"A Few Plain Questions to the South," Delaware (OH) *Gazette*, January 13, 1860 https://stampedes.dickinson.edu/document/delaware-oh-gazette-few-plain-questions-south-january-13-1860

A rew Plain Questions to the euth-

- 1. Do the southern states seriously contemplate a non-intercourse with the North, or a secession from the Union, or neither?
- 2. In the former case, how long can they do without the necessaries, the luxuries and the amenities of the North; or, to speak figuratively, when a child from resentment refuses his dinner, how many subsequent usuals does be usually omit?
- 3. In the case of accession from the Union, in what part of Christendem would be found a more feeble nation than the separated South, without ships, without sailors, without manufactories, without white labor or industry, without much money, and with the volcano of the black population under their feet?
- '4. In case of a disruption of the Union, to which side will the frontier states of Maryland, Delaware, Missouri, &c., think it most prodent to attach thems. Ives?
- 5. What will be the first fruit of separation of the states, unless it be a stampede of slaves, a recapture, a rescue, a tight, a civil war?
- 6. How long can the South carry on each a war with the disabilities already mentioned, and with a white population which is now less than a third of that of the Union, and soon will be but a fourth, a sixth, and eventually a still smaller fraction?
- 7. How much courage is there in a "chivalry" which selects for its assault an unarmed and unsuspecting victim, like Sumner, and which is unable to suppress a paltry, insurrection of a few fauntics till it is alone for them by United States marines?
- 8. If it took Virginia two days too capture John Brown and his twenty untrained "vaga-

long withit take to conquer the state of New York?

- 9. If it cost the Emperor of Austria some hundred militions, and a part of his dominions to carry on a few months' war with France, how long will South Carolina be able to wage war with her appropriation of \$200,000?
- 10. Is the alliance of a foreign power to be preferred to the more natural alliance of countrymen, kindred and friends? Is a colonial dependence on Great Britain, like that which our fathers spilt their blood to sever, more desirable than a constitutional government of a majority of the people? Or would Marshal Pelissier na're a more acceptable Governor of the South than a legally elected Republican President?
- 11. Is not the bluster and bravado about southern secession growing rather a stale topic, peculiar to noisy politicians and hair-brained journalists, which the sensible and conservative portion of southern people know to be foolish and would prefer to have it case?
- 12. Do not the people of the North, a few eccentric abolitionists excepted, respect the constitutional rights of the South—are they not bound to them by ties of consanguinity and of interest—do they not feel and admit that slavery, as it now exists within the southern states, is no concern of theirs—that present emancipation is not to be expected, and that the South must work out the problem of slavery for themselves?
- 13. Thirty or fifty years hence, what safety will there be to the Bouth, except in the protection of a strong government like that of the United States?—N. Y. Post.