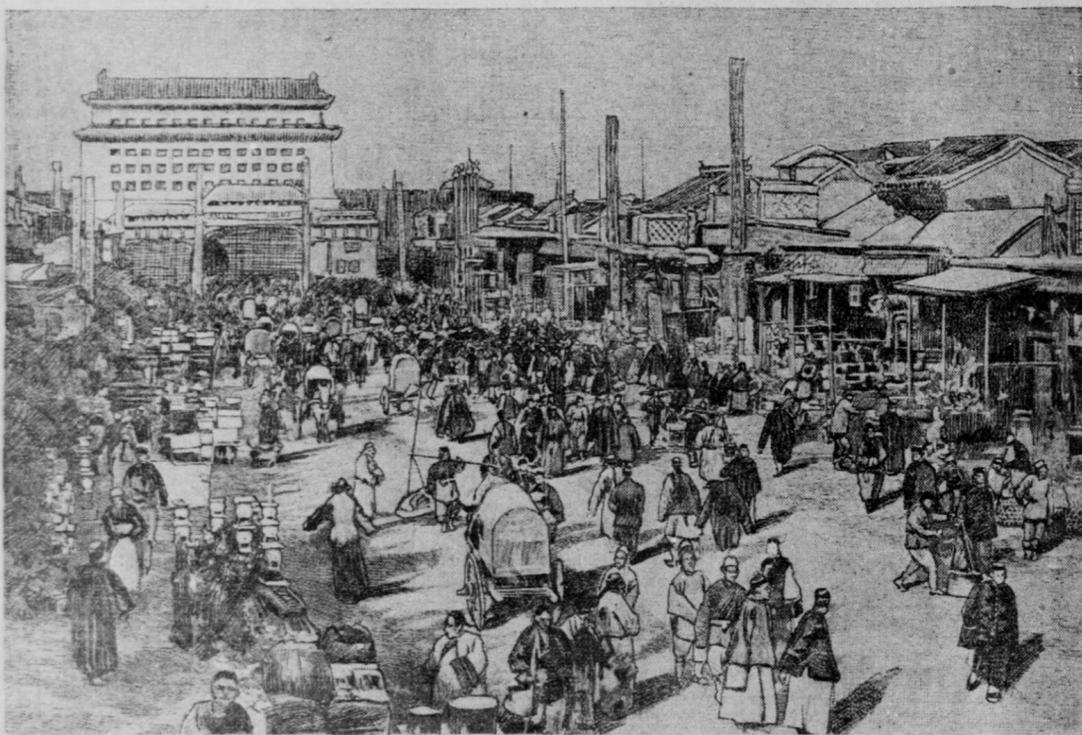


ALARMING REPORTS CONTINUE TO COME FROM CHINA.

While the Powers Prepare for Joint Action, Line Up Battleships and Land More Marines, There Is No Abatement in Outrages Committed by the "Boxers."



GRAND MERCHANT STREET, PEKING, AND THE TSIEN-MEN GATE

THE ABOVE PICTURE, TAKEN FROM LE MONDE ILLUSTRÉ, SHOWS THE GREAT COMMERCIAL ARTERY OF THE CHINESE PART OF PEKING AND THE PRINCIPAL GATEWAY BY WHICH IT ENTERS THE TARTAR CITY. JUST BEYOND AND DIRECTLY OPPOSITE THE GATEWAY IS THE ENTRANCE TO THE IMPERIAL PALACE, NOT FAR FROM WHICH IS THE EUROPEAN QUARTER OF THE CITY, WHERE ARE SITUATED THE FOREIGN LEGATIONS, NOW GUARDED BY THE SAILORS AND MARINES RECENTLY SENT UP FROM THE WARSHIPS NEAR TIENTSIN.

GREAT seriousness marks the situation in China. A horde of "Boxers" is expected to attack Tientsin to-day, according to advices from Admiral Kempff. They fought the Chinese soldiers yesterday near the city. Twenty-five foreign warships are now lying off Taku, and senior naval officers, lacking the Russian, have made plans for joint action. Captain McCalla of the Newark commands the American landing party and may direct joint operations against the "Boxers."

Problems of the Chinese situation occupied the Cabinet session at Washington yesterday. Protection of American lives and property without aiding any other nation's ambition will be the policy of the United States, and Minister Conger has been instructed on that line.

London heard a report last night that notes were passing between France, Great Britain and the United States relative to joint action to restore order in China.

Hundreds of Christians have been slain by the fanatical "Boxers," and two British missionaries were hacked to pieces under circumstances of the most revolting barbarity.

LONDON, June 9.—Definite returns regarding the severe fighting between the Chinese troops and the Boxers that was going on Thursday between Tientsin and Peking had not been received at Tientsin when the latest telegrams to reach London were filed. The Chinese troops, however, had killed many Boxers, according to some reports, while another account had the Government soldiers sorely defeated in an engagement near Pao Ting Fu.

