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THEY DIED GAME

This Tells the Pathetic Story

OF THE EXECUTION OF TWO JAPANESE SPIES.

Gave Their Money to Russian Wounded.

I have received from a Russian sailor, recently returned from Harbin, writes Mr. Pravdine in Le Petit Temps of Paris, some hitherto unpublished details of the execution of the two Japanese spies arrested by some Cossacks, as they were about to blow up a bridge on the Manchuria road.

My informant is a young man who was severely wounded during the first bombardment of Port Arthur. He obtained permission to go to Italy to convalesce from his wound, but before his departure he made a short stay with some officers, relations of his, at Harbin, where he arrived just at the time when the Japanese were arrested, taken in the act, condemned and executed.

"You were present at the execution of the two Japanese?" I asked.

"Alas! I saw them die!" answered the young sailor.

And as I looked at him with astonishment, he hastened to add:

"Do not take me for an anarchist. I am, on the contrary, an ardent patriot, and I eagerly longed for the war with Japan; I longed to see the Japanese exterminated, and I desired that we might be able to dictate terms of peace to them at Tokio. But like all my comrades, on seeing those two Japanese officers die by the bullets of our sailors, courageously sacrificing their lives for their country, I could not but think their execution cruel."

"Were you present at the trial?"

"I saw the two spies arrested; I was present at the trial, and at the execution; I can give you all the details of it, for the dreadful spectacle haunts me, and I cannot forget it."

And in half an hour the wounded officer, pausing only when the pain of his right knee, wounded by the bursting of a Japanese shell, and from which splinters had not yet been removed, became too keen, narrated to me the following events:

"I can give my testimony that, when the two prisoners were brought into the little room of the Chinese fansa, transformed into a courtroom by the Harbin council of war, both the judges and the public—the latter composed almost exclusively of officers—could not avoid manifesting openly their enthusiastic admiration for them."

Admired by their Captors.

"And indeed, those men were actuated by the most noble sentiments; they had resolved, as patriots, to make use of any means to assure victory to their side, and as soldiers under superior orders, they went to meet certain death."

"The trial took the ordinary course; the arguments on either side offered nothing of interest, the prisoners, having loudly, and not without patriotic pride, assumed the responsibility of the crime of which they were accused."

"They gave their names and their titles without the slightest tremor of the voice."

"Tchomo Jokoka, forty-four years of age, Colonel of the general staff, graduated with honors from the Military High School at Jeddo, said the elder of the prisoners, a short, stout man, with a strong face."

"Teisko Joki, thirty-one years of age, captain, attached to the general staff, said his companion, who was taller and more slender in figure than the other, with angular features and a very dark complexion, casting a slightly disdainful glance around the courtroom."

"Buddhist, he added, after a moment's silence."

"And you, colonel, asked the president of the council; you are the same religion as your fellow prisoner?"

"No, president; I am a Christian, and observing the astonishment produced on every one by this declaration, he hastened to add:

"But I am a true Japanese, born of Japanese parents. Only in my youth I was captivated by the gentle teachings of Christ, and I became a convert to Lutheranism."

"Colonel Jokoka spoke English, and it was a subject of King Edward

an employe of the Roos-Chinese Bank, who translated to the court the declarations of the prisoner. Capt. Jokki, was interrogated by means of a Chinese interpreter.

Made no Excuse.

"The accused were shown the explosive materials which had been found upon them; they did not attempt to defend themselves, or to deny in any particular the statements of the Cossacks that had arrested them."

"The interpreters translated to the prisoners the military prosecutor's speech, asking the punishment of death by hanging."

"I watched the countenance of the two men, and I could not observe in them the slightest indication of fear. They remained impassive; the painful working of their minds was betrayed by no sign."

"The counsel of the two Japanese asked that the sentence of death should be commuted to imprisonment, with hard labor, the accused men having made a complete confession."

"The two officers remained unmoved by their counsel's warm appeal they did not utter a word."

"Since the law allowed of a lighter punishment we all expected a commutation of the sentence."

"The deliberations lasted for half an hour and the court, condemned the two officers to the maximum penalty, the scaffold."

"Colonel Jokoka and Captain Jokki heard their sentence with as detached an air as if it had concerned indifferent persons. It is probable that if the sentence had been less severe they would have shown some surprise."

Given a Soldier's Death.

"The sentence was to be executed on the following morning at 1 o'clock; all that was waited for was despatch from General Kuropatkin, confirming it."

"The telegram arrived promptly; the generalissimo approved the condemnation, but spared the Japanese officers the humiliation of the scaffold and granted them the grace of being shot, according to a soldier's death."

"I was present when the commandant read to the prisoners General Kuropatkin's orders."

"It is well, responded Colonel Jokoka. I am ready."

"The captain said nothing; his expression, that became every moment more disdainful, showed his indifference to the manner of punishment reserved for him."

"Colonel Jokoka asked permission to write to his family; then he embraced the captain."

