

# DEEDS OF J. FRANKLIN BELL

BY EDWARD B. CLARK  
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MAJOR GENERAL J. FRANKLIN BELL



**W**ASHINGTON. — President Taft has reappointed Maj. Gen. J. Franklin Bell as chief of the general staff, United States army. Gen. Bell has held this office for some years, and it is understood that at the end of another year of service in the position, he will be succeeded by Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood.

Some second Kipling should write of the deeds of J. Franklin Bell. The general went over to the Philippines as a first lieutenant of the Seventh cavalry. He had not been in the islands long before he was put in command of a volunteer force composed almost wholly of regulars whose terms of enlistment had expired, but who were willing to take on a short term of duty to help in the clearing up of the work which they aided in starting.

Back in one of the provinces was a band of Tagalogs who had given the government forces all kinds of trouble. One of their chief villages was "located," and Gen. Bell with his following of old campaigners took the trail for its capture. The commanding officer had been through campaigns against the Sioux, the Apaches, and other tribes of the mountains and plains, and taken more than one leaf from the book of knowledge of savage warfare.

Guides led the force to the vicinity of the Tagalog village. Night fell and the Tagalogs were all unsuspecting of the approach of the white enemy. At three o'clock in the morning, when sleep always hangs heavy on the eyes, Bell led his men toward the village. The Tagalogs had sentinels posted along an outlying line. After the manner of the people of the plains the soldiers crept silently between the pickets, only one of whom was vigilant enough to detect the presence of the enemy. He was silenced before he had a chance to startle the air with a cry or a shot.

Straight into the village went Bell at the head of his men. Dawn streaks were beginning to show in the sky, but the warriors were asleep past the ordinary waking, for were not the sentinels posted, and were they not bound by every tradition of tribal honor to be awake and watchful?

Lieut. Bell had given his men orders. The village was cordoned with troops and there wasn't a mousehole of escape. Bell has a whimsical humor. In the very heart of the Tagalog village was an old muzzle-loading brass cannon, a trophy taken by the Tagalogs from the Spaniards of another day, and which the natives were hoping to use against the equally hated Americans. Bell detailed a loading party of three men. The three became boys again, and they rammed the piece full of powder and grass wadding, after the manner of loading a Fourth of July cannon on the village green in the home land.

The light of coming day was strong enough for the conducting of operations. A lanyard was pulled and the brazen piece roared out its reveille. The sound of it shook the foundations of the Tagalog huts; it roused the warrior sleepers as would the cracking of doomsday. They came armed, but naked to the fray. The Tagalogs looked on bayonet points and down gun barrels and surrender came instant.

Gen. J. Franklin Bell is the youngest officer who ever held the position of chief of staff. He is a genial general and he is willing to talk when he properly may on the subjects touching his profession. As the joker put it, he is a Bell who knows when to ring off. He avoids the sins of silence and of speech, wherein he shows that he is wiser in his generation than some of his predecessors were in their generation.

When his promotion came the chief of staff jumped from a captaincy to a brigadier generalship, and his tremendous rank stride did not bring forth one word of criticism from soldier or civilian. Since then he has become a major general. The army officers who were jumped said that Bell earned his promotion, and that if other promotions were, like his, based solely on service quality, there would be no heart burnings under the blouses.

When the Seventh cavalry, in which Gen. Bell was then a lieutenant, reached the Philippines, the Spanish troops were still in possession, for Dewey had reduced the fleet, but not Manila city and its immediate defenses. Information was wanted concerning the Spanish earthworks. Lieut. Bell volunteered to get it. He didn't tell any one

how he was going to get it. His method was daring and novel.

Under cover of the darkness he went to the water front, stripped off his clothes and plunged in. He is a

once private in the ranks. For two years he was an enlisted man, serving in the regulars. He joined in 1861, choosing the cavalry arm of the service, and to it he remained faithful through all the years of his duty. He is one of the finest riders that the army claims.

