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MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

RICHMOND, VA., Feb. 15, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

I herewith submit, for your consideration, a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an estimate of an additional appropriation required by the War Department.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

COMMUNICATION OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, }
War Department, }
Richmond, Va., Feb. 13, 1864. }

To the President of the Confederate States :

SIR: Below I have the honor to hand you an estimate of funds required by this department, for six months, commencing first of February, 1864.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

ESTIMATE of funds required by the War Department, C. S. A., from 1st February to 1st August, 1864, for the purchase of cotton, steamers, and foreign supplies.

Ten millions of dollars, (\$10,000,000)

Three millions of dollars (\$3,000,000) of cotton bonds or warrants.

C. S. A., WAR DEPARTMENT, }
Ordnance Bureau, }
Richmond, February 13, 1864. }

Hon. J. A. SEDDON, Secretary of War :

SIR: In order more effectually to carry out the recent legislation in regard to export of cotton by the Government, to provide supplies and munitions of war, it will be necessary to have a distinct appropriation to the War Department, for the purchase of cotton and steamers. It is desirable that such appropriation shall be directly to the War Department, (if the bureau of foreign supplies is not

established,) disconnected from appropriations to existing bureaux. I, therefore, respectfully suggest that application be made for the appropriation of ten millions of dollars, to purchase cotton, or other produce, with which supplies and steamers may be procured; and further, that there should be placed at your disposal cotton warrants or bonds (in such form as Congress may deem best,) of value of three millions of dollars, to be used abroad.

General McRae, in his last letter, of 25th December, states, that if the bill regulating export of cotton shall pass, (as it has,) he will find no difficulty in realizing what money may be required. Cotton warrants or bonds will be necessary for purchase of steamers and supplies. Such bonds will answer a double purpose: enabling us to realize money immediately, and in themselves be the means of soliciting new steamers into the blockade, to enable owners to carry out cotton due under them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. L. BAYNE,

Major in charge of stores, supplies, &c.

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