PRESIDENT McKINLEY WILLING TO MEDIATE

YUAN SHAI KAI, GOVERNOR OF SHANTUNG.

This individual, through whose Yamen at Tsinan, the Fu city of Shantung, situated on the Hoang Ho, 250 miles from Peking, filters all the news from Peking, is noted by those who know Chinese magnates as the equal of even Sheng or Li in bare-faced mendacity and cunning duplicity. He was the Chinese representative at Seoul (Korea), when the Chinese-Japanese war broke out, and is said to have acquired large sums of money in various questionable ways during his incumbency and to have successfully deceived everybody concerned except the Japanese, who put no faith in him.

State Department Sends a Favorable Reply to Emperor Kwang Su's Appeal That America Intercede to Bring About Peace.

WASHINGTON, July 23. — The President has listened to the appeal of the Chinese Government, as transmitted through Minister Wu, and has signified his willingness to mediate between the imperial government and the powers, but only upon conditions which first must be met by the Chinese Government.

The exact nature of the terms proposed by the State Department cannot be stated until to-morrow, when it is expected that publication will be made of the text of the Chinese appeal and of the President's message. It is known, however, that the answer is entirely consistent with the statement of principles laid down by Secretary Hay in his identical note to the powers, and, moreover, it accepts as truthful the Chinese statement relative to the safety of the foreign Ministers at Peking.

It would not, of course, be possible to take initial steps toward mediation were either party to the negotiations to entertain open distrust of the accuracy of the statements of the other. There must be confidence between them. The United States answer does not go to the length of the French answer to a similar application in laying down conditions which the Chinese Government could not meet, even if so disposed, if it actually is struggling for its own existence. It does, however, look to the immediate relief of foreigners in Peking, and, moreover, to the protection of all foreigners, missionaries and traders in China, and to the restoration of order. With this much accomplished the State Department feels that it can properly approach the powers with the Chinese proposition for a settlement for what has occurred.

The Chinese appeal came to Secretary Hay yesterday through Minister Wu. The Secretary promptly telegraphed it to the President at Canton, and after taking a full day for its consideration the President's answer came to-day. It was put in the proper diplomatic form and a copy delivered to Minister Wu, who is to forward it to his own government. The appeal and answer will be made public here to-morrow.

The imperial edict made public to-day at the State Department shows that the imperial government already has taken the first steps toward doing what the United States Government requires as the principal condition for the exercise of its good offices in enjoining the viceroys, magistrates and leading men to stop the disorders and protect foreigners, and our Government will await the results of this before proceeding further. It is expected that adverse criticism upon the action of the State Department in this matter will be heard from Europe, where the governments are acting upon the belief that all the foreigners in Peking have perished, but our Government nevertheless regards its course as the correct one.

All the European governments have taken the stand here indicated. The last of the answers to Secretary Hay's note reciting the Conger message have come, and all of them, in terms polite and diplomatic, express utter incredulity in the authenticity of the Conger message. Consul General Goodnow, himself a man of good judgment, also cabled a warning to Secretary Hay against the acceptance of the message without confirmation. But the State Department has fully considered the message in all its aspects, has carefully weighed the numerous objections and suspicions put forth here and in Europe, and, without guaranteeing the authenticity of the message, feels it to be a matter of prime duty to act upon the theory that it is genuine.

Admiral Remey's notification to the department that he had gone in person up the Peiho from Taku to Tientsin is attributed to the receipt by him of Secretary Long's urgent message to hasten the efforts to get to Peking, and important news from him is expected soon.

The Goodnow cablegram reciting the message from Prince Tuan vouching for the safety of the foreign Ministers on July 18 caused a ripple of excitement for a time at the State Department, but the officials soon concluded from the context and other circumstances surrounding the message that Yuan was meant instead of Tuan, so that the message lost the value it would have had if it had come from the redoubtable Boxer leader.

