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For the Gazette.

Uncle Dan's Big Dinner Bell. BY DURRELL MACDILDARRELL.

I have heard the famed Swiss warbler sing,
When her notes in waves of harmony rolled;
And the shouts of applause made the welkin ring,
That went up from admirers of numbers untold.
I have listened to singers of every class,
Some of whom made my bosom swell,
But there is one sound that all others surpass—
Tis that of Uncle Dan's big dinner bell.

The soldier prides in the rolling drum, he soldier prides in the rolling drum,
The ministrel starts at the banjo's hum,
he Italian sighs for the organ's tones,
And Sambo laughs to the rattle of the bones,
he maiden calls for the light guitar,
The piano's notes ring hear and far,
at what joy to me no tongue can tell,
When I hear Uncle Dan's big dinner bell.

I have heard of the minstrel's marvelous power-I have listened to his roundelays trolling; I have listened to his foundelays trothing; the farmer's great horn at the dinner hour, I have heard up the valleys rolling, have run to the mess room at the call of 'reast beef.' A sound hungry soldiers like so well— but the sound most dear to me—'tis beyond all belief-Is the ring of Uncle Dan's big dinner bell.

educational. Edited by A. SMITH, County Superintendent.

The Late Convention.

In some respects the late meeting of the County Association was a decided success: in others, it was almost a failure. The attendance of teachers was not as good as it might and should have been; but the attendance on the part of the citizens of Milroy and vicinity, was most encouraging and gratifying, giving unmistakable evidence of an intelligent interest in the cause of popular education. Their generous and hearty hospitality was a temptation, which it was almost impossible to withstand, to indulge very freely in the good things of this life.

A quorum not being present, no meeting could be held on Thursday afternoon. This was a source of considerable disappoint ment to those present, and for a while things looked as though the meeting would be a failure. This shows the importance of teachers coming to such meetings the first day and remaining until the close. The meeting in the evening proved quite interesting and instructive. Friday was well spent in drills and discussions.

It is to be hoped that efforts will be made by teachers to put into practice the excellent and timely suggestions of Prof. Bates in regard to physical culture, ventilation, and other means of promoting the health and comfort of pupils. Prof. B's Leture on Friday evening was a very compact and able production, requiring close attention throughout to insure an understanding of the subject.

The discussions, as is too often the case, were to a considerable extent off-hand, rambling talks-cause why: everybody thought everybody else would be prepared effect: nobody was prepared, hence, ne-

cessarily, the discussions fell far below the remedy that can prevent a recurrence of talks, instead of discussions, is thorough preparation on the part of teachers. The excellent suggestion of the Rev. Mr. White in regard to selecting speakers to open each question commends itself to the attention of the Executive Committee.

But, notwithstanding a few drawbacks, the meeting was decidedly a pleasant and profitable one. Many a teacher has gone back to his schoolroom with enlarged views and new interest in his duties. Thus both teacher and pupils will be benefited. Excellent suggestions, bints, and illustrations were freely given. Old acquaintances were renewed, and new ones formed. Such a meeting, certainly, should not be missed for any other than the most urgent reasons.

MIBGELLANY.

THE VOICE OF AN ENGLISHMAN.

BRIGHT'S SPEECH. The North American says that Mr. Bright made a singularly forcible speech on American affairs at Rochdale, England, on December 4th, which is printed at length in the Times of December 6th. As an argument to Englishmen, and a rebuke to the false pretenses on which a certain class in England make their stand as advocates of a war with the United States, it could not be surpassed. The Times admits its force by filling its columns with editorial answers to it; and all the war journals seem to regard it as indispensable to break the force of Mr. Bright's appeal if they would succeed in driving the nation on to actual