Apparently, the legation guards have not yet taken a hand in the fighting, but they are ready to do so at a moment's notice. The Boxer movement affects some hundreds of square miles. Official dispatches to Vienna from Peking aver that the sect is more powerful than any political party in China, embracing no less than 4,000,000, and manipulated by zealous and adroit men.

Powers in Perfect Concert. The representatives of the powers are still acting in perfect concert, which appears for the present to give the Chinese Government ample chance to put down the disturbances alone. The Tientsin correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing June 7, says:

"For the last three days the whole community of Tientsin has been preparing to defend itself against an expected attack by the Boxers. There is a continual influx of refugees from the surrounding country, who are now crowding the city. This increases the excitement. Nearly all the villages surrounding Tientsin are joining the Boxer movement, which is taking more and more a fanatical character.

"Parties of foreigners when approaching the villages are driven back by armed bands. Yesterday the Chinese troops were ordered to Machang, on the Grand Canal, within twenty miles of which a large body of Boxers are reported to be collecting. Attempts to re-establish the regular working of the Peking-Tientsin railway have hitherto proved futile. Early this morning the Boxers set fire to the sleepers and the woodwork of the bridges.

"General Nieh seems bent upon acting with energy and dealing out heavy blows to the rebels, recognizing the necessity of destroying the prestige of the Boxers, which has begun to generalize his army."

Protection of the Rebels. Secret orders from Peking for the protection of the rebels have paralyzed military action and raised the status of the Boxers in the eyes of the ignorant masses. Although the Boxers declare

their first object to be the annihilation of Catholic converts, the wire-pullers evidently wish to propagate hatred among the country people against foreigners and things foreign in general. The movement on the surface has a patriotic character, but it may turn ultimately against the dynasty. This seems to be the reason why it has thus far been treated with a gentle hand. The legations at Peking have wired for reinforcements.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Yokohama, dated Friday, describing the effect upon Japan of the refusal of the Korean Emperor to give an audience to the Japanese Minister regarding the torture and execution of political suspects, says:

"The feeling here is exceedingly excited. It may not be possible for the Government to keep it in check, as the official was unable to do at the end of March, when Russia made her demands, particularly on the question of Massampoko. It is thought here that Russian influence behind the affront given by Korea to Japan. The tone of the Japanese press is very bitter, and grave developments are possible."

HUNDREDS OF CHRISTIANS HAVE BEEN MASSACRED

Missionaries Norman and Robinson Hacked to Pieces Under Circumstances of Revolting Barbarity.

LONDON, June 9.—The Peking correspondent of the Times in a dispatch dated June 7 says:

"Particulars received here show that Messrs. Norman and Robinson, the missionaries, were hacked to pieces under circumstances of revolting barbarity. The Chinese Government cannot be exonerated from the charge of complicity in these murders. From the beginning their action will bear only one interpretation, namely, that of approval of the anti-foreign movement which has had these results.

"The Government has delegated as a commissioner to Cho Kau and Pao Ting Fu, the chief centers of the Boxers, to investigate and report, a notorious anti-foreign official, who is known to be in sympathy with the Boxers, and who was the director of a mining and railway bureau that was founded to thwart all railway and mining development."

The Peking correspondent of the Times, telegraphing June 8, says: "The news that General Nieh's foreign-

drilled soldiers had fired upon the Boxers who were destroying the railway near Tientsin was favorably received, as giving some ground for hope that the Government would change its policy. Now arrives the intelligence that Nieh's troops have been ordered to return to camp at Lu Tai, and that their action has been condemned. The Tsung Li Yamen, however, denies the truth of the latter statement. But the denials of the Tsung Li Yamen are never convincing. If it be true, the news must be regarded as serious.

"The American Missionary Conference to-day sent a dispatch to President McKinley appealing for protection and asserting that the missionaries at Pao Ting Fu and other places are in extreme danger; that the Tung Chau mission station has been abandoned, that the chapels have everywhere been burned and that hundreds of native Christians have been massacred.

"The serious condition of affairs at Peking is reacting upon the provinces. The French Minister here has received a telegram saying that the French Consul at Mong Tazo and the French agent at Yun Han Fu have both been compelled to retire from their posts, as the Viceroy announced that he was unable to guarantee their safety.

"The Boxers burned a Russian chapel at Tung Ting, thirty-five miles north of Peking. Haut Ching Cheang, director of railways, admits that the destruction of the Peking-Tientsin Railway is continuing, the Tsung Li Yamen being powerless to prevent it, and that it is useless to expect the early restoration of communication."

REPORTS RECEIVED FROM KEMPF AND CONGER

Captain McCalla in Charge of the Landing Force and He May Command at Peking.

