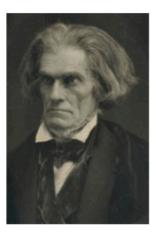
SENATOR 1 SOUTH CAROLINA (D)



JOHN C. CALHOUN

There's no sugarcoating it: you're one of the Senate's strongest supporters of slavery, and not afraid to let people know it. You're pushing seventy and battling tuberculosis, but you're going to weigh in on this bill if it KILLS you (Spoiler: it does). You're a giant of the senate, and relish your position as a major influence holder.



Democrat

As a Democrat, you feel that you represent the common people of the United States: small farmers, laborers, and settlers moving west. You think that wealthy landowners and businessmen shouldn't have as much influence over politics—they're overrepresented as it is!









South Carolina

Things are tense in your state: people are leaving, the cotton crop has been low, and you have the sinking feeling that your "property" outnumbers you. Thank heavens you and your planter friends control the state government — it's the only way to make sure the North doesn't make things worse.







EXCERPTS FROM "THE CLAY COMPROMISE MEASURES" SPEECH BY JOHN C. CALHOUN

The first question, then, presented for consideration in the investigation I propose to make in order to obtain such knowledge is: What is it that has endangered the Union? To this question there can be but one answer, that the immediate cause is the almost universal discontent which pervades all the States composing the Southern section of the Union. This widely extended discontent is not of recent origin. It commenced with the agitation of the slavery question and has been increasing ever since. The next question, going one step further back, is: What has caused this widely diffused and almost universal discontent?

One of the causes is, undoubtedly, to be traced to the long-continued agitation of the slave question on the part of the North, and the many aggressions which they have made on the rights of the South during the time.

...There is another lying back of it--with which this is intimately connected--that may be regarded as the great and primary cause. This is to be found in the fact that the equilibrium between the two sections in the government as it stood when the Constitution was ratified and the government put in action has been destroyed. At that time there was nearly a perfect equilibrium between the two, which afforded ample means to each to protect itself against the aggression of the other; but, as it now stands, one section has the exclusive power of controlling the government, which leaves the other without any adequate means of protecting itself against its encroachment and oppression.

The result of the whole is to give the Northern section a predominance in every department of the government, and thereby concentrate in it the two elements which constitute the federal government: a majority of States, and a majority of their population, estimated in federal numbers. Whatever section concentrates the two in itself possesses the control of the entire government. ...Having now, senators, explained what it is that endangers the Union, and traced it to its cause, and explained its nature and character, the question again recurs, How can the Union be saved? To this I answer, there is but one way by which it can be, and that is by adopting such measures as will satisfy the States belonging to the Southern section that they can remain in the Union consistently with their honor and their safety....

The South asks for justice, simple justice, and less she ought not to take. ...But can this be done? Yes, easily; not by the weaker party, for it can of itself do nothing--not even protect itself--but by the stronger. The North has only to will it to accomplish it--to do justice by conceding to the South an equal right in the acquired territory, and to do her duty by causing the stipulations relative to fugitive slaves to be faithfully fulfilled--to cease the agitation of the slave question, and to provide for the insertion of a provision in the Constitution, by an amendment, which will restore to the South, in substance, the power she possessed of protecting herself before the equilibrium between the sections was destroyed by the action of this government. But will the North agree to this? It is for her to answer the question....