

MINISTERS WERE SAFE ON JULY 24

That is the Emperor of China's Announcement—But No News Comes from the Ministers Direct.

Paris, July 25.—The Chinese minister at Paris, Yukung, has received the following imperial decree, dated July 24: "The foreign ministers are happily at present safe and sound except Ketteler. We are having the foreign legations supplied with provisions and fruits as a token of the interest we feel in them."

Washington, July 25.—The secretary of state has received the following dispatch from Mr. Fowler, the American consul at Che Foo, dated at midnight on the 24th:

"This morning by request of the allied allies, I wired the governor, (supposed to be the governor of Shantung,) their wish to get news from ministers themselves. The governor now replies: "Have received today edict from emperor saying that the ministers are well. They are sending provisions to the legations. Am confident the ministers are out of distress, and request you (Fowler) transmit this preliminary announcement to admirals."

YUAN, Governor." WELL ON JULY 24. A later dispatch from Fowler, dated 1 a. m. 27th, to the state department, is as follows:

Another telegram from governor: "Have just received imperial edict of the twenty-fourth, saying various things, except the German, are well, and some days ago had provided provisions to the legations. Am satisfied the ministers are out of distress."

YUAN, Governor." Secretary Hay also has received a cablegram from United States Consul McWade, at Canton, stating that the ministers were all alive and well on July 24.

GROWING DESPONDENT. London, July 25.—The statement called from Washington that officials there are wavering with regard to the reliability of the alleged messages from Minister Conger and Wu Ting Fang's assurances had had a markedly depressing effect on this side of the ocean, where many have been buoyed up by the sanguine views of the state department at Washington regarding the various Shanghai dispatches and pessimism is again gaining the ascendancy.

Improvement in the general situation is the message one agency brings from the British consul general at Shanghai to overwrought Europe, while another asserts that as a week has elapsed without a reply to the consul's message to the British minister at Peking, Sir Claude MacDonald, through the Tsung Li Yamen (Chinese foreign office) the belief is confirmed that the Chinese official reports are only to gain time, and that the ministers are alive they are held as hostages.

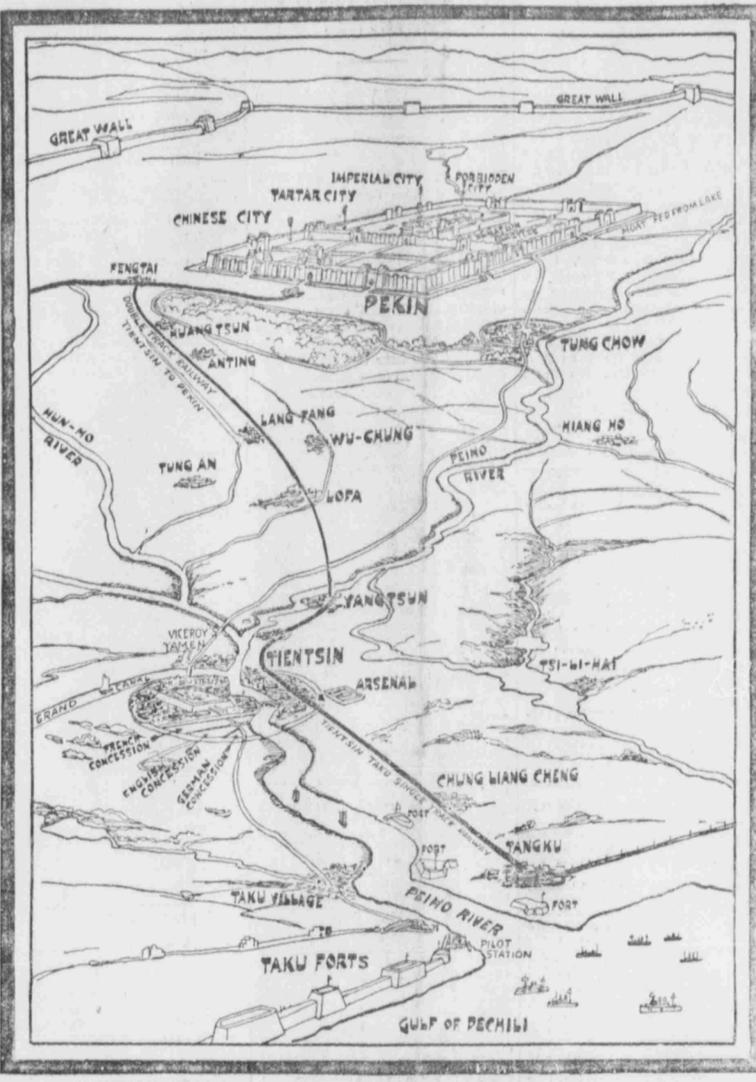
NOT VEGETABLES, BUT TELE-GRAPH FORMS. As commentators pertinently remark, if there is an atom of truth in all the Chinese assertions, the officials have sent to supply the legations, not with vegetables, but with telegraph forms. The report comes from Shanghai that business has resumed at the port of Newchwang, and that a second Japanese division is mobilizing at China preparatory to embarkation for Tsingtao.

