

HOW 500 WERE CAPTURED AND BEHEADED.

LAST STAND OF 1500 DESPERATE CHINESE PIRATES

HOW LUN TAI, THE WILY ONE, ESCAPED.

IN the skirmish which took place last month between the Germans and Chinese at Kiaochau the dispatches state that among the killed was a scoundrel Chinese who subsequently turned out to be a former pirate chief...

page were more plentiful than hard-tack. According to my log book it was on April 29, just after we had finished dinner and were singing 'Easy, My Man, Easy' that a Chinese fishing boat slid alongside of us...

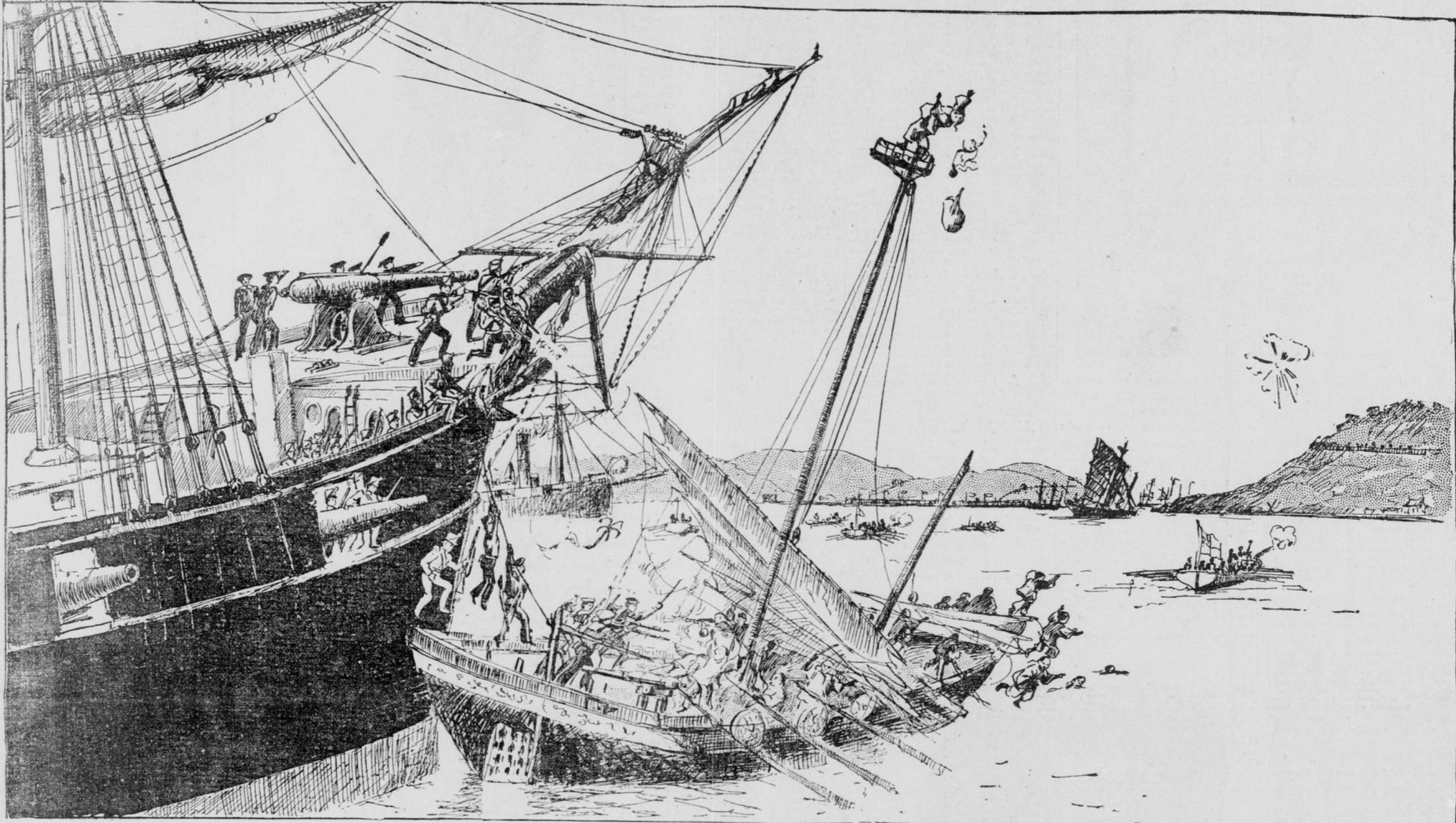
nish the boats and I will furnish the men on land, and you must promise to catch Lun Tai alive for me so I can chop off his head and hang it on the wall.

a tremendous rate, for this it was believed would insure them success. 'We were prepared for their first assault with the deadly stinkpots. A pirate at the junk's masthead lifted one, but before it could be thrown we were at them with a stream of boiling water...

