

CHINESE ENTRENCHED OUTSIDE PEKING TO OPPOSE ADVANCING FOREIGN COLUMN

At Tientsin Guns Are Trained on the American Mission and the British Legation—Minister Conger Asks for Two Thousand United States Troops—Boxer Troubles Become Decidedly More Alarming.

LONDON, June 14, 4:20 a. m.—The Chinese are entrenched outside of Peking to oppose the advance of the international column. A dispatch from Tientsin, dated Tuesday, June 12, says:

"I learn that the Chinese have guns trained on the American mission and the British legation. Two thousand Russian cavalry and infantry with artillery have landed at Taku."

The Shanghai correspondent reports that United States Minister Conger, by courier, asks for 2000 United States troops. The question of provisioning the relief force is already difficult, and it is predicted at Shanghai that it will become acute.

Special Dispatch to The Call. CALL HEADQUARTERS, WELLINGTON HOTEL, WASHINGTON, June 13.—"No proposition on political lines for the settlement of the Chinese question has been made to the United States by any foreign Government," declared a high administration official today. This has special interest in view of the Shanghai rumors of a definite decision of the powers. "The purpose of the President to pursue an independent policy," said this official, "is well known. No proposal has yet been made for the removal of the Empress Dowager, but well informed diplomatists say that such action will be imperative should she fail to take measures for suppressing the Boxers and continue to encourage them, not only by punishing troops sent to check them, but by appointing such a man as Prince Tuan, one of the anti-foreign leaders, as president of the Tsung-li Yamen."

A dispatch reached the State Department from Consul General Goodnow at Shanghai urging that a man-of-war be sent to Chin Kiang, as requested yesterday by Consul Martin. Messages also came from nearly every other consular representative in China and from several missionaries describing the turbulent condition of affairs in their respective neighborhoods. The diplomatic corps was not without alarming dispatches. Lord Pauncefoot, the British Ambassador, was informed that rioting in Peking had reached an acute stage. Mr. Hay, secretary of the Belgian legation, who was stationed in Washington several years ago, and at one time engaged to the daughter of former Secretary Belknap, was attacked twice Monday and escaped only after serious maltreatment by a mob. Two officials of the British legation serving as student interpreters were attacked on the same day, but cowed the mob with their revolvers and succeeded in reaching the legation in safety.

None of the dispatches yet received refers to the killing of Sugiyama Akira, Chancellor of the Japanese legation. Keizire Nabeshima, Japanese Charge d'Affaires, said on this subject: "We have no official confirmation of the killing of our Chancellor at Peking, but there appears to be no doubt of the fact, and it presents a most serious condition. The chief offense is against Japan, but aside from that it is against the entire diplomatic body at Peking, for if any one of them is subject to such assault they all share in the same danger. I was personally very well acquainted with Mr. Akira, as he served under me in the Foreign Office at Tokio while I was chief of the division of protocols. He was a bright young man about 38 years old. He was one of the most expert chirographers in Japan, and this gained him the post of Chancellor at Peking, where he went about three years ago." Mr. Nabeshima said that Japan had pursued the utmost reserve, not wishing to be open to any suspicion, but he felt that the killing of the legation Chancellor would lead to energetic action. The destruction of British property and the dangerous position of British subjects it is thought will lead to action by Great Britain. It is apparent to members of the diplomatic corps that if one power sends troops all the powers will do so, and unless an agreement is made beforehand a clash will be almost inevitable. President McKinley does not intend to take the initiative in the landing of soldiers, and no instructions to General MacArthur to send troops to China have yet been prepared. The whole Chinese situation was described by diplomats today as resembling a powder magazine filled with explosives, its doors open and men passing and repassing carrying lighted torches in their hands. The State Department is satisfied that up to the present all the powers have acted in good faith. It is appreciated, however, that no nation can permit its official representative to be slaughtered without taking measures to obtain redress. Minister Conger and Admirals Kempff and Remy are evidently taking active measures for the protection of Americans. The Consul at Chefoo, besides reporting to Washington the dangerous condition of affairs near his Consulate, has evidently communicated with Admiral Kempff, for the gunboat Yorktown left Shanghai to-day for Chefoo. Southern China also seems to be disturbed, for the Don Juan de Austria has been ordered to proceed from Canton to Swatow and Amoy to protect American interests. Should the situation become graver at Chin Kiang Admiral Kempff will probably order marines to go from the Castine at Shanghai to that point. A reinforcement of 100 marines left Manila for Taku yesterday on the Solace.

