

[From our Extra of the 12th inst.]

EASTERN NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH AND PONY.

The Pony Express, with eastern advices up to the evening of the 5th instant, arrived here last evening. The dispatches are highly interesting. Mr. Lincoln, from the movements of the U.S. war frigates, is generally supposed to have decided on holding on to the South, collecting revenue on ship board, at the mouths of the rivers, instead of at the Custom Houses in the seceded States, holding on to the Forts, where he can, and only relinquishing, where reinforcements could not be undertaken without certain war.

VIRGINIA.

A petition had been numerously signed at Norfolk, instructing Mr. Blow, delegate in the convention from that city, to vote for immediate secession. A large and enthusiastic meeting was held at Washington Point, which instructed delegates from Norfolk county to vote for immediate secession. The meeting also appointed delegates to a convention to be held on the 19th of April, to nominate a secession candidate for Congress, in case Virginia remained in the Union.

In the convention, on the 1st of April, James Barber finished his secession speech. Mr. Treadway followed, favoring an ultimatum by Virginia. Mr. Montague commenced a speech for secession. Mr. Southall presented the resolutions of a portion of the people of Albemarle county, instructing him to vote for secession. He said that he was not aware of a change in the sentiments of the people of the county, and when convinced that way, he would shape his course to their views. Resolutions were presented from Bedford, Amelia and Madison counties in favor of immediate secession.

After an ineffectual effort by Mr. Wise to extend time for explaining the amendment of the committee of the whole, they proceeded to vote on the third resolution, which opposes the formation of geographical and sectional parties in respect to federal politics, which was adopted. The fourth resolution was taken up, on motion of Mr. Wise, and was amended by inserting the words "several States" in lieu of the "United States," making it declare that Territories constitute a trust to be administered for the common benefit of the several States: yeas, 68; nays, 66.

Mr. Flournoy moved to amend the fifth resolution by striking out the words "aid in suppressing domestic insurrection;" thus making the declaration simply that the legitimate use of the forts, etc., was to protect the country against foreign force: agreed to, 68 to 61.

Advices from Virginia state that the secessionists, led by Hunter, Floyd, De Jarnett, Mason and Ben McCulloch, were making superhuman efforts to carry that State. The latter stated that some *coup d'etat* would be resorted to as in Texas, if the convention failed to carry its point.

The continued presence of Major Ben McCulloch at Richmond, viewed in connection with the call for a secession convention there on the 16th inst., occasioned much interest in Washington, especially in army circles.

A Richmond dispatch, received late on the night of the 4th, states that the Virginia convention had adjourned *sine die*.

THE SOUTHERN FORTS.

The dispatches respecting the Southern forts are very contradictory, and indicating a greater likelihood of serious difficulties between the North and South than previous dispatches.

A Montgomery, Alabama, dispatch, of the 2d of April, states that W. H. Wade, editor of the *Key of the Gulf* had arrived there from Pensacola. He stated that on the 25th, the steamer, Gen. Rusk arrived at Key West, with 200 troops for that place and Fort Tortugas. The Crusade had reached Key West with sealed orders under charge of Capt. Craven with marines. The Brooklyn was going into Key West on the 26th ult. and there was no doubt she had left troops at Pickens. The Texas Commissioners stipulated that the troops on the Gen. Rusk should be landed at New York. The commanders of these companies on board the General Rusk had signed a document exonerating Capt. Smith, of the Rusk, from all blame for the deception practiced.

A Montgomery dispatch, of the 2d, states that active efforts were being made to finish the gap of railroad hence to Pensacola, to facilitate the transportation of troops to the Gulf. It would be completed in a few days. Troops, provisions and ammunition were flowing into the Confederate States. A number of troops were expected at Montgomery that week. The report of re-inforcement of Fort Pickens was pronounced by reliable authority as unfounded.

The *Tribune* correspondence says that General Scott had given assurances that there had never been any idea entertained by the Administration of abandoning Fort Monroe. The principles announced in the inaugural would not be abandoned, and if military necessity be accepted as to Sumter, it would be for reasons which could not be held to apply elsewhere.

The *Times* says it was reported that the Pawnee had been ordered to Sumter to take on board Anderson and his command. The other Southern forts were not to be disturbed. The Southern commissioners have advised Jeff. Davis that Sumter would be evacuated this week.

A letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to collectors, states that, in consequence of the control of the warehouses of the government in the ports of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida and Texas having been usurped, it was impracticable to continue the privilege of bonding goods for transportation at those ports, and collectors were instructed that no entry for transportation in bond at said ports could be permitted.

The N. Y. *Commercial's* Washington dispatch states that a meeting of the cabinet, attended by General Scott, had been hastily summoned on the 3d. Captain Fox had arrived from Sumter. It was thought the consultation was in reference to reinforcing Anderson. There was considerable excitement.

