



THE ELEVENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY COVERING THE ESCAPE OF FEDERAL PRISONERS FROM LIBBY PRISON, RICHMOND, VA.

Libby Prison was an old tobacco-warehouse, near the river, in Richmond, adopted by the Confederates for the confinement of captured officers, whose sufferings there were dreadful. In 1863 some of them succeeded in digging a tunnel under the walls, and a number of prisoners escaped before the discovery. Parties were immediately sent after them, accompanied in many cases by bloodhounds. The prisoners, very weak from long confinement and insufficient food, and ignorant of the country, had small chance of escape, and many were recaptured; but many succeeded, notably one party, which was met by Federal cavalry, and rescued from the very clutches of their pursuers.