



# Why They Succeeded: Documents from the formation of the Confederate States of America

*Patrick Henry*

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As controversy continues about the causes, effects and ultimate meaning of the Civil War, the best source of information about the conflict's cause comes from the words of the people involved directly.

This compilation of the key documents related to the secession of the Confederate states, and the formation of the Confederate States of America, provide critical insights into the the reasons why the leaders felt secession was justified and imperative.

The documents included in this edition include:

- Secession declarations from South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Texas and Virginia
- Secession acts from the legislatures of the 13 Confederate states
- Lee's resignation letter from the U.S. Army, and a detailed explanation of his reasons in a personal letter to Gen. Winfield Scott
- Jefferson Davis' farewell address to the U.S. Senate
- Alexander Stephens' Cornerstone Speech
- Jefferson Davis' presidential inaugural address
- Lee's farewell order to the Army of Northern Virginia

These historic documents provide first-hand insights into the political beliefs and personal feelings of the Confederate States' founding fathers.

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