"I die more tranquil than you, colonel, said the latter."

"Why do you say that?"

"I have fulfilled my duty to my country and to the Deity. You have done yours to your country only."

"What do you mean, captain?"

"I have reflected a good deal on what you have said to me about Christianity. You are always vaunting its superiority. Well, I think you are not in accord with Christ; while I have nothing to reproach myself with."

Dying Gifts to Russian Red Cross.

"Perhaps you are right, captain. And I, I have a favor to ask of you. Give me your authorization to perform the first truly Christian act which it has been given me to perform during my life. You know I have a number of Chinese bank notes to the value in all of about a thousand Russian rubles. Well, I desire to send this money to the commandant, to be given to the Russian Red Cross for the poor wounded among our enemies. Do you consent to this gift?" Jokki reflected an instant.

"I have always had a great affection for you, colonel, and if it will give you pleasure, I am quite willing that you should give this money to our enemies."

"When the commandant came for the prisoners, Colonel Jokoka gave him a bundle of white bank notes with red signs, saying:

"There are here about a thousand roubles and we beg you give them to the Russian Red Cross."

"But would it not be better for me to send this money to your families?"

"Oh, no, cried both the condemned men together. The Mikado will not forget our wives and children."

"Do not refuse us this satisfaction, said Jokoka. Distribute this money among the Russian wounded."

"The commandant again urged the officers to let all they should leave behind them be sent to Japan."

"Jokki appeared to hesitate for a moment, he looked at his companion in misfortune, who reiterated his desire to make this compensation for the evil he had done on this earth, and the captain bent his head in acquiescence with the wish of his brother in arms."

Wanted a Bath.

"The Russian commandant yielded, and asked the two Japanese if there was anything in which he could be of service to them."

"I should like to have a bath, if

it were possible," said the Buddhist. "After that we shall be at your orders."

"A bathroom being an object of luxury unknown at Harbin, the commandant caused tubs of water to be brought and ordered the sentinels to go one side, so that the unfortunate men might be able to perform their ablutions at their ease."

"The want of a bathtub was felt much more keenly by the Buddhist than by the Christian colonel, whose desire was to see a priest before going to execution. As there was no Lutheran pastor, the chaplain of the regiment was sent to him. The colonel begged the priest to read him the Sermon on the Mount. The chaplain read in Slav, and Jokoka followed the text in his Japanese Bible which they had left him in prison. When they came to the words: 'For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others?' he closed the book, folded his hands and cast down his eyes for a moment while his lips moved."

"Jokki," he said, "you are right; you will die more tranquilly than I, for I have never felt more keenly than now how little in accordance with my life has been the teachings of Jesus."

"The vehicle which was to convey the two men to the place of execution was already waiting. Outside surged the crowd, the hideous crowd of the lowest class, everywhere the same; idle tradesmen, business men come to the extreme Orient to avail themselves of any chance windfall."

Pitying Soldiers Shot Straight.

"The two Japanese officers arrived at the place of execution, impassive as ever. Still it could be seen that the colonel was a prey to painful reflection."

Both of them lighted cigarettes and asked that they should not be bound to the stakes. The commandant took two handkerchiefs from his pocket and handed them to the Japanese officers."

"The colonel bound his eyes himself; Jokki disdainfully refused to do so, saying he desired to see how they manœuvred."

"A dozen soldiers were posted in front of the colonel, a dozen others in front of the captain."

"If you have any pity for these two unhappy men," said the commandant to the platoon detailed for the execution, "aim straight at the heart—death will then be instantaneous."

"The soldiers fired."

"Jokoka went to the left; Jokki, without having winked an eyelash, fell forward."

"Both had been killed instantly; our good soldiers had had pity for them."

My companion punctuated these last words with a groan. He had involuntarily moved his wounded knee.

"Confounded Japanese!" he cried. "In what way have they dressed my wounded knee? But no matter. That does not prevent my regretting the death of Jokoka and Jokki."

And seeing this victim of Japanese bullets so strongly moved by the death of the two spies of the enemy, I recalled the words of the Russian painter Verestchagin, that the valor of both combatants was the most serious obstacle of the war. And, indeed, why kill one another when either side esteems the other?"

HELD UP EXPRESS TRAIN.

El Paso, Texas, August 1.—A train crew which has just arrived with a light engine from Santa Rosa reports that Rock Island passenger train No. 4, which left El Paso Saturday morning at 7 o'clock, was held up near Tucumcari, New Mexico, and robbed. The passengers were lined up and their valuables taken from them after which the express and mail cars were uncoupled from the train and run about two miles up the track and there dynamited and robbed.

The robbery was reported at Logan a small station some distance from Tucumcari by one of the passengers.

