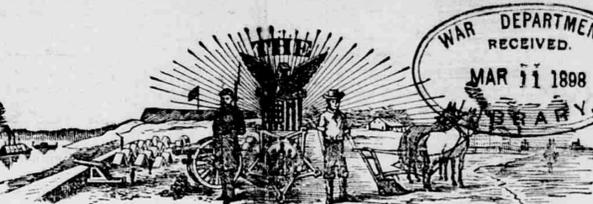


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### Andersonville:

#### A Story of Rebel Military Prisons.

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##### SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

The wonderful country about Cumberland Gap, and the strategic importance of that place. The great need of food and forage for the garrison sends a battalion of cavalry up Powell's Valley to clear it out and secure its supplies. A rebel command starts down the valley to drive the Union troops out. The two forces meet on top of a hill, and a prompt charge gives the day to the Union men and scatters the rebels in headlong rout.

The cavalry battalion occupies the country gained, and protects the forage trains sent out to gather up the supplies and haul them in. This duty lasts until the morning of Jan. 3, 1864. The battalion is attacked by Jones's Brigade of rebels, and after a stubborn, desperate fight is compelled to surrender. The prisoners are taken by rail through a picturesque part of Virginia to Richmond, searched at Libby, and sent to different prisons. First week of prison life. Interior and exterior scenes in Richmond. Stoppage of exhalation.

The first squad of prisoners leave Richmond for Andersonville. Scenes along the route. Arrival at the famous prison-pen.

Something as to southern Georgia. A sterile land. Inexpensive construction of shelters against the weather. Gen. Wheeler and Capt. Wirz take charge of the Prison.

The month of March is passed in the pen, with little shelter from the snow, rain, and wind. The prison fills up with additional squads including the deserters from Castle Lightning in Richmond, with whom the other prisoners have much trouble. Mortality rapidly increases.

Crowd inside the stockade constantly increases. Arrival of prisoners and guns from Colchester. Killing of "Poli Parrot." Prisoners punished by remain. Trading with guards.

The prisoners' minds are bent on exchange or escape. Much time devoted to tunnel-digging. Treasures are summarily punished.

The rainy month of June.—The crowd inside the prison rapidly increases, the rations grow worse, and the misery intensifies.

Terrible ravages of diseases of the digestive organs. A appalling increase in the mortality. Some instances of deaths of the writer's comrades.

Raiders grow unbearable. They attempt the capture of Leroy L. Key, who forms a band of fugitives.

The battle to defeat the raiders in a terrible battle. The raiders are arrested, and a contingent of the prisoners six are sentenced to death. The remainder Wirz insists shall be released from the small stockade. The prisoners become infuriated at this, and as the raiders are let into the big stockade must them severely. A scaffold is built and the raiders hanged amid intense excitement.

The executions are followed by organization of a strong police force among the prisoners, and discipline becomes good.

A young Ohio soldier, captured at Atlanta, tells the prisoners the story of the battle. He tells graphically of the way in which the brave McPherson was killed, and how his death affected the troops that loved him well. He describes how Gen. Logan took command of the Army of the Tennessee and led the men into the fight. The young soldier ends his narrative with his own capture at the close of the battle.

The author interpolates in his narrative a transcript of the evidence at the Wirz trial of Prof. Joseph Jones, a surgeon of high rank in

the rebel army, who visited Andersonville to make a scientific study of the conditions of disease there.

#### CHAPTER LII—(continued).

Following are extracts from the report made by Prof. Jones and included in the Wirz trial testimony:

"Description of the Confederate States Military Prison Hospital at Andersonville—Number of prisoners, physical condition, food, clothing, habits, moral condition, diseases.

"The Confederate Military Prison at Andersonville, Ga., consists of a strong Stockade, 20 feet in height, inclosing 27 acres. The Stockade is formed of strong pine logs, firmly planted in the ground. The main stockade is surrounded by two other similar rows of pine logs, the middle Stockade being 16 feet high and the outer 12 feet. These are intended for offense and defense. If the inner Stockade should at any time be forced by the prisoners, the second forms another line of defense; while in case of an attempt to deliver the prisoners by a force operating upon the exterior, the outer line forms an admirable protection to the Confederate troops, and a most formidable obstacle to cavalry or infantry.

