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Poetry.

[From the New York Mercury.]
TO QUEEN VICTORIA.

Queen of the loveliest, richest isle,
That e'er adorned the sea,
Blest with kind heaven's approving smile,
We hail and honor thee;
Our sires and thine, in days of yore,
Failed to adorn thy soil;
St. George's cross together bore,
Through danger and through toil.

And we—thy children's children—live,
To bless thy realm and throne,
May'st thou to pagan nations give
That Faith which is thine own.
O'er weak and unprotected lands,
May'st thou extend thine aid,
And cause corrupt, oppressive bands,
To pause, and be afraid.

Still be defender of that Faith
Which once to man was given;
Still move in that celestial path,
That leads a world to heaven.
Should danger press against thy realm,
And doubts and fears arise,
Let not despair thy soul overwhelm,
Let hope illumine thy skies.

The westward wave thy royal hand,
And turn thy royal eye
To fair Columbia's happy land,
Where Freedom's banners fly.
For here a powerful hand doth dwell
In peace and unity,
Who guard the liberties right well,
And cannot fetter thee.

Accept their aid, and o'er the sea,
Two hundred thousand strong,
Brave men will move to succor thee,
With joy, and shouts, and song.
Columbia's sons will never stand
With folded arms, and see
Their own dear native fatherland
By tyrants fettered be.

Capital Story.

GEN. SAMUEL DALE.
His Great Canoe Fight.

In 1784, when Samuel Dale was yet a boy, his father moved from Virginia, and made a settlement near the site of the present town of Greensboro, Ga. But a few days had elapsed, when the subject of our sketch—a youth of sixteen summers—found himself an orphan; and, in virtue of his seniority, guardian of seven brothers and sisters. Disposing of them in the best manner his limited resources would allow, he joined a company of volunteers, raised to repel the invasions of the Creeks; and here commenced that military career which only ceased when the difficulties of his country ceased. We do not intend to follow it up. We have been acquainted with the history of the Indian wars—with the bloody battle of Burn Corn and Holy Ground—the terrible massacre of Fort Mims—the hazardous expeditions of Claiborne, and the Seminole campaigns of Jackson—knows enough to appreciate the iron nerve and daring intrepidity of Gen. Dale. We will only notice a few of those remarkable adventures with which his life is so replete.

His celebrated "Canoe Fight," in the Alabama river, in which he and two of his company braved, with clubbed rifles, nine Indian warriors, in fair and open combat, is a kind of household word with our old settlers. Every old crone on the river could relate to you the incidents of the bloody conflict; while her aged partner, whose head had whitened with the growing importance of his State, would huddle down to the bank and point out the very spot in the bright waters where the two canoes met; and if, perchance, the reader has ever made a trip down the river, on that elegant boat, which bears our hero's name (the Sam Dale), he has doubtless had designated to him, by the courteous captain, the time-honored old beach which marks the spot, as well as the high projecting bank which had previously sheltered the name-sake of his boat from the fire of the Indians.

Soon after the bloody tragedy of Fort Mims, many of his whites, urged by the defenseless condition, and the increasing hostilities of the Indians, took refuge in Fort Madison. As Gen. Claiborne was prevented from marching to their aid, by the hostile movements of the enemy about St. Stephens, Capt. Dale and Col. Carson, were left in command of the Fort. As soon as his wounds, received at Burn Corn, were sufficiently healed, Dale determined to change his line of conduct from defense to offense. With seventy men he proceeded southwardly to Brazier's landing on the Alabama. Here they found two canoes, belonging to a negro named Caesar, who informed them that there were Indians above there on each side of the river. He also tendered them the use of the canoes, and proffered to act as their pilot. Captain Dale

immediately placed the canoes in charge of Jeremiah Austill and six men, who were ordered to keep them parallel with the party on land. Arriving at the mouth of Randon's Creek, the canoe party discovered a boat filled with Indians, who, however, immediately paddled to the shore and fled.

The land party, finding it impossible to continue their route, on account of the thick cane and vines, were ordered to cross over, and proceed up the other side. While they were effecting a passage, Dale and several of his men kindled a fire a short distance from the river, to prepare their day's meal. Thus engaged, they were fired upon by a party of the Creeks, from an ambush. Retreating to the river, so as to gain the cover of the projecting bank, they discovered a large flat-bottomed canoe containing eleven armed and painted warriors. The party behind them now retired, leaving Dale to choose his own course towards those in the boat. As both of his canoes were on the opposite side, Dale ordered the larger one to be manned. Two of the warriors now left their boat and swam for shore; but a ball from the unerring rifle of James Smith perforated the skull of one, who immediately sunk; the other gained the shore and escaped. Eight men lived, in the meantime, in the larger canoe, and were approaching the Indian boat; but coming near enough to see the number of rifle-muzzles over the edge of the boat, they hastily paddled back to the shore.