SUMMARY OF BOXER SITUATION

NEW YORK, June 13. From out of the thunder clouds looming over the Chinese horizon there comes to-night fitful flashes, which only serve to intensify the blackness of the situation. Peking appears to be completely isolated. No message from the capital has reached London or America since those which chronicled the murder of the Chancellor of the Japanese legation, and which were transmitted over lines that run northwest from Peking, and thence through the dominions of the Czar.

So far as it is known the foreign detachments which left Tientsin on Sunday morning and which were at first timed to reach Peking on Tuesday night have not arrived yet, and according to a Tientsin dispatch the Chinese were throwing up intrenchments to bar their routes to the capital. On the other hand, it was stated in Washington, with what appears to be needless mystery, that the representative of a certain power had been notified that the Dowager Empress had ordered the Tsung Li Yamen to notify foreign representatives that no opposition would be made by the Chinese authorities to the entry of the relief force into Peking.

Two thousand Russians, cavalry, infantry and artillery, had been landed at Taku, according to a Tientsin dispatch, and St. Petersburg advices of the present and recent date were alarmist in character. Various messages indicative of the prevailing apprehension were received at the State Department from American Consuls in China, but nothing to bear out the statement cabled from Shanghai that Minister Conger has asked for two thousand United States troops.

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General Buller entered Volksrust Wednesday, pushed through Marston and encamped near Lalings Nek. The tunnel was not much damaged. Both ends were blown up, but the engineers think that the repairs can be effected in about four days.

The advance troops of General Buller saw the Boer rear guard four miles distant yesterday. It was estimated that 800 Boers were withdrawn. The townspeople at Ermelo counted fifteen guns.

Three hundred Free Staters, released from guarding Van Reenan's Pass, have gone to join President Steyn's command in the eastern part of Orange River Colony. General Buller has sent notice to the Free Staters that unless they surrender by June 15 their farms and other possessions will be confiscated. President Kruger, according to a dispatch from Lourenzo Marques, keeps a locomotive with steamers at the executive offices of the government, and it is said that he intends to leave Machadodorp soon and establish the Transvaal capital at Nel Spruit, in the mountains, a fine defensive region. The State printing press is operating at Machadodorp, producing the leaflets containing war news for distribution among the Boers. It is again reported at Lourenzo Marques that the British are advancing through Swaziland. Lord Roberts, it appears, however, countermanded the order given to Strathcona's Horse to land on the coast and to penetrate to the Transvaal through the Swazi country. Mr. Schreiner, the Cape Premier, and his colleagues resigned last evening. Sir Alfred Milner accepting their resignations. The London papers only recently abused Mr. Schreiner for not making war preparations. Now they are complimenting his refusal to follow the majority of the Afrikaner bund in opposition to the British military policy. General Buller's casualties on June 10 have been issued by the War Office. They were 25 killed, 128 wounded and 2 missing.



SENT TO SUPPRESS THE BOXERS.

Detachment of Tartar Light Artillery of the Imperial Chinese Army which formed a part of General Nieh's force in the recent operations near Pao Tung against the Boxers.

From a Photograph by Vapereau Sons.

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REFORMERS ASK JOINT ACTION BY POWERS

LONDON, June 14, 4:20 a. m.—The lead-

ing members of the reform party, representing fifteen of the eighteen provinces, are at Shanghai. A dispatch to the Daily Mail, dated yesterday, says they are sending a petition to the United States, Great Britain and Japan, praying those powers to take joint action against any attempt on the part of the other powers to partition the empire, and they implore the powers thus addressed to rescue the Emperor.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg says that the ships of the Russian Pacific squadron on the active list, as well as those at Vladivostok, have been ordered to proceed with all haste to Chinese waters.

