

# Nevada Seniors Coalition

A better quality of life for seniors, their children and grand children

The

# NSC FOGHORN

TM



Volume 16, Issue 01//02

Our Web Site is at <http://www.nevadaseniors.com>

January//February 2017

## Special Points of Interest

"It's not who votes that counts.  
It's who counts the votes."



**BAD  
POLITICIANS**



ARE ELECTED BY  
**GOOD PEOPLE**  
WHO DON'T  
VOTE

## MEETINGS RECAP

By Vice President Knight Allen

Your Nevada Seniors Coalition held two very important meetings in January and February.

On January 12, 2017 Jan Perry announced that Vern (who was home trying to recover from a bug that had sent his temperature as high as 104) was resigning the Presidency of NSC. Jan reported his decision was firm. He simply did not want to carry the responsibilities of the Office any longer.

This put us in quite a bind since it is Vern, with help from Jan who does all the work. After discussion among the Members present about Vern's decision I turned the meeting into a Nominating Convention. Actually I just asked if anyone wanted to take the job. Again there was discussion but at the end it was clear no one was prepared to take on the position.

Once that point had been reached another decision needed to be made. Do we shut down completely, liquidate the bank account and donate the funds to charity in accordance with our Charter? In discussion the Members understood there would be no more monthly meetings but, what about the "Foghorn"? I reported that Vern had indicated he might (emphasis on "might") be willing to continue the newsletter. After more discussion I called for a vote on the Question: "If Vern is willing to do it, should we continue to publish the Foghorn?"

The results were: Yay 13 Nay 0 Abstain 1

Jan then announced we would have one more meeting February at which time Vern would announce his decision personally.

On February 9, 2017 we held our final meeting of the Nevada Seniors Coalition. Vern was there and presided. Before we got into the business at hand we gave the floor to Kay Schnell who reported to us on the service that was held at the Veterans Cemetery in Boulder City for Ted Mendalski one of the longest tenured and most dedicated members of our group. Very nicely done Kay and thank you for all you did for Ted through the years.

Vern then took the floor and announced he would continue doing the "Foghorn." He will also retain the Presidency since the office has been restructured to only the newsletter and to facilitate our banking activities. Marcia Koben is now the cosigner on the account.

Dues will no longer be assessed. All currently paid up members will receive the "Foghorn" each month and we will continue to maintain the *nevadaseniors.com* website until the money runs out or Vern no longer wants to do it.

(Continued on page 2)

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017 | Good Bye 2016

Don't Think About Yesterday,  
Think About Tomorrow  
Because Tomorrow Is A Chance To Correct  
The Mistake Of Yesterday.

Happy New Year 2017

*(Continued from page 1)*

I then ran the final raffle. I gave five tickets to everyone and closed the prize inventory. We then adjourned the meeting.

A few personal thoughts if I may.

I joined the NSC Board when Ken Mahal was President, Vern was Vice President, Florence Petris was Secretary and Belle Chohanin was Treasurer. Richard Thomas worked hard spreading our Meeting Notices. Except for Vern they're all gone now which is a kind of microcosm of what has happened to the group as a whole.

When Ken left for Florida it was a natural progression for Vern to move into the Presidency and he has done a wonderful job. I was honored when he offered me the opportunity to write this column. I hope you have found it to be a positive contribution to the "Foghorn" and I hope it continues to be in the coming months and years.

It has been a pleasure to know you personally and while I'll miss the monthly meetings my contact info will continue to be at the end of each column and I'll be happy to stay in touch anytime.

Happy Trails folks.

Knight can be reached at: [knightallen702@yahoo.com](mailto:knightallen702@yahoo.com) and at (702) 870-3089

February 14th is Valentine's Day. On this day, more than a billion letters of affection are sent and 60 million pounds of chocolate are purchased.

