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THE SCOUT'S ADVENTURES
 a small sllm man, with long biack hair and
an Indian look, except in stature. I had had opened it without my knowledge, I being at the other end of a large room. I
did not know how loug the man had been watching me, but he retreated as soon as I It was an awkward affair, to say the
least, nad I blamed myself very much for not having placed a chair against the door, such a thing as a lock not being visible. I
had no doubt that the man had seon enough to excite his curiosity, if not to
arouse his suspicions. The fact of my having a screw heel to the boot, and of my hiding a paper, would be matters to make
almost any soldier suspicious of one whom he had never seen before. Running the
case over as I fastened on the heel, I made up my mind to leave the hotel and Stevens-
burg as soon as possible. I pulled on my boot, made hasto down stairs, and called "Which way ye.
host, as he made my change.
"Down the river about five
plied. "I have some. friends down there
whom I want to see".
whom I want to sce,""
From where I stood, at the end of the distance of forty rods, and what should I see but the lieutenant eolonel, the small
soldier, and three or four men with muskets, coming toward the hotel? I know
in an instant that they were after me. If stepped out on the street, they would see me at once, and rheard men workng
the backyati, thas rondering a run
way unsafe. At that moment some way unsafe. At that moment some one
called out "Jolun "" aud the landlord went nto the kitchen.
Now was my chance. There was no one
in the barroom but myself, and as the colsinel and his party were within twenty
rod the house, 1 ran into the hall, went up the stairs two at a time, and puilied in-
to the first room. It was a sort of sittingto the first room. It was a sort of sitting-
room, but empty of sitters. In tho far ond was a monstrous big lounge, or half
bed, covered with chintz, and lhaving bod, covered with chinte, aud having
lap in front which swept the floor.
heard the soldiers enter the barroom, heari heara the soldiers enter the barroom, heard
loud talling, and knew that I must secrete
myself on the instant. The lounge was the myself on the instant. The lounge was the
only place of refuge, and I was under it in moment, but not a moment too noon. a tramping on the atairs, doors opening,
and directly some one came into the room.

## recognized here! shouted a volce, which

colonel.
The door was shint again, and prenently no dou bt that the landlord had told them that I had gone, but not satisfled, they
had made a searoh of the house. They might believe that I had gone down the
river, and send some one in purwit, and they might believe that I was concealed in the house or in the town, and consequently keep a sharp lookout. Manifestly, it wai
not prudent for me to leave the room be fore dark, and I mide myeelf as comfort able as possible. There was plenty of my position eany, and it waie not likely thint 1. would be betrayed unleas by notne carelens act on my own part.
just in front or m ficent in the curtain Just in front of my face, and through the
orifice I could get a fair view of the door ad part of the room. Whth I waa lookigg around a little, I saw the latch lift; the door woftly open, hud a noldier put hls head were going around on a necond aearch. He




 cover mo, nad if diseoxerere, 1 would bo





 whom waw minutes thandord' women, wif, and of the
wher an ecquaintanco from tho country,
other came in, and $t$



 | der unt h |
| :---: |
| sou- - gh |

 they did not clange it 1 wus bute

 the door and came trotting in. After
turn around the room, he linid down, and should not have had any trouble if the
women had let him alone ; but the la