Through a Yokohama dispatch the government has received information that the Japanese attacked a body of Japanese and Germans in the vicinity of An Tung, on the north side of the Taku river. Refugees had arrived at Wu. Japanese reinforcements were proceeding to the scene of conflict. The latest news is dated at St. Petersburg from Biagovschensk was on July 23. The Russian garrison had been re-supplied with ammunition and would be able to hold out until re-inforced.

LEAVE FOR TIEN TSIN, MAYBE. The Chinese legation here reiterates the assertion that the ministers are en route to Tien Tsin. A parliamentary paper on China was issued this afternoon, dealing with the period from the murder of Missionary Brooks, Jan. 4, to July 12, when the Chan Lo minister at London, Sir Chih Lord Salisbury, the imperial minister at London, Sir Claude MacDonald, the British minister at Peking, Sir Claude MacDonald, dated May 12, declared that the governor of the inhabitants of Peking was quiet and obedient, and that the Chinese were being subjected to the same treatment as the Christians, it could be assumed that the Chinese are being subjected to the same treatment as the Christians.

ROCKHILL'S INSTRUCTIONS. Special Commissioner Rockhill called at the state department this morning and had a final conference with Secretary Hay respecting his mission to China. It was not deemed proper to make public the exact instructions given to Mr. Rockhill, but it is stated generally that he is being sent out to ascertain the conditions in China for the guidance of the state department and to serve as its direct representative in that country in case it should be necessary hereafter to conduct negotiations there instead of Washington. There is also a possibility that a commissioner will be required on the spot in case anything in the nature of an international commission is created to deal with the Chinese question. Mr. Rockhill leaves Washington at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon for the Pacific slope, stopping at Chicago for a day en route.

CHINA'S ANSWER TO DEMANDS. The dispatch from Consul Fowler concerning assurances from Yuan Shih Kai, the governor of Shan Tung, that the foreign ministers were well on July 24th, and had been provided in connection with constantly reiterated assurances from other Chinese sources of the safety of the ministers, have raised anew the theory at the state department which is being speculated upon. These assurances have been given in answer to the repeated and urgent demand of the various European governments that they be placed in communication with the ministers, and the last assurance of Yuan was in answer to the specific demand of the foreign admirals for direct communication. Yuan's announcement that the imperial government at Peking not only assured the safety of the ministers, but declares that they have been provisioned, if accepted as true, indicates that the ministers have been communicated with. The inquiry



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF THE COUNTRY BETWEEN TAKU AND PEKIN. ON THIS birdseye map all the important points between Taku and Peking—105 miles—are to be seen in their relative positions. The absolute distances are given in the adjoining table. The route of the unsuccessful relief force by the railway from Tientsin to the village of Lang Fang, a

Table with 2 columns: DISTANCES, Miles. Taku to Tientsin, 77; Tientsin to Peking, 79; Tientsin to Langfang bridge, 77; Tientsin to Lang Chang, 135; Peiho river to far at mouth, 6.

then naturally arises: "If the ministers have been provisioned, why does not the Chinese government, knowing it does, that the whole world is demanding a direct message from the besieged legations, allow them to communicate with their government. Why not furnish direct and unequivocal evidence of the safety of the ministers instead of this repetition of an assurance which the world hesitates to accept?"

GOOD CAUSE FOR SUSPICION. The failure to pursue the direct method which must be available tends almost irresistibly to the suspicion that something has happened in Peking which the Chinese government desires to conceal from the powers; that it is afraid to allow the true story to be revealed until terms have been made with the powers which are waiting at the gates of the empire. Just what that something is furnishes a fruitful theme for speculation, but no satisfactory conclusion can be reached until the forces enter Peking or the legationers arrive at Tien Tsin.

