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Beauvoir Missie.

8th March. 1886.

R. J. Holcombe Esqr.

Dear Sir,

I have received your letter of the 3rd Inst. with the slip enclosed. The letter is returned as requested by you.

Accustomed to much misrepresentation & misapprehension, I was not prepared for the existence of a report that I was opposed to receiving Missie into the Confederacy. The story would be absurd if there was no evidence to disprove it but my efforts to aid Missie before she had entered the Confederacy & before her troops would agree to be mustered into the Confed. Service were so well known that I could not suppose any one would at this day assert that I had any

thing else than the most friendly feeling  
for the people of the State. While I desired  
both Missouri & Kentucky to whom he  
had every bond of affinity to join us  
in the organization of a separate Govt,  
I desired that a matter entirely for their  
own decision and took no measures  
to influence their action; I then believed  
and still believe that if the people of those  
States had been left to the free exercise  
of their sovereign will, they would with  
great unanimity have placed Missouri  
& Kentucky by the side of their Sis-  
ters of the South & in that belief  
I did ardently desire the cooperation  
of both. Where all my acts & utterances are on  
one side it is hard to comprehend the circula-  
tion of a story so utterly opposed to what I did, said  
and thought.

Very respectfully yours.

Jefferson Davis