 at mo with his teeth. I Idared not mponke to pacify yim, and remily
that ho moild go amay.
"The oat must be under the loungo," re and was about to draw it out wien io on the trreet, and they both ran to the
 and, as ho came for mo again, ritruck oot
and
gave him such a arap on the nose that ho ran howing from the toom. The hadien
 Durige tho rest tof tho anfermon Hhad solaters brought a drunken officor up stairs, took him into the noxt room to mine, and
put him to bed, golng away with many jokes at his exponse. As soon as it was
fairly dark I crawled out, brushed tho dust off, and stepped into the room occupied by
the sloeper. tro sleepor. Ho was snoring "like a
tiond would have made no objec-
pulled him out of bed. Finding tho water pitcher, I washed the blood from
my face, combed my hair, and made ready to go down. I at first thought to change
uniforms with the drunken oficer, but re-
 scended the stairs. The barroom was",fll
of men, but I passod by the door to tho one leading into the street without detection
Reaching the itreet I leading south, and made my atart for Old
Tavern. Soldiers were passing either way,
Teame ween teams were driving about, and I had no
foar except tolng run over, as tho night
was as dark as I should have wished to Was as dark as I hhould have wished to
lave made $1 t$ myself. I did not expect to
bo ablo to plok ap any information that
night, but my sole object was to get out of night, but my sole object was to got out of
Steveumburg. Afer a walk of a mile or wo
I foin I found myself entirely cloar of the tow
and out of the territory of the fending it, I came at leng the to an earth oried "Halt"! as I came up, and calling
the cont the corpora,
a lantern.
a
" Ab , exouso me, lientenant"" he ex . olaimed, at he caught inght of my uniform
"The man did not know that he was de tainjug an officer."
me that I ought to have daylight to oxam
ine the defences and the oliarater of the bud, that
quarters."
"You can stay just as well as not," he be gone all night, and you can take hii I had got well out of the town, and would vided to aceept the kind offor. I was led dided to accept the kind offor. 1 was led
back some twenty rods from the road to
where an infantry brigade was stationed where an infantry brigade was stationed,
and directed to a shanty as the one I was to occupy. There was nobody "at home" seemed glad of my company. The corporal
remarked that ho would send the lieuten ants in to seo me, bout I told him that I was
very tired, and preferred to turn right in especially as I had to bo on the road early
in the morning. He told the negro to fix up the bed, to preparo me a good breakfast,
and then bade me good-night. I did not much fear being disturbed, as
it was too nasty a night for officers to care about making calls, and so I sat awhile
before the firoplace conversing with the negro. I noticed from the flrst that his
face wore a joyful grin, and that he kept face wore a joyful grin, and that he kept
chuckling to himself, as if having some ows. Just as I had left ordinary topics of somerthing about the troops, his grin in creased until his mouth seemed a foot long his eyes rolled this way and that, and
directly he uttered a long but not boister
"Yous
"You seem very much pleased, Joe,"
emarked, amazed at his singular con
"Pleased "" he ejaculated; "dat word
don't begin ter 'spress my feelin's"" Got
"n't begin ter 'spress my feelin's !"' Get
ing up he eamie close over to me, lowered
How iz you, Captin Jack ? ? haw ! haw
If an earthquake had tossed me up,
could not bave been more astonished.
suppose he saw blank amazement in my
face, for he laid his hand on my shoulte
"I knew ye jess as soon as I seed ye
Ince in the door ; but don't ye fear; old
Joe won't tell no stories on ye. Don't ye
member ob seein' me the time ye catehed
thaf feller at Martinsburg? Warn't I the
igger wot found ye in a barn, and brough
有
Iremembered him before he had coased
shaking hands with a man all night long
1 did then. Ho had at one time ren-
dered me most valuable service, aud wan
ust the man I wanted to ronder me
another. It took him some time to ge
ver his oxcitement, but when that had
covered the flie, and had a "tallk" which
lasted unttl near midntght, He lad been
with the captain for nearly a year, was keen
and intelligent, and he was able to tell me
many things which I was denirous of ascer
aining. He had not been up as far as of
Tavern for several months, but ho knew
the name of every regiment within five
miles of na, could clowely estlmate the
miles of us, oveuld cogsely estimate the
artillery, knew all about the defences, and
I could rely on him as truly as if he had
been a Union officer
Ho had lieal
Ho had lieard something that day about
Union apy being seen in Stevensburg
and warned me that I had better be moving
carly, as some of the offloers in the camy
might ank me troublesome questions. He
thought the report had renched no further
than this camp, and that I would not be
aspected after getting beyond it. He
ntated that now troops had lately camped
above, and that he had heard some of the
oficoers say that the Unlon forces would try
turned in, I was almost as well posted as
had been over the road. I fell aqieep
ne. I had given him a trial once upon a
ime, a severer one than this, and found
me, a severer
him true as nteel.
It was raining when I fell anleep, aud I
was still raining when Joe woke me up,
just as daylight was breaking. Ho bac
breakfiast all prepared, my clothing cleared
Whilo I and was auxious as to my route
of a Union man Itving about six miles up
the road, and advised me to call there, he
being sure that no eamps had been eatab.
lished nearer thau a mile from the house.
Just an it was fairly day, feeling equal to
any tramp or any danger, I shook hands
fith the man and piased out. It wha rind

