

The Ohio Statesman

DAILY, TRI-WEEKLY AND WEEKLY

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FIRST TRAIN, NIGHT EXPRESS, via Dayton, etc., stopping at Xenia, Dayton, Cincinnati and Hamilton, arriving at Cincinnati at 7:00 a. m.

SECOND TRAIN, NIGHT EXPRESS, via Dayton, etc., stopping at Xenia, Dayton, Cincinnati and Hamilton, arriving at Cincinnati at 10:30 a. m.

THIRD TRAIN, EXPRESS at 1:35 p. m., stopping at Xenia, Dayton, Cincinnati and Hamilton, arriving at Cincinnati at 4:00 p. m.

ACCOMMODATION at 5:30 a. m., stopping at all stations between Columbus and Dayton, arriving at Cincinnati at 10:30 a. m.

EXPRESS at 1:35 p. m., stopping at Xenia, Dayton, Cincinnati and Hamilton, arriving at Cincinnati at 4:00 p. m.

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1861. 1862.

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At Xenia with the Xenia, Dayton, Cincinnati and Hamilton Railroad for Xenia, Dayton, Cincinnati and Hamilton.

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THE SIEGE OF FORT DONELSON. Official Report of Gen. U. S. Grant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY IN THE FIELD, Fort Donelson, Feb. 16, 1862.

Gen. G. F. Callum, Chief of Staff, Department of the Missouri.

GENERAL—I am pleased to announce to you the unconditional surrender this morning of Fort Donelson, with twelve to fifteen thousand prisoners, at least forty pieces of artillery, and other public property.

I left Fort Henry on the 18th instant, with a force of fifty thousand men, divided into two divisions, under the commands of Generals McClelland and Smith.

Six regiments were sent around by water the day before, conveyed by a gunboat, or rather by a fleet of gunboats, and with instructions not to pass it.

The troops made the march in good order, and the head of the column arrived within two miles of the Fort at 12 o'clock M. At this point the enemy's pickets were met and driven in.

The fortifications of the enemy were from this point gradually approached and surrounded with occasional skirmishing on the line.

The following day, owing to the non arrival of the gunboats and reinforcements sent by water, no attack was made, but the investment was extended on the flanks of the enemy and drawn closer to his works, with skirmishing all day.

The evening of the 13th the gunboats and reinforcements arrived. On the 14th a gallant attack was made by Flag-Officer Foote upon the enemy's works with his fleet. The engagement lasted probably one hour and a half, and had a result favorably to the cause of the Union.

When two unlicked shots disabled two of the armed boats so that they were carried back by the current, the rest of the fleet was so much disabled also, having lost several of the heavy shots about the pilot-boats and other parts of the vessels.

After these mishaps I concluded to make the investment of Fort Donelson as perfect as possible, and partially fortified by the gunboats.

This plan was frustrated, however, by the enemy making a most vigorous attack upon our right wing, commanded by Gen. J. A. McClelland, with a portion of the force under the command of Gen. Delid Smith, who were repulsed after a close and hot battle of several hours, in which our loss was heavy.

The officers, and particularly field officers, suffered out of proportion. I have not the means of yet determining our loss even approximately, but it cannot fall short of twelve hundred killed, wounded and missing.

Of the latter, I understand through General Buckner, about two hundred and fifty were taken prisoners. I shall return enough of the enemy to exchange for them, as they were immediately shipped off to the rear.

About the close of this action the ammunition in cartridge boxes gave out, which, with the loss of many of the field officers, produced great confusion in the ranks.

Seeing that the enemy did not take advantage of it, I concluded that equal confusion, and possibly a great demoralization, existed with the enemy.

In view of this fact, I ordered a charge upon the left, enemy's right, with the division under General C. F. Smith, which was most brilliantly executed, and gave to our arms full assurance of victory.

The battle lasted but a few minutes, giving us possession of part of their entrenchment. An attack was ordered from the other flank, after the charge of Gen. Smith was commenced, by the divisions under Generals McClelland and Wallace, which, notwithstanding the hours of exposure to a heavy fire in the rear part of the day, was gallantly made, and was soon further repulsed.

At the points thus gained, night having come on, all the troops encamped for the night, feeling that a complete victory would secure their labors at an early hour in the morning.

This morning at a very early hour a note was received from Gen. S. B. Buckner, under a flag of truce, proposing an armistice, etc. A copy of the correspondence which ensued is herewith accompanying.

I cannot mention individuals who especially distinguished themselves, but leave that to division commanders, however, Generals McClelland, Smith and Wallace, I must do justice to say that each of them were with their commands in the midst of danger, and were always ready to execute all orders, no matter what the exposure to themselves.

At the hour the attack was made on General McClelland's command, I was absent, having received a note from Flag-Officer Foote, requesting me to go and see him, he being unable to call in consequence of a wound received the day before.

My personal staff, Col. J. T. Webster, Chief of Staff; Col. J. C. R. Johnson, Adjutant; Capt. J. A. Rawlings, A. G. General; Captain C. B. Lagow and W. S. Hillier, aids, and Lieut. Col. J. B. McPherson, Chief Engineer—all are deserving of personal mention for their gallantry and services.

For full details see reports of Engineers, Medical Director, and commanders of brigades and divisions, to follow.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT WEST TENNESSEE, Fort Donelson, Feb. 14, 1862.

The General Commanding takes great pleasure in congratulating the troops of this command for the triumph over rebellion gained by their valor on the 13th, 14th and 15th inst.

For four successive nights, without shelter during the most inclement weather known in this latitude, the forces of the enemy in large force in a position chosen by him, and though strongly fortified by Nature, all the additional safeguards suggested by science were aided—without a murmur this was borne, prepared at all times to receive an attack, and with continuing skirmishing by day, causing ultimately in forcing the enemy to surrender without conditions.

