

ligion; no recognition of pro-slavery men, except as ruffians, outlaws, and criminals," it was time for the South to put an end to the Union, which was so distasteful to Northern sentiments—and she stamped the impress of nullification and liberty upon the standard.

The seeds of secession were sown by Northern hands, and brought forth their fruit when the great Republican husbandman undertook to eradicate the obnoxious Southern plant. The South never desired separation from the Union—but it was forced upon her.

Of her right to secede there can be no doubt. The compact of the Union was a contract between a number of independent sovereignties for the mutual benefit of each. When the Union ceased to procure or ensure the objects for which it had been entered into, it was clearly the right of the South to recilitate the contract. And the North is by no means justified in waging a war against the South to continue a union (which William H. Seward, Secretary of State, once said, to "uphold by force would be despotism") to which the people of the South have unanimously declared they will not submit. This is the philosophy of the American revolution. An obligation is declared to be a bond of right, by which all the contracting parties were equally bound. While it was the duty of all the States to advance the affairs of the general Government—each of the States were bound to respect the local institutions, as well as the sovereignty of the other. And if the contract of the Union were not fully carried out, the contracting party or parties aggrieved would be justified in demanding and enforcing the nullification of the contract.

The accession of Mr. Lincoln to the high place of President, brought on the crisis. The hostility to the South,