

The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down

Jerry Garcia Band

Virgil Caine is the name and I served on the Danville train
'Til Stoneman's cavalry came and tore up the tracks again

 In the winter of sixty-five

 We were hungry just barely alive
 By May tenth Richmond had fell

It was a time I remember oh so wellThe night they drove old Dixie down

 And the bells were ringing

 The night they drove old Dixie down
 And the people were singing, they went

La la la la la la, la la la la la la la, laLike my father before me I will work the land (note 1)

 And like my brother above me who took a rebel stand

 He was just eighteen, proud and brave
 When a Yankee laid him in his grave
 I swear by the mud below my feet

You can't raise a Cain back up when he's in defeatThe night they drove old Dixie down

 And the bells were ringing

 The night they drove old Dixie down
 And the people were singing, they went

La la la la la la, la la la la la la la, laBack with my wife in Tennessee when one day she called to me (note 2)

 Virgil, quick come see, there goes Robert E Lee

 Now I don't mind choppin' wood
 And I don't care if the money's no good
 You take what you need and you keep the rest

But they should never have taken the very bestThe night they drove old Dixie down

 And the bells were ringing

 The night they drove old Dixie down
 And the people were singing, they went
 La la la la la la, la la la la la la la, la

 Songwriters

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