The points of this speech are, as we have said, especially levelled against Englishmen, and are, therefore, not such as we stand upon ourselves. In England it has long been pretended that solicitude for the amelioration of slavery was a leading idea in all they proposed. Mr. Bright exhausts every phase in this aspect of the case, and shows the hypocricy which would wage a war on the free side of the Union, case, and shows the hypocricy which would

as its corner stone. The force with which of some national sensibility, waked into disthis argument may be made to recoil on British secessionists at the hands of any one is increased by Mr. Bright's mode of putting the appeal, and it will be impossiand Spratts in re-establishing the slave well on toward a new barbarism. Mr. Bright charges, finally, 'that slavery has sought to break up the most free government in the world, and to form a new state, in the nineteenth century, whose corner of men.' 'The slave States offer them-

unchangeable foundation in their eves-of

slavery and barbarism.' We shall see what

that 'Christian nation' will do in the case.

separation of the least fragment of territory, trait prominent above all others in their history. They admit no such right in us however. They deny all justice in the bring the Trent in for trial as a lawful claim we make for the loyalty of States prize, may be justly held to operate as a Kentucky and other States against the States that alone actuates our enemies on ted. both sides of the water. 'If a bare rock in your empire, that would not keep a sin the British Government, none is tendered gle goat alive, be touched by any foreign because a simple statement of the facts as Power, why the whole empire is roused to they are suffices to show that no offence resistance; and if there be, from accident could have been intended on the part of or from passion, the smallest insult to your our government, as it had given no instrucflag, what do your newspaper writers say tions whatever in the premises, while the on the subject, and what is said in all your proceeding of Capt. Wilkes in so far as it towns and in all your exchanges? I will fails to accrue to the benefit of his govern tell you what would have been said if the ment and to conform to the rules of pubgovernment of the northern States had lie law, was dictated by considerations of taken their insidious and dishonest advice : kindnesss and forbearance. They would have said that the great repub mark they might have reached. The only lie is a failure, and democracy has murdered patriotism : that history affords no example of such meanness and of such cowardice, and would have heaped unmeasured obloquy and contempt upon the people and government who had taken that course.'

Of course we do not need the stimulus of these allusions to aid us in maintaining our position, but the people of England do need the rebuke which Mr. Bright so vigorously administers. There is reason to believe that this speech will have a great influence for good among that people, for to avert war is more to their advantage

THE TRENT AFFAIR.

The Official Correspondence Published.

The National Inteligencer has the official announcement of the adjustment of the Trent difficulty, and the correspondence between Lord Lyons and the Secretary of State, is published in full. The Intelligeneer, in an article apparently semiofficial, says:

"Whatever may be the disappointment of any at the result to which the administration has come in the settlement of a question, which constitutionally devolves upon the Executive branch of the Government, we are sure that all will applaud the firmness and sincerity with which the administration, res isting a national tendency impressed by the concentrated drift of public opinion in our own country, has resolved to do what it be lieved to be right in the premises, and it should give a pause to all who may be disposed to challenge the propriety of the resoution to which the administration has come when they note that a contrary decision would leave us in opposition, not only to the view of Great Britain, but also to those which the Government of France announces, res-pecting the principles of public law involved

The Intelligencer says in conclusion: "Whatever, therefore, may be said by any in the way of exception to the extreme terms of the demand made by the British Government in the case of the Trent, it is at least just to admit that the case has been so adjusted by our Government as to subserve, we would hope, the great cause of neutral rights

in order to establish a government based solely and distinctively on eternal slavery interpreted by our Government, has received a new sanction, though at the cost, it may be, a new sanction, though at the cost, it may be, proportionate activity by the temporary exacerbations of civil fueds. The latter, let us

tions is for all time."

The Intelligencer contains five columns ble to destroy its effect with those who are of the correspondence. The despatch from not utterly lost to honor. If all the people | Earl Russell, her Britannic Majesty's Secof England can now join with the Yanceys retary of State of Foreign Affairs, after reciting the circumstances under which he trade, the world has indeed retrograded understood the capture of these parties to have been made, proceeds to characterise it as an outrage on the British flag, and after expressing the hope and belief that it had not been authorized by our Government, asks a reparation appropriate to such stone is the perpetual bondage of millions an aggression, that the four gentlemen designated should be released, and an apology selves for the recognition of a Christian should be given for what the British Govnation, based upon the foundation-the ernment deems an affront to her flag.

