



**Emergency White House Meeting of the  
Confederate States of America, 1862**

**PORTFOLIO GUIDE**

**Freeze Date: 20th September , 1862**



## 1) Alexander H. Stephens

Alexander H. Stephens was born in Georgia in 1812. He was skilled as an orator and lawyer. Therefore, he became a prominent figure in the 1840s, often participating in issues like tariffs and slavery. He supported the Kansas Act and Compromise of 1850, but was initially against secession. However, he changed his opinion once the rest of Georgia voted in favour of it. He became the Vice-President of the provisional government in 1861, and by 1862, found himself at odds with the Davis administration.







## 2) Judah P. Benjamin

Judah Benjamin came from a Sephardic Jewish family and was sharp as a tack. Before the war, he was Louisiana's senator and a strong supporter of slavery. When Louisiana left the Union, Benjamin jumped into the Confederate government, starting out as Attorney General in 1861. He moved up fast — first Secretary of War, then Secretary of State by early 1862. The military wasn't going great, and some people doubted his skills, but Davis trusted him completely. By late 1862, Benjamin was basically Davis' closest confidant.

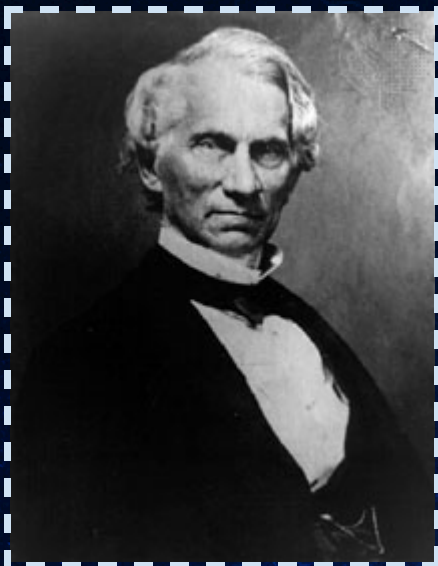






### 3) Christopher G. Memminger

Memminger was a USC-educated lawyer with a German birthright. He had dedicated almost the entirety of his career to state sovereignty. The South Carolina government included him as a delegate in their secession convention and employed him as a state legislator. He was appointed as the inaugural Secretary of the Treasury in the Jefferson Davis cabinet during February of 1861. By September 1862 Memminger faced essential challenges to maintain stability in the Confederate economy. The primary economic strategies used by Memminger consisted of loans, printing money and issuing war bonds which all increased inflation and destabilized the financial situation in the Confederacy.

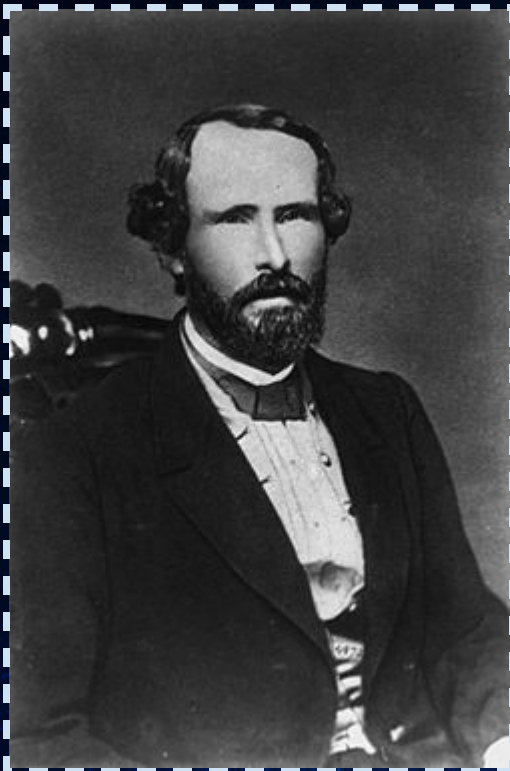






#### 4) George W. Randolph

Randolph was a Virginia lawyer and Confederate officer. He was also President Thomas Jefferson's grandson. After a brief stint in the Confederate army, he was named Secretary of War in March 1862. He was committed to enhancing military organisation, especially western and southern defences, but came into conflict with Jefferson Davis. He also wrote a conscription law similar to the one he had made for Virginia, but he continued to encounter obstacles from Confederate bureaucracy and scarce resources.







