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SENATE, Nov. 21, 1864.—Read and referred to Committee on Foreign Relations. November 22, 1864.—Injunction of secrecy removed and ordered to be printed.

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT,

In response to a resolution of the Senate inquiring whether any State of the United States has, directly or indirectly, intimated a desire or willingness to make overtures for peace, &c.

RICHMOND, VA, Nov. 21, 1864.

To the Senate of the Confederate States :

In response to your resolution of the 17th instant, I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of State, which conveys the information requested.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

COMMUNICATION FROM SECRETARY OF STATE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, }
Richmond, November 18, 1864. }

To the PRESIDENT :

SIR : I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the resolution of the Senate, of the 17th instant, referred to me for an answer to the inquiry whether "any State of the United States has, through any of her recognized authorities, directly or indirectly, expressed a willingness to go into convention with the States of this Confederacy for the purpose of negotiating a peace or consulting on the best method of effecting a cessation of hostilities," and respectfully report, that no intimation, direct or indirect, has been received by this Government of a willingness on the part of any State of the United States to go into convention with the States of this Confederacy for the purpose of negotiating a peace, or consulting on the best method of effecting a cessation of hostilities, or for any purpose whatever.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. BENJAMIN,
Secretary of State.

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