

HOW FIFTY ESCAPED.

CONFEDERATES WORKED A CLEVER SCHEME AT CAMP BUTLER.

Disguised as Citizens in Smuggled Clothes and Armed with Forged Passports a Few at a Time Passed the Vigilant Guards on Visiting Days.

A man in prison is like a man without hands, whose brain is constantly striving to overcome physical disability. The ingenuity of a brain untrammelled by the traction of employment is capable of schemes which rival fiction. Many thrilling tales are told by prisoners of war about their privations and adventures while under the eyes of an alert and watchful enemy. An experience worthy of record was told by an American prisoner, the other night, by a man who now signals high in public life in Tennessee.

He was once a confederate soldier. He had the misfortune to be numbered with the captured at Fort Donelson, and with hundreds of his comrades was hurried across the Ohio and incarcerated in Camp Butler, a spot which will long be remembered by those who were so unlucky as to be imprisoned within its battlements. After pining for several weary months for an exchange that was never effected these southern patriots set about to accomplish their own deliverance. Various plans were concocted, but were all successfully thwarted by the vigilance of their custodians. Finally the inspiration of this story hit upon a scheme which for audacity and cleverness is unprecedented, and won for its originator a title and distinction among his companions which time has not yet obliterated.

Among the prisoners at Camp Butler were a number of boys who served in the Confederacy in the capacity of "powder monkeys," a function well known to heavy artillerymen.

IT WAS A CLEVER PLAN.

The duties of these youngsters were to convey powder charges from the magazines to gunners in trenches or to assist in like manner on the floating batteries which annoyed the federal gunboats in the Mississippi river.

Two of these little fellows, who had fallen into the hands of the enemy, were treated with the dignity due prisoners of war, and consequently found themselves hundreds of miles away from home and mamma and subject to all the heartless discipline of military prison. Thoroughly fortified by these two juvenile warriors attracted the martial soul of Colonel Morrison, who commanded the post. To make their imprisonment less arduous he made them his office orderlies, and sent them on the hundreds of errands which a commonling officer finds a daily necessity in the discharge of his duty.

The little fellows were true patriots, and no persuasion or punishment could dissuade them from the cause of their fathers. It was through them that the hero of this story accomplished his designs. The boys had access at all times to the colonel's office, likewise the adjutant's desk. One night they were bidden to steal from the adjutant's desk a lot of blank passports.

But what good were passports to a soldier whose very uniform forbade exit from the inner stockade of the prison, might be asked. Fortunately, however, in the prison there was a sutler who possessed all the venality characteristic of his cloth.

Among the prisoners in Camp Butler there were several confederate soldiers who were the sons of wealthy parents and occasionally received money from home. From this element a general fund was collected and appropriated to the use of the plotters for deliverance. With the sutler, whose loyalty to the American dollar exceeded his fidelity to the American Union, it was an easy matter to smuggle in a suit of citizen's clothes now and then.

A FEW GO AT A TIME.

On visiting days hundreds of people from the country around would throng to the post to look at the fiery rebels. They were shown, under the escort of a guard, through every part of the prison, and on several occasions these parties, in some unaccountable way, would number one or two more on coming out than they did on coming in. Each individual, however, displayed his passport to the guard at the gate, and retired unquestioned from the portals of the fort into the loyal prairies of Illinois.

Had the guards counted their guests upon their arrival and departure some startling surprises would have resulted. On one occasion two confederate officers escaped by the guard with forged passes and had taken seats in a carriage which was waiting to serve visitors at the gate of the fort when Colonel Morrison himself came out and, addressing them, asked if they had seen all they wanted to see.

"Yes, sir," replied one of the fugitives suavely. "They are a hard looking set, ain't they, colonel?" At the same time he was so alarmed that his tongue at last refused to articulate.

By this process half a hundred Confederates were released from custody and returned to their commands in the field. The reader must not imagine that these men were not missed by their guardians, for after every muster the guards were doubled and many commissioned and non-commissioned officers relieved, it being suspected that they were responsible for the mysterious disappearance of the prisoners.

So cleverly did the plan operate under cautious restrictions that the leak through which the human contents of that notorious pen escaped was not discovered until the man who created it had been duly exchanged and was fighting under his own flag, on the fields of Georgia, where he was known to the army as Colonel Morrison's adjutant.—Nashville American.

SAIL UNSTOPPED.

Slasher—I hear that Jawkins has tait n a wife from the wash tub.
Stabber—That is not so; she is there yet.—Ram's Horn.

Transportation from Panama in 1854.

We paid our money and went on board the vessel, which was anchored about three miles from shore. We found a promiscuous crowd from every nation under heaven, the predominating type being that of the American rough. The deck was so densely packed with men from stem to stern that we could scarcely move. Many were prostrate with sickness, or supported by friends, or lying in hammocks swung along the side rigging. All day long this crowd of men were seething, swaying, quivering and cursing. No food was provided, and hunger and thirst gave an edge to the bad passions of the mob.