## 5) Stephen R. Mallory

From 1851 until Florida's secession in 1861, Mallory, a lawyer from Florida, was a member of the US Senate. After being named Confederate Secretary of the Navy in February 1861, he started creating the Confederate Navy from the ground up. Mallory struggled with scarce resources and Union naval blockades, but by September 1862 he had supervised the introduction of ironclads and commerce raiders.







## 6) Thomas H. Watts

A politician and attorney from Alabama, Watts was an early proponent of secession and a delegate to the Confederate Provisional Congress. He was the Attorney General of the Confederacy. Although he was not yet in a prominent position within the Confederate government, he was active in Alabama politics by September 1862 and opposed some of Jefferson Davis's policies.

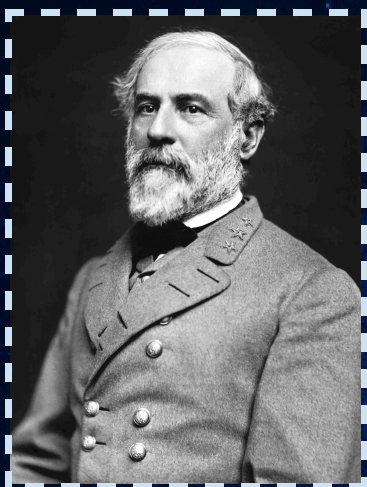






## 7) Robert E. Lee

Robert E. Lee was born in 1807 in Virginia. He was a quiet, sharp-minded man who glided through West Point with top marks and no disciplinary slips. He made a name for himself during the Mexican-American War with courage and tactical skill. Though he didn't agree with secession of Virginia initially, his loyalty to his home state won out. He left the U.S. Army and stepped into a leadership role for Virginia's troops. By 1862, Lee was the face of Confederate military command and he was the commander of the Army of Northern Virginia. He fought off Union forces near Richmond in the Seven Days Battles, then scored another win at the Second Battle of Bull Run. Riding that momentum, he crossed into Maryland in September, hoping to shift the war's course. What followed was Antietam—the bloodiest single day in American history. Lee withdrew, but his status in the South was already legendary. He wasn't just a soldier. To many, Lee embodied Southern resolve, restraint, and the weight of hard choices.







## 8) Braxton Bragg

Braxton Bragg graduated from West Point and, like Robert Lee, fought in the Mexican-American War. During the early stage of the war he received a promotion to general while serving in the Confederate Army. Bragg led the Army of Mississippi. However, his fellow officers had a negative impression of his leadership abilities.







## 9) Sterling Price

Sterling Price began his military service in the U.S. Army before becoming a Missouri politician. Price initially opposed secession, supported the Union, and even backed Stephen A. Douglas for president in 1860. Eventually, however, he supported the Confederate cause, after conspiring with pro-Confederate Governor Claiborne Jackson. This conspiracy was foiled in May 1861, and he was forced to publicly second the secession. By September 1862, Price achieved different levels of military success in Missouri and Arkansas and was the commander of Army of the West while defending the territories and conducting raids to disrupt Union control.

