

THE FIRST BOOK OF THE CHRONICLES

Of the 2nd Canadian Field Ambulance.

CHAPTER I.

1. Now it came to pass in the eighth month of the year 1914 A.D. in a far off land the clouds of war were gathering, and the cry went through the land for the soldiers to prepare for battle.
2. Now there dwelled in a City called Toronto a great Chief, great of mind and stature, who's surname was FOSTER.
3. He, being a Prophet of great wisdom, said this will be a long and bloody war, therefore I will call together the tribes of the Cross of Geneva.
4. And straightway he did send messengers unto the leaders of the tribes known throughout the land as the 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th and 19th.
5. Saying, on or about the sixth day of the eighth month, you and your disciples will gather together with one accord at a place called Long Branch and there dwell in tents in the wilderness.
6. Here they did gather, and for four-and-twenty days improved their knowledge of the great task before them.
7. Now on the thirtieth day of the month the Great Chief said on the morrow you will journey unto a place in the mountains called VALCARTIER.
8. And it came to pass that on the day appointed the tribes did arise early in the morning and rolled up their beds and walked to a station on a street called CHERRY.

CHAPTER II.

1. At the tenth hour all the tribes with their leaders, their horses, and their chariots were within the train.
2. The Great Chief in all his glory being within also.
3. Now on the first day of the ninth month at the fifteenth hour the train with the tribes did arrive at the camp in the mountains.
4. And as they marched into the camp their eyes were opened wide with wonder, for there lie before them the tents of thousands of the soldiers of battle.
5. Who had gathered together to wax strong in mind and body so that they might smite the "Boche" in the days to come.
6. Now, when all had been put straight in the new camp, the Great Chief sent a message unto the tribes saying:
7. We are all gathered together with one accord, and you shall no longer be known as the 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th and 19th, but shall be known to all the world as the 2nd Canadian Field Ambulance.
8. And I have chosen from among you one who is to be your commander, he being a Scotchman who's surname is McPHERSON.
9. He being a physician and of great learning in the ways of the Cross, a man slow to anger and possessed of great forethought, and he will work for good among you.
10. From the tribe of the 14th I have chosen to command B Section one David, who's surname is BENTLEY, he being a physician and a tribe leader of great fame, a man Sans Hair and gifted of song, who's favourite was that of the hen that had a wooden leg.
11. And from the tribe of the 11th I have chosen one Ethelbert, whose surname is HARDY, a physician of great fame, a man of wit and wisdom and of great daring and having great control of the language of the dumb and well learned in the art of signalling.
12. And from the tribe of the P.A.M.C. I have chosen one Arthur, whose surname is SNELL; he will bring with him his grand and noble steed who is called Peter.
13. And also from the 14th tribe I have chosen one George, who's surname is MUSSON, being a physician from a place called Chatham; he is slow of action but sure of purpose, much learned in all the arts but that of mind reading.
14. And again from the tribe of the 14th I have chosen one James, who is also a Scotchman, who's surname is FRASER, he being a physician from a place called Walkerton, he being a great lover of the pipes, and their music does so soothe him that a little child could play with him.
15. And now again from the 14th I have chosen one William, who's surname is BURGESS, he being a physician of some repute from a place called Leamington, a man who in his youth did travel on the great waters, and even like Jonah was cast into the waters, stirring tales of which he will import to you in the days to come.
16. From the tribe of the 11th I have chosen one Percy, who's surname is BROWN, he being a physician of great renown from a city called Toronto; he is a man careful of his sheekles, and should one falleth on the floor will search diligently till he doth find it, and woe be unto him that trampeth on his toes.
17. And from the 10th I have chosen one Thomas, who's surname is McKILLIP, he being a physician in the making, given much to detail, and who, when he doth come forth, doth bedeck himself with all his implements of war.
18. Also from the 10th I have chosen one Howard, who's surname is JEFFS, he being short in stature and likewise in temper and being possessed of the

strength of an ox, which it will behove you all to mark well. He will bring with him one who will share his tent and bed, and her name is FLOSSIE.

