as permanent Government upon the principles of the Constitution of the United States,

*Be it resolved by the people of Alabama, in convention assembled, That the people of the States of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri, be and are hereby invited to meet the people of the State of Alabama, by their Delegates, in Convention, on the 4th day of February, A. D. 1861, at the city of Montgomery, in the State of Alabama, for the purpose of consulting with each other as to the most effectual mode of securing concerted and harmonious action in whatever measures may be deemed most desirable for our common peace and security.*

*And be it further resolved, That the President of this Convention be and he is hereby instructed to transmit forthwith a copy of the foregoing Preamble, Ordinance, and Resolutions to the Governors of the several States named in said resolutions.*

Done by the people of the State of Alabama, in Convention assembled, at Montgomery, on this, the eleventh day of January, A. D. 1861.

WILLIAM M. BROOKS,  
President of the Convention.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., January 14th, 1861.

*Hon. John Gill Shorter :*

DEAR SIR: The following resolution was passed by the Convention in session to-day :

*Resolved by the people of the State of Alabama in Convention assembled, That the Commissioners heretofore appointed by the Governor of this State to the several slaveholding States, be and they are hereby directed to present to the Conventions of said States, the Preamble, Ordinance and Resolutions adopted by the people of the State of Alabama, in Convention, on the 11th day of January, 1861, and to request the consideration of and concurrence in the first resolution."*

With the above resolution is transmitted to you, by order of the Convention, a certified copy of the Preamble, Ordinance, and resolutions referred to.

Respectfully,  
WILLIAM M. BROOKS,  
President of the Convention.