One of the most famous Valentine's Day poems appeared in Gammer Gurton's Garland (1784), a collection of verse and nursery rhyme:

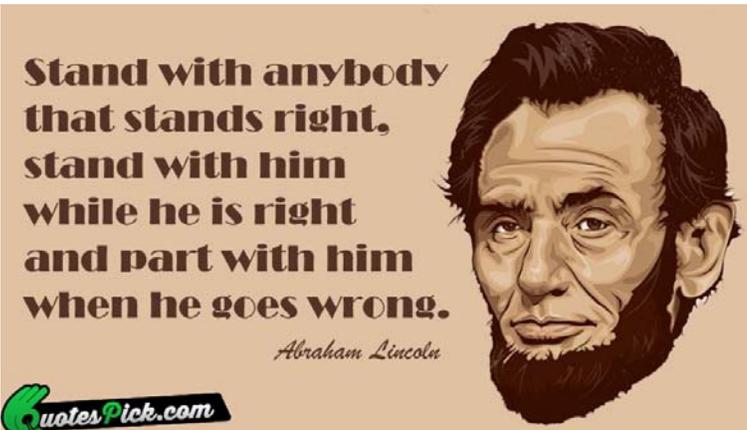
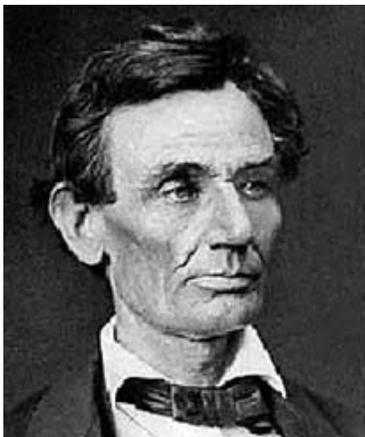
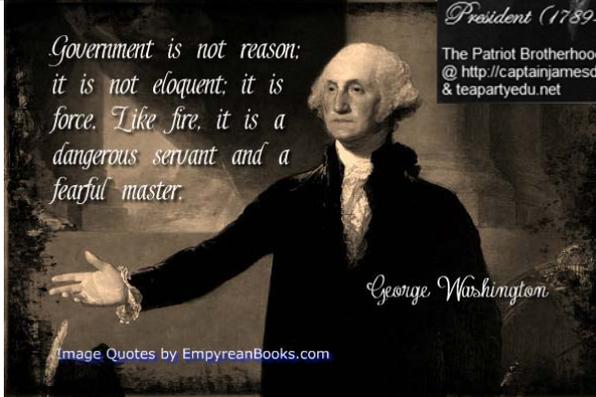
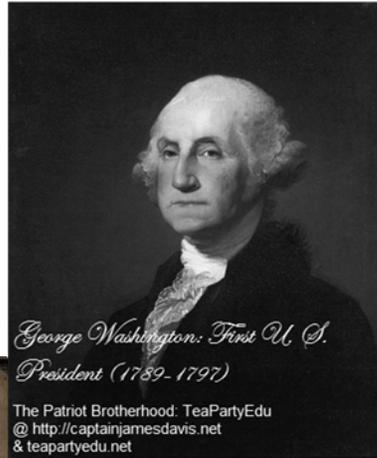
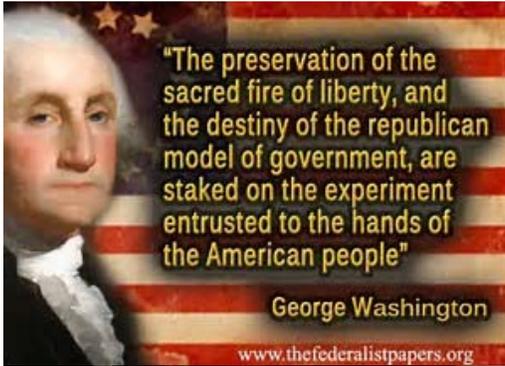
The rose is red, the violet's blue,  
The honey's sweet, and so are you.  
Thou art my love and I am thine;  
I drew thee to my Valentine:  
The lot was cast and then I drew,  
And Fortune said it shou'd be you

Happy  
Valentine's Day  
© easyday.snydle.com

"If I never MET you, I wouldn't LIKE you.  
If I didn't LIKE you, I wouldn't LOVE you.  
If I didn't LOVE you, I wouldn't MISS you.  
But I did, I do, and I will.



# "Please Don't Quote Me"



Happy Birthday  
 George and Abe!  
 Don't forget Presidents' Day.

## A SHORT HISTORY OF THE NEVADA SENIORS COALITION

From time to time I will attempt to write some interesting things about the coalition. There is incomplete information available but enough to give you an idea of how this all started. I joined the coalition in October of 1998 and became vice president in 1999. I started publishing the first newsletter in its present form in March of 2002. Jeanie Tabeek wrote a few issues of a one page newsletter in late 2001.