A dispatch from Charleston, of the 4th, to the N. Y. *Herald* says, Charleston had that day been in a state of excitement, unequalled since the first secession movements—a crisis was at hand. The appearance of a schooner off the harbor the evening before; her attempt to pass the batteries there, and her subsequent mysterious disappearance had aroused apprehensions of the most serious character. The military leaders had been unusually active all day, and members of the convention then in session, belonging to the several fortifications, had been ordered to their stations. A thousand rumors were in circulation. The principal of which indicated that Fort Sumter would be attacked in the course of a few days. Two companies left the arsenal on the night of the 4th, for Savannah. Later advices were understood to have been received from Montgomery, ordering further supplies to be cut off. No further communication would be allowed between the fort and Federal authorities. The attack would be from the forts, and Major Anderson would soon surrender in self defence, though it was believed an attempt would seriously be made at reinforcement. The danger was imminent, and members of the convention waited there expecting a conflict before the week ended.

The *Times* Washington dispatches state the revenue laws would be enforced in Louisiana. No visitors were admitted to the war department that day.

The New York *World's* Washington dispatch says: "Lieut. Gilman, from Fort Pickens, reports that place as reinforced and now able to hold out for some time.

The *Herald's* New Orleans dispatch says:—The report that the Brooklyn had reinforced Fort Pickens by landing troops was incorrect. Supplies only had been landed. The present attitude of the government at Washington was regarded as a truce, any violation of which would cause immediate hostilities.

The *Tribune's* Montgomery dispatch states that, should orders be issued to blockade the Southern ports, and to collect revenue there, President Davis would issue letters of marque and cover the sea with privateers.

The *Herald's* Washington dispatch reports that instructions had been given to heads of departments, not to hold official communications with the seceding States.

Commodores Stringham and Case had been ordered to Boston, to take command of the frigate *Minnesota*, which was to proceed to the mouth of the Mississippi. The Perry and Powhattan had also been ordered there. Other naval vessels were under orders; no doubt, says the dispatch, but all looks to collecting revenue from ship board.

A special dispatch from Charleston to the N. Y. *Day Book* states the crisis had at last arrived. Provisions to Maj. Anderson had been stopped. Gen. Beauregard was inspecting the fortifications. Orders from Montgomery for the commencement of hostilities were hourly expected. The preparations were complete.

Advices from Key West, to the 25th, report that the steamer *Crusader* was to leave with stores for the fleet at Pensacola. The steamer Gen. Rusk had landed the troops from Texas at Forts Jefferson and Taylor. The latter was now on a war footing with all sorts of supplies for a year.

It was understood that the French consuls in the Confederate States had received instructions direct from France, relative to facilitation of southern trade with that country. Prominent persons at Washington were satisfied that the movements of English and French fleets were for observation off Southern ports.

A special dispatch to the New York *Commercial*, of April 4th, states that Lieut. Gilman had arrived at Washington. He reported that preparations were being made to attack Fort Pickens, and troops were being drilled daily by southern officers. An attack was momentarily expected.

A dispatch to the *Times* says the batteries on Morris Island had fired into an unknown steamer last night for not displaying her colors. Major Anderson immediately dispatched a messenger to Governor Pickens for explanations. The vessel put to sea. Great activity at the Brooklyn navy yard was reported. Several vessels of war were expected to sail on the night of the 4th, orders having been received from Washington to that effect. Their destination was unknown.

A special dispatch to the *Post* says that it was rumored that the Southern Commissioners had demanded the immediate evacuation of Sumter and Pickens. Orders had been sent for every naval vessel to be put into immediate commission. The Administration is determined to re-inforce Fort Pickens at all hazards.

A special dispatch to the *Commercial* says the Secretary of the Interior had directed that no more land warrants be issued from the pension office to the citizens of the seceded States. The revenue cutter, *Harriet Lane*, had left her moorings at the battery, New York, and anchored at quarantine. She was bound to sea. A dispatch from New Orleans, April 4th, says a second company of Zouaves left for Pensacola that evening. It was reported that the Brooklyn arrived off Pensacola harbor on the 31st. *Indianola* advices state that the *Mohawk*, *Star of the West*, and *Empire City*, were laying outside of Pass Cavallo, waiting for the troops to return to New York.

A dispatch from Montgomery, April 4th, says the treasury notes of the Confederate States were issued that day. The first bonds for \$10,000 sold at 20 per cent. premium.

A reported disturbance had occurred among the working men at Fort Monroe on account of the Palmetto flag being raised over the walls.

The *Herald's* Washington correspondent says that troops had been landed at Fort Pickens. Other advices state that the Southern Commissioners discredited the report.—Commander Pendergrast, named in the report as ordered to land the men, was not at Pensacola, but in Norfolk.

