A PLUCKY MULE.

RUNNING THE GAUNTLET OF A CONFEDERATE CANNONADE.

Hauling a Load of Ammunition Under Fire from Fort Sumter and Battery Wagner-A Critical Moment-The Last Shot-Safe.

Sometimes the mule is called upon for special service, requiring qualities for which he does not generally receive credit. The lines were tightening about Charleston when Admiral Dahlgren's fleet began operations in the harbor, and rendered it practicable for the troops on shore to advance with some hope of being able to hold points previously untenable. During the night a detachment of the Tenth corps disjodged a picket post on the eastern end of Morris island, and when daylight came had thrown up quite a formidable beginning for a field work. But the place was within easy range of Fort Sumter and Bactery Wagner, and every Confederate gun that could be brought to bear began to drop shell into the little earthwork. It was thought that an attempt was about to be made to carry the place by assault, and, while there were men enough to hold it, they were a little short of ammunition. The only practicable road was a mile and a half of hard, smooth sand bench, commanded from endoto end by the Confederate batteries.

But there was a combination in the Federal camp that was equal to the emergency; namely, a fleet mule and a placky driver, The mule is mentioned first, only because he has long since kicked his last kick, but the striver, if he still survives, will acknowledge that without the mule be could not have done what he did. It may be assumed that the mule had a good feed of outs before he was called upon to run the gauntlet, and possibly the driver, too, may then have feit justified in fortifying the inner man. Be that as it may, just before noon a few boxes of ammarnition were thrown into the lightest available wagen, and, after looking the harness over carefully, the driver took his sent in the shelter of the sand hills. The mule stood with his extensive ears raking aft and a wicked gleam in his eye, as if the outs were beginning to rise into his brain.

"Good by, boys! G'up, mule!" and the e pulpage started down through the dry sand to the hard level of the beach. Mule shook his head and executed a demi-volt when he felt the damp sand under his feet, but driver scottle ! him with indearing words. It had not not yet dawned upon the Confederates that the expedition was intended for the relief of the garrison. But presently the gleam of inteligence was indicated with a rush in the shape of a shell from the southeast angle of Sumter. It struck the water fairly in line, ricocheted, and burst over in the marsh; but it was the signal for action. Up went the whip, and the mule gathered his mighty hind legs under him. For a moment it was uncertain whether he was going to kick or run, but a few remarks from the driver convinced him that there was demand for forward movement, so he "lit out for all he was worth," At least thirty gams communicating stretch of beach, and they pounded away as fast as they could be fired. Now and then a shell would burst rather too near the mule's ears for comfort, and he would sheer clently and try to make for home. But the 1 "ant driver plied the lash, and held him to his . ork.

At length a ten lach shell tore up the beach and exploded so near that the mule was entirely demoralized; but not so his driver. Leaping down from his seat he caught the mule by the head, backed him rapidly round once or twice, and was off again on the keen jump before the gunners could get his range as a fixed object. On he went, and at last dashed into the redoubt but there was no shelter in it for the mule. His ears waved conspicuously above the low lying parapet.

The annumition boxes were tumbled out unceremoniously, and the mule's nose pointed for home! With the lightened load and the prospects of unlimited fodder, he beat the previous record. But the Confederate artiflerists were on their metal now. They had failed to stop the supplies, but their hearts burned for revenge. Their shots now came more from the rear, and bets were freely offered with no takers, on what the result would be should the mule have a fair chance to kick a ten inch shell, as it were, "on the fly." The crescendo serenm of shell chasing him up the beach, lent wings to his beels, and he fairly flew toward the sheltering sand hills. There were only a few rods more to be covered, when some careful gunner made a close calculation as to the lengthening range, and pulled his lanyard almost in the nick of time. The huge mass of iron struck the beach, as it seemed to the anxious spectators, exactly behind the wagon, and the next instant nothing was to be seen there but a cloud of white smoke and brown sand. In an instant, however, this floated away, and the mule was seen vigorously reducing to kindling wood what was left of the quartermaster's wagon.

And the driver, where is he? Well, he was apparently knocked over by the explosion, it he got on his feet in a moment, and, having cut the traces, was on the mule's back in another, waving his hat in response to the cheers that rolled across the water from Yankee blue jackets, from Confederate garrisons, and from the dark blue masses that crowned the distant sand dunes.

It is a pity that the driver's name has not been preserved, for his daring act certainly deserves recognition and reward. Perhaps he received both, but the writer has been unable to find mention of the fact.—Adrian Rexford in American Magneine.

