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Forgotten Books, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Excerpt from Letters of the Hon.: Joseph Holt, the Hon. Edward Everett, and Commodore Charles Stewart, on the Present Crisis Equally vain is it for them to declare that they only wish to be let alone, and that, in establishing the independence of the seceded states, they do those which remain in the old confederacy no harm. The free states, if al lowed the opportunity of doing so, will undoubtedly concede every guarantee needed to afford complete protection to the institutions of the South, and to furnish assurances of her perfect equality in the Union; but all such guaran tees and assurances are now openly spurned, and the only Southern right now insisted on is that of dismembering the republic. It is perfectly certain, that in the attempted exercise of this right, neither states nor statesmen will be let alone. Should a ruffian meet me in the streets, and seek, with his axe, to hew an arm and a leg from my body, I would not the less resist him because, as a dishonored and helpless trunk, I might perchance survive the mutilation. It is easy to perceive what fatal results to the old confederacy would follow, should the blow now struck at its integrity ultimately triumph. We can well understand what degradation it would bring to it abroad, and what weakness at home; what exhaustion from incessant war and standing armies, and from the erection of fortifications along the thousands of miles of new frontiers; what embarrassments to commerce from having its natural channels encumbered or cut off; What elements of disintegration and revolu tion would be introduced from the pernicious example; and, above all, what humiliation would cover the whole American people...

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