## w <br> w

was a son plodding along in the mud. There no notice until he stopped another soldier and made some inquirios. I passod them whilo they were talking, and hearing the
words, "I've got a pass for four days," I looked sharply at the speaker. It was the
name soldier who had caught me at my work in Stevenaburg I There was the long
face, the black hair, black eyes, and I
not be mistaken.
Fearing that he might be going through
to Old Tavern, and not wanting his company, I pushed on at a rapid gait, and was
glad to find that he did not increaso his pace. Ho was my evil genius, and I wa
sorry afterwards that some bullet hd sorry afterwards that some bullet had not
reached him ae he stood there talking. was thoroughly tired out when I came to
the house described by Joe, and I made up my mind to go in. There were no camps
in sight in any direction, and as for the soldier, I had lost sight of him half an hou
before. Turning in at the gate I knocked and the door was opened by a very pleasant
a chair. Her husband immediately came in from another room, and after ascertain-
ing that no one else was in the house, I gave him my secret. Neither of them they afterwards told me, that I was a genuine Confederate officer, testing their sen-
timents. I mentioned old Joe's name, and then they were inclined to believe my story ing it.
think this will bring you," I remark 1 removing my boots.
and show them my notes, but just at that moment there came a knook at the door. "It's a soldier ! Here jump in here?" door open.
I followe
frightened by the advice, but being a little boots. A moment after, my yovil gengius entered the honse and ordered the woman to
get him something to cat. catching sight of them after a moment. "My own," replied
brond lie to ahield me.
Then. there was a moment in which I
knew the soldier had the boots in his hand to examino them. They were good boots, perhaps so good that his susplefons were
excited in this way. At any rate, he doubted the assertions, exclaiming:
"You are a liar ! There is some one
in the house, and you are secreting him in the house, and you are eocreting him.
By the old Harry, but I beliove you are concealing some Unionist.
I naw that it wak a matter which he and
I must settle, and I prepared for what I knew was coming. I heard him get up, and drow my revolvor to be ready. He
opened a door, saw no one, and then came to mine, jerked it open with great force,
aud I no sooner cainght sight of him than I aud I no sooner cainght sight of him than I
gave a long jump and struck him in the gave a long jump and struck him in the
face with the butt of my heavy "Colt." frace with the butt of my heavy "Colt."
He went down like a log, I on top, and in a moment I had my knees on his arms, and ane farmer was sitting on his loga. He had
received a heavy blow, and was fally a minute in coming to. Beforo he could realize what had occurred, wo had him tied
up like a fish in a net, the cool-minded and up like a tish in a nee, the coor-ming.
couragoous wifo brigging the ropes. "You are that cused Yankecespy ""
hised, as soon as he had a fair view of

