

WAR STORIES.

BY S. SHERMAN.

FORAGING.

Although we drew more rations than we could possibly eat to a good advantage, and it was strictly prohibited to forage, yet the temptations were so strong and the natural depravity in the boys, or the venturesome spirit, led them to violate the orders, so that the stricter the orders forbidding it, the greater risks they ran.

When we were on the forced march from Springfield, Mo., southwest-ward crossing the Ozark range of mountains during the month of February, as it snowed and melted day times, froze nights and in the mornings, it was terribly rough and during the day the mud was soft and deep as it is in Brittan's lane nowadays. The consequence, was our supply train could not keep up. Finally an order was issued from head quarters that a detail of six men from each company should be made as foragers. The order removed the curse or penalty, but I did not notice any perceptible difference in the amount foraged, because mess No. 5 always had 4 times as much fresh meat as we could make use of.

I can't help but think the boys of our regiment acted a little selfish sometimes.

One day we learned of a rebel plantation ahead, so the foraging crew hurried on ahead of our regiment and reached the place about lunch time. Some of the officers with their staffs were ordering meals cooked and some eating what they could find that was eatible without orders.

There were several women and lots of white and black children around, but only one man, and he was old and nearly blind.

So while he was busy carrying water from the spring and getting wood to cook with, our foragers were busy spying around for something to "cramp," as they called it. Hearing a racket back of the house, I went around to see the cause.

The boys had found an out-house filled with bacon etc, and among other things a barrel of molasses. They had been helping themselves to the bacon and got away with the whole of it and were drawing out the molasses into their canteens when the old man caught them at it. The most of them ran off, but I, with half a dozen others went back to see, and the scamps never closed the faucet, but had let it run all over the floor and the barrel was nearly empty, and while the old man was scolding about his losses in the smoke-house, the officers had left without paying for their dinner. One orderly had ordered the old man to go to the spring for some fresh water for Gen. Asboth, and while

he was gone for the water some of the boys got away without paying for some chickens and things they had bargained for, and Gen. Asboth rode on past without stopping to drink.

To be continued.

BRIGGS ON TOP.

The New York Presbytery, after a nineteen day trial, finds that Dr. Chas. A. Briggs is not a heretic. His teachings are all O. K., but too advanced for the old-time faith. Six charges were brought against him, all of which were decided in his favor. The trial ended with tremendous applause from the Briggs adherents.

The charges were: For teaching that reason is a fountain of divine authority and that men can be and are saved by it, even such men as reject Christ and the Scriptures; that men can be saved through the Church, apart from the Scriptures; that the original text of the bible may have contained errors; that Moses was not the author of half the books that bears his name; and that sanctification is not complete at death.

In May the general assembly meets.

That body may sustain the New York Presbytery. Then what? Why heresy will be the most popular thing in America. And then?—

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