



CLEARFIELD, PA.

Wednesday Morning April 17, 1861.

THE DUTY OF DEMOCRATS.

Now that our country is in an actual state of civil war—a fact which we are sure very many of our readers will find it difficult to realize—it is well to inquire what, in such an emergency, is the duty of Democrats? The answer is best furnished by a reference to the past history of the Democratic party...

Every Democrat can console himself with the reflection that neither he nor his party is in any respect responsible for our present troubles. Beginning with 1840, the Democratic party, foreseeing the certain dissolution of the Union in the event of the practical application of the Northern Anti-Slavery sentiment in the Administration of the General Government...

Our present troubles are the legitimate fruits of the success of a party elevated to the control of the Government upon the distinctive doctrine of hostility to the institution of Slavery, and for which we repeat, the Democracy is in no way responsible—having done all in their power to prevent the success of that party...

But while we are thus clearly blameless, we still have duties to perform, as citizens, and it is well for us carefully to consider what those duties are, and how they shall be performed. What the future has in store for us, as a nation, time can only unfold. It is the mighty present with which we are now dealing...

In the meantime, it is our duty to sustain "the powers that be;" and although we emphatically condemn and denounce the policy of the President, yet we are not insensible to the fact that the Government at Washington is entitled to our allegiance. Constitutionally elected, Mr. Lincoln is the Chief Magistrate of the nation...

The voice of every Democrat in the free States, and we believe in all the States still in the Union, is in favor of a restoration of our once great and powerful Confederacy at the earliest possible moment, and upon such a basis of equality and justice that it may endure forever. The consummation of this happy result, we think, depends entirely upon the wisdom and discretion of the present Administration. All power is in their hands.

their acts—as long as they are not in open disregard of Constitutional rights—or how much we might desire they should act otherwise, our plain duty is to yield a willing support to and co-operation with those appointed to administer the government and execute the laws—holding them, as the whole civilized world will hold them, to a strict accountability for the manner in which these heavy responsibilities are discharged.

Looking to such restoration, we believe the Democrats from Maine to Texas, tho't the best, safest, and the most honorable course for Mr. Lincoln to have pursued would have been the withdrawal of the United States troops from the Forts within the limits of the so-called Confederate States, and a few days after his inauguration, it was announced, with seeming authority, that such was his determination. At this prospect, the whole country rejoiced. It now seems that either this was a false report, or else that he has changed his mind, as no order for the evacuation of any of these forts has yet been given, but on the contrary, provisions in large quantities were recently sent there by sea, backed by the whole disposable naval force of the government...

THE WAR BEGUN. Bombardment of Fort Sumter. 16 HOURS' FIGHTING. THE UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER OF FORT SUMTER FULLY CONFIRMED. The President Calls for 75,000 Militia. Message from Gov. Curtin.

The News from Charleston. CHARLESTON, April 11, 1861. A formal demand for the evacuation of Fort Sumter was made at twelve o'clock to-day.

Fighting is expected to commence in less than twelve hours. The New York Steamer now being 12 hours overdue, it is believed she has been seized by Northern vessels outside the harbor, and made a cover in which to throw troops into the fort.

CHARLESTON, April 11—P. M. Major Anderson has refused to surrender. His reply is to the effect that to do so would be inconsistent with the duty he owes to his government.

Hundreds of persons have been waiting for hours on the wharves, and other points of observation, to see the beginning of the conflict, among them a great number of ladies. The people are out on the house tops, watching with feverish interest for the first signal of attack.

The excitement in this city is intense. Every train brings throngs of citizens and soldiers to town. Twenty-two car loads came from Columbia to-night. There are no signs of the supply ships of the fleet as yet, but it is rumored that the Harriet Lane has been seen by a pilot outside.

A call has been made for three hundred mounted volunteers, as an extra patrol in the city to-night. Over one thousand have responded. The Sixteenth regiment has also been ordered on duty. This embraces all the militia of Charleston not already in the army.

Major Anderson is said to have fired a signal during the morning, for what object has not transpired. He has been busy all day strengthening his position. The movements at Fort Sumter are plainly visible with a glass. The State has thoroughly prepared for the event. The supply of ammunition and artillery is adequate to any emergency. The confidence in his ability to do all that is attempted is unlimited.