The victory achieved is not only great in the effect it will have in breaking down the rebellion, but has secured the greatest number of prisoners of war ever taken in any battle on this continent.

Fort Donelson will hereafter be marked in capitals on the map of our united country, and the men who fought the battle will live in the memory of a grateful people. By order, U. S. GRANT, Brigadier-General Commanding.

(From the Cleveland Herald.)

Heading of a Slave-Pirate. Capt. Nathaniel Gordon, of the slave ship Eric, was hung in the New York Tombs on Friday, his execution being the first that has taken place under the laws enacted more than forty years ago, punishing the slave-trade as piracy.

Gordon was 33 years of age, a native of Portland, Maine, and followed the sea from a very early age, rising from a cabin boy to command of a ship. The enterprise of the Eric was his fourth or fifth slave-trading voyage.

On the 7th of August, 1860, Gordon took on board of the Eric, at the mouth of the Congo river, and coast of Africa, 207 negroes, men, women and children, being exchanged principally for Cuba, and on the 8th was captured by the U. S. vessel Mohican. The negroes were taken to the New York Tombs, and the vessel was brought to New York. Hall and Warren, his mate, still remain in the Tombs.

The case of Gordon dragged into Buchanan west of office, the only being, nominally prisoners. The U. S. District Attorney, Delid Smith, brought Gordon to trial. The jury, after being out twenty-four hours, disagreed—eight for conviction, four for acquittal. The most active and untiring exertions were made by the great lawyer, James M. Smith, of New York to save Gordon, but on the second trial before Judge Shipman and Nelson he was convicted, and on the 30th of November Gordon was sentenced to be hung on the 7th of February. Gordon and his friends did not believe the sentence would be executed, and he was kept in the Tombs for two weeks by the President, to give him time to prepare for death.

After Gordon's conviction he was almost constantly attended in prison by his wife and little son, three years of age. In the passing scene the evening before the execution, Gordon wept, but did not entirely lose his self-possession. The grief of Mrs. Gordon was of the most acute description, and she had to be borne from the prison. After his family left, Gordon wrote thirteen letters, one of them to his little boy, to be kept sealed until he should be able to mature age. About midnight he laid down and slept until about three o'clock, when he started suddenly from his bed, looked at his watch, muttered something, and again laid down with his face to the wall. About four o'clock A. M., Gordon's keepers found him dead in his cell, with every indication of death on his countenance. The City Prison Physician was sent for, who pronounced him suffering under a dose of poison. The prisoner afterward admitted that he had taken strychnine which had been furnished him, and which he had concealed in a crack on the under side of his bench. Gordon's torments and miserable end are thus described by the reporter of the Times:

His SUFFERINGS. Dr. Hodgman found Gordon in convulsions, which seemed to increase in violence at each repetition. He applied the stomach pump, and gave him stimulants. Lockjaw set in, and the wretched man from that moment till 10 A. M., suffered tortures which the momentary agony of a scaffold death can bear no possible comparison. Whisky was given him every few moments for the double purpose of restoring vitality, and neutralizing the pain, and had this not been the case, long before the appointed hour, Gordon would have passed from this world since he had suffered a dose of death since he had taken the poison, and begged that he might be allowed to die, and end his misery.

At times, for half an hour, his jaws would be firmly closed, and he could neither talk nor groan. At such times he would write a few lines upon paper. In this condition—half alive, half dead, nearly under the absolute influence of liquor, given for the purpose of saving him—the poor wretch lingered, until the legal boundary of his life's career.

At 10 o'clock, Marshal Murray notified Gordon, through Mr. Draper, that the hour had arrived. At this he expressed great surprise, and said that he thought he had two hours more in which to live. The clergyman entered the cell and prayed with him, and then he was taken to the gallows by Marshal Bork, aided him in dressing, and gave him a large drink of whisky, when his arms were tied, the

BLACK CAP. was put carelessly on one side of his head, and he was carried on the Deputy's shoulders to a chair in the corridor. The sight was simply shocking.

The man was not sober—that is, so powerful had been the effect of the poison, that, in order to keep him alive till the necessary moment, they had been obliged to give whisky enough to make an ordinary man drunk three times over. He sat lolling in the chair, gazing listlessly around, while the Marshal with unaffected emotion, read the former reports to him. That done, he was helped to his feet, and held there while the Marshal read to him the death-warrant. Then, with upturned head and indescribably offensive manner

GORDON SAID: "I have a word to say. I die with the clear conscience of a man who has done, intentionally, no wrong. When a man gets up in Court, and says to the jury that if they will only convict a man for him, he will do everything to get that man pardoned, and then go to the President and tell him to hang that man, it's very mean and contemptible. Such a man would do anything to promote his own ends. He is a man fellow."

After which he looked around with a senseless smile, asked for some more whisky, which was kindly given him. The procession was then formed, Gordon stalking with a bravado air, upheld by the Marshals toward the scaffold.

To a casual spectator it would appear that exhausted by mental or physical suffering, Gordon was making a great effort to walk majestically to his fate. As it was, however, he had just sense enough left to endeavor to follow out the suggestion of the well-meaning Deputy, who told him to die like a man, and to walk to the rope, so that no one could accuse him of fear. When he reached

THE SCAFFOLD, he said: "Well, a man can't die but once, I'm not afraid." The cap was drawn over the whitened, meaningless features, the hood-knot was carefully adjusted under his ear, and he stood, an unblinking, earnest, benighted wretch waiting for he knew not what, when with a jerk he went high in