

THRILLING SCENE OF THIBETAN WAR

British Sepoy Single-handed

HELD SEVEN HUNDRED THIBETANS AT BAY

And Saved a Detachment from Being Surrounded.

Up in the "Roof of the World" in Thibet, where a little British expedition is fighting its way through the most fanatical people known to man, a hero not surpassed in courage or self-sacrifice, even in ancient times, lies, mourned of the great nation that commanded his services.

This man, a Sepoy of the British force, was one against seven hundred and checked an overwhelming Thibetan advance until his retreating comrades were safe in a fort. Only he was killed.

Thibet, wild and mountainous, and inhabited by a race as mysterious as itself, occupies the uncomfortable position of a buffer state. To the south of it lies India, under British control. To the north and west is Turkistan, ruled partly by Russia, which is forever edging to the south and east.

An away up on the top of the mountains in the "forbidden land," the home of the Buddhist religion, "live the Thibetans, a million people of a type between the Chinese and the Eskimo, the one object of whose existence is to keep the stranger out.

From time immemorial they have lived there apart from the world, a race of fanatics ruled by the Grand Lama, "who never dies, but who is forever young." The Thibetans are short of stature and have leaden faces, dull eyes peering dumbly from narrow slits upon either side of a broad flat nose. Their mouths are big and their lips are thick and flabby; their skin is oily and their hair is black, coarse and straight.

On the very top of this "Roof of the world" above the clouds, is Lhasa, the sacred city. There, in a marvellous palace with a hundred terraces and a thousand rooms, the Great Lama, the head of the Buddhist world, lives.

Thibet is ruled by its priesthood more powerful there than anywhere else in all the world. Not only do the priests govern the people, but they own the land, and all the inhabitants must pay tithe to them.

Mohammedans are admitted to Lhasa, and so are the Japanese, although their religion is far removed from Lamaism. Only people of Christian belief must keep out. The priests teach that Thibet can remain "great" only so long as it remains isolated from the rest of the world.

The British in Thibet.

The first move against Thibet was made by Great Britain more than a year ago, when she determined that Thibet had broken a treaty made fifteen years before. Colonel Younghusband and a small force of men—with a machine gun as a gentle hint—were sent with the polite request that the treaty should not be broken any more.

This expedition reached Khamba Jong, where it was to meet Thibetan officials, a year ago, and there it remained for months, the natives playing hide and seek with it. In the end the Dalai Lama, chief of the priests, suggested naively that the British should retire to the Indian frontier and conduct the negotiations from there. At the same time he distributed rifles and ammunition to his people and instructed them to keep their powder dry. Colonel Younghusband took this hint and returned to India.

Early in the year the second expedition set out for Thibet to "persuade the Dalai Lama to keep his word." It included four thousand soldiers, British artillerymen and tall dark Sepoys with curious turbans on their heads. This force was almost as picturesque as the Thibetans themselves.

Now, India is bounded on the north by great crags and peaks. Narrow trails along precipitous cliffs lead in to Thibet. No sooner had the British crossed this border than their troubles began. The entire country—shepherds, farmers, monks and bandits—was enrolled to fight against them. Armed with spears and ancient matchlocks and wooden cannon, great hordes barred the way. From the mountains they rolled great rocks down upon the invading forces

and they ambushed every pass.

Colonel Younghusband pressed on, literally mowing his way through human flesh, establishing garrisons at each vantage point.

Half way between India and Lhasa almost at the top of the Himalaya mountains, near Gyantse, is Gngma commanding the pass both north and south. So strong is this point that one hundred men in intrenchments and well armed, can hold it against a thousand.

Colonel Younghusband built a little fort at Kangman, garrisoned it, and passed on. Here for more than a month the little band remained surrounded by the enemy.

A Sepoy Hero.

Now, Dinga Singh, a Sepoy, was a member of this heroic garrison. Tall, bearded and thin almost to gauntness, he came to his courage by inheritance. His grandfather had part in the mutiny and was blown from a British cannon in 1858. Still, the Sepoy regiment accompanying Col. Younghusband had no more loyal member than Dinga Singh.

The post at Kangma is erected upon a knob, the sides of which are covered with great boulders. At the foot of the knob runs the mountain trail.

A portion of the force at Kangma was sent to join a temporary post ten miles beyond. With scouts in advance, it swung down the hill and on to the mountain trail. A large detachment was to follow.

