

Knights Who Fought the Dragon

"Give me my wife and child," he said. "I will cook for you no more. I will never work for a foreign devil again."

"Why, that is a new story, Li," said Douglas. "What is the matter?"

"When I was gone to find Dr. Gilmour's honorable body," Li answered, "the foreign devil soldiers came to my venerable father's home. There was a Russian and a dark man with red wound about his head. When they came there was happiness; when they left there was misery. They shot my brother as he was quietly hoeing in the field. His wife drowned herself to hide her shame. The Russian stamped in the face of the baby boy as he lay on the floor—the poor, innocent, helpless baby. My honorable mother was lying ill, unable to rise, and she had to watch while they bound my father, who is large and tall, and led him away to work for them. I am going to find him, and when he points out those who carried him off . . . " Li Sing's face darkened threateningly. "None shall be able to taunt me with leaving the wrongs of my father unavenged."

"I will try and help you find your father," said Douglas.

"I am better without your help," burst out Li, in a vindictive tone. "Outside barbarians,