MASSACRE AT PAO TING FU. New York, July 25.—Cable messages were received today by both the Presbyterian board of foreign missions and the American Bible society, corroborative of the report that the missionaries at Pao Ting Fu had been massacred. The message received by the Presbyterian board came from Shanghai, and was supposed to have been sent by the Rev. George F. Fitch. It reads as follows: "Simcoxes, Hodges, Taylor, Machee, other mission, seven, massacred Pao Ting Fu July 25. Nanking Hunan missionaries, all Shanghai, Japan."

WOMEN COULD NOT ESCAPE. Chicago, July 25.—Mr. M. S. Woodward, of Evanston, today received a letter from his wife, who, with their daughter, Iona, had been visiting U. S. Minister Conger at Peking. The letter was dated June 11 and mailed June 14, after an ineffective attempt to escape. On July 10th the letter said Minister Conger told the women they had better get out of Peking in order to save their lives. He secured for them an escort of soldiers and they set forth on the legation. They found that the Boxers had destroyed the railroad and the little party was attacked by a mob of rioters. After a desperate resistance they finally managed to return to the legation.

Ship Relief at Nagasaki. Washington, July 25.—The war department has received the following cable: Nagasaki, July 27.—Adjutant Gen. Washington.—Relief arrived at Nagasaki, July 26. Claude R. Leslie, company I, Fourteenth infantry, died of disease contracted in line of duty, dysentery; his remains will be shipped to San Francisco. Civilian employee, Arthur Hennessey, drowned June 21, buried at Nagasaki. HARRY O. PERLEY, Major Medical Department.

Rathbone is Arrested. Havana, July 25.—Mr. Estes G. Rathbone, recently director general of postal in Cuba, was arrested today at 11 o'clock on four charges. These allege the unlawful drawing of two orders for \$50 each, paying his private coachman and gardener from the postal fund, and drawing per diem allowance when not entitled to do so. Mr. Rathbone was held in bonds of \$25,000.

TROOPS FROM THE PHILIPPINES. New York, July 25.—After a conference lasting over three hours, at which Senator Jones, Norman E. Mack, Frank Campbell, chairman of the Democratic State committee, ex-Governor Stone, of Missouri; National Committeeman James Guffey, of Pennsylvania, Senator Hill, of New York, and National Committeeman Urey Woodson, of Kentucky, were present, Senator Jones left for Long Branch. Senator Jones said that the matters discussed related to affairs political in New York State and throughout the New England and middle Atlantic States. The national chairman was asked as to conditions in this State if he considered that there was the closest harmony possible between the party leaders. To this he replied: "I think there might be more harmony than at present exists, although the feeling is not so serious as to affect the State ticket materially."

They were married today. Lady Churchill and Lieut. Cornwallis-West wed in Great Style. London, July 25.—Lady Randolph Churchill (nee Jerome) was today married to Lieut. George Cornwallis West at St. Paul's church, Knightsbridge. The church was thronged with handsomely dressed women. There was no restriction upon the number admitted to the church to witness the ceremony except the capacity of the church, but only relatives and intimate friends were hidden to the subsequent wedding breakfast, and no reception was held. Outside the church two or three thousand people gathered to witness the arrival and departure of the bridal party. The church was sparsely adorned with palms and white blossoms. Mr. Winston Churchill, eldest son of the bride, entered the church just before his mother, who approached the chancel leading upon the arm of duke of Marlborough, by whom she was given away. The service was fully choral. There were no bridesmaids, but Lieut. West was supported by a brother officer, Lieut. H. C. Elvies. Lady Randolph wore a costume of the palest blue chiffon, with a bolero jacket of Cluny lace and white chiffon tulle, and diamond and pearl ornaments. She carried a small bunch of white roses.

NEW ORLEANS IS QUIET. People Dissatisfied With the Police Board. New Orleans, La., July 25.—Contrary to expectations the night passed with little disorder. The prompt action of the mayor in distributing squads of armed men through the city and the fact that the negro barbers, who caused the riot, do not seem to have had a good effect in quieting the populace. The negroes apparently are glad that Charles is dead. Today they appeared in larger numbers than for several days at the places where they are employed. Thousands of them have left the city. Much feeling is expressed against the police board and there is talk of its removal and a re-organization of the police force. Arrangements are being made for the funerals of the victims of yesterday's tragedy and details of police will accompany each to prevent possible disturbances. Leonard Pearson, who was with Charles on the evening that Officer Morris was wounded and who has since been confined in the Parish prison, today positively identified the dead negro as Charles.