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Books That Have Helped Mc. All the articles which have been written about "the books that have belped me," tacitly assume that what helps me will help you, or that Brown, on learning where Jones got his mental provender, will order home a supply of the same, and live on it. Nothing can well be further from the truth. Wherever these articles do not gratify a harmless vanity, they are interesting simply as the literary experience of one more or less respectable human being, and nothing more. Every man who loves books and reads them, and makes any good use of then, reads in the line of his own tastes and temperament and pursuits. He is not, and for the most part cannot be, helped by another man's books, supposing books to be anything more than repertories of facts. All must, of course, go to the same sources of information, or inother words must consult the same books of reference, but every man who reads for culture, or for encouragement, or inspiration, or power, must choose his own books. Books that have helped Brown may be interesting to Jones, because he loves Brown and likes to watch the working of his mind; but they will not necessarily help Jones. In fact, the time he spent on them might be time utterly wasted, unless there existed the closest simi-

Absent Minded Clerk. Old Lady (in drug store)-How is this Perman powder to be applied? Clerk absent mindedly)—Give 'em a tea-speinful after each meal — "he Epoch.

larity in pursuits and in character between

the renders.-New York Post.

"Beat On." Tell me, ye winged winds that round my pathway

soar, Do you know some quiet spot where wives clean house no more; Some ione, sequestered, teafy dale, some Island, ocean girt, Where life is not one ceaseless war with cobwebs

and with dirt; Where only nature's carpet spreads beneath the

And wretched men are ne'er compelled its emeraid folds to beat? The lake breeze fanned my heated face and said, "Beat on! There's no such place."

—Chicago Tribune.

Chicago citizen. look as though you need all you can get.

What brought you to this sad plight, my friend?" married a St. Louis girl, and"the citizen, with tears of sympathy. "Here's five dollars for you."—The Epoch.

The charming damsel had no appetite; Her health was delicate, her mother said; But at the table she put out of sight

As much as would have two longshoremen fed. "I eat no more than would a bird," laughed she; But when she rose and from the table went, The landlord frowned and bit his lips: said he, "I guess an ostrich was the bird she meant." -Boston Courier

He Knew the Ropes.

"The bulk of my fortune I wish to bequeath to my scapegrace nephew, George," said the dying man.

"Why, it was only yesterday he called you an old skinflint," said the lawyer. "I'd cut the boy off." "That's all right," replied the testator.

You make the will out the way I tell you. I know enough about wills to know that if I leave him all the money he won't get a cent of it."-Harper's Bazar.

Out on the Fly. The frisky, festive, pesky fly Is with us once again; He makes the sleepy church folks sigh And gives the baldheads pain. Say, fly. Oh, why

Did you not e'er remain In winter quarters, high and dry? -New York Journal.

A VALUABLE MEDICAL TREATISE.

The edition for 1859 of the sterling Medicai Annual, known as Hestetter's Almanac, is now ready, and may be obtained, free of cost, of druggists and general country dealers in all parts of the United States, Mexico, and indeed in every civilized portion of the Western Hemisphere. The Almanac has been issued regularly at the commencement of every year for over one-fourth of a century. It combines, with the soundest practical advice for the preservation and restoration of health, a large amount of interesting and amusing light reading, and the calendar, astronomical calculations, chronological items, etc., are prepared with great care, and will be found entirely accurate. The issue of Hostetter's Almanac for 1889 will probably be the largest edition of a medical work ever published in any country. The proprietors, Messrs, Hostetter & Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., on receipt of a two cent stamp, will forward a copy by mail to any person who cannot procure one in his peighborhood. A VALUABLE MEDICAL TREATISE. neighborhood,

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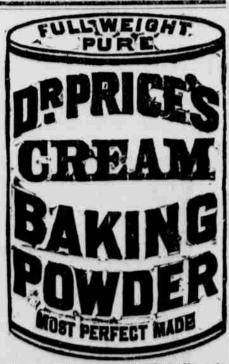
A MADMAN AT LARGE!

A MADMAN AT LARGE!

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"It's a long story, sir. In the first place I carried a St. Louis girl, and"—

"Say no more, say no more," interrupted the citizen, with tears of sympathy. "Here's twe dollars for you."—The Epoch. 1

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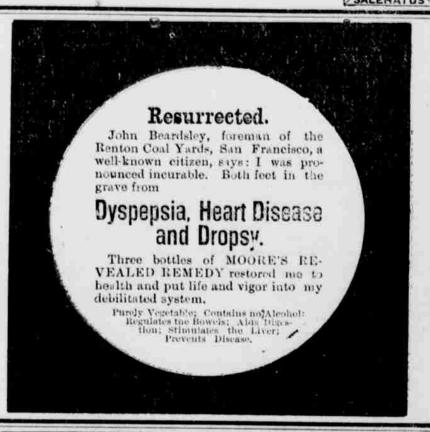
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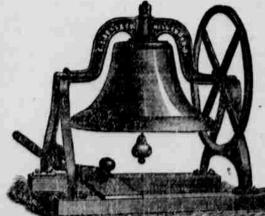




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