



A DELL NEAR COLFAX, IOWA, ON THE "GREAT ROCK ISLAND ROUTE."

## HUMMER'S BELL.

BY SAMUEL MAGILL.

In the Presbyterian church, pretty high in the steeple,  
Hung a loud-sounding bell, to call together all the people.  
That bell was held in high esteem by all who heard it sound:  
It rung so loud it could be heard for many miles around.

The minister who labored there did not exactly suit:  
The people thought they'd let him slide, but he was rather cute.  
He did not get his salary for which they had agreed,  
And he was bound to have it, and he knew he could succeed.

And he had formed a plan which to Margrave he did tell:  
He would ascend the steeple, and let down that handsome bell.  
He put up a long ladder, went up to the steeple door,  
And the bell came down with a rush and landed on the floor.

Then came on his trouble: the ladder was taken away,  
And he was up in the steeple—and there he had to stay.  
He preached a louder sermon than he ever preached before,  
Which pleased those who heard him, for they all laughed the more.

Van Fleet sent up a wagon, and the bell was loaded in;  
And the driver never thought he had committed a sin.  
He took the bell to a rapid creek, and sunk it very deep;  
And there it stayed for months, while Hummer was left to weep.

And when the crowd dispersed, Margrave put up the ladder:  
Then Hummer hurried down, and no man was ever madder.  
And when he found the bell was gone—just spirited away—  
He knew his case was hopeless, and he had no more to say.

That night the people assembled at the Crummy hotel,  
Where Hummer, Margrave and Clark were planning to get the bell.  
Magill was then elected to demand the missing arm:  
He told them to give it up, or the crowd might do them harm.

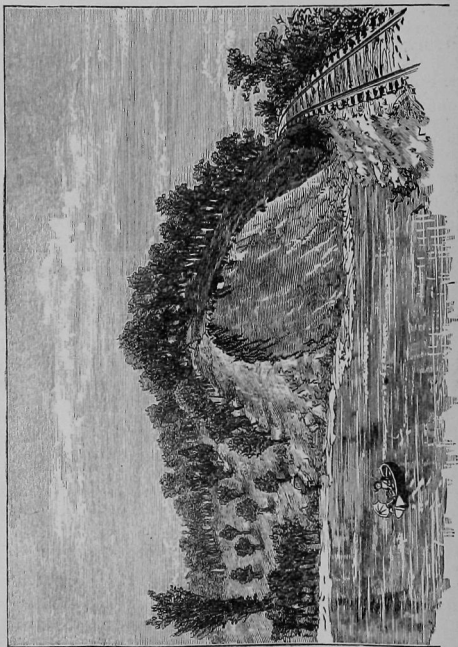
They all declared they did not know where it could then be found,  
For none of them had seen the arm while they were moving round.  
The committee then reported just what it had to tell:  
That the missing arm was lost of the famous Hummer bell.

Next day they made an effort, and searched the country round;  
But they never struck the trail where the bell could then be found.  
They lost all their labor in their hunting exploration,  
And then gave up the chase as a useless operation.

The Spiritualists were called on for a revelation,  
To point out the very place of the lost bell's location:  
Six miles west it would be found, in the bottom of a well.  
But Hummer was disappointed; he did not find the bell.

Some sordid men then stole the bell, and took it to Salt Lake,  
And sold it to the Mormon Church, for filthy lucre's sake;  
And it is in their Temple now; as every Saint can tell,  
For they have heard the ringing sound of the great Hummer bell.

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LOVER'S LEAP, NEAR MINERAL SPRINGS, COLFAX, IOWA, ON THE "GREAT ROCK ISLAND ROUTE."

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