

THE WAR.

THE CONFLICT AT CHARLESTON

The Bombardment Fiercely Continued.

FORT SUMTER ON FIRE

Major Anderson's Men on Flotillas Dipping Water to Stop the Blaze.

The Men Fired Upon from the Forts.

The Surrender of Fort Sumter.

THE BOMBARDMENT CEASED.

THE FORT EVACUATED.

Major Anderson the Guest of General Beauregard.

NO ONE KILLED IN THE CONFLICT.

All the Federal Officers Unhurt.

Blockade of the Port of Charleston.

Effect of the War News in the North and South.

Intense Excitement Throughout the Free States.

Threatening Speech of Secretary Walker at Montgomery.

Sympathy of the Nova Scotia Legislature.

CHARLESTON, April 13, 1861.

CHARLESTON, April 13—10 A. M.

CHARLESTON, April 13—10:30 A. M.

FROM ANOTHER SOURCE.

CHARLESTON, April 13—12 M.

CHARLESTON, April 13—P. M.

THE PRESS DESPATCH.

CHARLESTON, April 13, 1861.

CHARLESTON, April 13—P. M.

CHARLESTON, April 13, 1861.

CHARLESTON, April 13, 1861.

CHARLESTON, April 13, 1861.

LATER.

dense volume of smoke ascending Major Anderson ceased to fire for about an hour. His flag is still up. It is thought the officers' quarters in Fort Sumter are on fire.

CHARLESTON, April 13—12 M. The ships in the offing appear to be quietly at anchor. They have not fired a gun yet.

The entire roof of the barracks at Fort Sumter are in a vast sheet of flame.

Shells from Cummings' Point and Fort Moultrie are bursting in and over Fort Sumter in quick succession.

The federal flag still waves. Major Anderson is only occupied in putting out fire.

Every shot on Fort Sumter now seems to tell heavily. The people are anxiously looking for Major Anderson to strike his flag.

CHARLESTON, April 13—P. M. Two of Major Anderson's magazines have exploded.

Only occasional shots are fired at him from Fort Moultrie.

The Morris Island Battery is doing heavy work. It is thought that only the smaller magazines have exploded.

The greatest excitement prevails. The wharves, steeples and every available place are packed with people.

The United States ships are in the offing, but have not aided Major Anderson. It is too late now to come over the bar, as the tide is ebbing.

CHARLESTON, April 13—Evening. Major Anderson has surrendered, after hard fighting, commencing at half-past four o'clock yesterday morning, and continuing until five minutes to one to-day.

The American flag has given place to the palmetto of South Carolina.

You have received my previous despatches concerning the fire and the shooting away of the flagstaff. The latter event is due to Fort Moultrie, as well as the burning of the fort, which resulted from one of the hot shots fired in the morning.

During the conflagration, Gen. Beauregard sent a boat to Major Anderson, with offers of assistance, the bearers being Colonels W. P. Miles, and Roger Pryor, of Virginia, and Lee. But before it reached him a flag of truce had been raised. Another boat then put off, containing ex-Governor Manning, Major D. R. Jones and Colonel Charles Alleton, to arrange the terms of surrender, which were the same as those offered on the 11th inst. These were official. They stated that all proper facilities would be afforded for the removal of Major Anderson and his command, together with the company arms and property, and all private property, to any post in the United States he might elect. The terms were not, therefore unconditional.

Major Anderson stated that he surrendered his sword to General Beauregard as the representative of the Confederate government. General Beauregard said he would not receive it from so brave a man. He says Major Anderson made a staunch fight, and elevated himself in the estimation of every true Carolinian.

During the fire, when Major Anderson's flag staff was shot away, a boat put off from Morris Island, carrying another American flag for him to fight under—a noteworthy instance of the honor and chivalry of the South Carolina seceders, and their admiration for a brave man.

The scene in the city after the raising of the flag of truce and the surrender is indescribable the people were perfectly wild. Men on horseback rode through the streets proclaiming the news, amid the greatest enthusiasm.

On the arrival of the officers from the fort they were marched through the streets, followed by an immense crowd, hurrahing, shouting, and yelling with excitement.

Several fire companies were immediately sent down to Fort Sumter to put out the fire and any amount of assistance was offered.

A regiment of eight hundred men has just arrived from the interior, and has been ordered to Morris Island, in view of an attack from the fleet, which may be attempted to-night.

Six vessels are reported off the bar, but the utmost indignation is expressed against them for not coming to the assistance of Major Anderson when he made signals of distress.