Five signals are now being in the harbor. Senators Wigfall, Chestnut, ex-Governor Manning, of South Carolina; Hon. W. P. Miles, ex-member of Congress, and Pryor of Virginia are on the staff of General Beauregard, doing duty to-night. Advices just received state that Georgia has ready fifty thousand men, armed and equipped for service.

Stirring times are at hand. The ball may open at any moment with great slaughter. There have been no mails from the North for two days. They are supposed to have been stopped at Washington. An officer just arrived from Sullivan's Island, informs me that three steamers hung off the coast for a long period yesterday. Major Anderson fired a signal gun at 10 A. M.

Business is suspended. The Citadel Cadets are guarding the battery with heavy cannon. Thousands are waiting to see the attack commenced. One thousand mounted men and two thousand patrols heavily armed are guarding the city. Ex-Senator Chestnut, the special aid sent with Col. Chisholm, and one of Gen. Beauregard's staff, have just returned from Fort Sumter with the reply to the order for the unconditional surrender.

The community are greatly excited, and are expecting an attack to-night, but up to midnight no demonstration has taken place, and probably no attack will be made to-night. The military in the city are under arms but all is quiet. Another regiment will arrive here to-morrow.

It is estimated that between 6,000 and 7,000 men are stationed on Morris and Sullivan's Islands and points along the coast. General Beauregard will leave at midnight for Morris Island. It is currently reported that negotiations will be opened to-morrow between General Beauregard and Major Anderson, about the surrender of Fort Sumter. Officers commanding different posts in the harbor and coast are on the alert, expecting an attempt will be made early in the morning to provision and reinforce Fort Sumter.

The Harriet Lane is reported to be off the bar, and signals are displayed by the guard boats and answered by the batteries. CHARLESTON, April 11—Midnight. Negotiations have been reopened between General Beauregard and Major Anderson. For this reason the expected hostilities have been deferred.

NEWS FROM MONTGOMERY. MONTGOMERY, April 11, 1861. The War Department are overwhelmed with applications from regiments, battalions and companies to be taken into service. Over seven thousand men have been offered from the border States, exclusive of two thousand warriors from Indians, who desire to co-operate with the Confederate States. A great number of companies are daily reaching Charleston, Savannah and Pensacola.

VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS EN ROUTE FOR SOUTH CAROLINA. WASHINGTON, April 11, 1861. I learn from a reliable source that several military companies have secretly left Richmond, and other places in Virginia, for South Carolina, within the few days, and that more are ready to follow upon the first sign of hostilities.

The "F. F. V." are arming indignantly at the impudence of Ben McCulloch in assuming to lead in Virginia. Several Virginians, in alluding to his course, to-day quoted the following language, uttered by Jon. Randolph in the House of representatives:—"Virginia will always be defended by her true sons, and will never need the help of a renegade." CHARLESTON, April 12, 1861. Civil war has at last begun. A terrible fight is at this moment going on between Fort Sumter and the fortifications by which it is surrounded.

In my last despatch I stated that negotiations had been reopened between General Beauregard and Major Anderson.—This was done with a view to prevent an unnecessary effusion of blood. The issue was submitted to Major Anderson of surrendering as soon as his supplies were exhausted, or of having a fire opened on him within a certain time. This he refused to do, and accordingly, at twenty-seven minutes past four o'clock this morning Fort Moultrie began the bombardment by firing two guns. To these Major Anderson replied with three of his barbette guns, after which the batteries on Mount Pleasant, Cumming's Point, and the Floating Battery, opened a brisk fire of shot and shell.

Major Anderson did not reply except at long intervals, until between seven and eight o'clock, when he brought into action the two tiers of guns looking towards Fort Moultrie and Stevens's iron battery. Up to this hour (three o'clock Friday afternoon) they have failed to produce any serious effect. Major Anderson for the greater part of the day has been directing his fire principally against Fort Moultrie, the Stevens and Floating Battery, these and Fort Johnson being the only five operating against him. The remainder of the batteries are held in reserve.

Some fifteen or eighteen shots have struck the Floating Battery, but made not the slightest impression upon its iron casemates. The Stevens's Battery is also eminently successful, and does terrible execution on Fort Sumter. Branches to all appearance, are being made in the several sides exposed to fire. Portions of the parapet have been destroyed, and several of the guns there mounted have been shot away.

