

Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, VA.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1861.

The STAUNTON SPECTATOR having as large a circulation as any paper published in Western Virginia, has no superior in this section of country as an advertising medium.

War Commenced.

We publish as full accounts as possible of recent exciting occurrences at Charleston and other places. War has actually commenced. After all his declarations in favor of peace, President Lincoln has taken a course calculated inevitably to provoke a collision, and to unite the whole South in armed resistance. It seems that he attempted to rush supplies into Fort Sumter and thus the war began.

P. S. A despatch has just been received (10 o'clock Monday) from Col. Geo. Baylor, of the Convention at Richmond, stating that Lincoln has called out seventy thousand militia. Where from? For what? The Colonel wishes to know what the people here think. There is but one sentiment—every man is ready to take up arms. Intense excitement prevails in the community.

President Lincoln has issued a proclamation against the seceded States, ordering them to disperse within twenty days, calling forth the militia from the several States to the number of 75,000 men, declaring that the first service will probably be to re-take the Forts, and summoning Congress to meet on the 4th of July.

It was reported at Washington on Sunday that two regiments of Pennsylvania troops were on their way to Washington. Pennsylvania, it was said, would furnish 18,000 troops, and New York and Ohio the same, in response to Lincoln's call. It was thought that Lincoln would call for 8,000 troops from Virginia!

Fort Pickens, commanding the mouth of Pensacola Bay, Florida, was reinforced by the Government at Washington on Saturday night, the 13th inst.

Complaints have been made to us of repeated failures of our packages to reach Swoope's depot and other points on the Central Railroad west of Staunton, until several days after they are due. The fault is not in this office.

Great Freshet.

After two days of preparation, a Northeast storm set in on Saturday, the 6th inst., and continued with scarcely any abatement, till the afternoon of Wednesday, the 10th. On Saturday it rained, on Sunday it snowed, on Monday and Tuesday it rained and blew, and on Wednesday it snowed again. In the meantime the streams were rising, and such a flood in every part of this county, was never seen before. The passenger train of the Central Railroad left this place for Richmond on Wednesday morning, as usual, but returned in the afternoon, having got no further than Charlottesville. The track lower down was so much injured by the flood that the trains could not pass, and consequently we had no mails from Richmond from Tuesday till Saturday night. Portions of the Parkersburg turnpike, it is said, were literally washed away, so as to be impassable by vehicles. During the embargo on the mails great solicitude was felt in the community to hear from Lincoln's fleet, the State Convention, Fort Sumter, &c., and a brisk trade was carried on among the towns in bogus telegraphic despatches. By the way, could not the Central Railroad officers have transported the mails across the gaps, without waiting to repair the track?

For the Spectator.

Independent Blues. This company met in the Academy and organized by calling J. W. Baskin to the chair, and appointing R. P. Lipscomb, Secretary. They then proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted as follows:— E. S. Waddell, Captain; W. B. Gallaher, 1st Lieutenant; J. W. Baskin, 2d Lieutenant; E. P. Fishburn, 1st Sergeant.

The storm and the Southern Railroad.—The effect of the recent gale has been most destructive upon several of the Southern railroads. A portion of the Virginia Central Railroad, between Gordonsville and Charlottesville, was washed away on Tuesday night, thus interrupting the communication between Alexandria and Lynchburg. The Manassas Gap Railroad also suffered considerably; lands occurred at several points along its length. The Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad was damaged by the storm so that communication between Aquia Creek and Fredericksburg was prevented. The mail steamer returned to Washington last evening with her passengers. Travel over this line, it is said, will not be resumed until Friday. Owing to these interruptions, we have failed to receive any exchanges south of Alexandria since Monday.—[Balt. American of Friday.]

Town Improvement.

The widening and deepening of the channel of the North branch of Lewis' Creek, from Main Street to Garber's Foundry, is a great improvement for Staunton. It is from this quarter that the floods which do so much damage come, but heretofore we may feel safe from such visitations. Last week, while the surrounding country was almost drowned and washed away, Staunton was entirely out of danger. Both sides of the channel from Main Street to Mayse's Tanyard are to be walled up with heavy stone, and this part of the work is vigorously progressing under the efficient superintendence of Wm. B. Kayser, Esq., one of the Street Commissioners.

The last annual meeting of the Tunker Church resolved to hold the next meeting in Rockingham county, Virginia; but their organ, the Gospel Visitor, recently suggested to change the place to a free State, owing to the present political excitement. The ministers of Augusta, Rockingham and other counties, however, have published a card in which they say, "we apprehend no more danger of the brethren from a free State coming to us, than for us going to a free State and returning home; and we think there is no danger of going either way." They are, therefore, opposed to any change.