The soldiers on Morris Island jumped on the guns every shot they received from Fort Sumter while thus disabled, and gave three cheers for Major Anderson and groans for the fleet.

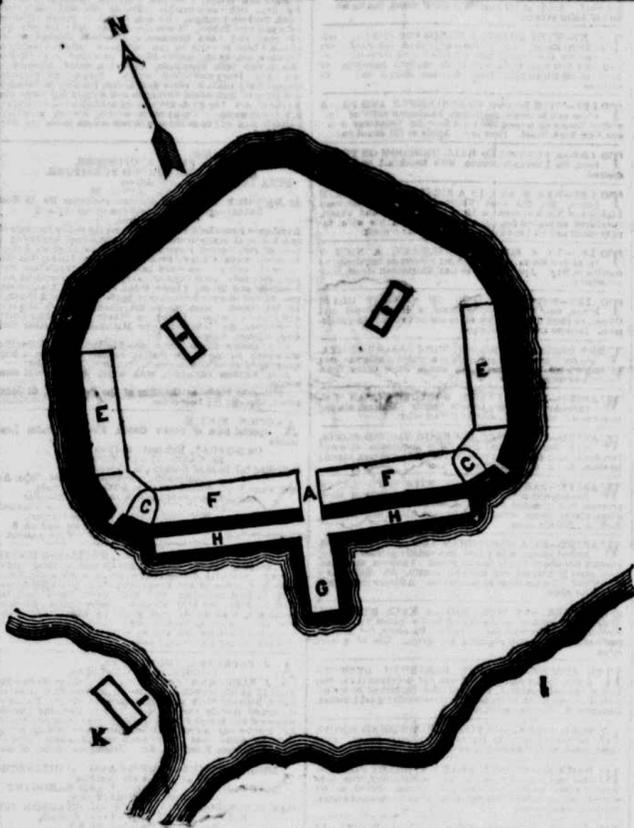
Col. Lucas, of the Governor's staff, has just returned from Fort Sumter, and says Major Anderson told him he had pleasant recollections of Fort Moultrie than Fort Sumter. Only five men were wounded, one seriously.

The flames have destroyed everything. Both officers and soldiers were obliged to lay on their faces in the casements to prevent suffocation.

The explosions heard in the city were from small piles of shell, which ignited from the heat.

The effect of the shot upon the fort was tremendous. The walls were battered in hundreds of places; but no breach was made.

Topographical Sketch of Fort Sumter.



A Arched gateway in the southwest wall. B Parapet for heating shot. C Powder magazines. D Sally ports. E The scale for the sailing. F Officers' quarters. G Wharf—depth of water of east side sixteen to eighty feet. H Principal landing—extending along the entire south-west wall. I Morris Island Beach. K Fort Johnson on James Island. We would mention that the position of Morris and James Islands, owing to the small size of the engraving, is not intended to be considered as more than indicating their proximity to Fort Sumter.

Major Anderson expresses himself much pleased that no lives had been sacrificed, and says that to Providence alone is to be attributed the bloodless victory. He compliments the firing of the Carolinians, and the large number of exploded shells lying around attest their effectiveness.

The number of soldiers in the fort was about seventy, besides two assistants at the guns. His stock of provisions was almost exhausted, however. He would have been starved out in two more days.

The entrance to the fort is mined, and the officers were told to be careful, even after the surrender, on account of the heat, lest it should explode.

A boat from the squadron, with a flag of truce has arrived at Morris Island, bearing a request to be allowed to come and take Major Anderson and his forces. An answer will be given to-morrow at nine o'clock.

The public feeling against the fleet is very strong, it being regarded as cowardly to make not even an attempt to aid a fellow officer.

Had the surrender not taken place, Fort Sumter would have been stormed to-night. The men are crazy for a fight.

The bells have been chiming all day, guns firing, ladies waving handkerchiefs, people cheering, and citizens making themselves generally demonstrative. It is regarded as the greatest day in the history of South Carolina.

The excitement is increasing, if anything. I have read a letter from S. C. Boylston, dated Moultrie, 6 o'clock, this A. M. He says not one man was 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 portholes.

Three of Sumter's barbettes guns were dismantled, one of which was a ten inch columbiad.

A corner of Fort Sumter, opposite Fort Moultrie, was knocked off.

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

The ships outside are supposed to inaugurate the blockade.

A battery of heavy ordnance is in the process of erection on the City Battery, a fashionable promenade, where thousands are now congregated, watching the battle.