MINISTERS SHOT THEIR FAMILIES.

Chinese Representative Confirms the Report of the Peking Massacre—Can it be True?

London, July 25.—The Daily Mail's Shanghai correspondent telegraphs that a Russian banker who left Peking July 7 and arrived at Shanghai, Wednesday, July 25, says that when he left Peking all the legations had been destroyed and all the foreigners murdered. The ministers, seeing death was inevitable, shot their families. Sir Robert Hart, the banker adds, committed suicide in despair. The full text of the Daily Mail's telegram is as follows: "Shanghai, July 25.—Newspapers here publish a statement by an influential banker residing in Peking near the British legation who arrived in Shanghai July 25, having left Peking July 7. He states that the legations were then destroyed. All the foreigners had disappeared, and he could not say positively if they had been murdered as he was too frightened to inquire."

JAMES H. LINFORD IS PRESIDENT. Board of Trustees of B. Y. College at Logan Met Today and Honored Him With the Position of Head of the Institution.

For some time past there has been considerable speculation indulged in as to who would be selected to occupy the position of president of the Brigham Young college at Logan, there being a number of applications and all of them being strongly urged by friends. Among these was Prof. Widson, who has achieved much distinction as an advanced student and master of chemistry. Many confidently expected that the plum would fall to that gentleman. The matter was definitely settled today, when the board of trustees of the college met at Logan today and elected Prof. James H. Linford to the position. Prof. Linford is a very able man and his selection to fill the place of honor in the Logan institution will gratify the friends and do grace to the position.

CALLISTER IS THE CHAIRMAN. Was Elected by Republican State Committee Today—State Convention Will be Held Here on Tuesday, September Fourth.

E. H. Callister was today elected chairman of the Republican State committee. A meeting of the committee was held this morning, at which former Chairman Walton tendered his resignation. Mr. Callister was in no sense a candidate for the place, having refused to entertain the idea when approached by a close friend. He expressed himself as being willing to do all he would for his party and would not shrink a duty imposed upon him, but hoped that he would not be required to take the State chairmanship. Although Mr. Callister was not at the meeting, being in Utah county, Mr. Walton nominated him and strongly urged his election, which came unanimously.

CHINA HAS BEEN BUYING FIREARMS. Domestic exports of firearms, gun powder and cartridges and other explosives from the United States to China, Hongkong and Japan the six months ended December 31, 1899: Firearms—China, \$6,400; Hongkong, \$7,978; Japan, \$21,376. Cartridges and explosives—Hongkong, \$4,696; Japan, \$23,538. No gunpowder has been exported from the United States to China, Hongkong or Japan since 1897. China took nearly twice as many firearms from the United States in the last six months of 1899 as she did in the twelve months ended June 30, 1899, and nearly three times as many as it did in 1897.

Steamer on the Rocks. Seattle, Wash., July 25.—A special to the Times from Esau Callan, Wash., says: The steamer Estrella, Captain Langley, San Francisco for Seattle, owned by Aberdeen parties, went on the rocks high and dry here last night at midnight in a dense fog. She is resting easy and will probably float at the next high tide, but if a heavy swell sets in, she will go to pieces.

Dynamic in St. Louis. St. Louis, July 25.—Five cars of the transit company were damaged last night by dynamite placed on the tracks at different points. Nobody was injured as far as is known.

Willing to Surrender. Roberts Insists that Dewet Shall Yield Unconditionally. London, July 25.—A special dispatch from Capetown says: "General Christian Dewet has offered to surrender on condition that his followers be permitted to return to their homes unharmed. Lord Roberts has refused anything except unconditional surrender. A dispatch from Lord Roberts to the British war office yesterday said: 'Broadwood is still watching Christian Dewet, who has taken up a position on high hills near Hellzhaal, about seven miles south of the Vaal. P. Dewet, a younger brother of Christian, surrendered at Kroonstad yesterday.'

Good News to Fruit Growers. Washington, July 25.—The fruit growers of California will be glad to know