

The Southern Republic.

The Permanent Constitution of the Confederate States of America. We, the people of the Confederate States, each State...

ARTICLE I.—Section 1.

All legislative powers herein delegated shall be vested in a Congress of the Confederate States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2.

1. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several States...

Section 3.

1. The Senate of the Confederate States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen for six years by the Legislature thereof...

Section 4.

1. The times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof...

Section 5.

1. Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members...

Section 6.

1. The Senators and Representatives shall receive compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the Confederate States...

Section 7.

1. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, but the Senate may propose amendments thereto...

Section 8.

1. The President shall have the power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment...

Section 9.

1. The President shall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the Confederate States, and shall have the power to receive ambassadors...

Section 10.

1. No State shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts...

President of the Confederate States; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it with his objections...

12. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech...

13. A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

14. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

15. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause...

16. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia...

17. In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed...

18. In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved; and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the Confederacy than according to the rules of the common law.

19. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

20. Every law or resolution having the effect of law, shall relate to but one subject, and that shall be expressed in the title.

Section 10. 1. No State shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts...

2. No State shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports and exports, except what may be necessary for executing its inspection laws; and the net produce of all duties and imposts, laid by any State on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the treasury of the Confederate States...

3. No State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, except on seagoing vessels; for the improvement of its ports and harbors, navigated by the said vessels; but such duties shall not conflict with any treaties of the Confederate States with foreign nations; and any surplus of revenue thus derived shall, after making such improvement, be paid into the common treasury; nor shall any State keep troops or ships of war, in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another State, or with a foreign power...

4. No State shall, without the consent of Congress, declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water.

5. To raise and support armies; but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years.

6. To provide and maintain a navy.

7. To exercise exclusive legislation, in all cases whatsoever, over such district (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of one or more States and the acceptance of the Congress, become the seat of the government of the Confederate States; and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the Legislature of the State in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dockyards and other useful buildings; and

8. To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the Confederate States, or in any department or officer thereof.

Section 9. 1. The importation of negroes of the African race from any foreign country other than the slaveholding States, or Territories of the United States of America, is hereby forbidden; and Congress is required to pass such laws as shall effectually prohibit the same...

2. Congress shall also have power to prohibit the introduction of slaves from any State not a member of, or Territory not belonging to, this Confederacy.

3. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

4. No bill of attainder, or ex post facto law, or law denying or impairing the right of property in negro slaves shall be passed.

5. No capitation or other direct tax shall be laid unless in proportion to the census or enumeration heretofore directed to be taken.

6. No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any State, except by a vote of two-thirds of both Houses of the Confederate States.

7. No preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one State over those of another.

8. No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

9. Congress shall appropriate no money from the treasury except by a vote of two-thirds of both Houses, taken by yeas and nays, unless it be asked and estimated by some one of the heads of department, and submitted to Congress by the President; or for the purpose of paying its own expenses and contingencies; or for the payment of claims against the Confederate States, the justice of which shall have been judicially declared by a tribunal for the investigation of claims against the government, which it is hereby made the duty of Congress to establish.

10. All bills appropriating money shall specify in federal currency the exact amount of each appropriation and the purposes for which it is made; and Congress shall grant no extra compensation to any public contractor, officer, agent or servant, after such contract shall have been made or such service rendered.

11. No title of nobility shall be granted by the Confederate States; and no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present emolument, office or title of any kind whatever from any king, prince or foreign State.

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shall have been elected; and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the Confederate States, or any of them.

4. The Confederate States shall guarantee to every State that now is or hereafter may become a member of this Confederacy a Republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and on application of the Legislature (or of the Executive when the Legislature is not in session) against domestic violence.

ARTICLE V.—Section 1. 1. Upon the demand of any three States legally assembled in their several conventions, the Congress shall convene a Convention of all the States, to take into consideration such amendments to the Constitution as the said States shall concur in suggesting at the time when the said demand is made, and should any of the proposed amendments to the constitution be agreed on by the said convention—voting by States—and the same be ratified by the Legislatures of two-thirds thereof—as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by a part of this Constitution. But no State shall, without its consent, be deprived of its equal representation in the Senate.

ARTICLE VI. 1. The Government established by the Constitution is the supreme government of the Confederate States, and all the laws passed by the latter shall continue in force until the same shall be repealed or modified; and all the officers appointed by the same shall remain in office until their successors are appointed and qualified, or the offices abolished.

ARTICLE VII. 1. The ratification of the Conventions of five State shall be sufficient for the establishment of this constitution between the States so ratifying the same.

ARTICLE VIII.—Section 1. 1. The judicial power of the Confederate States shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The judges, both of the Supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behavior, and shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

Section 2. 1. The judicial power shall extend to all cases arising under this Constitution, the laws of the Confederate States, and treaties, which shall be made under their authority; to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; to controversies to which the Confederate States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more States; between a State and citizens of another State where the State is plaintiff; between citizens of different States; and between a State and citizens thereof and foreign States, citizens or subjects; but no State shall be sued by a citizen or subject of any foreign State.

Section 3. 1. Treason against the Confederate States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

Section 4. 1. The citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States, and shall have the right of transit and sojourn in any State of this Confederacy, with their slaves and other property; and no State shall deprive any citizen of the United States of his life, liberty, property or rights, without due process of law.

Section 5. 1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other State, and the Congress may, by general laws, prescribe the manner in which such records and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Section 6. 1. Other States may be admitted into this Confederacy by a vote of two-thirds of the whole House of Representatives and two-thirds of the Senate, the Senate voting by States; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the junction of two or more States, or parts of States, without the consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned, as well as of the Congress.

Section 7. 1. The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations concerning the property of the Confederate States, including the lands thereof.

Section 8. 1. The Confederate States may acquire new territory, and Congress shall have power to legislate and provide governments for the inhabitants of all territory belonging to the Confederate States lying without the limits of the several States, and may permit them, at such times and in such manner as it may by law provide, to form the States to be admitted into the Confederacy. In all such territory the institution of negro slavery, as it now exists in the Confederate States shall be recognized and protected by Congress and by the territorial government and the inhabitant of the several Confederate States and Territories shall

have the right to take such territory and slaves lawfully held by them in any of the States or Territories of the Confederate States.

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