Major Anderson's flag has been shot away, and now waves from a pole on the ramparts.

It is reported that Major Anderson is blowing up the casemates seaward, with a view to escape in boats during the night.

Offers have been received from Virginia of any number of men required for fighting duty.

THE FEDERAL FLEET AT CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Via Augusta, } April 13, 1861. } FORT SUMTER HAS SURRENDERED. The Confederate flag floats over its walls. None of the garrison or Confederate troops are hurt.

Another correspondent says—The bombardment has closed. Major Anderson has drawn down the stripes and stars, and displays a white flag, which has been answered from the city, and a boat is on the way to Sumter.

CHARLESTON, April 13—P. M. The federal flag was again hoisted over Fort Sumter, when Porcher Miles, with a flag of truce, went to the fort.

In a few minutes the federal flag was again hoisted down by Major Anderson and a white one unfurled.

CHARLESTON, April 13, 1861. General Beauregard, with two aids, have left for Fort Sumter.

Three fire companies from Charleston are now on their way to Sumter to quell the fire before it reaches the magazine.

Fort Sumter has unconditionally surrendered. Ex-Senator Chesnut, ex-Governor Manning and W. P. Miles have just landed and marched to Governor Pickens' residence, followed by a dense crowd, wild with joy.

It is reported that the federal flag was shot away by the Palmetto Guards at Morris Island.

In all two thousand shots have been fired. No Carolinians killed.

Major Anderson and his men, under guard, were conveyed to Morris Island.

The bells are ringing out a merry peal and our people are engaged in every demonstration of joy.

It is estimated that there are nine thousand men under arms on the islands and in the neighborhood.

THE LATEST NEWS. CHARLESTON, April 13, 1861.

I have seen W. Porcher Miles, who has just returned from a visit to Fort Sumter. He assured me that no one was killed at Fort Sumter. This is reliable, and puts at rest all previous reports about Sumter.

Major Anderson has reached the city, and is the guest of General Beauregard.

Our people sympathize with Major Anderson, but abhor those who were in the steamers off our bar and in sight of our people, and did not even attempt to reinforce him.

The Fairfield regiment, one thousand strong, has just passed the Courier office on their way to Morris Island.

There are now ten thousand men under arms in the harbor and on the coast.

Judge Magrath, who has just returned, reports that the wood work and officers' quarters at Fort Sumter are all burnt.

None of the officers were wounded. The fort will be taken possession of to-night by the Confederate troops.

A boat from one of the vessels outside the harbor communicated with General Simons, in command of the forces on Morris Island, and made a request that one of the steamers be allowed to enter the port for the purpose of taking away Major Anderson and his command. An arrangement was agreed upon by the parties to stay all proceedings until nine o'clock to-morrow.

THE PLAN IS A TRUNCATED PENTAGON, with one side parallel to the adjoining shore, thus presenting an angle to the channel. Of the truncated angles the eastern, western and northern are simply formed into peninsulas, whilst the other two are formed of two small faces, making an angle of about fifteen degrees with the sides of the pentagon.

At each intersection of the small faces is a sally-port. On the eastern and western sides are the barracks for the privates, mess hall, kitchen, &c. On the southern side are the officers' quarters, which are finished in very handsome style.

It is mounted with the heaviest guns of the United States service, arranged in three tiers, the two lower being casemates and the upper barbette guns. The casemate guns are those which are fired from casemates in the scarp walls, and are protected from the enemy's shells by an arched bomb proof covering overhead; the barbette, those which fire over the parapet, which exposes the cannoniers to the fire of the enemy, although, in this instance, the height of the ramparts is so great that there is comparatively no danger from the shot of the enemy's fleet.

The heaviest pieces are turned toward the harbor, the lighter toward the land side, which side is further protected by masonry, for which loopholes are cut in the scarp wall.

On the terra-plana parade are situated two furnaces for heating shot. The magazines are situated on the inner side of the sally-ports.

The landing to the fort is on the southern, or land side, and is formed by a wharf projecting toward the shore, and also extending the length of that face.

This fort would be nearly impregnable if finished and properly manned. Its weakest point is on the south side, where the breach was made by the guns at Cummings' Point, of which the masonry is not only weaker than that of the other side, but it is not protected by any flank fire, which would sweep the wharf. Once landed, an entrance may, at the present state of the construction, be easily made; for the blinds of the lower embrasures, though six inches in thickness, may yet be easily blown away, and even if this was impossible, scaling ladders can reach those of the second tier, which are not protected in this manner.

