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The Kent News.

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The Kent News:

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Job Printing.—Having added to our Office an extensive assortment of New and Beautiful JOB TYPE, we are prepared to execute every description of Job Printing, at short notice, and on very reasonable terms.

Original Poetry.

For the Kent News.

THE GREAT UNION CLUB.

BY JOHN N. DODD.

AIR—"*Villikins and his Dinah.*"

There is an old gent and his name it is Abe,
He is a rail-splitter, for so it is said,
But for the whole UNION he ever was true,
And thought it a farce *to split it in two.*
CHORUS—
Rub-be-dub, rub-be-dub, rub-be-dub, dub,
Oh march to the tap of the rub-be-dub, dub,
Old Abe he is raising a "Great Union *Club,*"
To give the Seceshers a very hard rub.

When Abe was elected 'twas late in the Fall,
As President, over Seceshers and all,
And by all the rails in the Union did swear—
Jacksonian-like—to act on the square.

Seceshers were trying to frighten old Abe,
By blowing and stealing—their favorite trade—
But when they had made a considerable noise,
Old Abe gave a yell for some of "the Boys."

The yell it was heard, and it had its effect,
To play "Help your neighbor," the "boys" did collect;
Secesh "couldn't see it"—he found he was matched,
Had "counted his chickens" before they were hatched!

To fence in the Union, without any *bars,*
Old Abe is at work by the light of the *Stars;*
It soon will be finished, and when he is through,
He'll paint it all over with Red, White and Blue.

Chestertown, July 25, 1862.

For the Kent News.

OUR DESOLATE HOMES.

BY C. GREENWOOD.

Our homes are lone and dreary now
That our dear friends have gone away,
And deeper shades are on our brow,
Then, oh, why tell us to be gay?

'Tis hard for us to say that we
Will bear the separation well;
For oh, we know it cannot be,
Then why should we the falsehood tell?

We know not what may intervene,
Before our loved ones do return;
But God, who has the future seen,
May give us joy where now we mourn.

We hope the distance is not far,
That our dear friends will have to roam;
Then, oh, dear Lord, be ever near,
And guide their footsteps safe at home.

Chestertown, July 28, 1862.

IS IT FAIR?

I know a young man, a noble fellow, who prosecutes a successful manufacturing business. Although possessed of an abundant competence, he devotes himself with untiring assiduity to the interest of his factory, ten hours every day. His eyes and hands are everywhere.

Half a year ago he married a beautiful accomplished girl, who is said to speak four of the languages of southern Europe, (where she has resided several years,) with the fluency of natives, while she touched the keys with infinite grace and skill.

Four months ago they began housekeeping; a week since they gave it up in utter disgust.

The three servants figured conspicuously in all their griefs.

The coffee was always execrable, the steak a shame, the cruet stand and spoons not fit to be seen, and the whole house in a confusion and covered with dirt.

The husband bore it as long as pride and patience could endure, and then sacrificing everything at auction, returned to boarding, resolved never to suffer the miseries of housekeeping again.

I never was more indignant than when I heard of it. If the beautiful bride had learned one less language, and devoted the year to learning the mysteries of housekeeping, she could have made my friend's house a real paradise. Ignorant of everything she could but weep and despair.

Suppose her husband's management of his business had been like her management of that which belonged to her, what would become of them?

I don't think the match a fair one. On one side it was a cheat. A young lady of the same merely ornamental class in discussing the case, exclaimed, "she did not agree to play the part of a household drudge." I replied, Did the husband agree to play the part of a factor drudge?

But does not the relation imply mutual obligations which this wife has utterly failed to meet?

Exercise of Extraordinary Powers.

The opponents of the Government are swift to denounce many of its acts for the suppression of the rebellion as acts of tyranny. There is no doubt that in some instances of flagrant wrong it has exercised extraordinary powers. But this is only saying that extraordinary emergencies demand extraordinary measures. Some of the acts of the Government are without precedent. But this is only saying that the enormity of the crime and the magnitude of the peril which demanded these acts were without precedent. The President has administered precisely such medicines as the nature of the disease required. If the violence of the times has required violent measures, he is not only not in fault in applying them but he would have been in fault not to have applied them.

