



ELIAS SMITH.....EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Wednesday.....April 24, 1861.

PROGRESS OF DISSOLUTION.

The revolutionary movements that have been progressing in the States—once constituting the American Union, have for the last few months, been viewed by the people of Utah with much interest as well as by the inhabitants of the States most concerned in the issue of the events now transpiring, and which, in all probability, will involve them in all the horrors of civil war at no distant day. In view of this state of things we have deemed proper to appropriate, of late, a large share of the columns of the News to the publishing of the dispatches received by Express, relating, principally, to the movements of the government of the United States, that was, and of the secessionists; and in this issue we have but little room for other matters, how ever important, as the two expresses received during the week were somewhat lengthy, and we have deemed them of sufficient interest and importance to publish them nearly entire; for whether they be strictly true or not, the results to those immediately concerned will be the same, as civil or christian war, must inevitably follow, unless one of the contending powers complies with, or yields to the demands of the other, which under existing circumstances cannot be done without the abandonment of the principles which they have promulgated to the world, and by which they have declared, without reserve, they would live or die.

The attack on, and subsequent surrender of Fort Sumter, cannot be considered other than a most important event in the history of the downfall of the American Union, should the dissolution not be consummated for many years to come; but if the progress of events shall continue to be as rapid as they have since the meeting of the democratic convention at Charleston, one year ago yesterday, which resulted in the division of the dominant party into two factions, one led by Douglas, and the other by Breckenridge, and the subsequent triumph of the republicans in the Presidential campaign, the complete dismemberment of the old Confederacy must be, as a matter of course, not far distant. The tide of dissolution may, however, be stayed and not move forward as rapidly as it has during the past year; but be that as it may, the interest which has been manifested in the premises will not be diminished, and each succeeding express will be anxiously looked for by the citizens of Utah, as is the next, which will probably arrive sometime to-day, but for which we cannot delay going to press. However if the express shall arrive in season, we shall give our readers the benefit of an *Extra* before the departure of the mails to-morrow morning, as we are as anxious to give, as they are to receive the latest news from the land of sectional and political strife.

The city of Charleston seems to be the place where all the most important events connected with the severance of the Union, and the initiation of civil war are to transpire; there the National democratic convention assembled, which made the first move and took the first step to fulfill the prediction concerning the dismemberment of the American Confederacy; there the secession flag was first hoisted, and there the first gun was fired, and the first blood was spilt in the conflict between the South and the North about which so much has been said, and which the wise have been anticipating with much certainty for nearly thirty years.

What further acts, if any, may have to be done at that place, to make the fulfillment of the predictions of the Prophets complete, those having an understanding of the matter may be able to tell; and what President Lincoln and his cabinet will do in relation to the war which has been commenced, will of course be made known as fast as their movements shall transpire.

BY TELEGRAPH AND PONY.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT NEWS FROM THE STATES.

THE COMMENCEMENT OF HOSTILITIES.

FORT SUMTER TAKEN BY THE SOUTHERN TROOPS.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN CALLS FOR 75,000 MILITIA.

AN EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS CALLED FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY.

GREAT EXCITEMENT EVERYWHERE IN THE STATES.

The Pony Express from the East arrived on Saturday evening, between ten and eleven o'clock, with very interesting dispatches from Charleston and Washington, and the principal cities of the North and South.

The South Carolinians commenced an attack upon Fort Sumter, at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 12th inst., and on the 13th, Major Anderson was forced to surrender. The dispatches received by this arrival of the Pony, particularly from Charleston are from different correspondents, and are more or less repetitions. We have concluded to give the news to our readers, without change or comment, further than it will be observed that the accounts of the attack are all telegraphed from Charleston, and Major Anderson's report has not yet been given to the public.

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN GENERAL BEAUREGARD AND SECRETARY WALKER.

Immediately preceding the opening of hostilities, the following interesting correspondence passed between Gen. G. T. Beauregard, commander of the troops of the Confederate States at Charleston, and L. P. Walker, Secretary of War, at Montgomery:

NO. I.—GEN. BEAUREGARD TO SEC. WALKER.

An authorized messenger from President Lincoln just informed Gov. Pickens and myself that provisions will be sent to Fort Sumter peaceably, or otherwise by force.

NO. II.—SEC. WALKER TO GEN. BEAUREGARD.