Three quarters of a mile from Kangma is a sharp defile, the sides of which, like the hill at the fort, are covered with stones big enough to shelter an enemy.

As the scouts entered the defile a horde of Thibetans concealed by the rocks poured two streams down upon them. Seeing how useless it was to fight, the scouts, firing their rifles, fell back upon the command, which retreated in the direction of the fort.

The retreat became a rout; rifles, swords and accoutrements were all thrown away, yet the little British force arrived at the bottom of the hill at Kangma without the loss of a single man.

Fought 700 Single-Handed.

The path leading up to the fort is wide enough to accommodate only one soldier at a time. There Dinga Singh took his stand, a single Sepoy against seven hundred Thibetans.

Above him the British garrison was preparing for fight. Guns were hauled to the top of the path, ready to fire as soon as the last fugitive was within the walls.

His business, as he made it heroically for himself, was to cover the retreat.

Presently a Thibetan appeared in the pass and raised his rifle, but the Sepoy was too quick for him. Dinga Singh's first shot felled him before he had time to fire. Then came another Thibetan, standing over his fellow's body, and took aim, only to tumble headlong, lifeless. A third man filled the gap, and fell, wounded and writhing—a fourth dropped on his knees, helpless.

The Sepoy's aim was unerring. He was standing his ground, face set, legs braced, as if the whole British empire depended on him.

One shot was left. Glancing up the hill, Dinga Singh saw that the command was nearly at the fort on the crest.

If he could only hold the pass till the men were in the fort! One shot left in his rifle, he turned quickly and took cover behind a boulder. It was a ruse befitting the best British regular.

The Thibetans thought he had given way. One by one they came running out of the pass, stumbling over the dead bodies of their kinsmen, uttering shrieks of encouragement to those behind, when the Sepoy's rifle cracked out its last shot—and the fifth Thibetan threw up his arms and fell backward upon the breast of the man behind him.

The advance was checked for a moment. Then, with fiendish cries, the Thibetans rushed up the hillside. Dinga Singh, under cover of the boulder, waited till the first man reached him. Then with catlike rapidity, he sprang out into the path and, with the butt of his empy rifle, knocked him down. He struck the next man and sent him reeling. He was fighting alone, against hopeless odds. He knew it. He was waiting for his fate. And when he was almost exhausted, a sabre slash laid him low across the path.

A cheer went up from the fort on the crest of the hill.

Then over his body and up the hill the enemy swarmed. Climbing the loopholes they seized the muzzles of the protruding rifles, all the time keeping up a furious fire with matchlocks and Lassa rifles. One attack after another was beaten back, until decimated and exhausted they fell back, pursued by the garrison.

And that is how Dinga Singh, in whose veins flowed the blood of the Indian mutineers, saved the British force.

His remains rest in a grave within the Kangma post, and when Col. Younghusband returns from subduing the Dalai Lama, Dinga Singh's body will be taken back to India.

YORK COUNTY LODGES.

District Deputy Master Sampson's Reports to the Oddfellows.

In his report submitted to the Grand Master of the Oddfellows Lodge, Mr. C. A. Sampson, district deputy master, says of York county lodges:

As your representative in District No. 7, I beg to submit my report for the year just closed. It was a year full of possibilities, and yet not without encouraging success, as will be noticed by the returns forwarded to Grand Secretary. The members of the Parent Lodge, Victoria, No. 10, continue to give evidence of vitality and old-time enthusiasm, and with a couple of constitutional advocates ever on the alert for the slightest divergence from the well-beaten tracks, the sessions are usually interesting. The returns for last year have again revealed the fact that twenty-five per cent. of dues is not a proper portion to set aside for the benefit fund. It is now proposed, for a time at least, to place to credit of benefit fund one-half amount received for dues. While a large number of members have been on the sick list, no death occurred during the year. One member died since the year closed. There has been great improvement in the floor work of the Lodge since the work has been assigned to a degree team.

Nashwaak Lodge, No. 72, is in a most satisfactory condition, fraternally and financially, and its members deserve much credit and encouragement for the success achieved. It was my pleasure last year to refer to the improvements made upon their new hall. Since erected, this property has largely increased in value, and additions and improvements are constantly being added. The members have united with Victoria Lodge in preparing to make the approaching session of the Grand Lodge a pleasant one. They have tastefully laid out the terrace and lawn in front of their building, and it is now transformed into a beautiful garden. It is expected the Grand Lodge delegates will be able to visit Marysville, and at the same time will take a look at the property of Nashwaak Lodge. This Lodge is well equipped with paraphernalia and have initiations frequently.

