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S. PETERSON.  
Stn, 1904.

## HERO OF TWO BATTLES

Field Headquarters, Gen. Oku, Imperial Japanese Army, October 20.—The other day, just after the charge which led in the middle of an afternoon dislodged the Russians from the mud village of Entailneul, a litter came along. A voice from the litter said: "Bon Jour, messieurs." Looking down, there was the captain of infantry, Matsui, who had shown the foreigners over the Scrub Hill position at the hills of the Outspread Fingers, Shusanpo, just a few days previously. Was he hurt badly? Where was the wound? It was a bullet through the shoulder—not much.

Never out of Japan till war came, he never, before the day he was detailed to tell his story, had seen so many foreigners. (They were less than a score.) Nor, he added, at the veranda in Liao Yang afterwards, had he ever before heard a brass band.

At the hills of the Outspread Fingers, he commanded two companies in the third division. On August, 31st two regiments were ordered to take one end, the worst end, of Scrub Hill. Wire entanglements alone caused it to divide. To one side went Capt. Matsui with two companies; back of him remained another in reserve. Arriving at other wire obstacles, he cut them, and sent men forward to learn if there were more on the slope itself. While awaiting their report, the reserves, who had been told not to fire unless Matsui's command was in extremis, opened notwithstanding on the Russian trenches. Russians, rising to fire back, discovered Matsui's men, and at the first volley shot down ten of them. Then checked, Matsui took his men to a road, formed them in close order, and went ahead to where there were underground mines. Two of these exploded, then six more, and the whole little band was covered with dirt, but no man injured. The men ran back to a ditch. Officers of the reserve, seeing this, ran forward.

Rifle fire kept up; Capt Matsui was struck in the thigh. His men reformed, leaving the ditch, and he moved them forward up the hill to within 200 yards of the trenches. There the men stopped. Shrapnel from hills beyond the one they were climbing was dropping upon them. They tried again, and fell back; then threw up little earth shelters with the spades on their knapsacks. Couriers were sent to battalion and to regimental commanders for instructions. They did not live to return. Capt. Matsui was cut off; he must rely upon his own devices.

He kept his men in their improvised shelters, many in the lee of the mounds of Chinese graves, till midday. No orders from his superiors, and his hurt thigh not improving, he then felt that he should attempt something. When he tried to get up his wound would not let him. As only one lieutenant was left to lead the men, the captain would not relinquish command. He announced to the lieutenant: "We will take our men up the hill."

He rose, and started; then fell sideways on the hip that was not fit. A sergeant lifted him to a rock. The Russian rifles up the hill threw a sharp hail against the two companies. Some bullets passed through three men. The captain sang out that they must go on. Seeing what was happening the reserves back on the plain, another battalion to the right, started to back up these two hard-pressed companies, who were now charging, straining through sparse, knee-high scrub pine. They were dropping, dropping (I saw this charge through a glass, but did not know who was making it at that time), growing fewer and fewer. At the top they arrived too weak to take the trench—out of 195 men only 71 remained. So they crept for protection under the Russian breastwork itself, and lay close. Every time a Russian head and rifle showed above on the rim of the breastwork, a Japanese would shoot. The Russians had to stay on their side and the Japanese had to stay on theirs; not four feet apart in space, they were separated from one another

by an upthrown wall of dirt and turf. Stones were rolled down upon the covering men. They threw them back at the enemy over the wall. The reserves now had their feet on the slope; they were coming fast without a stop; for the Russians could do nothing with 71 rifles ready four feet away to put holes in every head that lifted up and tried to aim a shot.

The reserves were at hand. All went up the breastwork together. Two Russians threw away their arms and scrambled out of the trench and away. An officer in a colonel's uniform jumped up and cut both down with two slashes of his sword.

No use! Stampede had commenced. The Japanese were clambering across the little bastion. One of them shot the colonel, and he lay, quite dead, with his bloodied sword, beside the two earliest to quit their ground.

Capt. Matsui, back on his rock with a useless thigh, saw his flag break out over the position. After that we met him, and learned that he was 27 years old. "I have never been out of Japan before," he remarked, "and never saw so many foreigners, and this is the first time I ever heard a brass band."

On Entailneul, when he hailed in French from a litter, saying: "Good day, gentlemen! Oh, only a shot through the shoulder—not much!" We wished it somewhat worse, for he will return to duty with this, and next time perhaps get a hurt that will end him.—P. C. special correspondence New York Evening Post.