Dale, exasperated by this "clear back out," as he termed it, of his men, shouted to them in a scornful tone, "To look and see three brave men do what eight cowards had shrunk from;" and followed by Austill and Smith, into the smaller canoe, which the faithful Caesar had just brought over. Paddling their canoe directly towards enemies, they soon commenced the "Canoe Fight" proper—so celebrated in Alabama tradition.

When within twenty paces of the Indians, our heroes rose in their canoe, to give them an opening broadside; but unfortunately, the priming of their guns was wet, and they failed to fire. Had not the same accident befallen the enemy, the result of the canoe fight might have been very different. Dale now ordered Caesar to bring the boats along-side of the other, and hold them together. The warriors, confident of their strength, and eager to grapple with three men, whose guns would not fire, allowed their boat to move leisurely along with the current. As the two neared each other, the Chief arose, and with an ejaculation of defiance to "Big Sam,"—as, on account of his great size and strength, he was called by the Indians—leveled his gun at Smith's breast; but before he could draw the trigger, the latter aimed a blow at him, which would have proved fatal, had it not been adroitly avoided.

The canoes came together with a jar, which threw Austill slightly off his balance, and ere he could regain it, a well-directed blow from a war-club prostrated him across the boat. A half dozen powerful arms were raised to complete the work, when the heavy rifle of Dale came down upon the head of the Chief, with a force that sunk it deep into his skull. Smith had not been less active, and his trusty barrel had fallen with like effect upon the skull of another warrior, and the two now felt their death throes in the bottom of the canoe. Austill had in the meantime recovered, and added his strength to the work of destruction. The bold Caesar held the boats together with an iron grasp, and with one foot in each of the heroes' fought. Two successive blows from Austill's rifle dispatched two of the enemy, one of whom fell overboard. Thinking to make sure of his foe by a second stroke, Austill leaned forward to strike, when he was again prostrated by an Indian war-club. The exulting savage, never forgetful of a scalp, raised the war-whoop—seized his victim by the hair—the scalp-knife glittered in the air, when another timely blow from Dale's clubbed rifle divided his skull.

Tradition says, that so great was the force of the blow, the skull was split from the crown to the vertebral column. In the meantime Smith, at the other end of the canoe, grappled with two lusty warriors. He was a powerful man; but the chances were now against him.

The iron clutches of one of his assailants were upon his throat—the tomahawk of the other above his head! He sees his danger; one foot is one canoe, one in the other; with a desperate effort he gets both feet in one canoe, and draws one Indian after him, while the sudden movement separates the end of the boats and leaves the others behind, to meet the fate of those who had already come within the range of Dale's and Austill's rifles.

Smith now had his enemy in his power, and soon dispatched him. The conflict now became equal—three to three. The savages reduced from nine to three, now fought with the energy of despair. Light and active, they avoided many of the blows of the whites; and dealt in return such well-directed ones

that they were beginning to tell in their favor, when Dale calling to Caesar to hold the boats firmly together, sprang on one of the seats and dealt a blow which shivered a club which had been directed to meet it, and leveled another warrior. The remaining two were left to have destruction meted out to them by the victorious Dale: who while Smith and Austill leaned upon their bloody and brain bespattered rifles, dispatched them at two successive blows. During the whole of this sanguinary conflict, the heroes were encouraged by the continued cheers of their comrades, on either bank. Of the nine warriors, Smith killed two; Austill, two, and Dale five. "Having laid them all low," says Mr. Pickett, these undaunted Americans began to cast them into the bright waters of the Alabama—their native stream now to be their grave. Every time a savage was raised up from the bottom of the canoe, and slung into the water, the Americans upon the banks set up shouts long and loud—as some slight revenge for the tragedy of Fort Mims. The Indian canoe presented a sight unusually revolting—several inches deep in savage blood—thickened with clods of brains and bunches of hair, etc., etc."

A few years previous to the canoe fight, Gen. Dale was engaged in another hand-to-hand encounter, hardly less exciting. There is so much of the spirit of wild adventure and romance connected with the incident, we are surprised that it has not been this, been made the basis of one of our thrilling border tales. When the Indian hostilities first began to assume a threatening attitude, in consequence of the Galphinton treaty, a white woman was seized by a party of Indians, and carried into captivity. All attempts towards recapturing her seemed fruitless; indeed, so many similar cases occurred, that they failed to excite that interest which we would naturally expect. Dale, however, having gained some information as to her whereabouts, determined—and with him determination was but another for name—accomplishment—to rescue setting out alone, his experience in trailing soon brought him upon the heels of the savages. Finding himself near them, with his characteristic coolness he stopped at a spring to drink and refresh himself previous to beginning his work. While stooping to drink, two of them who were nearer than he thought, sprang upon him. Without attempting to rise, he drew his hunting knife, and with an under stroke, killed one of his assailants; then rising suddenly, he threw the other from him, and ere he could regain his feet dispatched him.