THE FIRST FIGHT—SEYMOUR'S MEN BATTLING WITH BOXERS ON THE MARCH TO PEKING.

At Langfang, between Tientsin and Peking, on June 16, sixteen British bluejackets from the Centurion, under Major Johnston, who were in the advance, were attacked by some 3000 Chinese troops and Boxers. They held them off with sharp Maxim and rifle fire until relieved by parties of Americans and Germans, with whose aid the enemy were soon put to flight.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR'S WOUNDED REACHED TIENTSIN IN SAFETY

Official Report of the Commander of the Relief Expedition Refutes the Story That the Disabled Were Slain to Prevent Capture.

BY the steamship America Maru, which arrived from the Orient yesterday, there were received papers giving Admiral Seymour's report of his advance toward Peking and subsequent retreat to Tientsin. The publication of the report gives the lie to the fake story to the effect that, to save them from torture by the Boxers, all of the wounded of the relief column were shot by Seymour's order at the request of the unfortunates. On the contrary, all of the wounded were safely brought out.

The report is subjoined. It bears the date June 29 and is as follows:

"During our advance from Tientsin to Langfang we were repeatedly attacked by the Boxers, but we beat them back, inflicting heavy loss and not suffering any casualties ourselves. When we reached Langfang a large force of the enemy attacked us fiercely, using artillery as well as rifles, but we defeated them, killing about one hundred, and having five Italians wounded on our own side. On the same day the force guarding Lohfah station was vehemently attacked, but we dispatched reinforcements and the enemy were defeated with a loss of 100. On our side the casualties were two British marines wounded.

Second Defeat of Boxers.

"Thence we pushed on to Anting, where we were again attacked, and again defeated our assailants, inflicting on them a loss of 175. We then found that the railway in front of us was hopelessly damaged and that its repair would be out of the question with the means at our command. I therefore decided to return to Yangtsun for the purpose of taking the river route from that place. When vacating Langfang we left two trains with a strong guard, which were to follow us. They were attacked by an army of Boxers and Chinese regulars, who were defeated after a severe contest, their casualties amounting to from 400 to 500 and our own being 6 killed and 48 wounded.

"At Yangtsun we were joined by three trains, but they had been so much injured as to be unfit for further service. We were also in straits for provisions, and our wounded hampered us greatly. I therefore determined to fall back upon Tientsin. Our communications with that place had been severed for six days, and not only were we without proper appliances for the wounded but also no means existed of obtaining food.

Wounded Put Into Boats.

"It was deemed best to put the wounded in boats and take them down the river, the troops marching along the two banks. During these operations we were subjected to constant attacks. We marched all night and finally came in sight of the Tientsin military stores. When we had passed this place on our way north there had not been any sign of the enemy, but as soon as we appeared on the banks of the river on our return journey the enemy opened a hot fire on us with rifles and cannon.

"The fire of our advance guard checked them somewhat, and Major Johnstone's detachment stormed the salient angle of the stores' compound, effecting a lodgment and capturing one gun. Shortly afterward the German detachment on the bank of the river silenced two of the enemy's guns and crossing the river captured these guns. We finally obtained complete possession of the stores. Several times on that day and during the succeeding days the enemy tried to recover the position, but failed. In the stores we found a quantity of rice and other grain which served for provisions, and we also captured a number of new pattern guns as well as a quantity of ammunition.

"We were able to use some of the guns at once for the purpose of attacking a Chinese fort at a point farther down the river. The rice and grain enabled us to hold out for several days, but we were much embarrassed by our wounded. I therefore dispatched a messenger to Tientsin, asking for reinforcements. They arrived on the 23d and we were able to reenter Tientsin on the 24th, having previously set fire to the military stores and destroyed them."

FLIGHT OF EUROPEANS FROM BOXER FANATICS

Of a Party of Forty-One From Pao Ting-Fu Nine Perish Before Reaching the Coast.