Major Anderson is at present using his lower tier of casemate ordnance. The fight is going on with intense earnestness, and will continue all night. It is not improbable that the fort will be carried by storm. The soldiers are perfectly reckless of their lives, and at every shot jump upon the ramparts, observe the effect, and then jump down, cheering.

The excitement in the community is indescribable. With the very first boom of the gun thousands rushed from their beds to the harbor front, and all day every available place has been thronged by ladies and gentlemen, viewing the solemn spectacle through their glasses.—Most of these have relatives in the several fortifications, and many a tearful eye attested the anxious affection of the mother, wife and sister, but not a murmur came from a single individual.

The spirit of patriotism is as sincere as it is universal. Five thousand ladies stand ready to-day to respond to any sacrifice that may be required of them. The brilliant and patriotic conduct of Major Anderson speaks for itself, and silences the attacks lately made at the North upon his character and patriotism.

Business is entirely suspended. Only those stores are open which are necessary to supply articles required by the army. Troops are pouring into the town by hundreds, but are held in reserve for the present, the force already on the island being being ample. People are also arriving every moment on horseback, and by every other conveyance. Within an area of fifty miles, where the thunder of the artillery can be heard, the scene is magnificently terrible.

CHARLESTON, April 12—6 P. M. Captain R. S. Parker brings despatches up to this time only two have been wounded on Sullivan's Island, he had to row through Major Anderson's warmest fire in a small boat. Three ships are visible in the offing, and it is believed an attempt will be made to-night to throw reinforcements into Fort Sumter in small boats.

It is also thought, from the regular and frequent firing of Major Anderson, that he has a much larger force of men than was supposed. At any rate, he is fighting bravely.

CHARLESTON, April 13—Evening.—Hostilities have for the present ceased and the victory belongs to South Carolina. With the display of the flag of truce on the ramparts of Fort Sumter at half past 1 o'clock, the firing ceased and an unconditional surrender was made. The Carolinians had no idea that the fight was at an end. So, soon after the flag staff of Major Anderson was shot away, Colonel Wigfall, the aid of General Beauregard, at his commander's request went to Fort Sumter with a white flag to offer assistance in extinguishing the flames.

He approached the burning fortress from Morris Island, and while the firing was raging on all sides he effected a landing at Sumter. He approached a port-hole and was met by Major Anderson, the commandant at the Fort. The latter said that he just displayed a white flag, but the firing was kept up nevertheless. Col. Wigfall replied that Major Anderson must hand down the American flag—that no parley would be granted. Surrender or fight was the word. Major Anderson then hauled down his flag and displayed only the flag of truce.

All firing instantly ceased, and two others of Beauregard's staff, Ex-Senator Chesnut and Ex-Governor Manning, came over in a boat and stipulated with Major Anderson that his surrender should be unconditional for the present, subject to Gen. Beauregard's terms. Major Anderson was allowed to remove with his men in actual possession of the fort while Messrs. Chesnut and Manning came over to the city accompanied by a member of the Palmetto guards, bearing the colors of his company. These were met at the pier by hundreds of citizens and as they marched up the streets to the general's quarters the crowd was swelled to thousands.

Shouts rent the air, and the wildest joy was manifested on account of the welcome tidings. After the surrender a boat with an officer and men was sent from one of the four ships in the offing, to Gen. Simmons, commanding on Morris Island, with the request that a merchant ship, or one of the vessels of the United States, be allowed to enter and take off the Commander and garrison of Fort Sumter.—Gen. Simmons replied that if no hostilities were attempted during the night, and no effort was made to re-inforce or retake Fort Sumter, he would give an answer at nine o'clock on Sunday morning. The officer signified that he was satisfied with this, and returned to his vessel.

Your correspondent accompanied the officers of Gen. Beauregard's staff, on a visit to Fort Sumter. None but the officers, however, were allowed to land.—They went down in a steamer, and carried three fire engines for the purpose of putting out the flames. The fire, however, had been previously extinguished by the exertions of Major Anderson and his men. The visitors reported that Major Anderson surrendered because his quarters and barracks were destroyed and he had no hope of reinforcement as the fleet lay idly by during three hours and either would not or could not help him. Besides this, his men were prostrated from over exertions. There are but five of his men hurt, four badly and one it is thought mortally.