The Oil Business.

The oil fever has reached this county, and several of our citizens have become victims to the contagion. The large number of persons rushing into the business, and the sudden wealth said to have been realized by some, remind us of the various speculative manias which have raged at different times in almost every country. Oil is a valuable commodity, and this kind of oil may be the best in the world, but the enterprise is rapidly becoming a species of stock-jobbing at which more fortunes will be lost than made.

Maj. N. G. Watts, of Vicksburg, Miss., a brother of Maj. John B. Watts, of this place, has been appointed Captain of Infantry in the regular army of the Southern Confederacy. Twelve daily papers in different parts of the country, have, since the present troubles began, succumbed to the pressure of the times, and stopped. A number of weekly papers have also stopped.

The Washington States and Union says that numerous desertions from the ranks of the Navy have taken place in Washington, having lately taken place.

I second the motion of "A Union Man" in the last Visitor, to send Baldwin and Baylor to the next House of Delegates.

In the Virginia Convention, on Tuesday, Mr. Jackson, of Wood, called attention to the fact that he and another gentleman were "spit upon" from the galleries. The state of things in Richmond, remarks the Lynchburg Virginian.

There is a girl in Franklin county, Maine, eighteen years old, who drops the scales at 200 pounds.

John Morrissey, the famous pugilist, died in New York on Saturday night, the 6th inst., of diphtheria.

The Canada papers, as a general thing, are opposed to the abandonment of Fort Sumter.

CIVIL WAR INAUGURATED!

BOMBARDMENT OF FORT SUMTER!!

FORT SUMTER SURRENDERED!

Maj. Anderson Goes to New York!

Four Men Mortally Wounded in Firing a Salute!

CHARLESTON, April 12.—The bombardment has commenced, and War is inaugurated. The batteries on Sullivan's Island, Morris Island, and other points, opened on Fort Sumter at 4 o'clock this (Friday) morning. Major Anderson has returned the fire, and the commanding has been kept up throughout the day.

We have no information from seaward yet with regard to the movement of the United States vessels outside.

The militia are under arms, and the whole of the place facing the harbor is filled with anxious spectators.

[A despatch preceding this, but received with delay, says:—"The fight commenced to-day. This is all that I can say." This despatch was in cypher.—Rep.]

CORRESPONDENCE PRECEDING THE BOMBARDMENT. CHARLESTON, April 12.—The following is the telegraphic correspondence between the War Department and General Beauregard immediately preceding the commencement of the attack on Major Anderson, which has been published for public information. This correspondence grew out of the formal notification given by the Government at Washington of an intention to provision Fort Sumter by force, if necessary, as disclosed in General Beauregard's first despatch.

[No. 1.] CHARLESTON, April 8, 1861. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War. Sir—An authorized messenger from President Lincoln has just informed Gov. Pickens and myself that a vessel containing provisions will be sent to Fort Sumter, peaceable, if possible, otherwise by force.

[No. 2.] MONTGOMERY, April 10, 1861. To Gen. G. T. Beauregard. Sir—If you have no doubt of the authorized messenger of the Government who communicated your intention of the Washington Government to supply Sumter by force, you will at once demand its evacuation, and if this is refused, proceed in such manner as you may determine to reduce it. Answer.

[No. 3.] CHARLESTON, April 10, 1861. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War. Sir—The demand will be made to-morrow at twelve o'clock.

[No. 4.] MONTGOMERY, April 10, 1861. To General Beauregard. Sir—Unless there are special reasons connected with your own condition, it is considered proper that you should make the demand at an earlier hour. (Signed) L. P. WALKER.

[No. 5.] CHARLESTON, April 10, 1861. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War. Sir—The reasons are special for twelve o'clock.

[No. 6.] CHARLESTON, April 11, 1861. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War. Sir—Demand sent (on evacuation of Sumter) at two o'clock, allowed until 6 to answer.

[No. 7.] MONTGOMERY, April 11, 1861. To General Beauregard. Sir—Telegraph to me the reply of Major Anderson. (Signed) L. P. WALKER.

[No. 8.] CHARLESTON, April 11, 1861. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War. Sir—Major Anderson replies as follows:—"Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, demanding the evacuation of this fort, and to say, in response thereto, that it is a demand with which I regret that my sense of honor and of my obligations to my Government prevents my compliance."

Major Anderson also added verbally to the officer sent to make the demand—"I will await the first shot, and if you don't batter us to pieces we will be starved out in a few days."