This concludes the brief sketch of a fort which is a most perfect specimen of civil and military engineering. The whole work has been conducted in a manner that reflects the highest credit upon the engineers, and is worthy to occupy the prominent position that it holds.

In conclusion, we take occasion to allude to one point of especial beauty—the construction of the arches—of which there are nearly every variety—the "full centre," the "segment," the "groined," the "awkward" and the "rampant," and to add that the walls at their base are twelve feet thick, and at the top eight and one-half feet thick.

THE UNITED STATES FLEET AT CHARLESTON.

The following list embraces the names, with armaments and troops, of the fleet despatched from the city and Washington to Charleston harbor.

VESSELS OF WAR. Steam sloop-of-war Pawnee, Captain S. C. Rowan, 10 guns and 200 men. The Pawnee sailed from Washington, with sealed orders, on the morning of Saturday, April 6.

Steam sloop-of-war Powhatan, Captain E. D. Porter, 11 guns and 275 men. The Powhatan sailed from the Brooklyn Navy Yard on Saturday afternoon, April 5.

Revenue cutter Harriet Lane, Captain J. Faxon, 5 guns and 90 men. On Saturday, April 6, the Harriet Lane exchanged her revenue flag for the United States Navy flag, denoting her transfer to the government naval service, and sailed suddenly on last Monday morning, with sealed orders.

THE STEAM TRANSPORTS. Atlantic, 255 tons, composed of Companies A and M of the Second artillery, Companies C and H of the Second infantry, and company A of sappers and miners, from West Point. The Atlantic sailed from the stream at five o'clock on Sunday morning last.

Baltic, 160 tons, composed of Companies C and D, recruits, from Governor's and Bedloe's Islands. The Baltic sailed from Quarantine at seven o'clock on Tuesday morning last.

Illinois, 200 troops, composed of Companies B, E, F, G and H, a detachment from Company D, all recruits from Governor's and Bedloe's Islands, together with two companies of the Second infantry, from Fort Hamilton. The Illinois sailed from Quarantine on Tuesday morning at six o'clock.

THE STRAMENTS. Two steamtugs, with a government official on each,

bearing sealed orders, were also sent. The Yankee left the port on Monday evening last, and the Uncle Ben on Tuesday night.

THE LAUNCHES. Nearly thirty of these boats—whose services are most useful in effecting a landing of troops over shoal water, and for attacking a discharging battery when covered with sand and gunny bags—have been taken out by the Powhatan and by the steam transports Atlantic, Baltic and Illinois.

RECAPITULATION. Guns. Men. Ship-of-war Pawnee..... 10 200 Ship-of-war Powhatan..... 11 275 Cutter Harriet Lane..... 5 90 Steam transport Atlantic..... 1 200 Steam transport Baltic..... 1 160 Steam transport Illinois..... 1 200 Steam tug Yankee..... ordinary crew. Steam tug Uncle Ben..... ordinary crew. Total number of vessels..... 8 Total number of guns (for marine service)..... 35 Total number of men and troops..... 1,200

It is understood that several transports are to be soon chartered and despatched to Charleston with troops and supplies.

THE NEWS FROM WASHINGTON. WASHINGTON, April 11, 1861.

The capital continues in a state of excitement. Business is half suspended. Groups of individuals discussing the bombardment of Fort Sumter are gathered at the corners; the telegraph offices, the White House and the War and Navy Departments are besieged by crowds of eager inquirers. The hotel lobbies and parlors were jammed with humanity all the morning.

The republicans are wild with indignation, and curse the rebels and cheer Major Anderson most lustily. The President and Cabinet have been in session nearly all the morning. A large number of prominent men of all parties repaired to the White House at an early hour to tender their services to the President, but none were admitted except the Virginia Committee of Inquiry, who had a conference with him from eight to nine o'clock.

An intense bustle prevailed at the War Department during the forenoon. Four hundred federal troops arrived from New York by special train early this morning. About eighteen hundred regulars and volunteers assembled here under arms.

The President is calm and composed. The first question he asked a Western Senator last night was, "Will your State support me with military power?" He will doubtless issue a call for aid to the several Governors of the republican States in the course of today.

WASHINGTON, April 11, 1861. The greatest anxiety prevails to hear from Charleston. The latest news we have, up to half past two P. M., is that the American flag waves gallantly over Fort Sumter, and that its ports spit forth fire incessantly upon Fort Moultrie and Sullivan's Island batteries, which is a part of the programme by which the government supply vessels are to be admitted in the harbor.