Delhart, Texas, August 1.—A Rock Island passenger train, east bound, seventy miles west of Delhart by was held up Saturday night about three masked men at a small station called Logan. Engineer E. Walker made the following statement:

"We made our regular stop at Logan, then my fireman and I were covered by gun and ordered to move up. We obeyed and stopped the train at the end of the switch. The robbers then made us uncouple the mail and express cars and run a short distance up the track, where they ordered us to stop again. Then they entered the express car and attacked the through safe with explosives. They failed to open the safe, and having used up their explosives, they made off in the darkness. The mail car and passenger cars were not disturbed. The local safe contained no money, consequently the robbers secured nothing."

A posse from Delhart, headed by Sheriff Webb, hurried to the scene and it is reported that they have the robbers surrounded and expect to capture them."

HOME RULE.

Goldwin Smith's Solution of the Irish Question.

Members Might Meet Once a Year to Discuss Irish Affairs.

Professor Goldwin Smith, writing from Toronto to a Dundee correspondent regarding the reconstruction of the Liberal party, says:

"Your chief fear seems to be that there will be a fatal dissension on Home Rule. The question of Home Rule must be settled. Better, down-right separation than the perpetual presence in the British Parliament of an unassimilated and politically hostile body playing on the balance of British parties and distracting British councils for its own ends. My view of the Irish question was formed in Ireland by intercourse with Irish patriots of the stamp of Lord O'Hagan, Sir Alexander Macdonald, and, I think, I may add, my much esteemed friend, Dr. Russell, principal of Maynooth, who, while they were ardent advocates of justice to Ireland, were firmly convinced that her true interest pointed to Union. Two parliaments, two nations. So it must be if both parliaments were free. Before the Union collision between the two governments was with difficulty averted by means of rotten boroughs, an intrusive English episcopate, and systematic corruption. Create a vassal parliament in Ireland, and you will almost certainly set on foot a struggle for legislative independence; perhaps, if Great Britain has enemies, with an appeal to them."

"The proposal to give Ireland a parliament of her own, and, at the same time, a representation in the British Parliament to control it in her interest, though it passed the House of Commons, will not bear discussion. Not less untenable, though less monstrous, is the proposal to take the United Kingdom to pieces in order to supply materials for a Federation. Disestablishment and reform of the land laws, had they been carried earlier, might have sufficed to extinguish disunion. But it seems that in the course of the long struggle there has been developed a spirit of Irish nationality for which, unless Ireland is to be ruled by force, some satisfaction will probably have to be found. An assembly of some kind, held, not at Westminster, but in, College-green, may be required to satisfy the Irish heart. Perhaps as safe a situation as might be an annual session of the Irish members of parliament at Dublin for legislation on purely Irish questions, subject to ratification by the united parliament of Westminster, in which the representation of Ireland would continue as at present. Such a solution might not be altogether free from difficulty or danger, but a solution of some kind must be found. The British parliament cannot be left in its present state, distracted and dragooned by the Irish vote."

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John Millar, M. A., Deputy Minister of Education for Ontario, was then chosen president for 1905-1906. W. A. M. McIntyre, Principal of the Winnipeg Normal School, was elected Vice-President, D. J. Goggin of Toronto, Secretary, and F. H. Schofield, Principal of the Winnipeg Collegiate, Treasurer. The directors are twelve in number as follows: G. J. Bryant, inspector, of Calgary, Agnes Deans Cameron, of Victoria, B. C., Prof. Squair, of University College, Toronto, Principal Scott, of the Toronto Normal School, Dr. Harper, of Quebec, Superintendent Dr. H. S. Bridges, of St. John, N. B., Principal Lay, of Amherst, N. S., J. Robertson, B. A., of Charlottetown, P. E. I., Rev. L. Drummond, of St. Boniface, Man., Supervisor McKay, of Halifax, N. S., Principal Gordon, of Queen's University, Kingston, and Chancellor Burwash of Victoria University, Toronto."

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zone completely rehabilitated my system, and has made me a different sort of man altogether."

Don't wait until your condition becomes nervous prostration; it's hard to cure. Take Ferrozone regularly and the cause of your sleepless nights will be removed. It always cures insomnia."

Ferrozone is the greatest health-giver, the most valuable tonic, that money can buy. It will bring you lasting strength, vigor and health, at small cost. Only Ferrozone can do this so be sure that no dishonest dealer substitutes something represented as "just as good." No other remedy is so good as Ferrozone, price 50c. per box or six boxes for \$2.50, at all druggists or N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

Putting food into a diseased stomach is like putting money into a pocket with holes. The money is lost. All its value goes for nothing. When the stomach is diseased, with the allied organs of digestion and nutrition, the food which is put into it is largely lost. The nutriment is not extracted from it. The body is weak and the blood impoverished."

The pocket can be mended. The stomach can be cured. That sterling medicine for the stomach and blood, Doctor Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, acts with peculiar promptness and power on the organs of digestion and nutrition. It is a positive cure for almost all disorders of these organs, and cures also such diseases of the heart, blood, liver, and other organs, as have their cause in a weak or diseased condition of the stomach."

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