The captain, a United States naval officer, had not assumed command because he was shot off from his men by the chaotic crowd. At length, toward evening, he stood on the quarter deck and shouted above the angry mutter and jargon of the crowd that the deck must be cleared for his men so that they could raise the anchor. I had conferred with a few of the more respectable looking passengers, and we had concluded that there were more men on board than our contract stipulated for, so we replied to the captain that the anchor could not be raised until we had had a count.

The effort to get the men in order and to set them in motion so that they could pass around in line required two or three hours, but was at last accomplished, and the result showed 410 persons on board besides the sailors. This attempt of the consignee to increase his enormous profits dishonestly at the risk and discomfort of the passengers excited a torrent of indignation. Inflammatory speeches were made, and a committee was appointed to visit the consignee and adjust the matter. About 100 men left for the shore in boats, the natives had in waiting about the vessel, and those who remained agreed to keep the ship at anchor until they should return.—John C. Fremont in Century.

Virginia Giants.

If ever the United States government, like Frederick the Great and the present King of Belgium, requires a regiment of Titans, it can doubtless recruit one without advertising very largely or very long. A correspondent tells how big some of the men grow in Pulaski and Montgomery counties, Va.—and other states are still to be heard from.

Three brothers, Messrs. Henry, James and William McGavock, are respectively 6 ft. 6 in., 6 ft. 5 in. and 6 ft. 7 in. tall. Two brothers, near neighbors of mine, Andrew and William Hughes, are each 6 ft. 4 in., while several others in Pulaski county, whose height I cannot give from positive knowledge, are known to be upward of six feet. In fact I believe the men of this county will average at least six feet tall.

In the adjoining county of Montgomery, near me, there are two brothers, one of whom, Mr. James Childress, is 6 ft. 7 in. in height and weighs 255 pounds; the other, Mr. Thomas P. Childress, is 6 ft. 8 in. high and weighs 205 pounds. William Myers, of the same county, is 6 ft. 5 in. and weighs 240 pounds.

A Mr. Urquhart, of Lynchburg, is 6 ft. 5 in. tall and weighs 300 pounds, and a Mr. Feibertone, of the same place, is 6 ft. 7 in.—Youth's Companion.

Sunshine.

Light is necessary to health. People who live in gloomy places, say state prisons, for example, are always peevish. Owls affect the twilight and the dark, and what miserable mopes they are. Eagles love the sunshine, and how strong of wing they are and how exultingly they soar. It is true that one may have too much sun, but it is cheering to see the sunlight, even when it is necessary to sit in the shade. How it enlivens us in winter, exhilarates us in spring, enhances our appreciation of the shade in summer and charms us in glorious autumn.

In September, when Old Sol seems to have stolen a few pale rays from the moon wherewith to temper his fiery glories, and all through gorgeous October—nay, even in November, and sometimes up to mid-December, and often in windy March—how delightful is the sunshine of our happy latitude.

A blessing on the sun! "Of this great world both eye and soul," source of life and health and beauty, type of the light that shall be, symbol of the smile of God!—New York Ledger.

A Horrid Sample.

A commercial traveler whom I know carries perhaps the most unique "sample" in the drug-selling profession. It is nothing less than a human body, three years old, an example of the efficacy of a certain embalming fluid. For three years this mummy has been transported on the railroads as a sample case would be, and, indeed, there is no outward sign which would indicate the uncanny nature of its contents. In this instance the longer the body is preserved the more of an advertisement it is for the fluid in the veins of the "stiff." The box is zinc lined, and does not exceed the limits of the railroad excess baggage rule in weight.—Interview in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A Queer Whim.

An English nobleman a good many years ago took it into his head to live for several weeks on Mount Elm, in the refuge 1,000 feet or so below the crater. This worthy, but slightly cracked, gentleman endured his hard fare of biscuits and tinned meats well enough for a fortnight at a time. Every fifteenth day, however, he rode down the mountain to the nearest village, some twenty miles away, and reveled in all the savory dishes the innkeeper could put before him; after which banquet he returned to his mountain perch, inured once again to comparative privation.—All the Year Round.

They Thought It Was Original.

Pipkin—They tell me Riel is the best teller of fish stories going—that he took the prize offered by the Walton club.
Potts—Yes, it was awarded to him; but he won it on a fool. He told the story of Jonah and the whale as happening to himself.—Puck.