A special session of Congress is not likely to be convened. The voice of the North has been heard through telegraphic despatches from every free State, assuring the President of the enthusiastic support of the government with men and money.

It is evident that the Union sentiment has been greatly strengthened here since the revolutionists have assumed the responsibility of inaugurating civil war.

Capt. Wm. R. S. Johns, of the Third infantry, having declined the command of his company when ordered on a particular service, the President directs that he come to be an officer of the army from Wednesday.

First Lieutenant Abner Snodgrass, of the First artillery, having, when his company was ordered for duty under critical circumstances, tendered his resignation in order to escape from that duty, the President directs that he cease to be an officer of the army.

The regular troops now here have been ordered and proceeded to the outskirts of the city to watch every avenue of the harbor and public buildings.

Victories are constantly seen riding through the streets.

WASHINGTON, April 13, 1861. Up to eleven o'clock P. M. the President had no reliable or official information of what has occurred at Charleston, except through private despatches to individuals who have communicated with him. He expects Major Anderson to evacuate or surrender the fort, if he finds the supplies cannot reach him. This will be a military necessity, and will only be in accordance with Major Anderson's instructions, if they reached him.

The report that he has surrendered, and is the guest of General Beauregard, has been communicated to the President. The latter was not surprised, but, on the contrary, remarked, "The supply vessels could not reach him, and he did right." When he was told that the report was that nobody was injured in Fort Sumter, he seemed very much gratified, and remarked that he regretted that Major Anderson could not be supplied, as that was all he needed.

The next act in the play will represent a scene at Fort Pickens, in Pensacola harbor, and not far hence.

The feeling here is very intense, especially among the Northern and Western people, a large number of whom are in the city.

IMPORTANT SPEECH OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE VIRGINIA COMMISSIONERS.

WASHINGTON, April 13, 1861. The reception of the Virginia Commissioners yesterday was very informal. To-day they were formally received. They presented the resolutions under which they were appointed.

The following is the reply of Mr. Lincoln to the Commissioners from the Virginia State Convention:—

TO HON. MEMRS. FAYSON, SWANSON AND HANCOCK:—

GEORGETOWN.—As a committee of the Virginia Convention, now in session, you present me a preamble and resolution in these words:—

Whereas, in the opinion of this Convention, the uncertainty which prevails in the public mind as to the policy which the federal Executive intends to pursue towards the seceded States, is a source of great anxiety to the industrial and commercial interests of the country, tends to keep up an excitement which is unfavorable to the adjustment of the pending difficulties, and threatens a disturbance of the public peace, therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of three delegates be appointed to wait on the President of the United States, present to him this preamble and resolution, and respectfully ask him to communicate to this Convention the policy which the federal Executive intends to pursue in regard to the Confederate States.

In answer I have to say that having, at the beginning of my official term, expressed my intended policy as plainly as I was able, it is with deep regret and mortification I now learn there is great and unjustified uncertainty in the public mind as to what that policy is, and what course I intend to pursue. Not having as yet seen occasion to change, it is now my purpose to pursue the course marked out in the original address. I command a careful consideration of the whole document as the best expression I can give to my purposes. As I then and therein said, I now repeat, "The power vested in me will be used to hold, occupy and possess property and places belonging to the government, and to collect the duties and imposts; but by no means necessary for these objects there will be no invasion, no using of force against or among the people anywhere." By the words "property and places belonging to the government," I chiefly allude to the military posts and property which were in possession of the government when it came into my hands. But if, as now appears to be true, in pursuit of a purpose to drive the United States authority from these places, an unprovoked assault has been made upon Fort Sumter, I shall hold myself at liberty to repossess it, if I can, like places which had been seized before the government was devolved upon me; and in any event I shall, to the best of my ability, repel force by force. In case it proves true that Fort Sumter has been assaulted, as is reported, I shall, perhaps, cause the United States mails to be withdrawn from all the States which have seceded, believing that the commencement of actual war against the government justifies and possibly demands it. If the government justifies I consider the military posts scarcely situated within the States which claim to be seceded, as yet belonging to the government of the United States as much as they did before the supposed secession. Whatever else I may do for the purpose, I shall not attempt to collect the duties and imposts by any armed invasion of any part of the country; not meaning by this, however, that I may not land a force deemed necessary to relieve a fort upon the border of the country. From the fact that I have quoted a part of the inaugural address, it must not be inferred that I expiate any other part, the whole of which I read, re-

[CONTINUED ON EIGHTH PAGE.]