The Foreign Office confirms the report of an engagement between troops of the international column and the Boxers on the 11th inst. at Tientsin, "about thirty-five Chinese were killed."

CHANGE OF FRONT OF THE DOWAGER EMPRESS

WASHINGTON, June 13.—Definite official information was received here this afternoon from the Foreign Office of one of the most important Continental powers stating that the Tsung Li Yamen had notified the Minister of that power at Peking that the Dowager Empress would not object to the presence of foreign troops in China's territory. Vague unofficial rumors to this effect had been current, but the information received here to-day was from such a high official source as to leave no doubt that the Empress Dowager, who practically constitutes the Government of China, had made known this determination not to object to the presence of the foreign troops. This change of front came as a distinct surprise to the officials and diplomats, as all reports up to this time had pictured the Empress Dowager as intensely hostile to the foreigners and as the real power behind the Boxers' anti-foreign uprising. This supposed attitude of the Empress gave much concern to the authorities here and at other capitals, as it was feared that it would eventuate in an open declaration by the Government of China against the presence of foreign troops. This would have raised no new complication, placing the foreign forces now advancing on Peking in the attitude of resisting the sovereign authority of China over her own territory, instead of assisting China in a suppression of disorder.

The Empress Dowager's acquiescence in the plans of the powers is felt to remove a threatened complication and at the same

MURDER OF A WOMAN MISSIONARY.

NEW YORK, June 13.—News has been received in this city of the murder of Dr. Edna G. Terry, in charge of the station of the Methodist Episcopal Women's Foreign Missionary Society at Tsung-Hua, China. The tidings came in the following message to Dr. Terry's brother-in-law: "Dr. Terry murdered. Break news gently."

This was the first indication of trouble at Tsung-Hua. Later the Methodist Episcopal Board received this message, dated Tientsin, June 12: "Hopkins and Hayner safe." The persons named are missionaries at Tsung-Hua. There is another Methodist missionary at the same place, a Miss Croucher of Boston. Tsung-Hua is six or seven miles north of the great wall and about 100 miles from Peking.

It was stated in diplomatic quarters to-night that the Belgian Secretary of the legation at Peking who was attacked by a mob on Monday was probably Philip May, formerly with the Belgian legation in Washington and quite prominent in social and official circles here, as his post of date has been at Peking.

GERMANY NOT IN SYMPATHY WITH BOXERS

BERLIN, June 13.—The Foreign Office officials have had no telegraphic communication with Peking during the last thirty-six hours and it has no important news regarding the Chinese situation to-day. It is not known whether the railroad has been repaired. The statement made by certain Paris newspapers that Germany has made common cause with the Boxers is characterized by the Foreign Office as "blood staining" (blutige). Germany is the one power which has all along been urging action against them.

The statement in the English press that the powers have reached an understanding in all the circumstances to maintain the present Chinese dynasty and Government is officially characterized as untrue.

IMPORTANT CHANGES IN CHINESE FOREIGN OFFICE

WASHINGTON, June 13.—A cablegram has been received at the State Department from Minister Conger at Peking stating that Tuan, the father of the heir apparent, has been appointed President of the Tsung Li Yamen; also that three other new Ministers have been appointed, all affiliated with the party opposed to foreigners. On the whole, Mr. Conger reports the situation is not materially improved. Guards are repairing the railway and as soon as they have arrived at Peking, it is Mr. Conger's belief that the safety of the foreigners at that capital will be assured.

SOLACE SAILS WITH MARINES FOR CHINA

MANILA, June 13.—The United States hospital ship Solace sailed at midnight last night, having on board 200 marines and five officers, Major Waller commanding, in response to the telegraphic request from the Chinese Government, Admiral Kempff. Thirty other marines left last week on the United States gunboat Nashville, bound for Tientsin. The marines on the Solace have been destined for Guam. It is believed that others will be sent there later on. It is said a supply ship will leave this week, and that the New Orleans will sail later.