In responding to this demand, Mr. Seward, after reviewing the circumstances under which the arrest was effected, accor-The fierce determination of the British ding to the report of our naval officers, and government and people never to permit the thus developing the inaccuracies and omissions of the British statements, proceeds colonial or in the British islands, from the to analyze the facts and principles of pubundivided control of British power, is the lic law involved in the case, and arrives at the conclusion that the neglect of Captain Wilkes partly voluntary on his part, to whose interests are identical with our own, forfeiture of the belligerant right of capwhose people are the same, and between ture accruing under the laws of nations, whom and ourselves there can be no inter- and that the government of the United national boundary. It is not a question of States, as well as from the consideration of self government that is at issue in this re- the inconsistency with its own traditional bellion-it is simply a question whether in- policy respecting marantine rights of neuternal violence shall be permitted to dis- trals, would be in its own wrong if it member and destroy a nation. Mr. Bright should refuse a compliance with the Britputs this truth in the most forcible light, ish demand, so far as relates to the disciting the repeated votes in Maryland, position that shall be made of the prisoners taken into custody by Capt. Wilkes, disunion scheme, and showing that it is a under circumstances to be justly open to wish to violently dismember the United exception on both the grounds thus indica-

So far as regards the apology asked by

The decision of the President in this affair, as announced and explained in the lucid despatch of Mr. Seward," says the National Intelligencer, "has the approval of every member of the Cabinet."

Mr. Seward in conclusion says:

"If I decide this case in favor of my own Government. I must disavow its most cherished principles, and reverse and forever abandon its essential policy. The country cannot afford such a sacrifice. If I maintain those principles and adhere to that policy, I must surrender the case itself. It will b seen, therefore, that this Government could not deny the justice of the claim presented to us in this respect upon its merits.

"We are asked to do the British nation first, what we always insisted that all nations ought to do to us. The claim of the British Government is not made in a discourteous manner. This Government since its first organization has never used more guarded language in a similar case. In coming to my conclusion I have not forgotten that if the safety of this Union required the detention of the captured persons, it would be the right and duty of this Government to detain them; but the effectual check and waning proportions of the existing insurrection, as well as the comparative unimportance of the captured persons themselves, were dispassionately weighed, happily forbid me from resort-

ing to that defence. Nor am I aware that American citizens are not in any case to be unnecessarily sur-rendered, for any purpose, into the keeping of foreign States. Only the captured persons, however, and others who are interested in them, could justly raise a question on that ground. Nor have I been tempted at all by the suggestions that cases might be found in history where Great Britain refused to yield to other nations, and even to ourselves, claims

like that which is now before us. "Those cases occurred when Great Britain, as well as the United States, was the home generations which, with all their peculiar interests and passions, have passed away.-She could, in no other way, so effectually disavow any such injury as we think she has done us by assuming now, as her own, the ground upon which we then stood. It would tell little for our own claims to character of a just and magnanimous people, if we should so far consent to be guided by the law of retaliation as to lift up buried injuries from their graves to oppose against what national consistency and national conscience compel us to regard as a claim internationally right. "Putting behind me all suggestions of this kind, I prefer to express my satisfaction that by the adjustment of the present case upon principles confessedly American, and yet, as trust, naturally satisfactory to both the nations concerned, a question especially and rightly settled between them which, heretofore, exhausting not only all the forms of

peaceful discussion, but the arbitrameut of war itself for more than half a century, alienated the two countries from each other, and perplexed with fears and apprehension all other nations.

"The four persons in question are now held remember, are but for a day-the law of na-

in military custody at Fort Warren, in the State of Massachusetts. They will be cheer-fully liberated. Your Lordship will please indicate a time and place for receiving them.