Now lets get into the history of the organization.

In 1988 a fellow named Joy L. Wilson joined the **Senior Coalition Against the Catastrophic Act** which had been started by Dan Hawley.

The Act was a government bill designed to improve acute care benefits for the elderly and disabled, which was to be phased in from 1989 to 1993. **The Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act of 1988** was meant to expand Medicare benefits to include outpatient drugs and limit enrollees' copayments for covered services. A supplemental premium paid by all individuals eligible for Medicare Part A was to finance the expanded coverage because of high federal budget deficits at the time, and the supplemental premium was progressive so that it would not cause hardship for poor enrollees. These two characteristics represented a departure from previous methods of financing social insurance programs in the United States. Although the bill passed easily with great support just a year and a half later, the House and Senate repealed it in response to elderly peoples' widespread misunderstanding and criticism of the bill. It actually was a good bill.

In 1990 the organization was dissolved and several members of the former organization formed the **Nevada Senior Coalition** with Joy as the president. Joy was 100 percent loyal to any cause he took up and accepted any challenge to help seniors. Wilson's first fight was trying to correct the so-called Notch. Notch babies were people born between 1917 and 1926 who, because of a 1977 act of Congress, received lower Social Security benefits than recipients from other age groups.

He soon accepted that the Notch issue was lost and started fighting to keep Medicare and Social Security (sound familiar?). He loved to fight so much that June, his wife of 49 Years , begged him to cut back. He attended meetings all the time and got calls practically every day from seniors asking for his help.

He died January 30,1995 at the age of 71. This is when Ken Mahal took over the presidency of the Nevada Seniors Coalition. The fight to solve the Notch issue continued for many years after he died with no results.

The coalition became involved in trying to correct many problems, with great success in some cases, and became well known and respected by federal, state, and local politicians . (To be continued. I hope.)

### Seniors United

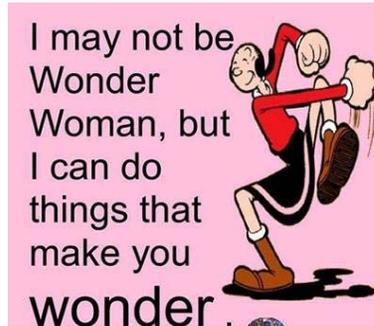
Now that NSC will no longer have meetings, might I suggest that our members attend the Seniors United meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month at the main Clark County Library located at 1401 E. Flamingo Road and S. Escondido Street (near Maryland Parkway). The meetings are from 12:00 to 1 p.m. but, since a **free** lunch is always available at the meeting, it is advisable to get there before 11:30 a.m. (when the doors open) to get your lunch before the meeting starts.

Try to park on S. Escondido St. next to the library. There are stairs leading up to an entry door. When you enter turn left and go down the stairs or take the elevator to the Large Conference Room. There is limited street parking on Escondido but there is a large parking lot at the rear of the library which is actually the front entrance. The walk to get to the room is much longer and more involved. You can get directions from the library staff.

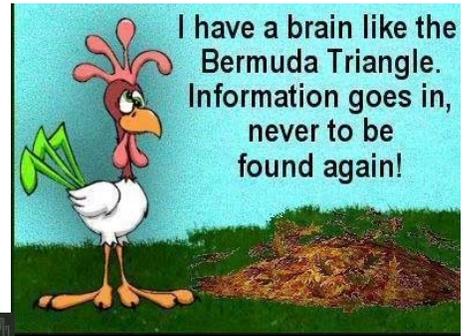
From an email sent to me by Jerry Johnson, NSC member and president of Seniors United.



Good friends make bad days a little more bearable.



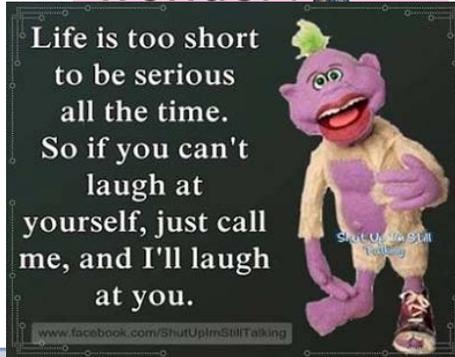
I may not be Wonder Woman, but I can do things that make you wonder.



