

"The Dis-United States. Or the Southern Confederacy" Cartoon, 1861

The Confederate leaders are portrayed as a band of competing opportunists led by South Carolina governor and secessionist Francis Pickens (far left).

Armed with a whip and a pistol, Pickens sits on the back of a young slave, pronouncing, "South Carolina claims to be file leader and general whipper in of the new Confederacy, a special edict! Obey and tremble!"

The other leaders are also armed.

Pickens's tyranny is met by expressions of self-interest from the other confederates.

Leaders from Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia sit on bales of cotton, while Florida and Louisiana sit on a wrecked ship's hull and a barrel of sugar respectively.

Florida (represented by a bearded man, possibly Stephen R. Mallory, senator and later secretary of the Confederate navy): "We want it distinctly understood that all the lights on the Coast will be put out, in order to facilitate wrecking business."

Alabama (William L. Yancey): "Alabama proclaims that Cotton is King, and the rest of the Confederacy 'must obey' that Sovereign."

Mississippi (Jefferson Davis): "We came in, with the understanding that we shall issue bonds to an unlimited extent, with our ancient right of repudiation when they became due."

Georgia (Governor Joseph E. Brown): "Georgia must have half the honors, and all the profits, or back she goes to old Pluribus Unum."

Louisiana (a mustachioed man): "A heavy duty must be levied on foreign sweetening in order to make up for what we have sacrificed in leaving the Union, otherwise we shall be like a Pelican in the wilderness!"