"I avail myself of this occasion to offer to
your Lordship a renewed assurance of my Here follows a letter from Mr. Thouvenel, the French Minister of State, and the reply of Mr. Seward. The French Minister's letter sets forth the facts of the arrest, and points out the dangers it involves, and urges a compliance with the demands of the British Government; Mr. Seward replies that before Mr. Thouvenel's despatches had been received, our Government

> French Government. LORD LYONS TO MR. SEWARD. WASHINGTON, Dec 27, 1861. The Hon. Wm. H. Seward, &c., &c.

had decided in its course of action, and

concludes by an expression that the Presi-

dent appreciates the kindly motives of the

SIR-I have the honor of receiving the note which you did me the honor to address to me yesterday, in answer to Earl Russell's despatch of the 30th of November last, relative to the removal of Mr. Mason, Mr. Slidell, Mr. Macfarland and Mr. Eustis from the

British mail packet Trent.

I will without any loss of time, forward to Her Majesty's Government a copy of the im-portant communication which you have made

I will also, without delay, do myself the honor to confer with you personally on the arrangements to be made for delivering the four gentlemen to me, in order that they may be again placed under the protection of the British flag.

I have the honor to be, with the highest

consideration, sir, your most obedient humble

Forward Movements.

The Cincinnati Commercial says: We have faith that the winter will not be passed by our armies without striking decisive blows at the rebellion. It is no secret that the Burnside expedition is aimed at Eastern Virginia, whether on the lower Potomac or by way of the Rappahannock, or York, or James rivers, or through Norfolk, can only be conjectured. It is quite within the limits of possibility and probability that twenty five thousand men will be shipped from Annapolis, this week, to deal the blow. The immediate object of the expedition is to turn the rebel position in front of Washington. It is not likely that the rebels have fortifications on any of the rivers of Eastern Virginia superior to those on Port Royal sound, and we may anticipate with confidence, that Burnside's gun and mortar boats will be able to clear the way for the army. The earthworks of the rebels are not prepared to resist the vertical fire which will be administered to them. Any map of Eastern Virginia will show how remarkably vulnerable the State is to a power commanding the Chesapeake. At least sixty thousand men can be spared from the army in front of Washington, to move down the Potomac. Hooker's division, now on the north bank of that river, opposite the enemy's blockading batteries. can be transported over in a night, and there is reason to believe that ample arrangments have been made to secure success to such a movement. Five thousand troops can be spared from Baltimore. The whole force at Fortress Monroe, with the exception of two or three regiments to do garrison duty, can be put in motion at any time. Thus it would appear perfectly practicable to turn the right flank of the enemy, and push into Eastern Virginia with an army of near one hundred thousand men

The right wing of our army on the Po tomac is not motionless, and when the left moves, will not be behind it in activity .-The movement of Gen. Banks to Frederick, and the concentration of troops at Romney, under Gen. Reynolds, points unmistakably to an advance upon Winchester, the key to the Valley of Virginia; and that taken, our army could follow the track of General Johnston, in July, and, from Manassas Gap, make Manassas Junction untenable. Advances in the east would, undoubtedly, be seconded by movements in the west.

Gen. Buell has not less than sixty thousand men in hand for a march upon Bowling Green; and while the great work of bridge building is going on at Green river, our camps are lively with the incessant drilling of the men, the crude masses of the volunteers being fashioned into the similitude of the regular army, while the hills of Kentucky are daily resounding to the target practice of our artillerists; and in the meantime, the inevitably "inadequate transportation" is brought up to an approximation to adequacy by extensive requisitions for wagons, and the zealous breakage of mules. However cautious Gen. Buell may be, he clearly sees the work before him, and is engaged in it with alert and unwearied energy. Beyond doubt, he is to take a prominent part in the impending effort to prostrate, at the great points of contact, the military power of the rebellion.

