

ARTILLERY OF FORREST'S CAVALRY

such graceful and kindly amenities as this that have done so much to smooth away the bitterness of war.

The armament of Porter's Battery consisted of six guns—four six-pounders, smooth bore (brass), and two twelve-pound Howitzers (brass), with caissons and battery equipments complete. Under Captain Porter, a skillful and most efficient officer, the battery soon became very serviceable in drill and discipline—in fact, it was a most excellent training school for officers. Captain Porter and a number of his officers and men subsequently held important commissions in the Confederate service. Captain Porter was transferred to the navy, and was commander of the Florida in her engagement with the Kearsarge.

The battery's first march was with Gen. S. B. Buckner's division through Kentucky to Hopkinsville, where some "homemade" Yankees were dispersed with loss, and from thence to Russellville. At Russellville the battery was on a low piece of ground near the depot. A branch ran around the encampment, and, as it rained in torrents during the night, this little stream overflowed all bounds. The next morning Lieutenant Morton stepped from his cot into water up to his knees. An amusing incident occurred in leaving the camp. The fords were not clear, and many of the men plunged into an involuntary bath. At that time the company was well supplied with cots and blankets, and this was the only period of the war when this condition came within the author's experience.

From Russellville the battery returned to Bowling Green. Captain Porter's strict discipline in camp was of great service to the officers and men on this march.

Although actively engaged in daily drills, a great many members of the company were stricken down with measles, mumps, and other diseases, until the efficiency