Coronation Lodge, No. 86, is at considerable disadvantage in its work owing to the long absence from home of many members. However they are made of the right material, and while the winters are largely spent in the woods, an eye is kept upon the good of the Order in their interesting locality at Covered Bridge Plains were procured for a modern hall, a site procured, a foundation built, the contract awarded and the new hall to be completed and handed over in the Spring of 1904. Most unfortunately the contractor lost his factory by fire and all kiln-dried lumber and trimmings went up in smoke with the factory. However, an extension of time has been given the contractor and the hall will probably be completed the present year. This Lodge has arranged for an anniversary parade and sermon this month, and this large and new Lodge gives promise for increased work in its locality.

It gives me pleasure that Amethyst Rebekah Lodge is in good condition and continues to manifest a deep interest in the work of the Order. Its members are looking forward with pleasant anticipation to the meeting of the Assembly in Fredericton next month. With the assistance of the Past Grand of Nashwaak and Gictoria Lodges I installed the officers of the three lodges in my district in January and July last, and thus the duty was made easy and pleasant.

During the year I issued three dispensations, believing such to be in the interests of the Order. I was fortunate in not having a difficult matter to adjust, or hard question to answer.

YOUNG LADIES, READ THIS.

If you are bothered with pimples, rashes or ugly blotches on your face, if your complexion is sallow, it is evident that you require Ferrozone to tone up your blood. One Ferrozone tablet taken at meals makes the complexion like peach bloom, cheeks soon become rosy, eyes bright, you'll be the picture of health. Thousands of ladies keep up their youthful appearance with Ferrozone, why not you? Price 50c. at druggists.

When you find yourself overpowered as it were, by melancholy, go out and do something kind for somebody.

Monkey Brand Soap cleans kitchen utensils, steel, iron and tinware, knives and forks, and all kinds of cutlery.

PLEASING EVENT

Grand Lodge Delegates Cordially Welcomed

BY MAYOR PALMER AND CITY COUNCIL.

Eloquent Responses by Grand Master Whear and Mrs. Robinson.

The church hall was the scene of a very pleasant incident at 3.30 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, when the members of the Grand Lodge of Oddfellows were cordially welcomed to the city by Mayor Palmer and members of the city council.

His Worship, who was very warmly received, said it gave him great pleasure to be able to welcome the Oddfellows of the Maritime Provinces to Fredericton. He recognized the Oddfellows as a representative and influential body, and the citizens were honored in receiving a visit from them. He was sure that all would most willingly assist Victoria Lodge in entertaining them. He was himself an Oddfellow and entertained pleasant recollections of Grand Lodge meetings at Halifax and other places which he had attended in times past. The object of the Order of Oddfellows in brief was the betterment of mankind, and a good Oddfellow must necessarily be a good citizen. We are very glad to have you with us and will do all in our power to make your stay a pleasant one. (Applause.)

Ald. Farrell, who was next introduced, said that the Oddfellows were fortunate in not having him as a member of their Order. In extending a welcome to the Oddfellows, His Worship did so with the absolute endorsement of the council and citizens. Although the welcome was of a simple form, it must convince them that the citizens appreciated their choice of Fredericton as a place of meeting. They felt it a high honor to have such a representative, good looking, and youthful body of men and women visit this city. The mayor in his address had unintentionally omitted to extend to them the freedom of the city, and it gave him (Farrell) great pleasure to do so, knowing that very little responsibility attached to it. He trusted that all would carry with them to their homes pleasant recollections of their visit to Fredericton. We are proud of our little city and the citizens are always ready and willing to extend hospitality to strangers. It was not an unusual thing for men when absent from home, to occasionally allow themselves to give way to a certain weakness, but he was glad to say that he had seen no evidence of that weakness among the delegates to the present gathering. This would have a tendency to convince our own citizens that they are not the only sober people in the world. There was no doubt as to the sincerity of the welcome, and everything would be done to make their stay pleasant.