19. From the 11th I have seen fit to choose one who is known to you all as FOX, he being not a physician, but has much learning in the ways of the Cross; he will be the Quartermaster, being a man of long memory and short conscience, taking ways, and some diplomat. Verily I say unto you, the sufferings of Job will be as nought to the discomforts of those that provoke his wrath by rending their garments or wasting their substance.
 20. And now that I have chosen those who shall henceforth be known as officers, I will give unto the Commander the power to choose those that shall be known as the N.C.O.'s.
 21. And it came to pass that the Commander did choose each according to his knowledge.
 22. To be Sergeant-Major he chose an Irishman who's surname was CLIFTON; to be Q.M.S., one of the same race, who's name is ROGERS.
 23. To be Commanders of Sections, one McINTOSH, a Scotchman; also one KEITH of the same race; and one WATTS, a Saxon.
 24. To be compounders of medicine, one JEFFREY, one WHITE, and one PATERSON.
 25. And the remainder were chosen, every man according to his knowledge in the ways of the Cross.
 26. And it came to pass that he divided them up into divisions, one Tent Division and one Bearer Division, and the remainder drivers of the chariots, making in all 250 souls.
 27. Now from those that were left they will be carriers of water.
 28. Now for four-and-twenty days did they tarry in the camp in the mountains, gathering together raiment and supplies of war, and marching in review order before Dukes and others high and mighty in the land, in order that we might be proven as to our fitness for battle.
 29. Now it came to pass on the 25th day of the 9th month they did again strike their tents, roll up their beds, and did journey to a city called Quebec, and did there enter into a great ship that was called Laurentic.
 30. Who's dimensions were 565 cubits long, 67½ cubits wide, and 15,740 tons burden and a speed of 18½ knots.
- (Here endeth the 2nd Chapter, the 3rd and following chapters will be continued in our next.)

"HEARD IN THE ESTAMINET."

Have I been out here long, Sir?
A thousand years it seems.
Through Ypres, Festubert and Givenchy,
And now I'm facing M—.

I would like to tell you the tale, Sir,
How I won my spurs from the first,
I can give you all the details, Sir,
But first let me quench my thirst.

At Ypres I fought like a hero,
Right in the thick of the fray;
I don't want to throw the Bull, Sir,
But t'was there that I won the day.

The shells were bursting in thousands,
And the shrapnell fell like rain;
I thought of dear old "Blighty,"
And said, "why left I my hame."

You may think I am swinging the lead,
And my story all a fluke;
But that was a bloodier battle
Than is printed in any book.

As you know its a low lying country, Sir,
And they didn't have to shoot very high;
But Fritz must have thought he was fighting the Gods,
For he wasted a lot in the sky.

They came at us in every direction,
From the four extreme points on the map;
I saw one fly so near into Heaven,
That it came down with snow on the cap.

Another one whizzed past my hat, Sir,
I thought sure it had grazed my hide;
But when I felt for the awful weal, Sir,
It had only shifted the peak to the side.

Say, guy, said the good-natured listener,
Your bull of that fight can flow;
But I was in the battle of Ypres,
So I guess I ought to know.

No doubt you have heard all the story,
When doing fatigues at the "base";
But tell it again to the "Marines," chum,
And they may buy you a drink in my place.

(Exit listener.)

A LESSON IN ETHICS.

He was only a Captain in the First Division, returning from a well-earned leave of eight days. The Channel had been in one of its most hilarious moods, and he had been forced to part with his dinner, eaten with so much relish on the Pullman from London; this, coupled with the knowledge that it would be three months at least before he would have this privilege again, did not make life look any rosier as he stepped ashore. An officer attired in the latest cut of khaki was busily engaged in forming up the men as they arrived. The Captain, thinking that if he stayed around he might overhear the Wharf Staff whisper to one another the hour the train might depart for the front, proceeded to light his pipe and enjoy a smoke of his favourite mixture, when he was accosted by the above-mentioned, and the following dialogue took place:

"Don't you know you are on parade?"

"No! I was not conscious of the fact."

"Well, you are, and you should know enough not to smoke on parade."

"Oh, yes, I see now. I am sorry, but you must excuse me. You see I have been in the trenches for eleven months and am not up in the etiquette of the Base."

Needless to say the one in Slacks saw something demanding his immediate attention at the far end of the pier, and our Captain was left standing easy to enjoy his smoke.

Another from Uncle Sam.

I ache to get into that scrap,
I'd quick wipe the world off the map.
But my big silver dollar,
Puts up such a holler,
And Bill knows my feelings by that.

Just Before the Lusitania.

Said the Kaiser one day to the Devil,
Will you join in a murderous revel?
But the Devil grew hot,
And said, "Certainly not,
I'd never descend to your level."

THE POTS-DAM LYRE

Preliminary Notice.

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THE MAYOR OF HARTLEPOOL says: "I am convinced that your men are perfect LADY-KILLERS (also Children Slayers)."

SIR JOHN FRENCH writes: "I will place my orders shortly when I reach Berlin."

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