There have been many stories of Japanese spies who have been found taking notes of American army operations and equipment. The Japs got their first object lesson in the way American soldiers do things from Gen. Chaffee. That object lesson doubtless has had some influence in modifying the thought which the orientals held that they could whip the Americans out of hand. Gen. Chaffee was in command of the expedition which went to the relief of the beleaguered embassies at Peking. Japanese officers and men saw him there. The general won a fame in China which is not confined to the American continent.

The generals of Europe have given testimony that Adna R. Chaffee is a great soldier. Orders to take command of the Chinese expedition reached Gen. Chaffee while he was at Nagasaki on board a steamer which was to take him to the Philippines. The order was unexpected, and the general had practically no chance for campaign preparations. He was to go into a strange land, to lead an expedition against a strange people, and not only was it expected of him that he be successful, but that success be won quickly, for the lives of many Americans were in danger within sight of the walls of the "Forbidden City."

The general arrived at Tien-tsin too late to take part in the battle in which the brave Maj. Liscum of the Ninth infantry lost his life. Not only was the American soldier spurred to quick marching action by the knowledge of the imminent peril of the Americans at Peking, but he was spurred by the knowledge that the soldiers of other nations were to take part in the relief expedition, and he wished the men of his own country to show themselves worthy in the sight of the men of other countries.

They did show themselves worthy, and they responded to the call of their commander with an alacrity that made the American leaders instead of followers in that march beset with difficulties and dangers almost unparalleled in modern warfare.

There are men in the army to-day who firmly believe that Gen. Chaffee did not sleep an hour during the march to Peking. The soldiers who made the march declare that the nights in China are black; that it is impossible to see anything at all without the aid of artificial light, and these in the bivouacs of the soldiers were forbidden for precautionary reasons. There was no definite knowledge of the forces that might be in the path of the expedition, and no one knew what surprises the night might cover. Gen. Chaffee, his soldiers say, constituted himself a sentinel who refused to be relieved from guard, and through the nights he was alert and watching, and through the days he was alert and marching.

There are stories by the scores of men who are supposed to bear charmed lives. The hero of the book of fiction sheds bullets as a slate roof sheds rain, and in the reading of it one finds it hard to believe that any truth could be stranger than this fiction. If Gen. Chaffee doesn't bear a charmed life he has the largest allowance of luck that has fallen to any one man.

Gen. Chaffee has been four times brevetted for bravery. Two of the brevet commissions came to him for gallantry in the civil war service, and two for gallantry in battles with the Indians. He once led a cavalry charge over rough and precipitous bluffs, where a cavalry charge was thought to be a feat well-nigh impossible.

He rode at the head of his men straight into a body of armed Indians, scattering them, but not until they had poured volley after volley into Chaffee's oncoming command. That charge gave the soldier his brevet commission as a lieutenant colonel.

It needs neither the bearing nor the uniform of Lieut. Gen. Adna R. Chaffee (retired), to show that he is a soldier. You can see it in his face. His expression is at, once mild and aggressive, and the eye is purposeful. Gen. Chaffee's name comes most readily to the lips when one is asked to name a typical American soldier.

The former chief of staff of the army was

powerful swimmer. On that night he swam the entire distance around the bay, landing now and then to get a closer look at the enemy's water-front fortifications. He did this unseen of any sentinel. If discovery had come it meant almost certain death to the swimmer. He came back to his starting point with full knowledge of the strength of the Spaniards in heavy guns, and when the time for the assault came, the information was of priceless service.

Gen. Bell was called on while in the Philippines to end the war in Batangas. He ended it, and in ending it he took the only course possible—a course that the civilians at a distance from the fighting denounced as altogether too severe. Bell was called a second Weyler, and a second duke of Alva, but when full knowledge came of his operations and of the craft and horrid cruelty of the natives whom he was fighting, criticism died. Of his experience and of the criticism he said in a letter to a friend:

"Knowing my disposition and kindly feeling toward the natives full well, you will have no difficulty in understanding that the necessity for severe measures has been a source of distress to me. The only consolation I can derive is by keeping my thoughts on the end and object in view. When one has worked faithfully, conscientiously, and unselfishly for his country four years, without relaxation or rest, it is somewhat discouraging, not to say distressing, to find that even some of his own countrymen appear to have no confidence in his motives, judgment or integrity."