Once I heard some one say 'My God!' and I saw the man back of me trying awkwardly to pull the trigger of his gun, and for the first time he noticed that three of his fingers were shot away.

reel with a sharp thrust from his spear in my side. Undoubtedly he would have killed me before I could have turned, for I never suspected the trick, but a marine several paces behind us saw his act and bayoneted the wily fellow before he could jab me again.

outbreaks are recorded. The great Tooley street fire probably stands pre-eminent. It broke out at Cotton's Wharf on June 22, 1861, and continued burning for a month...



"SHOOT THAT FELLOW IN THE MASTHEAD!" ORDERED THE CAPTAIN. THEN WE ALL JUMPED FOR THE JUNK.

prominent figure he cut in the incessant assaults on English commerce in the China seas. It was one of Lun Tai's bold raids that led to a combination between the English war vessels and the Chinese regular soldiers for a united action against the murderous pirates.

for Japan. The brig was manned with sixteen as good sailors as ever climbed the ropes, and we knew that it was a case of 'pirates.' 'The cunning devils, as usual, had waited until the brig was well out of Hongkong and just off Ninepin Rocks. On the mastheads of the junks the pirates had stationed men with baskets filled with stinkpots, a chemical composition of suffocating properties which they put into bags, light with a fuse and throw on the decks of the vessels they are attacking...

sent out by Tas Tai warned that old fox, Lun Tai, of the trap we were preparing for him. Six miles to the southeast the Pearl had to remain at anchor, the water was so shallow. 'The pirates were ready for us. About thirty junks of all sizes flying innumerable flags set up a deafening ringing of gongs. They clanged them at contest raged, but our superior arms at last began to tell. At nightfall we both rested and reorganized. They were fierce and resolute, and we knew it was going to be a fight to the finish next day with no quarter.

right, thus flanking the pirates, who were expecting us to land in front where they had strewn 'crowfeet' for our benefit. These 'crowfeet' consist of six pointed highly seasoned pieces of bamboo, sharper than a needle's point, capable of penetrating the toughest leather and inflicting torturous wounds on the feet. Had we not escaped this trap the day would undoubtedly have gone against us.

stronghold of the pirates had to be destroyed. In razing their fortifications our first lieutenant set fire to a house. He did not know gunpowder was stored in it. He was blown clear over several houses. He landed in a pond of water and except for a bad burning escaped all right. We took all the flags and gongs in sight and then sank all the junks.

The year 1882 has been described as "the year of fires." During this period the fire brigade had their hands full, and they had to tackle no fewer than seven conflagrations which threatened to be of a serious nature. The Wood street fire which broke out on December 18 was probably the biggest of all.

The next great outbreak was the famous Paternoster Row fire, which occurred on April 2, 1884. The fire spread with great rapidity, and those who witnessed it will remember how the dome of St. Paul's was brilliantly illuminated. More than a dozen warehouses were destroyed, including the extensive premises of Faudel and Phillip, Williams, and Smith Brothers.



THE FIVE HUNDRED PIRATES WERE ALL LED OUT ON THE PLAIN AND BEHEADED.

GREAT LONDON FIRES. Ever since the "Great Fire" of 1666 London has been the scene of many terrible conflagrations, and it is not going too far to state that it is owing to her well-equipped and efficient fire brigade, with its sixty-one stations spread over the Metropolitan area, that she has not been visited with a similar catastrophe.

Nickel is a modern metal. It was not in use nor known of till 1715. It has now largely taken the place of silver in plated ware, and as an alloy with steel it is superior to any other metal, for it is not only non-corrodible itself, but it transfers the same quality to steel; even when combined as low as 5 per cent it prevents oxidation.