Thus much accomplished he took the trail of the others—followed them many miles—came upon them asleep—knifed three of them—cut the throats of the captive woman and was about to commence a triumph march homeward when another warrior, whose position behind a log had screened him from view, sprang upon him. Weak from the loss of blood, and in the deadly grasp of the savage, Dale would now have fallen by the hands of a foe whom he had ever conquered, had not the liberated woman snatched up a tomahawk and split the Indian's skull. The mutual deliverers, exchanged congratulations upon their fortunate escape were soon in the midst of their rejoicing friends. General Dale, in after life often said he had given up all hope of life in this instance, and could hardly believe that the weak, emaciated female, whose captive throes he had just cut, could be his deliverer.

The biographer of Gen. Dale, John H. F. Claiborne, of Mississippi, cites the above incident and vouches for its truth. The tales of Knight-Erromancy could hardly equal it in romance and wildness of adventure; and no Bois de Gilbert of the Middle Ages, in "panoply complete," could boast greater triumphs of his lance, than could Gen. Dale of his hunting knife!

After the treaty of peace with the Indians, Gen. Dale settled in Lauderdale county, in the northern part of Alabama, where his old log cabin was the seat of an extensive and generous hospitality. In 1836 he was elected to the State Legislature, in which he served with his characteristic openness and decision of character. An interesting anecdote of him is related by Claiborne, in his biographical memoir. We give it in the author's own language:

"Some time ago Gen. Dale was held in Mobile, as an endorser upon a note. The debt was in the hands of a stranger. Accompanied by an officer he sought the creditor, in the saloon of Cullum's far-famed hotel. 'Sir,' said the General, 'I have no money to pay this debt—The principal has property, make him pay it, or let me go home and work it out.' The Shylock hesitated. 'Very well,' said the veteran, in tones that rang indignantly through the apartment. 'Very well, sir! Look at my scars! I will march to jail, down Main street, and all Mobile shall witness the treatment of an old soldier! These simple words fell like electricity upon that lightened people. In

half an hour a dozen of the brightest names of the city were upon the bond; and before morning the debt was paid and a full discharge handed to the General."

Gen. Dale died in 1841, at his residence, with the fortitude of a soldier, and the resignation of a Christian.

We know not better how to close this article, than by quoting from the well-written biography, which we have already used.

"In many respects, physical and moral, he resembled his antagonists of the woods. He had the square forehead, the high cheek bones, the compressed lips, and, in fact, the physiognomy of an Indian, relieved, however, by a fine benevolent Saxon eye. Like the red man, too, his foot fell lightly upon the ground, and turned neither to the right nor left. He was habitually taciturn; his face grave; he spoke slowly and in low tones, and seldom laughed. I observed of him, what I have often noted as peculiar to border men of high attributes, that he entertained the strongest attachment for the Indians—extolled their courage, and also their love of country, and many of their domestic qualities; and I have often seen the wretched remnant of the Choctaws encamped around his plantation, and subsisting upon his crops. In peace, they felt for him the strongest veneration—he had been the friend both of Tecumseh and Weatherford—and in the war the name of "Big Sam" fell on the ear of the Seminole, like that of Marius on the hordes of the Cimbric!"—[Georgia University Magazine.]

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FREDERICTON March 28.

Progress was made in the Bill to divide the Parish of Hampton, and the Bill to incorporate the Dorchester Olive Freestone Company.

The Bill to amend the Chapter of the Revised Statutes of Warehousing goods was postponed three months.

The Bill to amend the Bear Bounty Law, providing that skins as well as noses should be required, passed.

The College Despatches, &c., were again taken up.

Mr. Gray was the first speaker. He contended broadly that the Executive were responsible for Despatches, emanating from His Excellency, whether seen by them or not—responsible Government entirely removing the Governor from all individual responsibility. He did not commit himself to vote for resolution, but against the amendment.

The Surveyor General came next; he traced the growth of free principles and the establishment of Responsible Government in Great Britain and its dependencies, characterized the doctrine advanced by the supporter of the resolution as without precedent, and ended in one of his happiest and most humorous strains.

Mr. Smith followed, defending the amendment, and pointing out the fallacies in the resolution, and in the speech of Mr. Gray. No new ground of principle was broken, nor is likely to be.