"The four angles of the outer lines are strengthened by earthworks upon commanding eminences, from which the cannon, in case of an outbreak among the prisoners, may sweep the entire inclosure; and it was designed to connect these works by a line of rifle-pits running zig-zag around the outer Stockade; these rifle-pits have never been completed. The ground inclosed by the innermost Stockade lies in the form of a parallelogram, the larger diameter running almost due north and south. This space includes the northern and southern opposing sides of two hills, between which a stream of water runs from west to east. The surface soil of these hills is composed chiefly of sand with varying admixtures of clay and oxide of iron. The clay is sufficiently tenacious to give a considerable degree of consistency to the soil.

"The internal structure of the hills, as revealed by the deep wells, is similar to that already described. The alternate layers of clay and sand, as well as the oxide of iron, which forms in its various combinations a cement to the sand, allow of extensive tunneling. The prisoners not only constructed numerous dirt huts with balls of clay and sand, taken from the wells which they have excavated all over these hills, but they have also, in some cases, tunneled extensively from these wells. The lower portions of these hills, bordering on the stream, are wet and boggy from the constant oozing of water.

"The Stockade was built originally to accommodate only 10,000 prisoners, and included at first 17 acres. Near the close of the month of June the area was enlarged by the addition of 10 acres. The ground added was situated on the northern slope of the largest hill. The following table presents a view

of the density of the population of the prison at different periods:

"Table illustrating the mean number of prisoners confined in the Confederate States Military Prison at Andersonville, Ga., from its organization, Feb. 24, 1864, to September, 1864, and the average number of square feet of ground to each prisoner:

MONTH AND YEAR.	Mean strength of Federal prisoners.	Area of Stockade in square feet.	Average number of square feet allowed to each prisoner.
March, 1864.....	7,500	740,520	98.7
April, 1864.....	15,000	740,520	49.4
May, 1864.....	15,000	740,520	49.4
June, 1864.....	22,000	740,520	33.7
July, 1864.....	29,000	1,176,120	40.5
August, 1864.....	32,000	1,176,120	36.7

"Within the circumscribed area of the Stockade the Federal prisoners were compelled to perform all the offices of life—cooking, washing, the calls of nature, exercise and sleeping. During the month of March the prison was less crowded than at any subsequent time, and then the average space of ground to each prisoner was only 98.7 feet, or less than seven square yards. The Federal prisoners were gathered from all parts of the Confederate States east of the Mississippi, and crowded into the confined space, until in the month of June the average number of square feet of ground to each prisoner was only 33.2, or less than four square yards."

"These figures represent the condition of the Stockade in a better light even than it really was; for a considerable breadth of land along the stream, flowing from west to east between the hills, was low and boggy, and was rendered wholly uninhabitable. The pines and other small trees and shrubs, which originally were scattered sparsely over these hills, were in a short time cut down and consumed by the prisoners for firewood, and no shade tree was left in the entire inclosure of the Stockade.

"With their characteristic industry and ingenuity, the Federals constructed for themselves small huts and caves, and attempted to shield themselves from the rain and sun and night damps and dew. But few tents were distributed to the prisoners, and those were in most cases torn and rotten. In the location and arrangement of these tents and huts no order appears to have been followed; in fact, regular streets appear to be out of the question in so crowded an area; especially, too, as large bodies of prisoners were from time to time added suddenly without any previous preparations. The irregular arrangement of the huts and imperfect shelters was very unfavorable for the maintenance of a proper system of police.