A cotemporary who has well stated the case in reference to the exercise of extraordinary powers by the Government, observes that an excutive officer is bound always to exercise just that amount of power and no more which, in the exercise of a wise discretion, he believes necessary to preserve the public peace and enforce law. If he wantonly exceeds this, if he exercises his power so as to oppress the people without cause, then, and then only, he is chargeable with tyranny. On the contrary, however imminent and appalling the threatened danger may be, if he fails to meet it with a force sufficient to resist it, even if it requires the whole physical and pecuniary resources of the people, he is guilty of official imbecility and neglect of duty. He will be excused by nothing but the absolute inability of the Government to overcome the threatened danger.

It is a rule which everybody understands that not only in time of great public danger but also in time of peace and security, individual interests must yield to the public good. The good of the whole is paramount to that of the least possible part. Whenever, therefore, individual interest or individual liberty are dangerous to the public welfare, they must yield; the Executive is recreant to his duty to the people if he fails to compel the individual concession. In time of peace such concessions are infrequent, because unnecessary. In time of great public peril they are more frequent, because more necessary. In every case the propricty and extent of such individual sacrifices are determined and measured by the imminence and magnitude of the danger.

If it is objected that such sacrifices, by the Government, of individual interest and liberty, as, for axample, the arrest of dangerous persons in time of threatening revolt, imperil the Nation's liberty, it is answered: First—That it is to be done only when the Nation's liberty is already imperilled, and for the sole purpose of preserving it. "The safety of the people is the highest law." Second—It can be, at the worst, only a question of choice between present inconvenience and permanent suffering—between the hazard of a slight and transient disturbance and the hazard of a nation's destruction. Rational and just men do not hesitate in making the choice. In the language of Sir William Blackstone: "The Nation is willing to surrender its liberties for a while in order that it may preserve them forever."
—*Baltimore American.*

GENERAL HALLECK.

A Western letter-writer gives the following description of the personal appearance of General Halleck, recently appointed commander-in-chief of all the land forces of the United States:

He is below the medium height, straight, active, and well-formed, and has a brisk, energetic gait, significant of his firm and decisive character. His nose is delicate and well-formed, his forehead ample, his mouth by no means devoid of humor, and his eye the most remarkable I ever saw in any man, except Professor Agassiz. It is of a hazel color, clear as a morning star, and of a most intense brilliancy. When he looks at a man it seems as though he were literally to read him through and through.

He has a fine physique—is stout, burly, weighs two hundred pounds avoirdupois, has a round head, is middle aged, black hair filling fast with silver. He walks by the hour in front of his quarters with his thumbs in the armpits of his vest, looking mostly at the ground, but casting quick looks, now to the right, now to the left, evidently not for the purpose of seeing anything or anybody, but staring into vacancy the while. His eyes see only the problem before him, which, with the forces under him, he is to work out a satisfactory conclusion. He is bronzed already, and in complexion reminds one of Daniel Webster, though not so dark-hued as Webster. Such is his personal appearance. I understand that he does business off-hand, is impatient at long stories, and cuts many an officer short in their verbal communications. He evidently has his odd ways. I am informed he puts on citizen's dress and walks through the camp.

STATE MILITARY APPOINTMENT.—Governor Bradford has appointed Sheppard C. Leakin, of Baltimore county, Major General of the First Light Division of Maryland Volunteers, in place of George H. Steuart, who has left the State. The appointment is regarded as a good one.

The Change in the Manner of Conducting the War.

The conservative press of the country generally approve of the recent changes made in the mode of conducting the war. The effect will be to shorten the duration of the rebellion, in consequence of diminishing the Rebel supplies, by extracting therefrom whatever may be serviceable for subsisting the Union army while marching through any portion of their territory. A conservative cotemporary makes the following judicious comments on the policy hitherto pursued in contrast with that more recently adopted:

We of the loyal States have been in the condition of the merchant when he is forced to pay both sides of his bill book. Our funds have been depleted to supply our armies, while Rebel property within our reach and forfeited to the violated law has been left untouched by us and free for the uses of the Rebellion. It requires no mercantile education to see that a business so conducted must end in universal bankruptcy. Let Rebel property now pay the cost of the Cotton Insurrection.