THE North China Herald of June 13 has the following:

We are able to give the story of the flight of the unfortunate Europeans from Pao Ting-fu and their adventures on the way to Tientsin. They reached the latter place Saturday, June 4, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Some were wounded, all were ragged, footsore and utterly weary. One woman, both of whose limbs were wounded, had to be carried in a chair.

A Chinese servant came in and stated that he had seen the bodies of M. Ossent and Mme. Astier, the latter mutilated. Altogether nine of the forty-one who originally set out are missing. The story of the woeful march as told by one of the party is as follows:

"Owing to massacres and pillaging in the neighborhood and the threats of Boxers to kill all foreigners, and hearing of the burning of Fengtai, the station that was our junction with the main line, M. Ossent, chief engineer, gave orders to leave Pao Ting. M. Ossent ordered the river route to be followed, as the railway had been wrecked by the Boxers. On the 26th, therefore, we left Pao Ting, there being forty-one Europeans—thirty-three men, seven women and one child. We embarked in twelve boats manned by Chinese sailors.

"The Europeans were mostly armed with revolvers and a number of old Mausers. We weighed anchor about 5 p. m. and left in perfect order. An enormous hostile crowd was present, but beyond some shouting and jeering they did not commit any overt acts. A great number of the crowd were armed with big sticks and many of them wore the red belt of the Boxers.

"After an hour's journey, M. Ossent, on the advice of Mandarin Sun, gave us the order to go down and close the hatchways in passing certain localities said to be dangerous.

"At 6 p. m. we heard rifles and tried to get out. Each one jumped ashore—men, boys, soldiers and all. As soon as we got ashore the Europeans formed into small groups and responded to the fire that was directed at us. In this attack some of us were wounded. We found ourselves in front of a large town, of which we could not learn the name. The wall was covered with men with lances, swords and guns. Fighting became general. All the Europeans, with the exception of M. Ossent, his sister, Mme. Astier, and MM. Cadel and Pessar, who were in one boat and who had jumped on the opposite side of the river, were now fighting together. None of us could tell exactly the situation of M. Ossent, but in the fight there was no time to think of them.

"The Boxers seeing the boats empty jumped in and pulled them away from us. We now had to take to the interior, several of us half clothed and some with no shoes, having lost them in the mud. We kept on, now and then turning to fire on the enemy, who stopped and ran back when we killed any one, but came after us again dragging cannon which they fired after us, but never succeeded in hitting us. We came to a large pond of water which we had to cross. M. Iylbert, a Belgian, and M. Wilden, a Frenchman, jumped in and fetched a boat and soon all of us got to the opposite side and were safe."

BRITISH STILL ARE SKEPTICAL

Place No Faith in Chinese "Edicts" Reporting Safety of Legations.

LONDON, July 23.—In the House of Commons to-day the Parliamentary Secretary of Foreign Affairs, William St. John Broderick, communicated certain statements of the Chinese authorities with regard to the legations at Peking, and said the Minister believed them to be unharmed.

Mr. Broderick read the text of the several edicts of July 18, commenting on Minister Conger's dispatch to the Department of State of the United States, and said that though the dispatch was the same date as the edict of assurance of safety, the latter was not borne out by Mr. Conger. Consul Warren has telegraphed to the Governor of Shantung to know how a message from Peking reached him in two days, and why there was no message from their Foreign Minister, Sir Claude Macdonald. The Governor has replied that the United States Minister's message was sent by the Tsung-Li-Yamen by a messenger traveling 600 leagues (roughly 200 miles) a day.

"I assure you," the Governor of Shantung had added, "there is no telegraphic communication. I cannot explain why Masdonald has not telegraphed, but I beg you not to get anxious about the Ministers, for they and the others are all living and unharmed. Of this I have already had several reliable messages."