"The police and internal economy of the prison was left almost entirely in the hands of the prisoners themselves; the duties of the Confederate soldiers acting as guards being limited to the occupation of the boxes or lookouts ranged around the Stockade at regular intervals,

and to the manning of the batteries at the angles of the prison. Even judicial matters pertaining to themselves, as the detection and punishment of such crimes as theft and murder, appear to have been in a great measure abandoned to the prisoners. A striking instance of this occurred in the month of July, when the Federal prisoners within the Stockade tried, condemned, and hanged six of their own number, who had been convicted of stealing and of robbing and murdering their fellow-prisoners. They were all hung upon the same day, and thousands of the prisoners gathered around to witness the execution. The Confederate authorities are said not to have interfered with these proceedings.

"In this collection of men from all parts of the world, every phase of human character was represented; the stronger preyed upon the weaker, and even the sick who were unable to defend themselves were robbed of their scanty supplies of food and clothing."

After describing the filthy condition of the interior of the Stockade and the lack of drainage, the Surgeon continues: "The accommodations for the sick were imperfect and insufficient. From the organization of the prison, Feb. 24, 1864, to May 22, the sick were treated within the Stockade. In the crowded condition of the Stockade, and with the tents and huts clustered thickly around the hospital, it was impossible to secure proper ventilation or to maintain the necessary police. Federal prisoners also made frequent forays upon the hospital stores and carried off the food and clothing of the sick. The hospital was, on the 22d of May, removed to its present site without the Stockade, and five acres of ground covered with oaks and pines appropriated to the use of the sick.

"The supply of medical officers has been insufficient from the foundation of the prison. The nurses and attendants upon the sick have been most generally Federal prisoners who in too many cases appear to have been devoid of moral principle, and who not only neglected their duties, but were also engaged in extensive robbing of the sick.

"From the want of proper police and hygienic regulations alone it is not wonderful that from Feb. 24 to Sept. 21, 1864, 9,479 deaths, nearly one-third the entire number of prisoners, should have been recorded. I found the Stockade and hospital in the following condition during my pathological investigations, instituted in the month of September, 1864:

"At the time of my visit to Andersonville a large number of Federal prisoners had been removed to Millen, Savannah, Charleston, and other parts of the Confederacy, in anticipation of an advance of Gen. Sherman's forces from Atlanta, with the design of liberating their captive brethren; however, about 15,000 prisoners remained confined within the limits of the Stockade and Confederate States Military Prison Hospital.

"In the Stockade, with the exception of the damp lowlands bordering the small stream, the surface was covered with huts, and small, ragged tents and parts of blankets and fragments of oil-cloth, coats, and blankets stretched upon sticks. The tents and huts were not arranged according to any order, and there was in most parts of the inclosure scarcely room for two men to walk abreast between the tents and huts. If one might judge from the large pieces of corn-bread scattered about in every direction on the ground the prisoners were either very lavishly supplied with this article of diet, or else this kind of food was not relied upon by them.

"Each day the dead from the Stockade were carried out by their fellow-prisoners and deposited upon the ground under a bush arbor, just outside of the southwestern gate. From thence they were carried in carts to the burying-ground, one-quarter of a mile northwest of the prison. The dead were buried without coffins, side by side, in trenches four feet deep.

"There were near 5,000 seriously ill Federals in the Stockade and Confederate States Military Prison Hospital, and the deaths exceeded 100 per day, and large numbers of the prisoners who were walking about, and who had not been entered upon the sick-reports, were suffering from severe and incurable diarrhea, dysentery, and scurvy. Owing to the slow progress of the disease most prevalent, the corpses were, as a general rule, emaciated. I visited 2,000 sick within the Stockade, lying under some long sheds which had been built at the northern portion for themselves. At this time only one medical officer was in attendance, whereas at least 20 medical officers should have been employed.

"Died in the stockade from its organization, Feb. 24, 1864, to Sept. 21, 3,254; died in hospital during same time, 6,225. Total deaths in hospital and Stockade, 9,479.