Turning from the Southwest to the Southeast, we find Gen. Sherman's army reinforced by several regiments, and having definitely possessed the islands of the coast of South Carolina, prepared to strike on the right or left, or in front, with at least fifteen thousand bayonet strength .-In the Gulf, Fort Pickens has given the rebels a specimen of its volcanic power, and is ready for another and more destructive eruption. Our force there has already been increased, and Gen. Bragg has called lustily for reinforcements. Our trorps on Ship Island menace New Orleans and Mobile, as those at Hilton Head threaten Charleston and Savannah. Galveston, the most important of the Texan towns. has been deserted by the rebels as untenable; and the panic on the Southern coast. which was wakened by our guns at Hatteras, has spread like an epidemic, until it is felt at the mouth of the Rio Grande; and the Gulf of Mexico, which, in the dreams of the Cotton State conspirators, was to be the Mediterranean sea of a Southern empire as vast as that of Rome, is to them full of terrors, as the highway of the destroyers of their ambitious and guilty schemes; where, in the intoxication of anticipated triumph, they saw argosies laden with the more than golden fleece of the cotton fields, giving them supremacy over the commerce of the world, every sail that glistens, and every smoke that rises over the waters, causes them to quake with fresh

WAR NEWS.

Captain C. O. Loomis' Battery of Michigan Artillery, numbering one hundred and forty-two men, one hundred and thirtytwo horses, six wagons and six rifled cannon, has been transferred from Western Virginia, where it has done excellent service, to the Department of the Cumber

Seven hundred Regulars, of the force surrendered to the Rebels in Texas by Major Lynde, lately passed through Rochester, destined for Rome and Syracuse, whence they will go to Sackett's Harbor and Oswego, to garrison the forts at those places.

On Saturday a week General Prentiss, with four hundred and fifty men, dispersed nine hundred Rebels, under Colonel Dorsey, at Mount Sion, Boon county, Missouri, killing and wounding one hundred and fifty and capturing thirty-five prisoners, ninefive horses, and one hundred and five guns. Our loss was only three killed and eleven wounded. The Rebels have burned another train on the North Missouri Railroad. They say that they intend to destroy all the cars on the road.

Mr. Ely, recently released from Richmond, states that just before his departure from Richmond, Gen. Winder sent for Mr. Ely and asked him to designate several officers to be released in exchange for those undertook the delicate office with a view to humanity, choosing those most likely to suffer from long confinement, and the fortunate selections include Lieuts. Dickinson of New London, Conn., Ferrish, of Providence, Grover, of Bath, with 250 privates.

The news from New Mexico is peculiarly gratifying: There is a strong Union feeling prevalent throughout the Territory, and at the latest dates all was quiet. Col onel Canby, in command of the Department of New Mexico, has retaken Forts Craig and Stanton, on the Mesilla border, and at last accounts he was on his way to dispossess the Rebels of Fort Fillmore, which was traitorously surrendered to them by Major Lynde. There are about six housand Indians on the Big Bend of the Arkansas, consisting of different tribes, who are anxious and willing to fight in defence of the Union.

The Government stables at Washington. near the Observatory, took fire on the 20th and over one hundrd horses perished.

The Rebel schooner Fashion has been captured by the gunboat Ethan Allen and sent into Key West.

The Death of Prince Albert .- The steamer Persia brings us the unexpected intelligence that Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria, died of gastric fever at noon on Sunday, the 15th December. He was born at Rosenau, August 26, 1819, and was the second son of Earnest, Duke of Saxe Coburg Gotha. On the 5th of February, 1840, he was married to Queen Victoria, since which event the British Parliament has given him a personal allowance of \$150,000 a year. He also held numerous lucrative and honorary appointments, and by his accomplishments, his devotion to art, science, agriculture, and indus trial interests, he gained the respect and kind regard of the people of England, and of nearly all other civilized countries. Although forbidden, by the peculiar nature of his position, to interfere in political affairs, the em ployments to which he devoted himself, and his high personal character, won for him a reputation which many monarchs who posses sed far greater power never obtained.