Though the South is a bad school for political morals, we may learn in that latitude some useful hints in military wisdom. We must adopt their severe discipline within our army lines. We must apply their mode of raising supplies from the immediate field of operations. If we are rightly informed, it is a common thing, to this day, in Norfolk and Portsmouth, to detect spies in the shape of mail carriers prowling near our camps. These traitors are punished by being made take the oath, and are then set free. In Richmond they have caught but *one* such man, and he was tried and hanged. This difference in policy explains why the enemy knows all our movements, and why we know nothing of his. If they wish to raise fortifications, they make a requisition upon the whole adjacent country for slaves to do the work. Should there be in the vicinity any Union men, their slaves are taken in preference and carried off. This happened time and again last fall and winter, in Kentucky. If, then, *they* take the slaves of a Union man, to punish him for his fidelity, why should we hesitate to seize the slaves of a traitor to punish him for his treason?

These are reflections that are effecting a lodgment in the minds of the most conservative people. They are gratified, therefore, to see the Executive acting as if he feels the same convictions. In this they will yield him a cordial support, and the heavier the blows he now inflicts on the vital power of the Rebellion, the better they will be pleased.

WHAT SOLDIERS WANT.

The July number of Hall's Journal of Health contains the following advice to those who are writing to soldiers in the army:

If you write to a soldier, friend or relative in the army, using a common envelop and a sheet of foolscap paper, you may also add, without exceeding the weight for which a three-cent postage stamp will pay, as much tea as a teaspoon will take up twice, or as much black or cayenne pepper, such as is obtained from a good drug store under the name of "capsicum," as you can take up at once with a common teaspoon, and the smaller envelop of thin paper to hold either. Chewing the tea, a pinch at a time, every hour or half hour while keeping guard, or under circumstances of great thirst, or of excessive weariness or sleepiness, will enliven, will modify thirst, will invigorate, or will waken up to a grateful extent, considering the amount of tea used, and its perfect safety from ulterior ill results, such as follow the use of alcoholic drinks. But a teaspoonful of genuine 'capsicum' is worth tenfold its weight of tea-leaves, especially in summer, in many ways; for example, a single quarter of a pinch will save a man's life—that quarter of a pinch being put in a sleepy sentinel's eye. If it don't waken him up, and everybody else within an Indian yell's distance, then it is not a prime article of Capsicum.

A single pinch in a glass of flat or warmish water will nullify these qualities, and besides satisfying thirst, will invigorate and effectually prevent that uncomfortable sensation arising from having drank largely of water. A good pinch, eaten at each meal, or whenever a cup of coffee or tea or water is swallowed, will always invigorate digestion, aids to prevent acidity, and is, besides, a great antagonist of the diarrhea, dysentery, flux and 'looseness,' which are the great scourges of all armies. A level teaspoon of capsicum daily, taken in eating or drinking, or both, or if taken a pinch at a time during the day or night, would do more real good, and that without any ill result, than ten times the cost, in rum and quinine, as a preventive against chills and fevers.

WHAT THEY ALL NEED.—An officer of an Indiana regiment in passing through one of the streets of Norfolk met a pretty little girl of eight years and gently patted her on the head, when the mother, who observed it from a window, rushed to the door and bawled out at the top of her voice, "Come right in the house, Susannah, and I will wash your head!"

LOVE is most intelligible when it is unable to express itself in words.

Ludicrous Effects of a Comet.