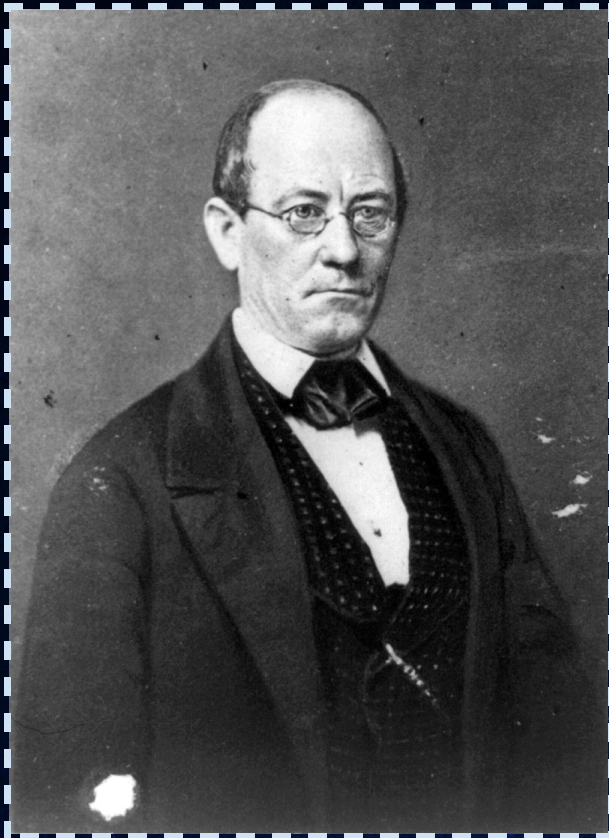






## 10) John Letcher

Politician and attorney John Letcher served as the governor of Virginia from 1860. He was pro-secession and led the state's Confederate mobilisation. Letcher recruited soldiers, managed wartime logistics, and supported Confederate military operations in Virginia as domestic war hardships grew.







## 11) Francis R. Lubbock

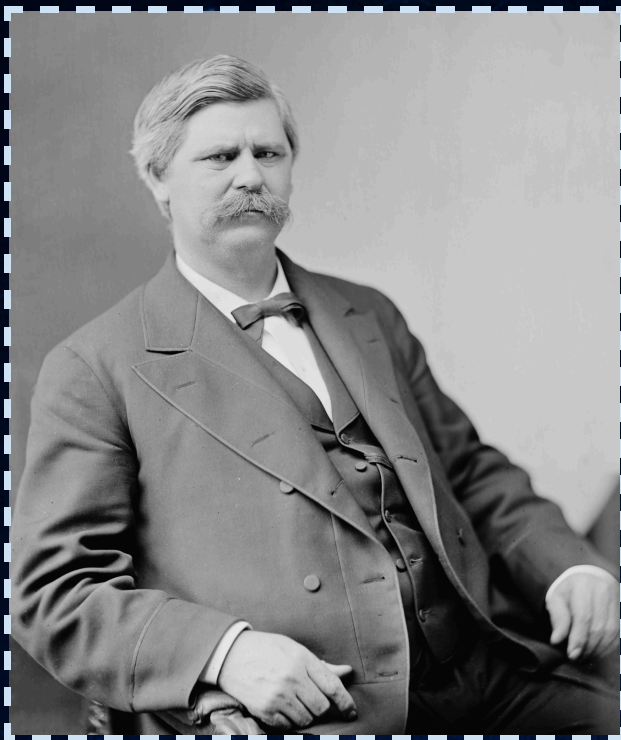
Francis R. Lubbock was the state comptroller for Texas and later he would go on to become governor in 1861. The Texas leader demonstrated his strong support for secession by managing the state's resources which supported the Confederate military. Lubbock joined the Confederate military recruitment effort in September 1862 to lead state resource management activities.





## 12) Zebulon B. Vance

After becoming the North Carolina governor in 1862, he clashed frequently with Confederate leaders because of his defence of state autonomy and military conscription matters despite his strong Confederacy support. The leader maintained military morale throughout his leadership of state military activities and internal conflict resolution in September of 1862.