But the rest were worn out, and physically incapable of continuing the fight.—The explosions that were heard and seen from the city, in the morning were caused by the bursting of loaded shells, ignited by the fire, which could not be extinguished quick enough. The fire in the barracks was caused by the quantities of hot shot poured in from Fort Moultrie.—Within Fort Sumter everything but the casemates' ate in utter ruin. The whole interior looks like a blackened mass of ruins. Many of the guns are dismantled.

Governor's Message. PENNSYLVANIA EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, Harrisburg, April 9, 1861. To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: GENTLEMEN: As the period fixed for the adjournment of the Legislature is rapidly approaching, I feel constrained by a sense of duty to call your attention to the military organization of the State. It is scarcely necessary to say more than that the militia system of the State, during a long period distinguished by the pursuits of peaceful industry exclusively, has become wholly inefficient, and the interference of the Legislature is required to remove its defects, and to render it useful and available to the public service. Many of our volunteer companies do not possess the number of men required by our militia law, and steps should be forthwith taken to supply these deficiencies. There are numerous companies, too, that are without the necessary arms; and are provided with the more modern appliances to render them serviceable. I recommend, therefore, that the Legislature make immediate provision for these capital defects; that arms be procured and distributed to those of our citizens who may enter into the military service of the State; and that steps be taken to change the guns already distributed, by the adoption of such well known and tried improvements as will render them effective in the event of their employment in actual service.

In this connection I recommend the establishment of a Military Bureau at the capital; and that the militia laws of the Commonwealth be so modified and amended as to impart to the military organization of the State, the vitality and energy essential to its practical value and usefulness. Precautions, such as I have suggested, are wise and proper at all times, in a Government like ours; but special and momentous considerations, arising from the condition of public affairs outside of the limits, yet of incalculable consequence to the people, and demanding the gravest attention of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, invest the subject to which your action is invited by this communication, with extraordinary interest and importance. We cannot be insensible to the fact that serious jealousies and divisions that distract the public mind, and that, in portions of this Union, the peace of the country, if not the safety of the Government itself, is endangered. Military or-

ganizations of a formidable character, and which seem not to be demanded by any existing public exigency, have been formed in certain of the States. On whatever pretext these extraordinary military preparations may have been made, no purpose that may contain plate resistance to the enforcement of the laws, will meet the sympathy or encouragement from the people of this Commonwealth. Pennsylvania yields to no State in her respect for, and her willingness to protect, by all needful guarantees, the constitutional right, and constitutional independence, of her sister States, nor in fidelity to that constitutional Union whose unequalled benefits have been showered alike upon herself and them.

The most exalted public policy and the clearest obligations of true patriotism, therefore, admonish us, in the existing deplorable and dangerous crisis of affairs, that our militia system should receive from the Legislature that prompt attention which public exigencies either of the State or of the Nation, may appear to demand, and what may seem in your wisdom, best adapted to preserve and secure to the people of Pennsylvania and the Union the blessing of peace and the integrity and stability of our unrivaled constitutional government.

The government of the great State is established by its illustrious founder "in deeds of peace" our people have been trained and disciplined in those arts which lead to the promotion of their own moral and physical development and progress, and with the highest regard for the rights of others, have always cultivated fraternal relations with the people of all the States devoted to the Constitution and the Union, and always recognizing the spirit of concession and compromise that underlies the foundation of the government, Pennsylvania offers no counsel, and takes no action in the nature of a menace; her desire is for peace, and her object, the preservation of the political rights of her citizens, of the true sovereignty of States, and the supremacy of law and order.

Animated by these sentiments, and including in an earnest hope of the speedy restoration of those harmonious and friendly relations between the various members of this Confederacy which have brought our beloved country to a condition of unequalled power and prosperity, I commit the grave subject of this communication to your deliberation. A. G. CURTIN.

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the Union are anxious to see... with the seceded States... men of Virginia, in their... for many weeks have... faithfully and earnestly to... State within the Union as... indispensable loss of opera... retention of the border slave... Her Convention driven at length... (emit) by the pressure of... opinion, has detailed a spec... sion of three—Messrs. Stuart... Randolph—to act upon Mr... inquire whether his Union... peace or war. A republican... intimates that these distinc... tors, who have arrived at... will go away no wiser than... came. The next result, then... prehended is the precipitate... Virginia, and next the speed... of fifty thousand men with... for warlike operations.