In the year 1712 Mr. Whitson, having calculated the return of a comet which was to make its appearance on the 14th of October, at five minutes past five in the morning, gave notice to the public accordingly, with this terrifying addition—that a total dissolution of the world by fire was to take place on the Friday following.—The reputation which Mr. Whitson had long maintained, both as a divine and philosopher, left little or no doubt with the populace of the truth of his prediction. Several ludicrous events now took place. A number of persons about London seized all the barges and boats they could lay their hands on, on the river Thames, very rationally concluded that when the conflagration took place there would be the most safety on the water. A gentleman who had neglected his family prayers for better than five years informed his wife that it was his intention to resume the laudable practice the same evening; but his wife, having engaged a ball at her house, persuaded her husband to put it off till they saw whether the comet appeared or not.

The South Sea stock immediately fell to 5 per cent., and the India to 1; and a Captain of a Dutch ship threw all his powder into the river, that the ship might not be endangered. The next morning, however, the comet appeared according to prediction, and before noon the belief was universal that the day of judgment was at hand. About this time one hundred and twenty-five clergymen were ferried over to Lambeth, it was said, to petition that a short prayer might be planned and ordered, there being none in the church service for the occasion. Three maids of honor burnt their collections of novels and plays, and sent to the booksellers to buy each of them a Bible and Taylor's Holy Living and Dying. The run upon the bank was so prodigious that all hands were employed from morning till night in discounting notes and handing out specie.—On Thursday considerably more than 7,000 kept mistresses were legally married in the face of several congregations, and, to crown all, Sir Gilbert Heathcote, at that time head director of the bank, issued orders to all the fire offices in London, requiring them to keep a good lookout, and have a particular eye upon the Bank of England.

A LIFE THOUGHT.—I heard a man who had failed in business, and whose furniture was sold at suction, say, that when the cradle and the crib and the piano went, tears would come, and he had to leave the house to be a man. Now there are thousands of men who have lost their pianos, but who have found better music in the sound of their children's voices and footsteps, going cheerfully down with them to poverty, than any harmony of chorded instruments. Oh, how blessed is bankruptcy when it saves a man's children! I see many men who are bringing up their children as I should bring up mine, if when they were ten years old, I should lay them on a dissecting table and cut the sinews of their arms and legs, so that they could neither walk nor use their hands, but only sit still and be fed. Thus rich men put the knife of indolence and luxury to their children's energies, and they grow up fatted, lazy calves, fitted for nothing at twenty five, but to drink deep and squander wide; and the father must be a slave all his life, in order to make beasts of his children. How blessed then, is the stroke of disaster which sets the children free, and gives them over to the hard but kind bosom of property, who says to them—"Work!" and working makes them men!

DRAFTING.—*How they do it.*—The subject of drafting has become one of considerable interest within a few days past, the idea gaining currency that a draft may have to be resorted to, in some of the States at least, to raise the three hundred thousand troops recently called for by the President. Drafting is provided for by a law of Congress framed in 1792, entitled "The Act to provide for the national defense, by establishing a uniform militia throughout the United States," afterwards amended and applied to all arms-bearing citizens of the country. The process of drafting is about the same in the various States. Rolls are prepared of those liable to serve—able bodied men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five—and the requisite number of names are drawn by lot in the presence of prescribed officials. The persons drawn are notified, and given opportunity to prove themselves exempt, or provide suitable substitutes, failing in which they are compelled to serve, or submit to heavy penalties, generally imprisonment.

MUCH has been said of the "happy despatch" among the Japanese. But the Chinese often despatch a poor wretch in a most unhappy manner. A letter dated Shanghai, May 3, states that the keeper of an eating house in that city had a few days before charged a visitor with eating a quantity of rice not paid for, when an angry dispute arose. A mandarin was sent for, who ordered the victim to be ripped open to ascertain whether he had swallowed the food. It was done, and no rice found.—A false charge had been made; and to put things right, according to the Chinese ideas, the head of the accuser was quickly taken off, when the magistrate was ready for another job.

A LINE OF BATTLE.