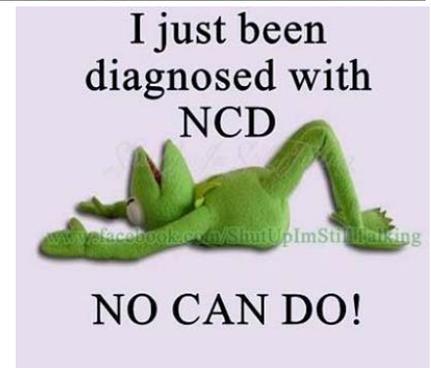
I have a brain like the Bermuda Triangle. Information goes in, never to be found again!



The Secret to happiness is a good sense of humor and a bad memory.



Life is too short to be serious all the time. So if you can't laugh at yourself, just call me, and I'll laugh at you.

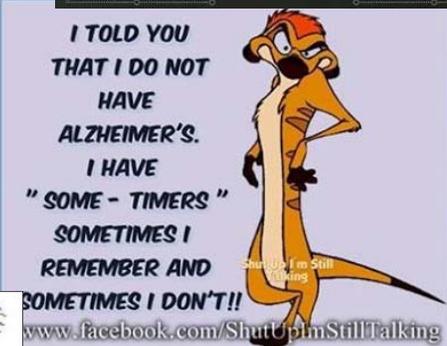


I just been diagnosed with NCD

NO CAN DO!



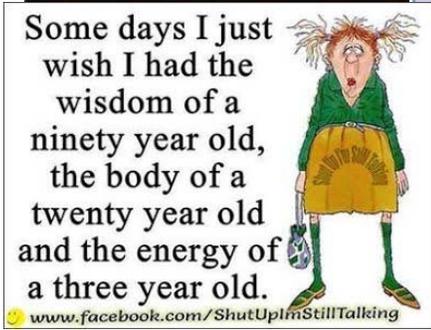
I'm gonna appeal this case all the way to Grandma!



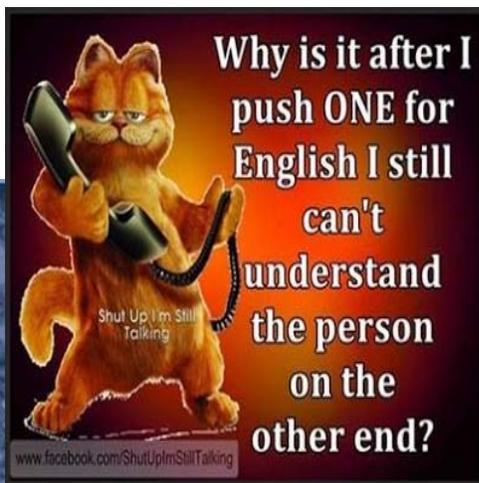
I TOLD YOU THAT I DO NOT HAVE ALZHEIMER'S. I HAVE "SOME - TIMERS" SOMETIMES I REMEMBER AND SOMETIMES I DON'T!!



I love the kind of hugs where you can physically feel the sadness leaving your body



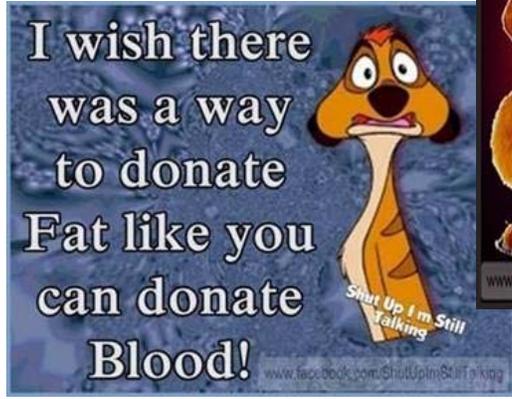
Some days I just wish I had the wisdom of a ninety year old, the body of a twenty year old and the energy of a three year old.



Why is it after I push ONE for English I still can't understand the person on the other end?



Sometimes the thoughts in my head get bored, and go for a stroll out through my mouth. This is never a good thing



I wish there was a way to donate Fat like you can donate Blood!