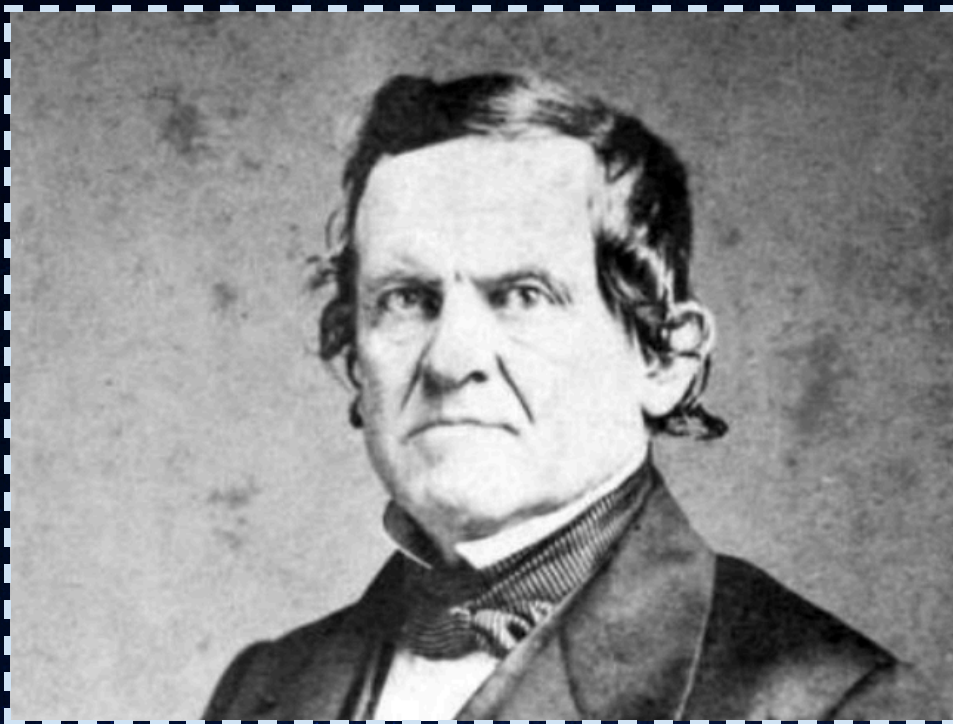






### 13) Francis W. Pickens

Pickens was the governor of South Carolina when it became the first to secede from the United States of America, but did not sign the South Carolina ordinance of secession. He personally approved the firing on the American merchant steamship “Star of the West”, and the bombardment on Fort Sumter.







## 14) Henry M. Rector

Elected in 1860, Rector was a fiercely independent governor of Arkansas. He was frequently at odds with Confederate central authority, irritated by the expanding power of Confederate bureaucracy. He led Arkansas's secession and early mobilisation during the war and was an ardent supporter of his state's independence.







## 15) John J. Pettus

He was the governor of Mississippi and had advocated secession even before Lincoln's election. He devoted his life to supplying troops and enforcing Confederate laws because he identified as a staunch and moral Southerner. The effects of war, draft evasions and inflation burdened him, but he firmly believed that the Confederacy stood for freedom and integrity.