WASHINGTON, June 8.—The following cablegram from Admiral Kempff was received at the Navy Department this afternoon:

"TONG KU, June 8.—On June 8 landed forces to protect American interests with consent of China. Fifty-six men sent to Peking, rest to Tientsin. The nations sent forces to both cities. No injury so far. British, Russian and Chinese admirals and twenty warships are here. "Crops likely to fail, causing probably more trouble in the near future. Our landing force under McCalla. On June 8

the situation was most critical. The Russian force began fighting. I landed fifty more men; have requested Helena be sent immediately to protect our interests or a vessel like her. Consider a battalion of marines necessary, with gunboat as a base inside. On June 6 the Tientsin-Peking Railway was cut. Will act in concert with the naval forces of other powers to protect interests if necessary. A board of foreign senior naval officers was held to-day. Present English, French, German, Austrian, Italian, Japanese and American officers. Will arrange for combined action to protect life and property if required. Nine hundred men are ashore; twenty-five warships here.

"KEMPF." The following cablegram was received at the Navy Department this morning from Admiral Kempff, on board the Newark, off the Taku forts:

"TONG KU, June 8.—Battle between Chinese and Boxers near Tientsin. Large number of Boxers expected to reach Tientsin to-morrow. KEMPF."

Minister Conger at Peking also has been heard from to-day. His message to the State Department said there was no improvement in the situation and asked for instructions. It was not deemed proper by the officials to indicate upon just what point Mr. Conger needs advice, but there is an intimation that he wishes to know to what extent he is to co-operate with the diplomatic representatives of the European powers at Peking.

Secretary Hay took the message to the Cabinet meeting.

The State Department is steadily pursuing the line of policy laid down at the beginning of this Boxer trouble of avoiding any interference with Chinese internal affairs, beyond such measures as may be absolutely necessary for the protection of life and property there. Especially it is determined to avoid commitment to the policies of any of the European powers which might involve the United States in trouble. Therefore, notwithstanding the ominous news conveyed in Admiral Kempff's cablegram, it seems entirely probable that Minister Conger will be directed to stick to the same line of policy which he has pursued up to this time.

It is not to be understood by this that the United States is desirous of evading any proper measures of responsibility, and the State Department officials are careful to point out that, while retaining our independence of action, our Government is really acting concurrently with the Euro-

GENERAL BULLER HAS TAKEN THE OFFENSIVE

By Maneuvering He Has Secured a Position West of Laings Nek, and Expects to Drive Out the Boers.

Lord Roberts Has Not Communicated Anything for Three Days, but It Is Thought He Is Preparing to Pursue Commandant General Botha.

LONDON, June 9.—3:15 A. M.—General Buller has at length taken the offensive, and by maneuvering he has secured a position west of Laings Nek, by which he believes he can make the Boer positions untenable. Presumably, he will immediately follow up his success.

Lord Roberts has communicated nothing for three days, not permitting the correspondents to wire what is going on. London's inference is that he is resting, although he is possibly disposing his army for a reach after Commandant General Botha.

A blockade of the wires owing to the rush of official correspondence may account for the scanty press dispatches. Some telegrams filed a week ago are only just arriving. Among these are split descriptions of the fighting at Elands Fontein. According to one of them, the streets were filled with women and children. Rifle shots could be heard everywhere. The British soldiers would stop firing and join in the chase after chickens. The burghers surrendered to any one. Kaffirs went about looting the Jewish stores and mounted infantry galloped hither and thither.

Lord Roberts' army has a new song. It runs thus: "We're marching into Pretoria. It belongs to Queen Victoria."

Botha Left During the Night. The Daily Express has the following from Pretoria, dated Wednesday: "The 1000 prisoners who were deported from Waterval were told that they were about to be given up to Lord Roberts. They entrained cheerfully and were conveyed to Nooitgedachte, instead of Pretoria.

"General Louis Botha, with a rear guard of 200, left Pretoria during the night. The British advance guard on entering was upon the very heels of the retreating Boers. Botha has sworn to carry on the war in the mountains."

At Lourenzo Marques Station a crowd waited all Tuesday night to see President Kruger, as it was reported that he would arrive by a special train to gain an asylum on board the Netherlands cruiser Friesland.

Full of Boer Refugees. Modderburg is said to be full of Boer refugees and wounded. The railway still delivers goods at Broekhorst Spruit, forty miles east of Pretoria. A British column is at Bremerstrop, Swaziland. Eleven British prisoners have been taken to Midderburg. The British at Delta are moving into the interior in detachments of 20 daily.

G. V. Fiddes, Imperial Secretary to the High Commissioner, with a part of Sir Alfred Milner's staff, left Cape Town Tuesday evening for Pretoria, possibly, as the Cape Town correspondent of the Daily News thinks, to arrange the annexation details.