## ESKIMO TRIBE WIPED OUT.

Mysterious Disease Carried Off Colony to a Man.

One of the crew of the Canadian cruiser Neptune, now on duty in Hudson's bay, who was invalided to St. John, Nfld., from Labrador, recently reports that the ship while cruising in the northern section of that bay last month discovered that a whole tribe of Eskimos, about 200 in all, had perished in Nottingham inlet during the previous fall and winter, of some disease, the nature of which was unknown.

The little colony of natives was absolutely depopulated and a row of stony mounds testified to the graves of the earlier dead, the later victims lying unburied in many instances, doubtless because the embowered frames of those still surviving were unable to perform this last office for their expiring companions. A terrible picture of desolation the settlement presented, with everything essential to domestic existence and the implements of the chase by which the Eskimos lived scattered around, and no human being about or any evidence of them except the grisly corpses lying around.

A Mysterious Plague.

The ship went to Southampton inlet and induced an Eskimo from the colony there to return with her and endeavor to solve the mystery, but this he was unable to do. He discovered from the countless trivial details which his eye could read that some disease had taken them off, but what the plague was that had proved so destructive to them he could not say. He took them, however, to the grave of the last man in the tribe, who, in his weakness and when he felt his end approaching, crawled to a cave in the hills behind the settlement and there buried himself alive, walling up the entrance with stones and tying down behind this barrier to die, so that the wolves might not molest his remains. The tragedy is still involved in mystery.

Was It Beri-beri.

A disease accompanied with swellings of the legs, and somewhat resembling the beri-beri of the east, was noted among the Eskimos of northern Labrador and Ungava last year by the mission doctors. It killed off many, and it is now thought that this may have been the disorder which exterminated the tribe in Hudson's bay; but how the disease was transmitted to the Eskimos in that remote inlet, hundreds of miles from these others and having no communication whatever, must remain one of those inscrutable problems which baffle medical science.

## GREAT JAPANESE LEADER

Field Marshal the Marquis Oyama, to whose brilliant strategy as commander-in-chief of the Japanese forces is largely due the great victory in the recent terrible battle with the Russians—one of the most terrible in history—is already being called Oyama the Great in Japan, and there is little doubt that his name will go down in history for many thousands of years.

Oyama has shown that he is one of the cleverest generals of modern times; but it is singular to notice that he is one of those exceptional generals who have the extreme dislike for war.

On the battlefield Oyama is the personification of bravery, and is one of the strictest disciplinarians in the whole of the Mikado's army, because he knows that strict discipline is necessary but he loves the soldiers who serve under him, and he knows when leniency and kind consideration are not misplaced.

The Worn Out Sentry.

Once in the course of the Chinese war, when he was strolling outside his tent, he noticed that the sentry who was pacing in front was wearing a particularly woebegone and disconsolate look, and he asked the man why he was so miserable. Then he discovered that through an unfortunate combination of circumstances the man had had an extra duty, and had to go without the little food that a Japanese private soldier needs for his sustenance.

Oyama compassionately took his rifle from him and put it on his own shoulder, whilst he led the sentry into his own tent and set before him the food that had been prepared. And whilst the private ate it the marquis himself kept sentry-go until another soldier was sent to take up the duty.

It was in the course of this same war that he and his own army, numbering about 70,000 or 80,000 men, performed some wonderful deeds of endurance. On one occasion he marched with his men through snow nearly three feet deep for thirty miles, and then fought a battle, won it, and marched fifteen more miles through the snow before camping out.

He was in charge of the land forces upon which devolved the duty of capturing Port Arthur, and his scheme of operation on this occasion excited much comment and admiration on the part of foreign military critics. He split up his divisions into small sections, and with them attacked the fortress from many different points at the same time. It seemed to be a risky manoeuvre, but it was

Completely Successful.

Oyama was also in charge of the Japanese army that captured Wei-Hai-Wei—one of the most conspicuous successes of that war. On this occasion he spent several days in thinking out his plans, and when he had completely formed them he regarded them as so perfect that he sent his own presence at the operations was not needed. Everything was certain to happen, and so it did.