This expressson often occurs in referring to the order of troops on the battle-field, and it is doubtless the opinion of many that the two armies stand in two lines; but it is not so. The army is divided into divisions, and there are often great gaps between the divisions. They are posted in positions, or in commanding places—that is, on hills, or in woods, or on the banks of streams, in places where they will be best able to resist or attack the enemy. The divisions are usually so placed that they can support one another. You can understand a line of battle pretty well by imagining a regiment here on a hill, another down in a valley, a third in a piece of woods, with artillery and cavalry posted in the best positions. If you want to make it more real, when you are out in the fields or pastures, with the hills all around, just imagine that the enemy is over yonder hill, with ten thousand men and twenty pieces of artillery. You are a General, and have an equal number.—The enemy will come down that road, spread out into the field, or creep through the woods and attack you. You can't exactly tell how many men he will send on the right, or how many on the centre, or how many on the left, so you must arrange your forces to support each other. Then to shift it, if you are to attack him. You don't know how his troops are arranged, for he keeps them concealed as well as he can. You don't want many of your men killed, but do want to win a victory. Now there is a chance for you to try your skill in planning a line of battle. You must place your artillery where it will do the most damage and receive the least from the enemy. You must move your infantry so that they will not be cut off by the enemy before they get near enough to cut them up in return. You see it is no small thing to be a General. There are great responsibilities.

KILLING RATS.—*A Novel Trap.*—The premises of a good many farmers are invested with rats, and we are often asked for means of destruction. A resident of Brooklyn is vexed with an increasing family of rats that seem to grow fat on arsenic and rat exterminators. He doesn't like rats, and refers his case to the Sunday Times. That journal recommends a trap made as follows:

"Take a mackerel barrel, for instance, and fill it about one-third its height with water. Then place a log endwise in the water, so that one end of it will just remain above the surface. Make the head of the barrel a little too small to fit, and suspend it by two pins to the inside of the top of the barrel, so that it will hang as if on a pivot and easily tip by touching either side. On this head, thus suspended, secure a piece of savory meat. The first rat that scents it will, to get the meat, leap on the barrel head. The head will trip, or tilt, precipitate him into the water, and resume its position. The rat in the water will swim to the log, get on the end of it, and squeal vociferously. His cries will bring other rats, all of whom will be tilted into the water, and all of whom will fight for the only dry spot in it—viz., the end of the log. As only one rat can hold it, the victor will drown all the rest, and can, in the morning, be drowned himself. We have seen twenty rats caught in one night by such a trick."

AN OBSTINATE ORGAN.—In a small church at a little village near Brighton, where the congregation could not afford to pay an organist, they recently bought a self-acting organ, a compact instrument, well suited to the purpose, and constructed to play forty different tunes. The sexton had instructions how to set it going, and how to stop it; but, unfortunately, he forgot the latter part of his business, and, after singing the first four verses of a hymn before the sermon, the organ could not be stopped, and it continued playing two verses more; then just as the clergyman completed the words "Let us pray," the organ clicked and started a fresh tune. The minister sat it out patiently, and then renewed his introductory words, "Let us pray," when click went the organ again, and started off on another tune. The sexton and others continued their exertions to find out the spring, but no man could put a stop to it; so they got four of the stoutest men in the church to shoulder the perverse instrument, and they carried it down the centre aisle of the church, playing away, into the churchyard, where it continued clicking and playing away until the whole forty tunes were finished.

THE WANDERING JEW.—A strange account is given of this personage, by Calmet, in his history of the Bible. His original name was Calaphilus, and was Pontius Pilate's porter. When they were dragging the Saviour out of the door of the Judgment Hall, he struck him on the back, saying, "Go faster, Jesus, go faster; why dost thou linger?" Upon which the Saviour looked on him with a frown, and said, "I am indeed going, but thou shalt tarry till I come." Soon after this Calaphilus was converted, and took the name of Joseph. He lives forever, but at the end of every hundred years, falls into a fit of trance, and when he recovers he returns to the same state of youth he was in when our Saviour suffered, being then about thirty years of age. He was never seen to smile, and perfectly remembers the death and resurrection of our Lord.

SIMPLE DIVISION.

