

Resolutions Offered by I. T. Carr

To the Secession Meeting
Winchester, Franklin County, Tennessee
24 February 1861

RESOLUTIONS¹

1. **Resolved**, That we have ever stood by the Constitution, its impacts and compromises, but they have been ruthlessly set aside by the Republican Party and [their] Chicago platform . . . , and we are now duty bound to the framers of the Constitution, the Revolutionary sires, our ancestors, to posterity, our homes, and our sacred honor, to adhere to it now as reaffirmed by the Confederate States of America.

2. **Resolved**, That in as much as the movements now made in the Congress of the United States . . . , and the incoming administration thereof, threaten to blockade our ports, force revenues, suspend postal arrangements, destroy commerce, ruin trade, depreciate currency, invade sovereign States, burn cities, butcher armies, gibbet patriots, hang veterans, oppress freemen, blot our liberty, beggar homes, widow mothers, orphan children, and desolate the peace and happiness of the nation with fire and sword – these things to do, and not to disappoint the expectation of those who have given him (Mr. Lincoln) their votes. Now, against these things we, in the name of right, the Constitution, and a just God, solemnly enter our protest; and further, when that which is manifested shall have come upon the country, we say to Tennessee: Let slip the dogs of war and cry havoc!²

3. **Resolved**, That we commend in the highest the true and loyal chivalry of the sons of the South who have resigned their offices under the late Federal government of the United States, in the army, navy, and otherwise.

[These resolutions were unanimously adopted by the several hundred Franklin County citizens in attendance.]

¹ Michael D. Foreman, "The Secession of Franklin County," in *The War of 1861-65: A Franklin County Perspective* (Winchester, TN: Franklin County Historical Society, 1998), pages 10-11.

² Alluding to Marc Antony's statement in Act 3, Scene 1 of William Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*.