There is no use in mincing words; Gen. Bell is considered one of the most daring and dashing officers in the American service. He wears a medal of honor for charging "single-handed and alone," a body of armed Filipinos. He was shot at repeatedly from every quarter, but in army parlance: "They didn't get him," but he got seven of them, not dead, but alive, and he led back to the American lines, his septet of prisoners, all covering under his pointed pistol, though every man jack of them was armed.

If war were to come there is no army doubt, although he is far from being the ranking officer of the service, that Gen. Bell would be given the chief command of the field forces.

When the Spanish-American war broke out Chaffee was made a brigadier general of volunteers. He was in the very thick of the fighting in front of Santiago. Capt. Arthur Lee, a British army officer detailed by his government to watch the field operations in Cuba, attached himself to the headquarters of Gen. Chaffee. Capt. Lee wrote a story about the campaign in which he paid to Gen. Chaffee the highest tribute that it is possible for one soldier to pay to another.

## Pennsylvania Happenings

**Philadelphia.**—Following the attack made by Clark Williams, New York State Superintendent of Banking, upon the system of conducting State banks, the National Association of Credit Men profited by his statements and took action looking toward the passage of a uniform law patterned as nearly as possible after that of New York State, under which Mr. Williams works.

**Pittsburg.**—Eight bridges spanning the Allegheny River will be raised, six of them rebuilt, if the recommendations made by Major H. C. Newcomer of the local United States engineering department are approved by the three engineers just appointed by Secretary Dickenson of the War Department to consider the matter.

**Harrisburg.**—Through counsel of the railroads and the attorneys representing the claimants, 179 of what are popularly known as the yellow pine reparation cases, were adjusted on the same basis as the Miller a 1 Green settlement of March 18 last, which was 67 per cent. of the provable shipments. The amount involved in the settlement will approximate \$200,000.

**Pittsburg.**—Over 10,000 skilled workmen, members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, who are employed by the American Sheet & Tin Plate Company, will quit work on the night of June 30, at which time the "pen shop" order of the company becomes effective. Many unskilled workmen will also be affected.

**Pittsburg.**—John Francies, warden of the Western Penitentiary, has advertised for bids, which will be received on Saturday, June 26, for furnishing beef for the prison for the year beginning July 1, 1909. Nearly two hundred tons will be required. The consumption of beef alone amounts to about 6,750 pounds a week. Chuck, plate and brisket are used in about equal quantities.

**McKeesport.**—W. C. Cronmeyer, father of the tinplate industry and former president of the Chamber of Commerce of McKeesport, reported to the police that he had received a Black Hand letter. Mr. Cronmeyer says he was scheduled to die June 10 unless he placed \$500 in a tin can and to be placed beneath the porch at his home. He forgot all about the letter until it happened to run across it. Dozens of McKeesport people have received such letters recently.

**Pittsburg.**—Millions of dollars will be expended by the railroads during the last six months of this year for supplies. This is due to the fact that the vast amount of supplies stored in the division warehouses has been exhausted and special committees have compiled reports showing that those on hand at present are less than for many years. Supply dealers report a big improvement in their line, and are now negotiating with the railroads for large orders to be delivered during the next six months.

**McKeesport.**—Announcement was made that the McKeesport Tinplate Company will spend about \$2,000,000 in the construction of ten new mills, practically doubling its present capacity. In order to provide for this and other contemplated improvements the company has purchased about two acres of land adjoining its plant in Portvue. The fires were lighted at No. 3, which is the fourth furnace started up by the National Rolling Mills at McKeesport within the last two weeks. It will provide immediate employment for 150 men and will be the indirect means of starting several hundred others to work in the rolling mills and tube works.