A southern planter named P——, pretty well to do in the world now, was, some twenty years ago, a poor boy on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. One of the most marked traits of his character was an inordinate love of money. In the course of time, P—— was of age, and thought it was about time to get married. He went to a neighboring village, and was introduced to the daughter of Judge B——.

"Fine gal," said the embryo speculator to his friends, who were gaining him an entrance among the elite.

"Very," was the reply.

"How much might Judge B. be worth?"

"About ten thousand dollars."

"And how many children has he got?"

"Only three."

"Three into ten goes three times and a third over," mentally ciphered P——.

Here was a chance, and he improved it, too. He made love to the beautiful and unsophisticated daughter of the Judge and all his possessions. Strange to say, for he was as uncouth a looking cur as ever went unlicked, his suit prospered and they were married. The honeymoon passed off as all honeymoons do, and they were happy. The bride was lively and chatty, and made allusions to her brothers and sisters. Startled at so many names that he thought should not be in the catalogue of relations, one evening at tea he said:

"My dear, I thought there were but three of you."

"So there are, but pa's first wife had eight more."

"Eleven into ten, no times and none over," said the astonished P——, who had jumped up and kicked over a chair, and groaned in perfect agony, "I'm sold!"

THE KING AND THE SOLDIER.—Frederick of Prussia had a great mania for enlisting gigantic soldiers into the Royal Guards and paid an enormous bounty to his recruiting officers for getting them. One day the recruiting sergeant chanced to espy a Hiberian who was at least seven feet high. He accosted him in English and proposed that he should enlist. The idea of military life and a large bounty so delighted Patrick that he immediately consented.

"But," said the sergeant, "unless you can speak German the king will not give you so much."

"Oh, be jabers," said Pat, "sure its I that don't know a word of German."

"But," said the sergeant, "three words will be sufficient, and these you can learn in a short time. The king knows every man in the Guards. As soon as he sees you he will ride up to you and ask you how old you are, you will say 'twenty-seven,' next how long have you been in the service; you will say 'three weeks;' finally, if you are provided with clothes and rations, you will answer 'both."

Pat soon learned to pronounce his answers but never dreamed of learning the questions. In three weeks he appeared before the king in review. His majesty rode up to him. Paddy stepped forward with present arms.

"How old are you?"

"Three weeks."

"How long have you been in the service?" asked his Majesty.

"Twenty-seven years."

"Am I or you a fool?" roared the king.

"Both," replied Patrick, who was instantly taken to the guard room, but pardoned by the king after he understood the facts of the case.

A REGULAR HUMBUG.—A couple of raw 'uns from the country were out one evening, seeing the lions of New York City, when they came across one of the theatres.

"I say, Jake," said the eldest, who gloried in the name of Jonathan, "I've heerd tell of these theatres, and root or die, I'm bound to see 'em."

But Jake didn't seem disposed to go in, and an agreement was made that he should sit upon a fire-plug and smoke a cigar, while Jonathan took a peep at the elephant. He accordingly bought a ticket, went in, and in about fifteen minutes returned with a woeful long visage.

"What is it like?" inquired Jake.

"A regular suck in," said Jonathan. "They've got a great big picture stuck up agin the wall, and a lot of fellers fiddling before it, and I'll be dod darned if that isn't all the show."

HOW A ZOUAVE FEELS IN BATTLE.—One of Duryea's New York Zouaves writes thus: "I could hardly describe my feelings on the battle field while the rebels were shelling us, and I could not get a shot at them, and could see my comrades killed and wounded all around me. I felt a great deal of nervousness, but when the rebels came out to charge us it all left me, and I felt as cool as ever. When we commenced to charge I felt, I might almost say, a thrill of pleasurable excitement and as though I could follow our colors to death. When the enemy were shelling us I made up my mind that when we came to close quarters, 'no quarter' would be our cry, but instead of that I gave two wounded rebels a drink out of my canteen on the field."

A MILE or so from town a man met a boy on horseback, crying with cold.—"Why don't you get down and lead the horse?" said the man, "that's the way to get warm." "It's a beb-borrowed horse, and I'll ride him if I freeze!" whimpered the boy.