Abraham Lincoln, was born in Hardin County, Kentucky, February 12, 1809 -died on Good Friday 1865. Lincoln first officially declared his opposition to slavery in 1854, though he had long disapproved of it. In a speech against the pro-slavery Kansas-Nebraska Act, Lincoln said: "I cannot but hate it. I hate it because of the monstrous injustice of slavery itself. I hate it because it deprives our republican example of its just influence in the world." In 1858, he delivered his famous "House Divided" speech, with which he called for the unification of the country and gained the support of Northern Republicans, saying: "A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free." In the wee hours of the morning on November 7, 1860, Lincoln received word that he had become the 16th president of the United States. He won only **40 percent of the popular vote**, and carried not a single slave-holding state.

The country was in turmoil when he departed for Washington to take office. Seven states had already seceded in the three months since his election. John Nicolay, Lincoln's personal secretary, remarked about the number of threats that crossed the president-elect's desk in those months. "His mail was infested with brutal and vulgar menace, and warnings of all sorts came to him from zealous or nervous friends," Nicolay wrote. "But he had himself so sane a mind, and a heart so kindly, even to his enemies, that it was hard for him to believe in political hatred so deadly as to lead to murder."

Before boarding the train to Washington, Lincoln bid farewell to his home of Springfield, Illinois: "*My friends no one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. [...] I now leave, not knowing when or whether I may return, to a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington.*"

Maryland railroad executives hired detective and security expert Allan Pinkerton, because they were worried that secessionists would try to disrupt the inauguration by blowing up the tracks. Pinkerton uncovered something more sinister: an assassination plot set to be carried out in Baltimore (Maryland was pro-Union - Baltimore was not. The Baltimore riot of 1861 (also called the Pratt Street Riot and the Pratt Street Massacre) was a conflict on April 19, 1861, in Baltimore, Maryland, between antiwar Democrats (the largest party in Maryland), as well as Confederate sympathizers, and members of the Massachusetts militia en route to Washington for Federal service. It produced the first deaths by hostile action in the American Civil War. Four soldiers (Corporal Sumner Needham of Company I and privates Luther C. Ladd, Charles Taylor, and Addison Whitney of Company D) and twelve civilians were killed in the riot. ) Because Lincoln didn't like ostentatious pageantry, he steadfastly refused to travel with a security detail. Pinkerton urged him to make his arrival as low-key as he possibly could, and worked out a secret itinerary to elude the assassins. Lincoln arrived in Baltimore in the middle of the night, several hours before he was expected, and then sneaked into the nation's capital at six o'clock in the morning. He agreed to a disguise: a soft wool hat and a shawl, and he slouched to try to conceal his height. At one point, he posed as an invalid who needed quiet and privacy. The press had a field day when they found out about his "surreptitious nocturnal dodging," and his critics never missed a chance to criticize him for cowardice.

Eventually, the reports of his disguise grew more and more elaborate, until they became the **myth** that he stole into town wearing his wife's clothes. Some people, including Lincoln's friend and biographer Ward Hill Lamont, believe that there was no plot to assassinate Lincoln on his way to Washington.

Just five days after Lee surrendered to Grant to end the Civil War, actor and Confederate sympathizer John Wilkes Booth crept into Lincoln's theater box and shot him in the back of the head. **He was the first U.S. president to die by assassination.**

### ♥ HAPPY VALENTINES DAY ♥

**Valentine's Day**, also called **Saint Valentine's Day** or the **Feast of Saint Valentine**, is an annual holiday celebrated on February 14. It originated as a Western Christian liturgical feast day honoring one or more early saints named *Valentinus*, and is recognized as a significant cultural and commercial celebration in many regions around the world, although it is not a public holiday in any country.

Several martyrdom stories associated with the various Valentines that were connected to February 14 were added later. There are many stories concerning Saint Valentine of Rome which indicated he was imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry and for ministering to Christians, who were persecuted under the Roman Empire. According to legend, during his imprisonment, Saint Valentine healed the daughter of his jailer, Asterius, and before his execution, he wrote her a letter signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell.

## **George Washington delivered the first State of the Union address on January 8, 1790.**

He delivered the address in New York City, which was the nation's provisional capital at that time. He spoke to both houses of Congress in a joint session, spelling out his agenda for the coming year. He talked about the usual topics: immigration, border security, overseas trade, and adequate funding for national defense; he also urged Congress to promote science and literature, saying, "Knowledge is in every country the surest basis of public happiness." He closed by saying, "The welfare of our country is the great object to which our cares and efforts ought to be directed, and I shall derive great satisfaction from a cooperation with you in the pleasing though arduous task of insuring to our fellow citizens the blessings which they have a right to expect from a free, efficient, and equal government."