If you have no doubt of the authorized character of the agent, who communicated to you the intention of the Washington government, to supply Fort Sumter by force, you will at once demand its evacuation, and if this be refused, proceed, in such manner as you may determine, to reduce it.

NO. III.—BEAUREGARD TO WALKER.

The demand will be made to-morrow, the 11th, at 12 o'clock.

NO. IV.—WALKER TO BEAUREGARD.

Unless there are especial reasons connected with your own condition, it is considered proper that you should make the demand at an early hour.

NO. V.—BEAUREGARD TO WALKER.

The reasons are special for 12 o'clock.

NO. VI.—BEAUREGARD TO WALKER.

The demand was sent at 2 o'clock and until 6 o'clock allowed to answer.

NO. VII.—WALKER TO BEAUREGARD.

Telegraph the reply of Major Anderson.

NO. VIII.—BEAUREGARD TO WALKER.

Major Anderson replies, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication demanding the evacuation of this Fort, and to say in reply thereto, that it is a demand with which I regret that my sense of honor and my obligations to my government prevent my compliance. He adds: probably I will await the first shot, and if you do not batter us to pieces, we will be starved out in a few days.

NO. IX.—WALKER TO BEAUREGARD.

We do not desire needlessly to bombard Fort Sumter, if Major Anderson will state the time at which, as indicated by him, he will evacuate, and agree that, in the meantime, he will not use his guns against us, unless ours should be employed against Fort Sumter: you are thus to avoid the effusion of blood. If this, or its equivalent, be refused, reduce the Fort as your judgment decides to be most practicable.

NO. X.—BEAUREGARD TO WALKER.

He would not consent. I write to-day.

A dispatch from Charleston states that intercepted dispatches disclosed the fact that Mr. Fox, who had been allowed to visit Ma-

jor Anderson on the pledge that his purpose was pacific, employed his opportunity, to devise a plan for supplying the Fort by force, and that the plan had been adopted by the Washington government, and was in progress of execution.

SUMTER CANNONADED.

First Day.

A later dispatch from Charleston, dated April 12th, says that the batteries of Sullivan's Island, Morris' Island, and other points were opened on Fort Sumter at 4 o'clock that morning.

Fort Sumter had returned the fire, and a brisk cannonading had been kept up. No information had then been received from the seaboard.

The military were under arms, and the whole of the population were on the streets, and every available space facing the harbor was filled with anxious spectators.

Another dispatch states that the firing had continued all day without intermission. Two of Fort Sumter's guns had been silenced and was reported that a breach had been made in the south-east wall.

The answer to General Beauregard's demand by Major Anderson was, that he would surrender when his supplies were exhausted, that is, if he was not reinforced. Not a casualty had yet happened to any of the forces. Of the nineteen batteries in position, only seven had opened fire on Fort Sumter. The remainder were held in reserve for the expected fleet.

Two thousand men reached the city that morning, and embarked for Morris' Island, and the neighborhood. The bombardment continued from the floating Stevens' and other batteries. Sumter continued returning the fire. It was reported that three war vessels were off the bar.

A fourth dispatch states that the firing had ceased for the night, and would be renewed early in the morning. Ample arrangements had been made to prevent a reinforcement that night.

The latest dispatch states that the bombardment had commenced with mortars, and would be kept up all night.

It was supposed that Major Anderson was resting his men for the night. Vessels could not get in; the storm was raging and the sea rough, making it impossible to re-enforce that night.

The floating battery worked well.

Two men were reported to have been wounded on Sullivan's Island, and a number struck with spent projectiles. It was also reported that the Harriet Lane received a shot through her wheel-house. Fifteen to eighteen shots struck the floating battery without effect.

MONTGOMERY.

The President and Secretary of the Confederate States were serenaded on the night of the 12th at Montgomery.

The Secretary of War was called out and said that the Confederate flag would soon be waving over Fort Sumter, and from the federal capitol at Washington, if the independence of the Southern States was not recognized and hostilities were continued.

Second Day.

A St. Louis dispatch on the evening of the 13th states that the regular Washington dispatches of that morning, dated 10:30 o'clock, states that at intervals of twenty minutes, firing had been kept up all night on Fort Sumter.