[No. 9.] MONTGOMERY, April 11, 1861. To General Beauregard. Sir—Do not desire needlessly to bombard Fort Sumter. If Major Anderson will state the time at which he will vacate the fort, we will vacate (be starved out) and agree that in the meantime he will not use his guns against us, unless arms should be employed against Fort Sumter, you are authorized thus to avoid the effusion of blood. If this or its equivalent be refused, you will refer the case to your judgment as to the most practicable.

[No. 10.] CHARLESTON, April 12, 1861. To L. P. Walker, Secretary of War. Sir—He (Major Anderson) would not consent. I write to-day.

[This Proposition thus rejected by Major Anderson, was, in other words, asking him, in case an armed attempt should be made to relieve and succor him by his Government, he should stand by a silent spectator without interfering in the contest.]

NOTE.—Intercepted despatches disclose the fact that Mr. Fox, who had been allowed to visit Major Anderson under the pledge that his visit was pacific, had employed his opportunity to devise a plan for supplying the fort by force, and that plan had been adopted by the Washington Government, and was in progress of execution.

PROGRESS OF THE BATTLE. CHARLESTON, April 12, P. M.—The firing has continued all day without intermission.

Two of Fort Sumter's guns have been silenced, and it is reported a breach has been made to the southeast wall.

The answer sent by Major Anderson to Gen. Beauregard's demand was that he would surrender when his supplies were exhausted, if he was not relieved.

Not a casualty, so far as known, has as yet happened to any of our batteries.

Of the nineteen batteries in position around the harbor only seven have opened on Sumter. The remainder are held in reserve for the expected fleet.

Two thousand more men reached the city this morning and embarked for Morris Island and the neighboring batteries.

CHARLESTON, Evening.—The firing has ceased for the night, to be renewed at daylight, unless an attempt should be made to reinforce the fort, to replenish the most ample arrangements.

Our men have worked their guns admirably well. Only two are reported to have been wounded during the day.

The Federal fleet has arrived off the bar.—The steamers Pawnee, Harriet Lane and a third steamer are reported to have been seen.

THREE U. S. VESSELS OFF THE BAR. CHARLESTON, April 12, P. M.—The bombardment of Sumter is continuing steadily. The floating battery are operating freely. Fort Sumter is returning the fire.

It is reported that three United States vessels are outside the bar.

Virginia Convention.

Monday, April 8th.—Immediately on the assembling of the Convention this morning, a resolution was offered to suspend the execution of the order to go into Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of taking up the unfinished business of Saturday.

Mr. Jackson moved that the resolution be tabled. Lost.

The resolution to suspend the order was adopted by a vote.

Mr. Preston's resolution was then taken up, as follows: Whereas, in the opinion of this Convention, the uncertainty which prevails in the public mind as to the policy the Government intends to pursue towards the seceded States is extremely injurious to the commercial and industrial interests of the country, tends to keep up an excitement which is unfavorable to an 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 Convention, and respectfully ask him to communicate to this Convention what course he intends to pursue.

A long debate ensued, during which Messrs. Scott of Fauquier, and Treadway, Conservatives, declared that if the President refused to accede to the proposition they would go for immediate secession. They hoped, however, that the answer of the President would be favorable to peace.

Other members addressed the Convention in opposition, and declared that the object of the resolution was to postpone secession.

The movements of the fleet were frequently alluded to in the progress of the debate, and the ground assumed was that Virginia having by the vote on Thursday indicated her policy against secession, she had the right to know what these movements meant.

The Convention then adjourned.

TUESDAY, April 9.—The Tenth resolution of the report of the Committee on Federal Relations being under consideration, Mr. Wise proposed a resolution which was adopted by a vote of 20, declaring that the people of Virginia give their consent to the recognition of the separate independence of the seceded States, and that they believe the people will put forth no effort to re-annex the seceded States.

The eleventh resolution being under consideration various amendments were proposed, but the resolution was finally adopted by a vote of 21 against 19.

A private despatch stating that a war steamer had been seen off Charleston harbor created considerable excitement in and out of the Convention.

WEDNESDAY, April 10.—The 12th resolution on Federal Affairs being under consideration, Mr. Carline moved to strike out the latter portion, which declared it an indispensable condition that pending the efforts of Virginia to re-annex the seceded States, no effort should be made to reinforce or recapture the forts or arsenals, nor any measure resorted to which would be calculated to provoke hostile collision.

The Convention refused to strike out, says 17, says 104. Gov. Wise moved to add a clause to the effect that no effort should be made to reinforce or recapture the forts or arsenals, nor any measure resorted to which would be calculated to provoke hostile collision.