Oyama retired to some distance to watch the success of his scheme. He had divided his army into two wings, placing Gen. Kuroki, who has been very conspicuous in the recent engagements with the Russians, in charge of one of them, and Gen. Sakuma in charge of the other, and then he himself went and sat upon a high hill behind, whilst he watched them slowly and surely achieve success.

Like an Irishman.

The marquis, who is nearly sixty-two years of age, is less like a Japanese than any of the celebrated men of his country. It has, indeed, been said by Britishers who have seen him that he looks for all the world as if he had come from Kill-kenny, and an English officer has described him as a "broth of a boy."

The Japanese for the most part are very little men, and the officers of the army conform to the rule, but

## BIG ENGLISH UNIVERSITY

The big university at Birmingham will soon be an accomplished fact. Few people know of the establishment of this gigantic technical university at Bournebrook, a suburb of Birmingham. Five or six years ago, owing to the energy and public spirit of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the idea of a great local technical school began to take shape in the minds of the people and to-day there are thirty acres covered with the buildings, laboratories, workshops, machine shops, lecture halls, etc., which go to comprise the university. When the whole scheme is completed the establishment of this big school will have cost £5,000,000. Mr. Andrew Carnegie was one of the early donors, contributing £50,000, and he advised the promoters to study similar institutions in the United States. This was done and a report made regarding the main feature requisite in a school of technology. The basic idea was the union of theory and practice, and this is the idea which has been carried out in connection with the Birmingham institution.

The buildings now erected consist of the great convocation hall and four blocks of buildings, two on each side of the main hall; this number is to be increased to ten. These four buildings are devoted to engineering and metallurgy. Some idea as to the size of the different departments may be gained from the electrical laboratory, which is 115 feet by 50 feet. This may be taken as the standard size. There will be departments devoted to engineering in all its manifold branches, machinery, pattern making and fitting shops, drawing, mining and its cognate branches. There will be separate and special laboratories for pyrometry; for the microscope examination of metals; for electro-metallurgy; and

It has been discovered that the wild silk worm produces a silk with more lustre than does the pampered worm of captivity. Those who are up on silk culture claim that the tame worm has lost much of its power because it is taken care of so well.

For any new developments in metallurgical science. There will be the machinery such as is required for the preparation and the sampling of metals and ores, and furnace room for dry assaying and similar purposes. There will be full accommodation for some 200 metallurgical students. Apart from the main buildings and adjacent to the power station is a metallurgical smelting and furnace room. The building is 125 feet long, 50 feet wide and 25 feet high, to the roof principle. There is a large shop in this building, which is used exclusively for steel melting, and there is a two-ton steel furnace being worked by Professor Turner and his students. In the other shop they were treating the ores of non-ferrous metals, such as gold, silver, copper or lead.

A Model Coal Mine.

One of the great features of this great Birmingham university is a model mine, which is situated in the southeast portion of the Bournebrook site. It is now approaching completion, and occupies nearly an acre of ground. It will be used for experimental research, and for the purposes of practical education. The workings of a coal mine have been chosen as a model so that the students may thoroughly understand the problems of underground transport and winding; of local and general ventilation; of the prevention of accidents from explosions of gas and coal dust; of timbering methods in loose ground, and under heavy pressure, and of the laying out of underground workings to the best advantage.

The power station is a separate building, in which there is an absolutely complete connection of engines, dynamos, boilers and machinery, not only for supplying light and power as well as steam and gas for the other buildings, but also for experimental and research work.

This gives an idea of the size and the complete equipment already installed. The cost up to date has been about £260,000. The establishment of this great institution will fill a want in British educational methods. In technical education Britain has been outstripped by both the United States and Germany, but it is said that the Birmingham University will be speedily followed by others in various parts of the kingdom.

The students were asked: "What will the Birmingham University do?" perhaps the best answer would be: "Train future captains of industry." It is in the facilities for training students in applied science that this university seems determined to specialize. At the same time it must not be assumed that the general curriculum of the place is at all cramped, for every provision has been made for those who wish to study languages, commerce, medicine or pure as well as applied science.

Waiters to Abolish Tips.

Members of Paris Union Wrought Up Clash With Police.

Waiters in the cafes of Paris are demanding the abolition of tips. They wish fixed salaries. Members of the Waiters' Union held a meeting in the Bourse du Travail, Paris, and so excited was the discussion over doing away with the pourboires that the police called on the crowd to disperse. The waiters attacked the police and routed them, but the police received reinforcements and arrested more than 40. Agitation for the abolition of tips continues. The public is as greatly concerned as the waiters in the outcome.