Progress reported, and the House adjourned at 6.

March 29.
The forenoon was occupied with not very important matters. Bill relating to Copartnerships passed.

College discussion resumed at 2 o'clock Lewis first speaker. Thought whole question resolved itself into this—have the Government right to see Governor's despatches or not? As constitutionally they had not right they could not be held responsible. Government culpable for not making stronger representations to Colonial Secretary in favor of College Bill, but vote of Want of Confidence, to which Resolution amounts [cries of no! no!] was not deserved; especially as if Government was turned out he could not see where they were to find successors. Would go for amendment.

Hannington eulogized Stradman as a consistent Liberal, believed that since introduction of Responsible Government Governor could not be reflected upon, as Government assumes entire responsibility; if not so his whole political life had been a delusion.

By implication of constitution the Government had seen Despatch. Government he contended not called upon to resign merely because a Resolution censuring particular policy passed.

Tapley considered neither Governor or Government censurable as both had done all they could. He would not vote for the Resolution, but support amendment, as likely to influence minds of Her Majesty's Ministry and induce the concessions sought for.

Mitchell commenced to speak against resolution.

lution; but did not finish. Progress was reported, and House adjourned 5.50.

March 30th.
The first business of importance this morning was the committee of Gray's Bill to make Railway Commissioners liable &c., being the second time the Bill has been altered and submitted. A lengthy, warm, and irrelevant discussion, which was continued after dinner, ensued; much personal reference was indulged in and confusion prevailed.

At 4.10 the Chairman, Mr. Wright, commenced to take question to report progress McIntosh meantime had risen to speak and insisted upon being heard. Discord reigned when the Speaker took the Chair and the galleries were cleared. Peace was restored within doors closed, and progress reported. When the doors were opened the House had resumed discussion of order of the day.

Solicitor General replied, defending the Government as having acted constitutionally and consistently, quoting largely from authorities to prove position. He wished Steadman joy of the company he was now in. Progress report, and House adjourned at 6.10.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

HALIFAX, March 27.

The steamer Niagara, Capt. Miller, from Liverpool, 2 P. M. of 12th, arrived at Halifax, 1 P. M. Sunday 27th.

BRITAIN.—In the House of Commons on the 9th the Government Bill, partially abolishing Church Rates by means of voluntary commutation, was debated and finally rejected by 254 to 171.

On the 10th in the House of Lords the subject of the future government of Singapore was debated. Ministers announced they should be guided by answer to a despatch they had addressed to the Governor General of India.

In the Commons sundry notices of amendments to the Government Reform Bill were announced, including one by Lord John Russell, to the following effect:—that it is neither just nor politic to interfere in the manner proposed by the Bill with freehold franchise in England and Wales, and that no adjustment of franchise will satisfy the House or country which does not provide for a greater extension of the suffrage in Cities or Boroughs than is provided in the Bill. Mr. Wilde said he should move an addition to this amendment to the effect that votes be taken by ballot.

Mr. D'Israeli said the Government was preparing certain modifications to its bill.

Lord Bury called attention to the Newfoundland fisheries, and moved for papers showing the construction placed by French authorities now regulating them, and present state of negotiations.

Sir E. B. Lytton said he could not enter into the subject because it involved some little danger, although he hoped it was susceptible of amicable arrangement. The French Government had intimated the intention of enforcing their full rights under Treaties, and Her Majesty's Government had given counter-notice that they intended to enforce their full rights at the same time they proposed the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the rights of the two countries.

That proposal had been accepted, and he had no fear that any collision would take place during the enquiry among the fishery vessels as steps had been taken on both sides to prevent it. He hoped Lord Bury would consent to wait for the Commissioners' report. Lord Bury withdrew his motion.

On the 11th the subject of piracy at Hong Kong and conduct of Government officials in the matter, was mooted in both Houses, and Ministers promised an investigation.

Lord Malmesbury said the Congress of Paris would probably meet the following week, on the question of the principalities.

The Navy estimates were debated and Indian Loan Bill passed through committee in the Commons. The Neapolitan Exiles landed at Cork, had formally presented an address to the Mayor of Cork, explanatory of their action. They say that while on board the Neapolitan frigate they protested in vain against being taken to America, and appealed to be landed in Spain, or transferred to the David Stewart, against their will. They drew up a declaration invoking the protection of the United States laws, praying the Captain to steer for the nearest English port, and threatening if he persisted in going to New York, they would accuse him before Law Courts for violation of their liberty, but in the meantime would respect the laws of the ship.

On presenting this to the Captain he at first said he had pledged his word to take them to America, and could not act against his interests; on the following day, however, the Captain reconsidered his determination, and announced his intention of steering for New York.

[Continued to last Page.]