The resolution was finally adopted by a vote of 21 against 19.

The 13th resolution on Federal Affairs being under consideration, Mr. Carline moved to strike out the latter portion, which declared it an indispensable condition that pending the efforts of Virginia to re-annex the seceded States, no effort should be made to reinforce or recapture the forts or arsenals, nor any measure resorted to which would be calculated to provoke hostile collision.

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The resolution was finally adopted by a vote of 21 against 19.

The 14th and last of the series of resolutions, which provides for the calling of a Southern Convention, was adopted by a vote of 21 against 19.

The Convention adjourned.

THURSDAY, April 11.—The Convention continued the whole of the day in debating the 14th and last of the resolutions reported by the Committee on Federal Relations.

The 14th and last of the series of resolutions, which provides for the calling of a Southern Convention, was adopted by a vote of 21 against 19.

The Convention adjourned.

FRIDAY, April 12.—The Convention adopted the 14th and last of the series of resolutions reported by the Committee on Federal Relations, which provides for the calling of a Southern Convention.

The Convention adjourned.

SATURDAY, April 13.—The Convention adopted the first four sections of the proposed amendments to the Constitution without material amendment. The fifth section, prohibiting the transportation of slaves, was finally adopted, with an amendment providing that it should not apply to States that have or may hereafter secede.

The debate turned exclusively upon events at Charleston. Messrs. Carline and Early condemned the action of South Carolina in firing on Fort Sumter, and the leading secessionists applauded the act and maintained that the people of Virginia would take the State out of the Union, no matter what might be the action of the Convention. It was openly stated in the Convention that the Southern army would march through Virginia to attack the North. Mr. Early said that would be invasion, which should be repelled. A despatch from Governor Pickens to Governor Letcher announcing the commencement of the fight was sent to the Convention.

On reading a resolution was submitted recommending the Virginia Convention to meet in common cause with the Confederate States. The Convention took no action on it. The Virginia Committee had an interview with the President on Saturday. In reply to their inquiry as to his policy toward the seceded States, he stated that it would conform to the declarations of his Insurgent.

The Little Rock, Arkansas Gazette gives rather an unfavorable statement of the attempt in Arkansas to force the State into secession, immediate and apart from the border States. It says:—"We know not how it has been in other places. The secessionists elsewhere may have used arguments to sustain them in their positions. Here their stock in trade is 'denunciation, blustering, or bullying.'"

The Boston Courier draws a graphic picture of the present condition of the country, and asks those of the Northern "Wide Awake" who have not obtained office, how it looks, and how they like it? Those of them who have any sense or any patriotism, no doubt, wish that they had a sound religion? Instead of "Wide Awake" at the late Presidential election.

For the Spectator.

NORTHERN MEN EXPELLED FROM THE SOUTH.

Notwithstanding repeated exposures of the utter falsity of the charges of the alleged expulsions of Northern citizens from the Southern soil, the statements of ragged impostors, who travel so absurd or improbable, continue to be caught up and disseminated by the artizan press for the purpose of inflaming the already too highly excited sectional passions of the country. The latest of these "Southern impressions," that of Wm. H. Turner, hailing from Manchester, N. H., who gave to the New York Tribune an account of alleged imprisonment and ill-treatment at Charleston, S. C., is pronounced by the Boston Journal, a candid Republican journal, to be unmitigated trash, and the much-abused Turner himself a knave.

There must be much suffering in portions of Mississippi. The Brandon Republican says:—"The Board of Police met in Rankin County on Saturday last to adopt some measures to relieve the wants of the poor and destitute. Something must be done, and that speedily, or hundreds of our citizens will perish with hunger. Major Hawkins has returned from Illinois with 17,000 bushels of corn and 1,000 bushels of potatoes, which will be a great relief to the masses of our people. One hundred thousand bushels more is needed, and there is no money here to buy it with."

There is a colored woman in Charleston, S. C., who pays taxes on \$40,000 of real estate and 14 slaves.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

To Consumptives.

The Advertiser, having been restored to health in a few weeks by a very simple remedy, after having suffered several years with a severe lung affection, and that dread disease, Consumption—a scansion to many hours to his affliction, he offers the following to all who desire it, he will send a copy of the prescription used (free of charge), with the directions for using the same, which they will find a sure cure for Consumption, Asthma, Bronchitis, &c. The only object of the advertiser in sending the Prescription is to benefit the afflicted, and spread information which he considers to be of great value to the suffering, and will try his remedy, or will cost nothing, and may prove a blessing.