Bad Treatment of Canadians. Harold G. Parsons, Federation delegate from West Australia, writing to the morning papers to protest against the treatment given to the wounded Canadians, says: "The invalid Canadians at Shorncliffe camp, returned from the front, complain that they are badly fed, unhealthily

RUMORED SURRENDER TO ASHANTIS

LONDON, June 9.—According to a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Accra, dated June 8, a native rumor is in circulation here that Sir Frederick Mitchell Hodgson, Governor of Gold Coast Colony, made a sortie from Kumassie, where he had been besieged by the Ashantis, but was forced to retire and ultimately to surrender.

Mail advices from Accra, dated May 17, say: "Fifty thousand Ashantis are in arms and the insurrection is spreading. It is impossible for white men to go into the interior successfully during the rainy season."

crowded and refused a furlough. This seems a curious return to make for their conspicuous services voluntarily rendered. I have it on indisputable authority that it is the practice of the War Office to admit the British volunteer and, for all I know, the regular army, by means of regulations drafted and issued in great part on no better authority than that of its promoted second-class clerks, a body of gentlemen, no doubt, of irreproachable character, but by no means adapted by their intelligence or education to be entrusted with so great a responsibility.

Such a delegation of authority, which is unconstitutional as well as unbusinesslike, is in itself enough to show that the whole War Office from top to bottom must be reformed if not reconstituted after the war."

BULLER HAS SEIZED VAN WYKE HILL

LONDON, June 8.—The War Office has received the following dispatch from General Buller:

"YELLOW BOOM FARM, June 8.—On June 6 General Buller, with the Tenth Brigade and the South African Light Horse, seized Van Wyke Hill. The enemy made some resistance and a good deal of sniping occurred. Our casualties were about four killed and thirteen wounded.

"During that day and the following we got two 47 and two 12-pounder naval guns on Van Wyke Hill and two 5-inch guns on the southeastern spur of Inkweilo. Under cover of their fire General Buller to-day assaulted all the spurs of the berg between Botha's Pass and Inkweilo. "The attack, which was well planned by Buller and carried out with immense dash by his troops, for whom no moun-

tains were too steep, outflanked the enemy, who were forced to retire from their very strong position. I think we did not have any casualties and I hope I have obtained a position from which I can render Laings Nek untenable.

BOER PEACE ENVOYS ARE WARMLY WELCOMED

OMAHA, June 8.—Envoy Wessels and his secretary, Dr. de Bruyn, arrived in Omaha at 9:10 o'clock from Sioux City over the Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul and Omaha Railway. A large number of representative citizens, headed by Chairman John Rush, received the visitors and escorted them in carriages to the Paxton Hotel, where a large crowd had gathered to await their arrival.

The lobby of the Paxton was crowded by an enthusiastic crowd when Mayor Moores mounted the steps and welcomed the Boers to Omaha and the State. Mr. Wessels responded in brief.

At 1 o'clock to-morrow a reception will be given by Wessels at the City Hall and a mass-meeting at the Creighton Theater will follow.

MILWAUKEE, June 8.—Abraham Fischer, the peace envoy of the Transvaal, arrived in Milwaukee to-night from St. Paul. He was given a royal reception. Mr. Fischer will rest until to-morrow, when he will speak to a large gathering at the Exposition building.

TO AID CANADIAN CONTINGENT.

LONDON, June 8.—A cafe chatant was held at the Carlton Hotel this afternoon, organized by Mrs. Morton, in aid of the Canadian contingent in the war. Lady Randolph Churchill, the Earl and Countess of Chatterfield, the Earl and Countess of Yarborough, Miss Muriel Wilson, Mme. Albani, Miss Edna May, Mrs. Langtry, Mrs. Leslie Carter and a host of prominent actresses and musicians assisted in various ways to make the event a great success.

HOLLIS INTERVIEWED KRUGER.

LORENZO MARQUES, June 8.—United States Consul Hollis, who returned here yesterday from the Transvaal by special train, had a two hours' interview in close conference with President Kruger at Machadodorp. It is stated that Mr. Hollis was the bearer of friendly dispatches from the United States Government urging Kruger to treat for peace.

BOER OUTPOSTS DRIVEN BACK.

HAMMONI, Orange River Colony, June 8.—General Buller made a strong demonstration against the Boer positions, employing 500 of General Brabant's Queenstown Mounted Rifles, two guns and the Cape Mounted Infantry under Colonel Dalgetty. The Boer outposts were driven back and their laager was looted, but the troops returned without a battle.

MAFEKING, Tuesday, May 29.—Colonel Plumer occupied Zerst yesterday without opposition. This district is regaining its normal condition. Supplies are arriving daily.



WITH BULLER'S ADVANCE TO LAINGS NEK—British Scouts Questioning Suspected Natives.