Will you suffer with Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint? Shiloh's Vitalizer is guaranteed to cure you. 2

Flour is lower than it has been for the last six months at Philip Kempe's. Special attention called to Pillsbury's best. 4

The largest line of patent medicines will be found at Brown & Barrett's. 4

Dawson & Pearce wish to inform the public that they have on hand a large stock of summer goods which will be sold at very reasonable prices. 4

Hair chains, rings, crosses and hair work of all kinds to order. MRS. A. KNEE, 125 Locust St. 4

For hair, face, eye or chest, use Shiloh's Keratin Phospor. Price 25 cents. For sale by F. G. Fricke & Co. and O. H. Snyder. 3

Take your prescriptions to Brown & Barrett's—they dispense pure medicines. 4

Some choice lots on Chicago avenue for sale. For particulars call at this office. 4

A box of Ayer's Pills has saved many a fit of sickness. When a remedy does not happen to be within reach, people are liable to neglect slight ailments and, of course, if serious illness follows they have to suffer the consequences. A stitch in time saved nine. 4

Weather Reports—May 1891
1st—7 a. m., 41°; light frost.
2nd—thunder storm.
6th—7 a. m., 33°; light frost.
8th—2 p. m., 85°;
9th—2 p. m., 86°; light rains.
10th—9 p. m., 40°; light rains. 4.
11th—7 a. m., 33°; light frost.
13th—2 p. m., 83°;
14th—2 p. m., 83°;
15th—2 p. m., 88°; light thunder-storm.
16th—light rain.
19th—2 p. m., 80°;
20th—2 p. m., 85°; thunderstorm.

21st—light rain.
22nd—heavy rain 1 1/2.
24th—2 p. m., 83°; light rain 1/2.
25th—rain storm 7/8.
27th—7 a. m., 40°; light frost.
28th—2 p. m., 83°;
29th—2 p. m., 89°; light rain.
30th—7 a. m., 65°; 2 p. m., 86°; 9 p. m., 73°; mean temperature 74.1. Decoration Day.
31st—2 p. m., 85°; thunder storm; mean temperature 74.1. thunderstorm. Mean temperature 57.9.

Highest " 91 29th.
Lowest " 26 16th rain fall 5 1/2.
Decoration day. Thunder storm night 2 1/2 temperature.
Monthly mean temperature 57.7.
Highest " 86 28th.
Lowest " 33 6th 11th.
Decoration Day hottest the daily mean being 74.1.
Total rain fall 3.99.
Rainy days 12.
Four thunder storms.
Four frosts the last 27th.

Sarsaparilla belongs to the smilax family of plants, and is found very generally over the American continent; but the variety that is richest in medicinal properties is the Fordun's root, of which the famous Ayers Sarsaparilla is made.

NEBRASKA CITY is rejoicing over a \$60,000 improvement to her distillery.

The other evening a stranger placed his neck on the rail in front of a Lake Shore fast train, for the purpose of committing suicide. But the train was stopped in the nick of time and the would-be suicide was kicked off the track. Thus suddenly was the poetry of translation to another world changed into vulgar prose by the boot toe of an engineer.

A Scrofulous Boy

Running Sores Covered His Body and Head. Bones Affected. Cured by Cuticura Remedy.

When six months old, the left hand of our little grandchild began to swell and had every appearance of a large boil. We tried it but it did no purp. se. About five months after it became a running sore on other sores formed. He then had two of them on each hand, and as his blood became more and more impure it took less time to break out. A sore came on his chin beneath the under lip which was very offensive. His head was one solid scab, discharging a great deal. This was his condition at twelve months old, when I undertook the cure of him. His mother having died when he was a little more than a year old, of consumption (scrofula, of course). He could walk a little, but could not get up if he fell down, and could not move when in bed, having no use of his hand. I immediately commenced with the CUTICURA REMEDY, using all freely. One sore after another healed, a bony matter forming in each one of these five deep ones just before healing, which would finally grow loose and were taken out; then they would heal rapidly. One of these ugly bone formations I preserved. After taking a dozen and a half bottles he was completely cured and is now, at the age of six years, a strong and healthy child. MRS. E. S. BRIGGS, 613 E. Clay St., Birmingham, Ill. My grandson remains perfectly well. No signs of scrofula end no more.

Feb 7, 1885. MR. E. S. BRIGGS, Birmingham, Ill.

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The new Blood Purifier, internally to clean the blood of all impurities and poisonous elements and thus removed the cause, and CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, and CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite skin Beautifier, externally to clear the skin and scalp, and restores the hair cure every disease and humor of the skin and blood, from pimples to scrofula. Sold everywhere. Price CUTICURA, 50c; SOAP, 25c. RESOLVENT, \$1. Prepared by the Pothier Drug and Chemical Corporation Boston. For Send for "How to Cure Blood Disease."

BABY'S skin and scalp purified and beautified by CUTICURA SOAP. Absolutely pure.

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In one minute the Cuticura Anti-Pain plaster relieves rheuma tic, sciatic, hip, kidney, chest and muscular pains and weaknesses. Price 25c.



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They will be counted June 15, 1891