## FIRST STRIKE IN TURKEY.

A dispatch to the London Daily Mail from Constantinople reports the first labor aggression in the history of Turkey. The workmen in a factory of the tobacco regio became enraged by the introduction of machinery and attacked their superiors, and threatened to strike unless their wages were increased. The police decided that a strike would be equivalent to a revolutionary movement, and that its instigators should therefore be arrested. As a result 220 persons are now in prison for their connection with the trouble.

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## THE INDIAN TRADER.

The blow was a severe one. For days I had discoursed to the South Africans upon the moral and mental qualities which made the native of India so superior to the Kafir. I had held him up as a model husband, a kind father, a faithful servant. And then— But hear the story. When the steamship Umvoti, of the Natal line, called at Las Palmas, we all went ashore—to escape the coal dust and the traders who swarmed the decks. There is no need to describe Las Palmas. It is a parasite port, a sort of lesser Port Said, which preys upon the passing passenger. At one of the hotels we found a dealer established in the hall, after the Indian fashion. The South African who was with me spoke Kaffir with a "click" which must have been perfect. "Very nice," he remarked, in that unwriteable language, as the dealer exposed a shawl.

"Yes, very nice, indeed," returned the trader, speaking Kaffir as though he had been born in a kraal.

The Colonial Blesley-man was surprised, and the dealer explained that he had come from Durban. But I felt I could not mistake the small round hat and the portly figure.

"Behat euniam hi?" (Very poor stuff!) I interposed, indicating his wares. "Nai, Sahib." He saluted almost to the ground, and explained in Hindustani that he was a very poor man, but his goods represented the goods of every other dealer—in fact, he gave me to understand he was the only honest man on the Grand Canaria. He was a Goanese from Bombay. "Sahib," he smiled almost

crossingly—"I would like to sell you something." His "you" was persuasive, I felt. I had, I felt, touched a soft spot in his Indian heart. I had lived in the land of his birth, perhaps his wife and family were still in the Land of Recrets. I spoke his language (badly); old associations were recalled to his mind; he would let me have a real bargain for the sake of the land we both loved. For once in his life he would sell cheap. I saw it in his eye. The moment was affecting. "Sahib," he whispered, "lest others should try to take advantage of the land, ver' nice." "Sahib, look this shawl, ver' nice."

"How much?"

"Only twenty-five bob, Sahib"—the Los Palmas dealers always talk of "bobs" and "quids"—"to you." Again the accent was flattering.

I hesitated. But the caution born of bargains with Bombay borbis and itinerant peddlars at hill stations prevailed even at such a moment.

"Ten shillings," I said firmly.

"Take it, Sahib." His smile was sad at the sacrifice he was making, but he bowed as for said hence. Who could shed the Indian by calling him amegatlo?

When we sailed we had a mass meeting on deck to decide who had been "shed." The stenographer valued our purchases, and passenger after passenger was pronounced swindled. I produced my shawl. "I only gave ten shillings for this," I said with careless confidence. "I bought it from an Indian."

She glanced at it for a moment and frowned it lightly. "You could buy it in London for two shillings," she said.

Therefore, I say the Indian trader is without soul or sentiment, or decency or patriotism, or any feelings except love of price. He is not a human being; he is merely a dealer. In future I avoid him.

## NO CHANCE GIVEN.

The other day the Emperor William, with his suite, visited a bazaar of objects made by the blind, making several purchases. In Berlin. Noting that one of the party was waiting to receive change out of a hundred mark note, the Emperor jocularly waved him aside, and said to the stall-holder: "This gentleman wants no change; he has plenty of money."

The hint was taken, and the bazaar had a record day in the way of receipts.

The Russian department of commerce and navigation has decided to allow women to become employees in it as book-keepers and typewriters.

For locomotive purposes last year England consumed 9,851,528 tons of coal, Scotland 1,790,708 tons, and Ireland 357,092 tons.

1,000 Dozen Xmas Ties at 25c, 50c, 75 cand \$1.00 Just To Hand  
Raincoats, Overcoats and Suits; B. WILLIAMS & CO.  
1-5 off For Cash  
Clothiers and Hatters. 68-70 Yates Street