

J. Hughes, Letter Regarding Response of Berkeley County Citizens to the Ordinance of Secession, 1861 A&M 3615

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1861



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Abstract

Letter of May 14, 1861 regarding response of citizens of Berkeley County, Virginia to the Ordinance of Secession and the Wheeling Convention, authored by Berkeley County resident J. Hughes from Martinsburg to Convention delegate J.S. Bowers who was representing Berkeley County. The letter records strong Union sentiment in the County, and a meeting of Berkeley County residents in support of the Preamble and Resolutions adopted at the Clarksburg Convention of April 22 that led to the Wheeling Convention of May 14. The letter also refers to a printed account of the meeting. The Ordinance of Secession was passed by the Virginia Legislature on April 17, 1861 in response to President Lincoln's call for troops on April 15 after Fort Sumter was attacked on April 12. A vote by Virginians on Secession occurred on May 23 leading to the US Civil War.

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