AN ALLEGED SETTLEMENT.

SHANGHAI, June 13.—Extraordinary rumors are current here to the effect that the powers have settled the Chinese question by agreeing to forgive the Dowager Empress and her Manchukov advisers, provided they promise to amend their future conduct.

to-day toward Kroonstad. "Her Majesty's Government need have no apprehension as to the security of the army in South Africa. The enemy gained a slight success, which was unfortunate, but which will be remedied very shortly, and it will not take long to repair the damage done to the railway. As these diversions are all in existence I am now able to hold the line between the Earl and Rhenoster in strength. Methuen will arrange to guard it on Wednesday as he advances. "Hunter should be at Potchefstroom to-day. He will then move on Johannesburg. "We have communicated with Buller, who will no doubt soon make the presence of his force in the field felt. "Our losses yesterday were not, I trust, serious, but I deplore the death of that gallant soldier, the Earl of Airie. The only other casualties reported as yet are: Seventeenth Lancers, Major the Hon. Lionel Fortescue and Lieutenant the Hon. C. Cavendish, both killed."

General Knox adds that Kroonstad is quiet and safe. Lord Roberts' dispatch is regarded as eminently satisfactory. It ends a period of suspense caused by the cutting of his line of communication and indicates what a strong grip he has on the situation.

At about 3 in the afternoon I saw two of Hamilton's infantry battalions advancing to what appeared to be the key of the position. The force was small, but it was almost gained before dark, and I ordered the force to bivouac on the ground they had won.

Pole-Carew, with his division, occupied Vredfort with orders to push south and could not attack, but he gradually advanced so as to support Ian Hamilton, and when I left the field he was on the line held by the enemy's outposts in the morning.

I hurried back to get news of Methuen's movement. On hearing that the Free Staters had taken advantage of our crossing the Vaal to interrupt our line of communication, I sent Kitchener with such troops as I could then spare to Vredfort with orders to push south and communicate with Methuen, who I knew had a very compact force in the vicinity of Hellbron. I also dispatched a special messenger to Methuen, instructing him to push on at all speed to the main line of railway. These two officers met at Vredfort road station in the evening of June 10. They marched yesterday to Rhenoster River, where Methuen gained a complete victory over Dewet and took possession of his camp and scattered his troops in all directions. He and Kitchener marched

THE BRITISH CLAIM A VICTORY OVER THE BOERS

Lord Roberts Reports That Generals Methuen and Kitchener Routed De Wet's Forces, but Details of the Fierce Encounter Have Not Been Received.

LONDON, June 14—3:40 a. m.—After a week's silence Lord Roberts has been heard from, his first communications having been practically restored by means of a complete victory gained by Generals Methuen and Kitchener over General de Wet at the Elands River Tuesday. The Boer camp was captured and the burghers, it is added, were scattered in all directions. Lord Roberts, on being notified of the cutting of his line of communications, sent General Kitchener in all haste to join General Methuen. June 11 Lord Roberts attacked General Botha, who was in strong force fifteen miles southeast of Pretoria. After strenuous opposition the British forces gained considerable ground, but General Botha, when Lord Roberts left the field, was still undefeated. All is quiet at Pretoria and Johannesburg, and Lord Roberts says the Government need have no apprehension about the security of the army in South Africa, as it will not take long to remedy the reverses and repair the railroad. The result of the battle between Lord Roberts' forces and those of General Botha is eagerly awaited here, but it is believed the Boer commander will only complete his retirement, which he seems to have already commenced, though there is some hope in London that Lord Roberts will be able to surround him. The

decisive victory scored by Generals Methuen and Kitchener is regarded as likely to have a more far-reaching effect than any recent action in the Orange River Colony. General Kitchener's operations south must have been almost unequalled by the records of all forced marches. His detachment from headquarters was a merely routine procedure, as the chief of staff is responsible for the line of communications.