Parties wishing the prescription will please address REV. EDWARD A. WILSON, Williamsburgh, Kings county, New York. Oct. 9, 1860—1y.

CONCERN. The sudden changes of our climate the sources of Pulmonary, Bronchitis, and Asthma, &c. Affections. Experience having proved that simple remedies often act speedily and certainly when taken in the early stages of the disease, recourse should at once be had to the following:—Cough, or Irritation of the Throat, be ever so slight, as by this precaution a more serious attack may be averted, and the sufferer may be spared the expense of a Physician, and the loss of his health.

WIRE AND SIEVE FACTORY.—The undersigned being the only manufacturer, South, very respectfully asks the attention of the merchants to his public generally to his stock, and manufactures Wire Cloth of every description, Riddles and Sieves of all kinds, Rats and Mouse Traps, Saws, &c. heavy and light, and all kinds of Window Glass, also Coal, Sand and Grano Screens. Keeps constantly on hand a large assortment of Wire, Ropes, Saddles, Siles, &c. All orders, to G. W. JESSOP, No. 21, 1860.

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR CONGRESS. We are authorized to announce Hon. John T. Harris a candidate for re-election to Congress from the District composed of the counties of Augusta, Baldwin, Wilkes, Spotsylvania, Shenandoah, Hardy, Bath, Pendleton and Highland.

MARRIED.

On the 9th inst. by Rev. James R. Wheeler, Mr. W. F. Powers to Miss Eliza C. Bassett, all of this county.

On the 5th inst. by Rev. M. W. Arnold, at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. R. F. Warrasaw to Miss Sarah Warrasaw, all of Augusta county.

THE MARKETS.

STAUNTON MARKETS. WHOLESALE PRICES. Reported by P. N. Powell & Co. APRIL 16, 1861.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes items like Flour, Extra, Family, and various grades of grain and butter.

RICHMOND MARKETS.

Reported for the Spectator by W. D. Tompkins & Bro. APRIL 16, 1861.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes items like Flour, Super, and various grades of grain and butter.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE of Virginia, will hold their annual session in Waynesboro, on WEDNESDAY, the 24th inst., at 11 o'clock.

Resolved, That we take great pleasure in stating that we have derived all the advantages named in the instructions of Maj. Lilly in military tactics.

Resolved further, That we can heartily recommend him to all as not only fully competent to give instructions in this branch of education, but also as being a gentleman in every sense of the word, and as such he is entitled to the respect and friendship of the whole company.

Resolved, That a copy of the above be forwarded to the commandant of the Regiment with which Maj. Lilly is connected.

March 29, 1861.

For the Spectator.

POSTMASTER APPOINTED.—Alexander McDonald, at Lynchburg, Va.; Geo. Sardo, Abingdon, Va.; J. R. Bell, Cameron, Marshall county, Va.; O. Nellis, Williamsstown, Wood county, Va.; A. Minor, Knob Fork, Watauga county, Va.; J. H. Grubb, Fort Backs, Scott county, Va.; C. H. Fontaine, Wytheville, Wye county, Va.; J. M. Coleman, Hartford city, Mason county, Va.; G. A. Hoffman, Conaburnd, Md.; H. J. Kennep, Mt. Savage, Allegheny county, Md.; J. McGowan, Elliott's Mills, Howard county, Md.; J. Leake, Snow Hill, Worcester county, Md.; G. A. Parker, Berlin, Worcester county, Md.; G. W. Hall, Woodsborough, Frederick county, Md.; R. Crooks, Emmitsburg, Frederick county, Md.; Ham. Stier, New Market, Frederick county, Md.; J. Beard, Benvola, Washington county, Md.; J. H. Hays, Brick Meeting House, Cecil county, Md.

The Pennsylvania Legislature on Friday passed the bill appropriating \$500,000 for the relief of the State, and it was immediately signed by the Governor. The despatches from Charleston announcing the attack on Fort Sumter were read during the proceedings and caused much excitement.

The Massachusetts State Senate has passed a bill abolishing capital punishment.

The Boston Courier draws a graphic picture of the present condition of the country, and asks those of the Northern "Wide Awake" who have not obtained office, how it looks, and how they like it? Those of them who have any sense or any patriotism, no doubt, wish that they had a sound religion? Instead of "Wide Awake" at the late Presidential election.

The Little Rock, Arkansas Gazette gives rather an unfavorable statement of the attempt in Arkansas to force the State into secession, immediate and apart from the border States. It says:—"We know not how it has been in other places. The secessionists elsewhere may have used arguments to sustain them in their positions. Here their stock in trade is 'denunciation, blustering, or bullying.'"

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