

The general assembly at its last session passed unanimously with two exceptions resolutions requiring the Governor in the event of the election of a Black-Republican, to order elections to be held for delegates to a convention of the state. The contingency contemplated having occurred making it necessary for me to call a convention writs of election were issued immediately after the votes of the electoral college were cast. It was my opinion that under the peculiar phraseology of the resolutions I was not authorized to order elections upon the casting of the popular vote. I therefore ^{determined} ~~concluded~~ not to do so.

As the Slaveholding States have a common interest in the institution of slavery and must be common sufferers in its overthrow, I deemed it proper, and it appeared to be the general sentiment of the people, that Alabama should consult and advise with the other Slaveholding States so far as practicable as to what is best to be done to protect their interest and honor in the impending crisis. And seeing that the Commissions of South Carolina and Florida a

would probably act before the
Convention of Alabama assembled
and that the legislatures of some
of the States would meet and might
adjourn without calling Conventions
prior to the meeting of our Con-
vention and thus the opportunity
of conferring with them ^{upon} ~~before~~
the great and vital question ^{on} ~~upon~~
which you are ^{called} to act. I determined
to appoint Commissioners to all the
Slaveholding States. After appoint-
ing them to those States whose
Conventions and legislatures were
to meet in advance of the Alabama
Convention it was suggested by
wise Counsellors that if I did not
make similar appointments to the
other Southern States it might
seem to be making an invidious
distinction which was not intended.
Being convinced that it might
so be considered, I ^{then} ~~at once~~ deter-
mined to appoint Commissioners
to all the Slaveholding States and
made the following appointments.

A F Hopkins and F M Gilmer Com-
missioners to Virginia, John A Elmore
Commissioner to South Carolina,
J W Garrett and Robt H Smith Com-
missioners to North Carolina, J L M
Curry to Maryland, David Clopton
Commissioner to Delaware, J F Heale
Commissioner to Kentucky, Wm Cooper
Commissioner to Missouri L P Walker



Commissioner to Tennessee, David Hub-
bard Commissioner to Arkansas, J
A Winston, Commissioner to Louisiana,
J M Calhoun Commissioner to Texas
E C Bullock Commissioner to Florida,
J G Shorter Commissioner to Georgia
and E W Pettus Commissioner to
Mississippi.

All these gentlemen are well
known to the people of Alabama
and are distinguished for their
ability integrity and patriotism.
The following is a copy of the com-
mission to each of them in
substance