

Jefferson Davis

On Retiring From the Senate

Questions:

1: Why are the functions of Davis as a Senator terminated?

2: How does Davis defend secession in the second paragraph?

3: If Jefferson Davis did not agree with the reasons Mississippi put forward for secession, would he still retire from the Senate and accept secession? Why?

4: What is the doctrine of nullification?

5: How did John C. Calhoun defend that doctrine? (From class notes)

6: Davis mentions that people are invoking Andrew Jackson's response to the Nullification Crisis as a means to provide reason for a use of force in the instance of secession. Why, according to Davis, would Andrew Jackson's response not apply to seceding states?

7: What are some items a state deprives itself of through the act of secession?

8: Davis states, "[The] Declaration of Independence has been invoked to maintain the position of the equality of races." Why, according to Davis, can the Declaration not be used to denounce slavery?

9: Does Davis feel hostility towards the North? Give evidence from the text.

10: Does Davis suggest that the seceding states are prepared to defend themselves? What comparison does he draw?