**Connellsville.**—Coke production in the Connellsville region recently has beaten all previous records. The total production in the Connellsville and Lower Connellsville regions amounted to 298,486 tons in one week. The H. C. Frick Company sent out orders for putting in blast 2,400 more ovens. The independent operators also put a number of additional ovens in blast. The average run for the plants was five days. Some were in operation six days and several were going full the entire seven days. Generally throughout the region there is renewed activity. Repairs are being made, yards are being cleaned up and preliminaries being attended to preparatory to the starting up of more coke plants. Some of the repair shops are working overtime. The Frick car shops at Everson are working overtime getting out mine cars. Several of the Connellsville manufacturing companies are busy on new supplies for independent companies.

**Harrisburg.**—No details of policemen have been made by the State Police Department yet. They are expected to be made the latter part of the month when things get more settled and the troopers are well fixed in their barracks at Pottsville.

**Harrisburg.**—An unusual complaint was filed at the office of the State Railroad Commission recently. It came from J. D. Maloney, a scrap iron dealer in Pittsburg who objected to the rates charged for hauling scrap from Pittsburg to Allegheny.

## The Exceptional Equipment

of the California Fig Syrup Co. and the scientific attainments of its chemists have rendered possible the production of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, in all of its excellence, by obtaining the pure medicinal principles of plants known to act most beneficially and combining them most skillfully, in the right proportions, with its wholesome and refreshing Syrup of California Figs.

As there is only one genuine Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna and as the genuine is manufactured by an original method known to the California Fig Syrup Co. only, it is always necessary to buy the genuine to get its beneficial effects.

A knowledge of the above facts enables one to decline imitations or to return them if, upon viewing the package, the full name of the California Fig Syrup Co. is not found printed on the front thereof.

**Many Seekers of the Pole.**—Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, England, Russia, Sweden and the United States were, in 1908, represented among the 12 expeditions which were struggling toward the pole. Eight leaders were veterans—Peary and Cook of the United States, Bernier of Canada, Erichsen and Rasmussen of Denmark, Charcot of France, Shackleton of England and Geer of Sweden.

**A Rare Good Thing.**—"Am using ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE, and can truly say I would not have been without it so long, had I known the relief it would give my aching feet. I think it a rare good thing for anyone having sore or tired feet." Mrs. Matilda Holtwert, Providence, R. I. Sold by all Druggists, 25c. Ask to-day.

**Suggestion.**—Knicker—What reform is most needed? Bocker—Politics should be taken out of politics.

**Particularly for Particular People.**—Souders' Vanilla Extract is produced from fine Mexican Vanilla Beans—a pure, rich concentrated flavor. All grocers. Put up in 10, 15 and 25-cent bottles.

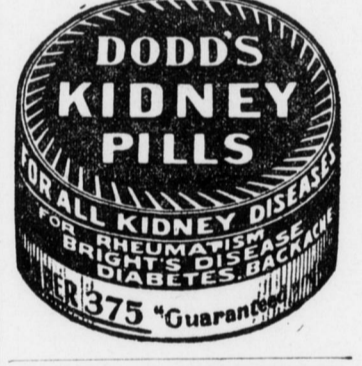
**A Correction.**—"Her card club has quit playing for the season." "You mean scrapping, don't you?"

A cold on the lungs doesn't usually amount to much, but it invariably precedes pneumonia and consumption. Hamlin's Wizard Oil applied to the chest at once will break up a cold in a night.

When lawbreakers become law-makers they will naturally make laws that are easy.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

The ballet girl trust is a tighter squeeze.



**Do You Feel Run Down?**

If so, you are an easy victim of disease. You can avoid danger if you build up your system with the natural strength-giver—

**DR. D. JAYNE'S TONIC VERMIFUGE**

which helps your body do its own building up. It puts the whole digestive system in a perfect condition. Regulates the stomach, imparts new vigor and health to the tissues.

Your Druggist has it.

Two sizes, 50c and 35c

**SICK HEADACHE**

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

**CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.**

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.

**SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.**

Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature

**Dr. Mcintosh's celebrated Natural Uterine Supporter** gives immediate relief. Sold by all surgical instrument dealers and leading druggists in United States and Canada. Catalog, price list and particulars mailed on application.

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