## hissed, face. "Co

"Correct
arppose I am
Ho tried to
He tried to get up, fell back, wolled one
and over, and finally ceased to struggle,
and looked at me with the most devilish
eye I had ever seen in my liffo.
"Nevor mind, you scamp " " he hissed, at
Tast ; "I'vo got a dead thitg' on you, and
III mako a noup diah of your akcull in less
than a week ! I'll have you hung before
the sun goes down "I
I had conquered my enemy, but I had
got into a muss. It needed only a look at
the farmer couple to show me that they
were much more concorned than mynelf,
as they mait now leave their place, or stay
as they moust now leave their place, or stay
and be arrented for alding me. The firmer
and be urrented for alding me. The farmee
beekonied me to the other eud of the room,
exprosed his feelinge, and then wanted to
know what I was golng to do. "What
was golug to do" was a quetion whifeh puzzled me greatly. There seemed no
other way except to murder the soldien other way except to murder the soldier,
nud I told the firmer so. It wo let himg go
bunted down In an hour. I never did thed
a drop of blood when there was any possi-
ble way to avold it, aud I shuddered an I
thought of murdering the man in cold
blood. But three lives were more valuable lhan one, and wo pieked up the captiveand carried him down the cellar, the woman was likely to call. The soldier must have realized our inten-
tions, but he never spoke a word while ww tions, but he never spoke a word while we
were taking him down and atretohing hin out on the ground. I know by this that he once more regain his liberty "The axe-that is the best pered the farmer, his face as pale ns shoet. Ho went up stairs, procured it, handed it to me, and then walked off to
the dark corner so that he might not see he murder.
walked up to tremble ns I took the axe and walked up to tho man. His eyes looked to mad dog, and the blood triokling down his face gave him a horrible aspect. He knew
that I was going to sink the axe in bis
head, but he would not plent He I of a million. Calling plead. He was one the axe, drow a long breath, and in an in stant more would have struck him, had not the farmer come running up and shouted
for me to hold on. Ho had an idea. I had told him that the Union forces would ad he called me to one side, and stated his belief that he could keep the soldier a prison-
or that length of time, and then turn him veasible the more we talked of it the more desired to wash appeared, especially as wo The woman was consulted, and as she preparations for detaining the captive.-
The farmer brought down more ropes and The farmer brought down. more ropes and hour in tying and manacling the soldier so resistance, refused to speake a work, and allowed us to handle him as we chose Finally our task was ended. We had
chained, lashed and strapped him until wo would have defied the Davenports to get him loose without knives. Wo had emptied he was to be kept as he was until the Fed erals came, the farmor proposing to feed him regularly
and, after a cold lunch t went up ataine ions to leave. I arranged with the preparmthat in case he had to leave, he should burg man whose name I gave him. Ho beliove ho would have to go sooner or later, and was careful to heed my directions.
With a handahanke we parted company,
and I went tramping op the rond. It wa still raining, and I was glad of the fact, a offered me an excuse for muffing my
head and face with the capo. I presently began to meet teams, troops and artillery, and saw that orders had been given to mas troops at Stevensburg, to be prepared fo
the threatened crossing. the threatened crossing. No one gave mo articular attontion, except to sond me
friendy nod or a salute now and then. passed several winter camph, and althougl It was a bad day, I could not holp seoing such sigus of activity at each place as con-
vinced mo that the men were gotting read vinced mo that the men wero gotting read.
for the coming campaign. By counting one row of tente, 1 could set the whole numbe quite correctly, and by my knowledge of
how many soldiers tont, I could give a Yankee guess at the total number in the camp. In this way
during my afternoon tramp, I secured information borroct onough to answer avery
purpone. The defences at the eroburoad and on commanding eminencos were duly noted, a nd I also looked particularly after the artillery. Not a thing had ocourred to
alarm me during the afternoon, and when larm me during the afternoon, and when it began to grow dark, I east about for
quartera. I did not belleve that I Ahould tud another respeotfol and accommodatio orporal of the guard, or another logat old Soe, and no I mado up my mind to socure quartera in a farmhonso.
Yad some gold with me, and had no
oubt that my request for lodginga would ho readily granted when it was known that likely that I mako recoum meet with any officer campas, and the weather was much as to made up my mind to the arrangend hardly turned a aide to reach a A Armbousent, which back about twenty rods. When the doo he wholo fanswer to my knocik, I foun made my regueat, tossed tho man a gold coxturued on secosd paoz.