"Scurvy, diarrhea, dysentery, and hospital gangrene were the prevailing diseases. I was surprised to find but few cases of malarial fever, and no well-marked cases either of typhus or typhoid fever. The absence of the different forms of malarial fever may be accounted for in the supposition that the artificial atmosphere of the Stockade, crowded densely with human beings and loaded with animal exhalations, was unfavorable to the existence and action of the malarial poison. The absence of typhoid and typhus fevers amongst all the cases which are supposed to generate these diseases, appeared to be due to the fact that the great majority of these prisoners had been in captivity in Virginia, at Belle Island, and in other parts of the Confederacy for months, and even as long as two years, and during this time they had been subject to the same bad influences, and those who had not had these fevers before, either had them during their confinement in Confederate prisons or else their systems, from

long exposure, were proof against their action.

"The effects of scurvy were manifested on every hand, and in all its various stages, from the muddy, pale complexion, pale gums, feeble, languid muscular motions, loss of spirits, and fetid breath, to the dusty, dirty, leaden complexion, swollen features, spongy, purple, livid, fungoid, bleeding gums, loose teeth, oedematous limbs, covered with livid vibices, and petechie spasmodically flexed, painful and hardened extremities, spontaneous hemorrhages from mucous canals, and large, ill-conditioned, spreading ulcers covered with a dark purplish fungus growth.

"I observed that in some of the cases of scurvy the parotid glands were greatly swollen, and in some instances to such an extent as to preclude entirely the power to articulate. In several cases of dropsy of the abdomen and lower extremities supervening upon scurvy, the patients affirmed that previously to the appearance of the dropsy they had suffered with profuse and obstinate diarrhea, and that when this was checked by a change of diet, from Indian corn-bread baked with the husk, to boiled rice, the dropsy appeared.

"From condition of the prisoners, their systems had become so disordered that the smallest abrasion of the skin, from the rubbing of a shoe, or from the effects of the sun, or from the prick of a splinter, or from scratching, or a musketo bite, in some cases took on rapid and frightful ulceration and gangrene. The long use of salt meat, oftentimes imperfectly cured, as well as the almost total deprivation of vegetables and fruit, appeared to be the chief causes of the scurvy.

"I carefully examined the bakery and the bread furnished the prisoners, and found that they were supplied almost entirely with corn bread from which the husk had not been separated. This husk acted as an irritant to the alimentary canal, without adding any nutriment to the bread. As far as my examination extended no fault could be found with the mode in which the bread was baked; the difficulty lay in the failure to separate the husk from the cornmeal.

"I strongly urged the preparation of large quantities of soup made from the cow and calves' heads with the brains and tongues, to which a liberal supply of sweet potatoes and vegetables might have been advantageously added. The material existed in abundance for the preparation of such soup in large quantities with but little additional expense. Such aliment would have been not only highly nutritious, but it would also have acted as an efficient remedial agent for the removal of the scorbutic condition. The sick within the Stockade lay under several long sheds which were originally built for barracks. These sheds covered two floors which were open on all sides. The sick lay upon the bare boards, or

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### CHAPTER XXIII—(continued).

MR. LINCOLN MORE THAN once expressed uneasiness that I was not with my army at Goldsboro', when I again assured him that Gen. Schofield was fully competent to command in my absence; that I was going to start back that very day, and that Admiral Porter had kindly provided for me the steamer Bat, which he said was much swifter than my own vessel, the Russia. During this interview I inquired of the President if he was all ready for the end of the war. What was to be done with the rebel armies when defeated? And what should be done with the political leaders, such as Jeff Davis, etc.? Should we allow them to escape, etc.? He said he was all ready; all he wanted of us was to defeat the opposing armies, and to get the men composing the Confederate armies back to their homes, at work on their farms and in their shops. As to Jeff Davis, he was hardly at liberty to speak his mind fully, but intimated that he ought to clear out, "escape the country," only it would not do for him to say so openly.

As usual, he illustrated his meaning by a story: "A man once had taken the total abstinence pledge. When visiting a friend, he was invited to take a drink, but declined on the score of his pledge; when his friend suggested lemonade, which was accepted. In preparing the lemonade the friend pointed to the brandy bottle, and said the lemonade would be more palatable if he were to pour in a little brandy; when his guest

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(Continued on third page.)