> Tith frescoes and costly gildings With tapestries soft sad rate An tura from the halls that glil For 1 know that his lot tis bititer

THE SCOUT'S RIDE
Christmas day, 1862, found the Arn Falmouth, Va., writes Major George F . Williams in The Rider and Driver. Wit the veteran soldier, the Union troo nd already recovered from the effect
that terrible battle at Fredericksburg that terrible battle at Fredericksburg,
hen the several corps were buffeted by
be ce's guns on St. Mary's Heights. Many
familiar face was missing from the ranks, but convalescents were rapidly vas preparing for its approaching army nd summer campaign, which ended at Gettysurg. ghis staff was exchanging
Christmas greetings soon after reveille General Hooker summmoned to his pres "White," said the general, "I lear that the rebs contemplate a movemen oand ascertain if this is true "All right, general," replied the scout, "What route will you takee" aske It I general. go by the Warrenton roai
Ind shall
and leave our lines from the pickets of eneral Sykes reguars. From Warren Ton to Adie gap is a day's ride, and the
I will be in the valley
"I hope to see son the in five Thope to see you then in five days."
"If I get back at all, sir, you' will see ny quicker." "Very well. Go and get your pass,"
It was a great disappointment for Jim
White, this being summoned for dangerWhite, this being summoned for danger-
us dunty on Crristmas day, for he had comrade who had received a fat turke foon home. But, putting aside al thought of the proposed festivity, Jin
Eot his pass for the picket line, and sad diling his horse rode away from head
quarters. Reaching the little village of Aldie on
the afternoon of the second day, Jin rode throngh the gap as the setting sum
began to gild the mountain tops. Dressed in foded butternut, the usual costume of
a Virginia farmer, the scout had met with no adventure, and he was looking
forward to a speedy termination to his
errand
The horse Jim rode was a remarkable
nimal. Possessing good blood and ac tion, it nevertheless was rather uncouth
in appearance. Its coat was very rough and as the seout seldom used the curry.
comb, the brute did not look like a fast
cone. Jim, however, ities of his beast. for they had often been proved in critical moments. Alway
adapting the character of a Virgini
farmer, Jim's shakgy horse aided in deception, and only those who knew his cout in the queer pirture he made in the "Scems to me," said the scont, solilo
uizing, "those people in Washingto are always finding mare's nests. Here
am in the London and not a reb in another road which words, Jim came to had been following. In an instant he
discovered the approach of a Confederate (erils, Jim vatrol. Accustomed to such "Whar yeon cum from" "Eiry leader as he and his men rode up.
"Went town in Aldie, dravled Jim.
"Wee how things looked down "Blong to tho army?"
my sinre not exactly, though reve done Oh, then you are one of Mosby's
nen".
"Yane". "And whar are yeou going? ised to be in Martinsburg ton
"Yass. Its the way Ive come."
"Well, good day; we must get tironst the gap tonight." it easy. There's no
"Yeou can do
Yanks this side of Warrenton." Yanks this sid
And then the patrol proceeded. Jim
having meationed Ashby having mentioned Ashby gap was com
pelled to take the road just left by th Confederates, for unless he did so he knew their suspicions might be aroused
Thanking his nicky stars for getting by
them so easily, Jim suppoed he had es. caped. He had not yeriot out of sight, - Pears to me, sargint, that fellow's Yank. Mebbe he's a scont."
Jim White dug his spur
Jim White dug his spars into his
horse's flanks. The animal started off
co a gallop. Having mot so good a start on a gallop. Having yot so good a start,
the seout decided to risk everything by the socout decided to risk everything by
instant flight. The rapid reverberations
of his horsosis boofs of his horse's hoofs on the frozen earth
betrayed his purpose, and the patrol was soon thundering in purstit after himg.
Jim knew that he was in danger of being shot, but as he was also awire thay
the aim of galloping horsemen is always very uncertain be enterained very liftle meant certain death at the cnid of a rop tree. Unless he could outatrip his pur
siters his career as U Union scont was at Ona
his pursuers, the thatter occasianally apiv
ing voice to the yell Confederate throata. Gradnally the dis.
tance between Jim and the pitrol wi-





 ander him to makea a olt to the right.
mad almost at the asme instant the horse
made a leap ore
 soow strewnuthable
Bowed, but the conferate patrols folting over that tence wro dim delayed in inge.
reachee the other sidid of me the

 alt the bullets went wide of their mark.
It wask ow atet of speed and endur-
ance and $J$.
 as he roded galantly forward the thought
entered his busubrain that on the other side of a smal wood he wasapproeching
there was a road leading toward the
Rive

 wood and dash thewroweconds to to enter thin the road he darted off again, being full
a mile ahead when the Confelentesty up his trail. In less than 10 eeconds Jim
L.a reached the bridge, 1 teing just be-
 Sodidenty reining in. he dismounted
and led his homese under the bridge. Once
 was promptiy obeyed by the docile steed

 | sharp clatter of the Contederates as they |
| :--- |
| rapidy |


 and hearing. Then Jim returner to the he
road and kalloped away mp the valles
 bivouacked in a wood near the Conter
vile road. He reached Geeneral Hooker
 but fleet steed saved him from captury Mrse Trouble With a cook accurire the correct Prorisinan aceent an an
 houstold can live on fricases, rie ani
beeure noir and apperges frupees. and








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