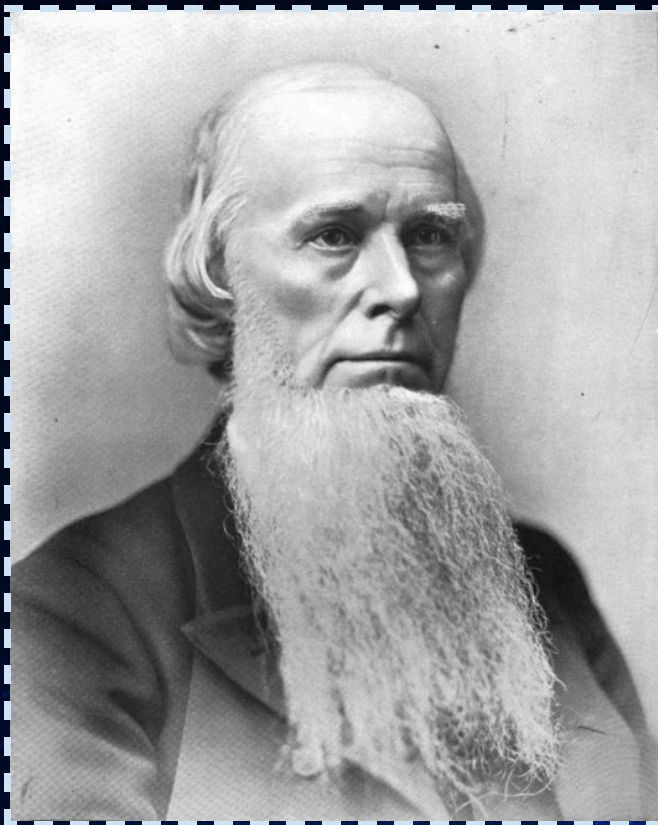






## 16) Joseph E. Brown:

One of the most powerful Southern governors, Brown was fiercely independent and ingrained in Georgia's mountain culture. He opposed Jefferson Davis's increasing central authority, conscription in Richmond and Confederate tax policies. Other governors were influenced by him, leading to a disbalance which negatively impacted the war effort. Brown remained steadfast in his belief that local control was the Confederacy's soul, urging Georgians to maintain their resolve.







## 17) John Milton

Born on 20th April, 1807, John Milton became governor of Florida in October, 1861. He supported the secession of Florida and stressed on the supply of food and goods to the Confederate Army rather than just men.







## 18) Gabriel Rains

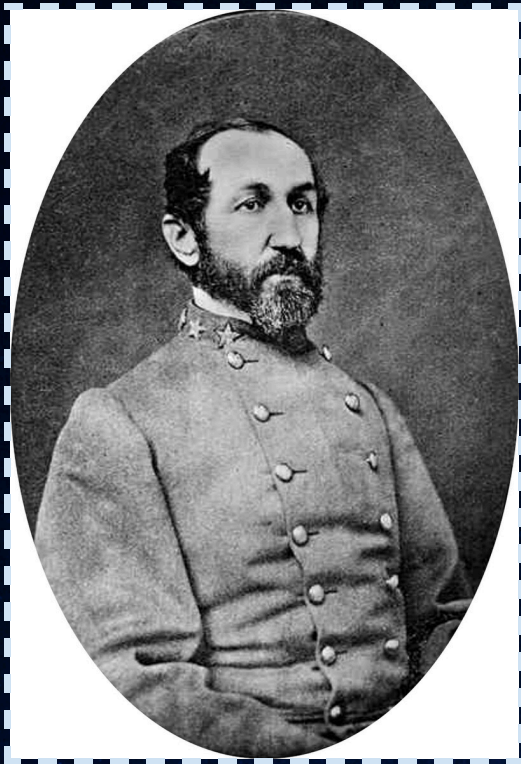
Rains was born in June 1803 in North Carolina. He took part in the Mexican War. He became a Confederate brigadier general in 1861. He was wounded at the Battle of Seven Pines. After healing, he was placed in command of the conscription and torpedo bureaus at Richmond. He developed the first modern mechanically fused high explosive anti-personnel landmines, called "Rains Mines"- of which 2000 were deployed from the Battle of Yorktown onwards.





## 19) Josiah Grogas

Born on July 1, 1818, Josiah Grogas was the head of the Confederate States of America Ordnance Bureau during the war. He coordinated with Charles K. Prioleau to procure arms and ammunition for the Confederacy. He established the Augusta Power Works in Georgia, in hopes that the Confederate Army never runs out of gunpowder.







## 20) John Gill Shorter

Born April 23, 1818, Shorter was a delegate to the Montgomery Convention in 1861 where the Confederate States were formed. He was elected Governor of Alabama in 1861. He was a member of the planter class and an ardent secessionist.





## 21) Thomas Overton Moore

He was elected Democratic governor of Louisiana in November 1859 defeating Thomas Wells. He organized troops and supplies, encouraged enlistment, and supplied 8,000 men to the Confederate Army—5,000 more than President Jefferson Davis had requested. Moore also advocated for a strong defense of New Orleans, recognizing its strategic importance.