Thus the only means for... of the Union—to wit, forbearan... tion and compromise—appa... been finally discarded at Wa... The Union, we are told, is worth... perate remedy of civil w... common sense and the exper... manded revolt at this remed... subversive of everything in the... pre-existing institutions. Had... "Abe Lincoln," as the first... administration, issued his call for... extra session of Congress in... the exigencies of this fearful... union, revolution and impo... war, and had he provided an... with the seceded States for... num, he might have opened... us North and South, for a... erance. With the assembling... gress, a message from him to... recommending the Crittenden... propositions as the basis of a... good work. But the abo... tion rules the republican camp... succeeded in gaining the mas... the administration. The... ward policy thus adopted is... Chandler, that a little blood... be a good thing, and blood it... We dare say, too, that the... party is more intent upon some... stroke of policy which will... fierce sectional fires in the... if it has come into power, than... plan whatever for the restora... seceded States to the Union. Be... our republican war unsuccess... of a lengthened regional wa... with the opposing South out of... they may be overturned by a... action at the North. Indeed... hope now against a civil war of... duration seems to lie in the... this demoralizing, disorganizing... structive sectional party, of which... et al. Lincoln is the plant... Let the conservative people of... then, of all parties, who have... lose or anything to save, in vi... of civil war, prepare at once... needful work of putting down... structive dominant party.—Herald.

How it is Done.—We have heard the remark lately, that... ocrats have gained two members... gress in Connecticut at the late... of the Republicans have carried... ture by a large majority, which... but we need only refer our... what a contemporary says upon... of the case. "This fact need create no... when it is considered that a... ough system prevails in Connect... which several tens of thousands of... 1,000 in Alabama send such as... representatives as New Haven, with... tion of 40,000. Windham send... a population of 34,628, send 21... tatives, nearly all Republicans;... Haven township, with 49,000 in... sends two, and Hartford with 20,00... two more. An equal ratio with... county in proportion to population... give to those two Democratic... 50 Representative. They actual... four!

AN extra session of Co... been called in the Confederate... meet at Montgomery on the 29th...

Twenty-five to Sixty Dollars... expenses per month will be paid by... Sewing Machine Company to their... selling the Eric Sewing Machine. The... Machine, and so simple in its construct... child can learn to operate it by half... instruction. It is equal to any Pat... Machine in use, and they take the... fifty and one hundred dollar... price is but Fifteen Dollars. The... to employ Agents in every county in... States. Address, for particulars, J... Machine Co. R. JAMES, General Ag... Ohio.

NEW WASHINGTON BORO... DINANCE No. 3. Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Burgo... Council of the Borough of New Wash... it is hereby Ordained by the author... same, That within five months fro... hereof the owners of lots ranging... hereinafter named, be required to... Walk in front of their respective lots... following, viz:

The outside of the walk to be laid... from the line of lot, with good... plank or boards, not less than... four feet wide, laid crosswise on... running in the direction of the... plank, or pine, not less than four by six... plank to be well spiked down; if... nailed with ten penny nails—plank... to project over sill more than two... Sec. 2. Walk to commence at North... of H. D. Rose's lot on Main street, ... the South side of said street to the... corner of said lot.

Sec. 3. Commencing at the West... M. Cumming's store house on... along said street to the Northwest... M. Bunn's lot on said street.

Sec. 4. Commencing at the North... of Mrs. Irwin's lot on Front street, ... said street to the Southeast corner of... of Washington street, thence west along... of Washington street to the Southwa... John M. Riddle's lot on said street.

Sec. 5. Commencing at the South... of James Gallagher's lot on the Southeast... along East side of said street to the... section to be laid five feet from line of... Adopted March 19th, 1861.

JOS. H. BRETH... Attest—JACOB A. BRETH, Sec. April 10, 1861.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Administration having been granted to the undersigned on the... GOLD WILSON, late of Hixson... Clearfield county, deceased, all persons... said estate are requested to make... payment, and those having claims... same will present them fully auth... settlement. PHILIP HEV...