We owe our current State of the Union tradition to Washington, but there was a long stretch of time where the president did not give the address in person. Thomas Jefferson broke with precedent in 1801 because he felt it was too similar to the British monarch's Speech from the Throne. He wrote out his address instead, and sent it to Congress, where it was read by a clerk. Jefferson's tradition was continued until 1913, when Woodrow Wilson decided to address Congress in person once more, and though there have been exceptions since then, a personal address has become the standard method of delivery. Until Calvin Coolidge broadcast his address to Congress over the radio in 1923, the public had to wait to read the president's words in the newspapers. Franklin Roosevelt was the first president to call it the "State of the Union Address" - prior to that, it had been known as the President's Annual Address to Congress - and Harry S. Truman was the first president to give a televised address.

## **George Washington's Farewell Address September 19, 1796**

The original farewell address was George Washington's final revolutionary act. In an open letter addressed to his "friends and fellow citizens" and published in the *Philadelphia Daily Advertiser*, Washington delivered the greatest scoop in American history: the first president would decline a third term and secure the peaceful transfer of power.

By the end of his second term, President Washington was stung by relentless attacks in the press and alarmed by growing partisan bitterness. Fearful for the country's future, he harnessed the most famous team of ghostwriters in history to flesh out his hard-won wisdom from a half century in war and peace. James Madison and Alexander Hamilton were sequentially summoned to draft the farewell in secret, even as both schemed to create opposing political parties, against Washington's wishes.

The primary point of Washington's farewell was not to recite his administration's accomplishments. Instead, he decided to issue a "warning from a parting friend" about the forces he feared could destroy the American experiment: hyper partisanship, excessive debt and foreign wars.

But Washington was too much a man of action to simply reflect on problems. He steered toward solutions, renewable sources of strength he felt could save us from descending on history's path of failed republics. He called for unity among "citizens by birth or choice," advocated political moderation and fiscal responsibility as keys to effective government, defended religious pluralism, praised the importance of education and set out a foreign policy of independence, securing peace through strength

Washington's farewell was celebrated as civic scripture for over a century, more widely reprinted than the Declaration of Independence. It was memorized by generations of schoolchildren as a means of connecting them with first principles. Its advice was slapped on postcards and offered as one of Thomas Edison's earliest recordings. Given its resonance, it's no surprise that most of Washington's successors followed his example by issuing a farewell address.

If you would like to read it in its entirety go to [www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/GPO-CDOC-106sdoc21/pdf/GPO-CDOC-106sdoc21.pdf](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/GPO-CDOC-106sdoc21/pdf/GPO-CDOC-106sdoc21.pdf). You may purchase a copy from many sources including the Government Printing Office and Amazon.com. It is about 32 pages long.

# THE NEVADA SENIORS COALITION

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Marcia Koben	Finance
LouJanice Perry	Records
Vernon Perry	Newsletter



## January 12, 1863 State of the Confederacy

**Excerpt from a message sent to the Confederate Congress.**

### **To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States**

The public journals of the North have been received containing a proclamation dated on the first day of the present month signed by the President of the United States in which he orders and declares all slaves within ten States of the Confederacy to be free, except such as are found in certain districts now occupied in part by the armed forces of the enemy.

We may well leave it to the instincts of that common humanity which a beneficent Creator has implanted in the breasts of our fellowmen of all countries to pass judgement on a measure by which several millions of human beings of an inferior race, peaceful and contented laborers in their sphere, are doomed to extermination, while at the same time they are encouraged to a general assassination of their masters by the insidious recommendation "to abstain from violence unless in necessary self-defense." Our own detestation of those who have attempted the most execrable measure recorded in the history of guilty man is tempered by profound contempt for the impotent rage which it discloses. So far as regards the action of this Government on such criminals as may attempt its execution I confine myself to informing you that I shall unless in your wisdom you deem some other course more expedient deliver to the several State authorities all commissioned officers of the United States that may hereafter be

captured by our forces in any of the States embraced in the proclamation that they may be dealt with in accordance with the laws of those States providing for the punishment of criminals engaged in exciting servile insurrection. The enlisted soldiers I shall continue to treat as unwilling instruments in the commission of these crimes and shall direct their discharge and return to their homes on the proper and usual parole.

JEFF'N DAVIS