Grand Master Whear, in responding assured his worship and the aldermen that the Oddfellows appreciated the hearty welcome extended to them. Many of them still entertained pleasant recollections of a previous visit to this city about twelve years ago. The hospitality shown them on that occasion was a guarantee that their welcome would be a cordial one at any future time. He wished to extend his congratulations to the Mayor on the splendid appearance of the city. Our Deputy Grand Master, Mr. Sampson, has been endeavoring to impress upon us the fact that this is the celestial city. We cannot but notice the orderly way in which you manage your affairs. The appearance of the streets and sidewalks, and the beautiful foliage convinces us that your city is well governed. He was pleased to hear good words for the order from those not connected with it. The order, including the Daughters of Rebekah, now has 1,500,000 members in America. The invested funds amount to \$32,000,000, and the annual receipts total \$12,000,000. We spend annually \$4,000,000 for the relief of widows and orphans. There are 80 subordinate lodges in the maritime provinces, with a membership of 9,000, including the Daughters of Rebekah. Last year we expended in benevolent work \$9,400, or 32 1-3 per cent. of the amount collected in dues. Our Order represents the grand virtues of fellowship and truth, and our ritual teaches us to be better men and women. Last year five new lodges were instituted in the maritime provinces and the membership increased by 440. The

Order is making steady progress and is seeking to exemplify the principle of brotherly love.

Mrs. Minnie Robinson, on behalf of the Daughters of Rebekah, returned thanks in a neat speech. She said the sisters were enjoying their stay in the city and were very grateful to the members of Victoria Lodge for their kindness. Fredericton was her birthplace, and it gave her pleasure to pay the city a visit. (Applause.)

Past Grand Master J. R. Macdonald, of Sherbrooke, in a vigorous speech endorsed the remarks of the previous speakers.

Grand Master Whear proposed three cheers for the mayor and council, which were given with great vim, the whole assembly rising to their feet. They wound up the proceedings by singing "For They are Jolly Good Fellows."

Yesterday's Proceedings.

At Wednesday afternoon's session, after the Mayor and councillors had retired, the reports of the Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer were read and referred to committees.

Mr. B. B. Black, of Amherst, was appointed assistant secretary.

An invitation from the local lodges to join them in a sail on the river Thursday afternoon was accepted with considerable enthusiasm.

The Advisory Committee reported favorably on the Oddfellows' Relief Association of Canada.

The report of the committee on Subordinate Lodges was laid over until a future session.

Deputy Grand Master Sampson gave notice of a motion to change the date of holding the Rebekah Assembly from Wednesday to Tuesday, day.

At the evening session a committee was appointed to consider the best means of celebrating the jubilee of the Grand Lodge next year. A report is to be made during the present session.

The report of the Finance Committee was read and adopted.

A resolution was passed regarding the headquarters of Mayflower Lodge, No. 61, from Barrington Row to Barrington Passage.

Rich Red Blood, Basis of Health.

Strong Blood Fortifies the Nerves, Strengthens the Heart, Keeps You in the Swim. How to Nourish the Blood.

To keep abreast in the unceasing race that confronts us, both energy and reserve strength are essential. Strength is power. Power is money—that's the way we resolve it today; yet even when evidence of failing strength and dwindling power becomes manifest, very few of us face the actual condition and deal with it as we would with something involving monetary value.

Thousands of people are falling behind in the race of life simply because they are failing in strength. Instead of using Ferrozone, which revitalizes all the functions of the body, forms rich, red blood, improves digestion, thereby renewing vitality and endurance, they simply drift along until the doctor or undertaker confronts them.

If Ferrozone was unpleasant to take, or if its action were not immediate and permanent, if physical improvement were not of the highest value to the individual, there might be some excuse for deferring the use of this remarkable tonic.

If your health is inconsequential, then Ferrozone may be dispensed with. But if health and vigor give you more power and comfort, can't you see the foolishness of denying yourself the many advantages of using such a grand medicine?

Do the fair thing by yourself, go right to your druggist and get Ferrozone. You will then know what perfect health, good spirits, and strong nerves really mean.

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Not only a tack the passages of the heat and throat but finally reaches the lungs and causes consumption. Nothing destroys catarrh as quickly as fragrant, healing Catarrhzone which relieves the cough, stops the discharge and takes all soreness from the throat. "I consider Catarrhzone has no equal as a cure for catarrh and lung trouble," writes Jas. E. Wetherell of Brighton. "It cured me after many good doctors failed to even relieve my trouble." Catarrhzone can't fail to cure—it's guaranteed. Two months treatment; trial size 25c.

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