TEXAS.

Texas advices state that Col. Ford had been reliably informed from Matamoras that Gen. Ampudia, with a band of Mexicans, was sixty miles off, marching on Brownsville.—Ampudia had dispatched expresses with placards and hand bills, announcing that Texas rightly belonged to Mexico; that she could no longer seek support from the Federal Government; and now was the time to retake the State. Re-inforcements in large numbers were rapidly coming to him.

Col. Ford had ordered all heavy guns and ordnance stores at Brazos Island immediately removed to the scene of anticipated difficulties.

The *Mohawk* had arrived off Pass Cavallo. The Texas convention had ratified the constitution with only two dissenting votes, and adjourned *sine die* on the 25th ult., without referring the constitution to the people. Houston and Hamilton's efforts at opposition had proved an entire failure. All was quiet in Texas.

Gov. Houston had sent a message to the legislature protesting against the convention, and appealing to the legislature to sustain him, claiming still to be governor. The legislature took not the slightest notice of it.

Mr. Blaisdell had arrived from Texas, bringing \$9,000, which the secessionists failed to get hold of at Galveston. He reports that the people had not been fairly heard and were disgusted with the revolution.

THE PRESIDENT AND CALIFORNIA OFFICE SEEKERS.

The correspondents of the New York *Times* and Cincinnati *Commercial*, give lengthy details of an interesting interview between a deputation of Californians and President Lincoln, over the appointments for that State.

Senator Baker, of Oregon, had introduced to the President ten or twelve men as representative Californians, who, on the departure of the Senator, had recommended him to the President as a proper arbiter of the California appointments. The President wished all Californians to call on him at a given time. Preceding the time appointed, an impromptu meeting of a number of Californians was held at which five of the number were appointed to give any information desired by the President as to the qualifications of candidates.—A formal protest was adopted against Senator Baker's interference. Simonton, the former meddling, bombastic Jenkins of the New York *Times*, managed to make himself one of the five. His impudence called forth a humiliating rebuke from President Lincoln, highly creditable to the latter.

The following is the version given by the correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial*: The President had arranged, whether from love of fun or a sense of justice had not yet appeared, that Senator Baker should be present without the knowledge of the protestants. They were surprised to be placed face to face with him; but nothing daunted, their spokesman, Mr. Joseph A. Nunez, read a solemn protest and accompanied it with an emphatic but respectful extempore speech. After him, Mr. Simonton, of the San Francisco *Bulletin*, stepped forward and read a statement, in which he denounced Col. Baker and the politicians he intended to saddle upon California as federal office-holders, in unmeasured terms.

The President listened to it quietly; but, after its delivery, walked up towards Messrs. Nunez and Simonton, took hold of their respective documents and remarked in substance, "the protest deserves to be considered but as to your speech," turning to Mr. Simonton, "it is disrespectful to myself and Mr. Baker, and I can make no other disposition of it than this," thrusting it, with the last word, into the fire.

An intense consternation prevailed for some time, after this most unlooked for proceeding. Simonton looked as though he had been struck with a thunderbolt; but finally recovered so far as to say—I have simply done my duty; I have nothing to expect from the Executive, and, in doing what I did, I merely meant to protect the interest of my State.

The St. Louis *Democrat* says Colonel Baker won a complete victory in this affair. As soon as the interview was over, he was surrounded by recanters, who were all anxious to disclaim any knowledge of the character of the document they signed.

APPOINTMENTS.

The President had appointed George Little, Marshal for North Carolina; David Phillips, Marshal, and Lawrence Weldon, Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois; Postmasters in Missouri: Peter L. Foy, of St. Louis; B. Alexander, of Lexington; Allen P. Richards, of Jefferson City; Charles L. Muller, of Hannibal; Wm. L. Pyncheren, of Independence; Stephen Hazlett, of Kansas City; John L. Bittinger, of St. Joseph; Melancthon Smith, of Rockford, Ills.; Charles H. Judson, of Freeport, Ills.; Achilles Williams, of Richmond, Ind., and George Wilson, Steubenville Ind.

The *Tribune* says that Mr. May, of New Hampshire, had resigned the mission to Switzerland.

Alexander Patterson had been appointed naval store keeper at Key West, and Logan Hunt to a similar position at the Norfolk Navy Yard; Clinton A. Hutchinson, agent for the Sacs and Fox Indians: Wm. H. Bigelow, register, and James P. Eddy, recorder of Sioux city land office: Charles B. Richards, register, and Charles Pomeroy, receiver at Fort Dodge, Iowa; Frank Steel, register, and D. C. Bloomer, receiver at Council Bluffs,