Major Anderson had ceased firing from Sumter at 6 o'clock the preceding evening. All night he had been engaged in repairing damages and protecting the barbette guns. He commenced to return the fire at seven o'clock next morning.

Fort Sumter seemed to be greatly disabled. The battery on Cumming's Point had done Fort Sumter great damage.

At 9 o'clock that morning a dense smoke poured out from Fort Sumter. The federal flag was at half mast signalling distress.

The shells from Fort Moultrie and the batteries on Morris' Island were falling into Major Anderson's strongest hold, thick and fast.

The cannonading was going on fiercely from all points from the vessels outside and all along the coast.

A Washington dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune, says that Commander Fox commanded the vessel with provisions, which was to lead the expedition into Charleston.

Charleston dispatches of April 14th, reports that two of Major Anderson's magazines had exploded. Only occasional shots were fired from Fort Moultrie.

The Morris Island battery was doing heavy work. It was thought that only the smaller magazines had exploded. The greatest excitement prevailed. The wharves, steeples and every available place was packed with people.

The United States' ships were in the offing; but had not aided Major Anderson. It was then too late to come over the bar as the tide was ebbing. The ships appeared to be quietly at anchor and had not fired a gun.

The entire roof of the barracks was one sheet of flame.

Shells from Cumming's Point and Fort Moultrie were bursting in and over Fort Sumter, in quick succession. The federal flag still waved. Major Anderson was only occupied in putting out fires. Every shot on Fort Sumter seemed to tell severely.

The people were anxiously looking for Major Anderson to strike his flag. It was stated from reliable sources that, up to 10 o'clock no one at Moultrie was killed.

Eleven shots from Sumter had penetrated the floating battery below the water-line.

The few shots fired by Major Anderson early in the morning knocked the chimneys from the officers quarters at Moultrie like the whirlwind. Major Anderson's only hope was to hold out for aid from the ships.

Two ships were making in towards Morris' Island, with a view to land troops and silence the batteries.

Fort Sumter was undoubtedly on fire. The flames were raging all around it. Major Anderson had thrown out a raft loaded with men, who were passing up buckets of water to extinguish the fire. The Fort was scarcely discernable. The men on the raft, were objects of fire from Morris' Island: with glasses balls could be seen skipping over the water striking the unprotected raft.

It was surmised that Major Anderson was gradually blowing up the Fort. He scarcely fired a gun.

At half past eleven o'clock flames were bursting from all the port holes. The destruction of Fort Sumter was inevitable. Four vessels, two of them large steamers, were in sight over the bar. The largest appeared to be engaging Morris' Island. The flames had nearly subsided in Sumter, but Major Anderson was not firing his guns.

General Beauregard left the wharf in a boat for Morris' Island. The excitement was increasing. A letter from S. B. Boylston, dated Moultrie, 6 o'clock, a.m., of the 13th, states that not one man had been killed or wounded. The iron battery had been damaged.

The rifled cannon of the battery did great execution on Sumter, and were all aimed into Anderson's port holes. Three of Sumter's barbette guns were dismounted, one of which was a ten inch columbiad. A corner of Fort Sumter opposite Moultrie was knocked off.

The steamers Water Witch, Mohawk, and Pawnee, it was thought, were the three first vessels seen in the offing.

Three vessels, one of them a large sized steamer, were over the bar, and seemed to be preparing to participate in the conflict.

The fire of Morris' Island and Moultrie was reported to be divided between Sumter and the ships of war. The ships had not yet opened.

A later dispatch states that the batteries of Sullivan's Island, Cumming's Point and Steven's battery were pouring shot and shell into Fort Sumter.

MAJOR ANDERSON SURRENDERS.

Another correspondent says that the bombardment had closed. Major Anderson had hauled down the stars and stripes, and displayed a white flag, which had been answered from the city, and a boat was on the way to Sumter. The breaches made in Sumter were on the side opposite to Cumming's Point. Two of the port holes were knocked into one, and the wall from the top was crumbling.

An evening dispatch states that the federal flag had been again hoisted over Sumter, when Porcher Miles with a flag of truce went to the fort. In a few minutes after, the federal flag was again drawn down by Major Anderson, and the white flag again unfurled.

A Charleston dispatch of same day via Augusta, reported that Sumter had surrendered. The Confederate flag was floating from its walls. None of the garrison or Confederate troops were hurt.