



On December 31, 1860, the Missouri Republican presented their position on the secession crisis in an article titled, "The Legislature—The Crisis." That article is summarized below. That article is at: (FLP: Ser 1MD-Feb-Annex-18).

1. The Missouri Republican is against secession, and feels compromise is the only way to prevent war. The U.S. Congress must do the compromising.
2. The Northern states have greatly wronged the slave states, and those wrongs must be redressed before there can be any settlement of the secession crisis.
3. The slave states should hold a convention to identify and clearly express their grievances and the aggressions of the North, to which they will no longer submit, and present them to the U.S. Congress to remedy.
4. If Congress fails to take positive steps to remedy the slave state grievances by the time Lincoln is inaugurated, all 15 slave states should declare their separation from the Union in unison.



The Missouri Democrat published an article making the case that the Missouri Republican is a secessionist newspaper.

1. We [Missouri Democrat] have struggled from the moment of the introduction of the Convention Bill, to unite in one body all the men, and throw on one ticket all the votes which could be procured for the absolute maintenance of the Union. The Missouri Republican has constantly denounced this course, refusing to count the votes of ten thousand Republican Party members unreservedly for the Union.
2. We have insisted on an organization based on the preservation of the Union as the greatest present attainable good. The Missouri Republican has labored for an organization formed for carrying the city election in April—thus ignoring and passing by default on the greater question of the Union.
3. The Republican has constantly united with nullifiers and seceders, received them in private consultation, joined them in making a platform, met them in public convention, and pledged themselves in contingency to "share the common duties and common dangers of the South."
5. The Republican has more recently declared that they "will not submit" to any attempt by the general government to coerce seceding states—that is, they will not submit, but will resist the execution of the laws in such states—and this declaration is made without restriction or qualification.
6. The Republican has made a ticket and asked for it the support of the people of this city, on which ticket are "notorious nullifiers" and seceders, and every nullifier accepts and supports the ticket.
7. In no instance has the Republican put forth any resolution or sentiment censuring or protesting secession. But they have pledged themselves to protect and defend it. In no instance have they uttered a word of approval for the course of Major Anderson at Fort Sumter, whose heroic valor and patriotism are the pride of every loyal citizen.