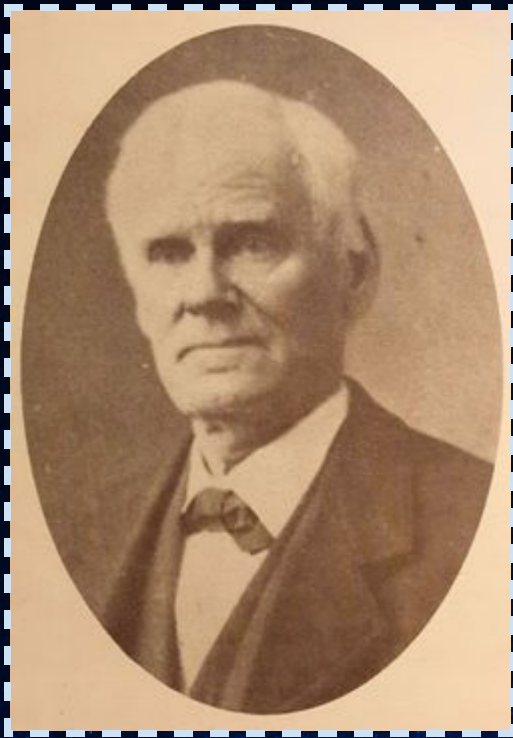






## 22) Lewis E. Harvie

He was born in 1809, he served in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1841 to 1850, representing Amelia County. During his tenure, he held significant committee positions, including chairing the Banks Committee and serving on the Finance and Agriculture & Manufactures Committees. In 1856, Harvie became the third president of the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company. This railroad company was very crucial to the Confederate War effort as it was one of the South's most strategic and important railroads.

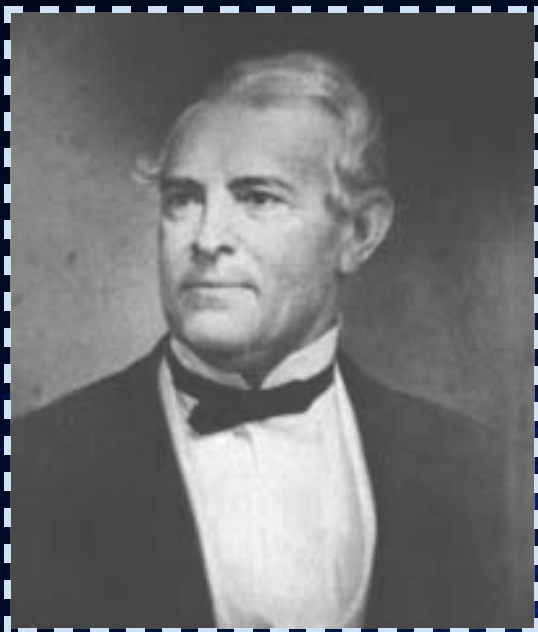






## 23) Alfred Trenholm

Born in 1807, Trenholm, at the young age of 16, started his career with John Fraser & Company, a major cotton broker in Charleston and rose to become a partner. After Fraser's death in 1854, it was renamed to Fraser and Trenholm and Company. After the war broke out, he shifted his firm's headquarters to the West Indies to evade Union blockades. He thus became a major financier of the Confederacy, exporting cotton and importing arms, ammunition and medical supplies. Trenholm and his partner Charles K. Prioleau worked with James Bulloch as Confederate foreign agents in Britain to manage their arrangements. He was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives twice by 1862, once in 1852 and then in 1860.







## 24) Isham G.Harris

Harris was born in Franklin County, Tennessee near Tullahoma. He was the ninth child of Isham Green Harris, a farmer and Methodist minister, and his wife Lucy Davidson Harris. He was recognized by the Confederacy as the Governor of Tennessee even though the Union had already appointed Andrew Curtin as the military governor of Tennessee by Abraham Lincoln in March 1862.