A boy named Levi Schoch, near Freeburg, lately committed suicide by hanging himself. He was about twenty years of age. No cause given.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS

In the Senate on the 23d Mr. Grimes gave notice of a bill to have one of the military hospitals at Washington placed under the care of homocopathic physicians. Hon. Garrett Davis, Senator from Kentucky, appeared and took his seat. The bill appropriating one million of dollars for gunboats in the Western waters was passed. Mr. Wilson submitted a bill prohibiting the employment of the military in the re turn of fugitive slaves. The bill increasing the number of Cadets at West Point was debated and postponed. The House bill increasing the duties on tea, sugar, coffee, and molasses, was passed. It goes into effect on the first of January.

In the House of Representatives Mr. Vallandigham submitted a bill to enforce the writ of habeas corpus. Mr. Wilson's resolution instructing the Military Committee to report an additional article of war prohibiting officers of the army from using the forces under their command in returning fugitive slaves was passed. A bill increasing the duties on tea, coffee and sugar was passed under a suspension of the rules. The bill fixes the duties as follows -teas, twenty cents per pound; coffee five cents; raw sugar two and a half cents; white sugar three cents; lump and refined five cents; molasses six cents per gallon.

In the Senate on the 28th, Mr. Hale introduced a resolution committing the Government against the rendition of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, and a belligerent speech thereon. The Senate, however, refused to take any inconsiderate action on so important a subject, and tabled the resolution. Mr. Davis, the new Senator from Kentucky, gave notice of a bill to confiscate the property of those participating in any capacity in the rebellion. The House met, but no quorum being present adjourned.

The Senate after a brief session on the 30th, adjourned until Thursday. A communication was received from the Secretary of War declaring it to be incompatible with the public interests to furnish the correspondence between Gen. Scott and Gen. Patterson. Mr. Davis, of Kentucky, introduced a bill declaring certain persons alien enemies and confiscating their property. The House of Representatives also adjourned until Thursday.

A Sade Mistake. - What where supposed to be the remains of the son of Capt. Jewitt, of Vienna, Iowa, were carefully sent home for burial. The family and friends, with the locol military, assembled to bury the dead, when the coffin was opened, and the face was that of a stranger. The funeral ceremonies, however, proceeded, and the strange young soldier was buried in the grave prepared by loving parents for their own son,

The Clearfield Republican, a patent democratic newspaper, in commenting on the employment by farmers of a few contrabrands in Washington county, Pa., at \$5 per month -probably taken out of charity, for farm labor is light in winter-endeavors to make capital out of it, alleging that the introduction of the blacks will lead to a reduction of white labori; and then, with consummate hypocrisy, turns round and ridicules the President's recommendation for colonizing them, by declaring that "if all our ships were engaged, they would be unable to transport even the natural increase."

If the patent democratic newspapers are to be believed, the Declaration of Independence must be abolition doctrine, and those who believe in it abolitionists !

The Caucasian, an infamous sheet which the traitors of the New York Day Book established in place of the latter, has been excluded from the mails. Of course there are some "democratic" howls.

The Democrat of the 25th copies editorially from that democratic secession paper, the Selinsgrove Times, one of those traitor articles which uphold slavery as harmless in having produced the present rebellion, and throws the whole blame on "Northern Abolitionism." A few months ago, when appointments were wanting in the army, &c., democratic orators and papers did not hesitate to say that this rebellion was projected thirty years ago; and of course either those men lied then or else the patent democratic papers

Estate of Mary Clayton, deceased,

OTICE is hereby given that letters of administration on the estate of MARY CLAYTON, late of Derry township, Mifflin county, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, residing in said township. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to settle immediately, and those having claims to present them, duly authenticated for settle-ment. WM. MITCHELL, dec18-6t

FLOUR by the barrel or hundred—Fancy, Extra Family and Superfine Flour for sale by JOHN KENNEDY & Co.