

Memphis, July 31 1861.

His Excellency

Jefferson Davis.

Sir -

This will introduce Col. Robertson Topp of this City. He has lately spent some time in East Tennessee endeavoring to bring about harmony and unanimity in that region - He is anxious to heal the dissensions existing there, and to prevent intestine war.

Col. Topp is a gentleman of fine intelligence - he was an ardent Union man until a late period, but is now thoroughly identified in feeling and in action with the Confederate States - He has long been a leading and prominent man in West Tennessee, and his opinions are those of a mature and vigorous mind. He will desire to confer with you - to communicate what intelligence he may have gained, & to submit his views, as to the mode of bringing about peace, in our own borders. Permit me to bespeak for him your

kind attention, and such consideration
for his views, as his familiarity with
the state of feeling, and his knowledge
of the disposition of the people in
that section may deserve.

I have the honor
to be very sincerely yr friend
Alex. M. Clayton

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