FOUR MONTHS IN LIBBY, AND THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST ATLANTA

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Four months in Libby, and the campaign against Atlanta by I. N. Johnston

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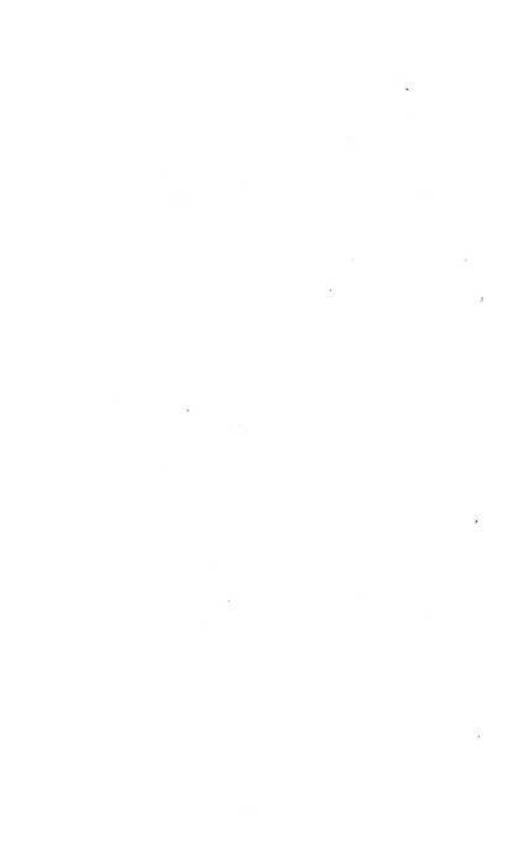
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I. N. JOHNSTON

FOUR MONTHS IN LIBBY, AND THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST ATLANTA





FOUR MONTHS IN LIBBY,

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AND THE

CAMPAIGN AGAINST ATLANTA.

BY

Capt. I. N. JOHNSTON,

CO. H. SIXTH KENTUCKY VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

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BY I. N. JOHNSTON,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the Southern District of Ohio,

PREFACE.

I MIGHT plead, with truth, "the solicitations of friends" as my apology for appearing in print; but as mine is an unpracticed pen, the public, perhaps, may demand a better reason. Without any crime I have been an inmate of the foulest of Southern prisons, and a companion of the brave men whose condition and treatment has called forth the sympathy of the nation, and which will vet call forth the condemnation of the civilized world. I was one of the party that planned and excented one of the most remarkable escapes known to history-the record of which will be enduring as that of the war itself. The labors and perils of which I was a partaker will, I am well assured, give an interest to these pages which the charm of style can never impart to a tale wanting in stirring incident. I write, then, simply because I have a story to tell, which many will take pleasure in hearing,

and which, I doubt not, in after years will employ a more skillful pen than mine.

Those with whom I have sat around the camp-fire, shared the weariness of the march, and the dangers of the battle, will like my story none the less for being plainly told; and my companions in Libby, and the partners of my flight, will think of other matters than brilliant sentences and round periods, as they read these pages. I claim no leadership in the enterprise of which I write—the time has not yet come to give honor to whom honor is due; the reason of my silence in this respect will appear in the course of my narrative.

When I began these pages I had no intention of carrying the reader beyond my escape from Libby. I have, however, been induced to add an account of Sherman's great campaign against Atlanta; and while this will, perhaps, have less interest for the general reader, it will possess more for those who were with me in that memorable march. My friends, I am sure, will be indulgent; may I express the hope that all others will have their sympathies too much aroused for our brave boys, still in prison, to be critical?

I. N. Johnston.

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