Military observers, noting that no mention is made of prisoners, assume that General de Wet got away with his forces practically intact. General Buller entered Volksrust Wednesday, pushed through Marston and encamped near Lalings Nek. The tunnel was not much damaged. Both ends were blown up, but the engineers think that the repairs can be effected in about four days.

The advance troops of General Buller saw the Boer rear guard four miles distant yesterday. It was estimated that 800 Boers were withdrawn. The townspeople at Ermelo counted fifteen guns. Three hundred Free Staters, released from guarding Van Reenan's Pass, have gone to join President Steyn's command in the eastern part of Orange River Colony. General Buller has sent notice to the Free Staters that unless they surrender by June 15 their farms and other pos-

sessions will be confiscated. President Kruger, according to a dispatch from Lourenzo Marques, keeps a locomotive with steamers at the executive offices of the government, and it is said that he intends to leave Machadodorp soon and establish the Transvaal capital at Nel Spruit, in the mountains, a fine defensive region. The State printing press is operating at Machadodorp, producing the leaflets containing war news for distribution among the Boers. It is again reported at Lourenzo Marques that the British are advancing through Swaziland. Lord Roberts, it appears, however, countermanded the order given to Strathcona's Horse to land on the coast and to penetrate to the Transvaal through the Swazi country. Mr. Schreiner, the Cape Premier, and his colleagues resigned last evening. Sir Alfred Milner accepting their resignations. The London papers only recently abused Mr. Schreiner for not making war preparations. Now they are complimenting his refusal to follow the majority of the Afrikaner bund in opposition to the British military policy. General Buller's casualties on June 10 have been issued by the War Office. They were 25 killed, 128 wounded and 2 missing.

A meeting of women who object to the war was held at Queen's Hall last evening. Mrs. Howard Courtney presided and Mrs. James Bryce moved a resolution declaring that the war resulted from the "bad policy of the Government." This and other anti-war resolutions were adopted. The meeting blessed Mr. Chamberlain's name vigorously. M. H. Donahue, the Daily Mail's correspondent at Pretoria, insists that President Kruger took £3,500,000 gold in his flight.

ROBERTS' GENERALS BATTLE WITH BOERS

LONDON, June 13.—The following dispatch has been received at the War Office from Lord Roberts: "KATSBOSCH, June 12.—In yesterday's engagement Methuen had one killed and eighteen wounded. Among the latter is Lieutenant C. Earle of the Twelfth Battalion of Yeomanry. On June 7 the Derbyshire Militia lost twenty-six killed and 104 wounded, all of whom were in the Yeomanry hospital, which was captured by the Boers and retaken by Methuen."

A lengthy dispatch forwarded by Major General Knox from Kroonstad, presumably sent there by messenger, reads as follows: "KROONSTAD, June 12.—We have been requested to forward you from Lord Roberts' Presidency at 8:38 a. m. to-day: "PRETORIA, June 12.—Pretoria and Johannesburg are perfectly quiet and several of the inhabitants have expressed gratitude for the peace and order which prevail. "After surrendering the city, Botha retired to a place about fifteen miles east on the Middelburg road. He had a small force, but during the last few days his numbers increased, and his being so near the town kept up the excitement in the country, prevented the burghers from laying down their arms and interfered with the collection of supplies. It therefore became necessary to attack him. This I did yesterday. He held a very strong position, practically unassailable in front, which enabled him to place the main portion of his troops on his flanks, which he knew from former experience were his vulnerable parts. I sent French with Porter's and Dixon's cavalry brigades and Hutton's mounted infantry around by our left, and Ian Hamilton, with Broadwood and Gordon's cavalry brigade, Biddle's mounted infantry and Bruce Hamilton's infantry brigade around by our right.

Both columns met with great opposition. At about 3 in the afternoon I saw two of Hamilton's infantry battalions advancing to what appeared to be the key of the position. The force was small, but it was almost gained before dark, and I ordered the force to bivouac on the ground they had won.

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