Mr. Broderick continued: "Seeing that over a month has elapsed since any communication has reached the Government from the British legation, and the Tsung-Li-Yamen is communicating by messenger with various Chinese authorities, her Majesty's Government feels it cannot give credence to any statement or to any decrees attributed to the officials of the Chinese Government until they are fortified by letters signed and dated by Sir Claude Macdonald, or by other officials or by some cablegram in our cipher."

According to the translation read by Mr. Broderick, the imperial edict opens as follows:

"In the Confucian philosophy, spring and autumn, it is written Envoys should not be killed. How, then, can it be supposed the throne's policy is to connive at allowing troops and people to vent their wrath on foreign Ministers?"

The edict then gives the assurance already made known to the public.

In the House of Commons the Secretary of State for India, Lord George Hamilton, announced that the Maharajah of Walnir had offered the Government a fully equipped hospital ship, upon which it is proposed to spend twenty lakhs of rupees, for service in China, as a mark of loyalty to the Queen. The offer was accepted.

Lord George Hamilton also testified to the Government's appreciation of those who are sending the Maine to China.

MISSION BOARD GETS NEWS OF LEGATIONERS

NEW YORK, July 23.—The Presbyterian Board of Missions to-day received the following cablegram from Chefu:

Situation not changed. Shantung, Governor Chefu, Taotai, publishes imperial edict urging protection of foreigners and native Christians. People Peking alive. Trying through Governor to get word to Pao Ting Fu, where foreigners in Yamen are supposed to be safe. TOWLER.

Rev. Dr. Arthur J. Brown, one of the secretaries of the board, said:

"We do not know any missionary named Towler. Probably the signature should be Fowler. All our missionaries left Chefu for Korea or Japan some days ago. Before leaving they may have asked Consul General John Fowler to keep our board informed."

The Methodist Foreign Missionary Society of New York to-day received the following cable:

FOO CHOO, July 21.—Danger increasing. Missionaries leaving. LACY.

In response to the cable the secretary at once forwarded $300 to help the refugees get away.

HANCOCK MAY SAIL DIRECT TO TAKU

WASHINGTON, July 23.—The War Department is considering the advisability of sending the Hancock, which sails from San Francisco July 28, with four batteries of artillery and 500 marines, direct to Taku instead of to Nagasaki. These troops were to have gone on the Meade, which sails August 1, but it has been decided, owing to the urgent necessity of getting reinforcements to China, to have the Hancock make a special trip. She will carry stores and provisions only for the troops in China. The Meade, on the 1st proximo, will take out one battalion of the Fifteenth Infantry, one squadron of the Third Cavalry and one company of engineers from West Point, in all 1071 men and 60 officers.

The Garonne, carrying two squadrons of the First Cavalry and 100 recruits, 35 officers and 950 men, will sail from Seattle the same day for Nagasaki. The place of the Hancock, which was originally scheduled to sail August 16, will be taken by the Warren if she arrives at San Francisco in time. She will take out two squadrons of the Ninth Cavalry and recruits, in all 42 officers and 1422 men.

FIRST TROOPS FROM CUBA REACH NEW YORK

NEW YORK, July 23.—The United States army transport Crook, having on board a detachment of the Eighth United States Infantry, numbering 642 men, under command of Lieutenant Colonel P. H. Ellis, arrived this morning from Havana. The troops comprise six companies, band and hospital corps. The officers of the regiment, with families and servants, number thirty-six persons. There are also on board eleven cabin passengers, including Colonel W. V. Richards, adjutant general, Division of Cuba; Colonel W. L. Haskins, Second United States Artillery; Major E. S. Godfrey, Seventh United States Cavalry; Major A. S. Taylor, Second United States Artillery; Lieutenant K. W. Shuil, Second Artillery, and N. S. Steinhart, chief clerk, Division of Cuba.

All are well on board the transport, and the men are in excellent condition.

Colonel Kimball, depot quartermaster, announced to-day that the Crook would remain in the bay during the day. To-morrow morning the troops will be landed and they will go by rail to Fort Snelling, Minn., where they will recruit and refit ready for further orders.

Three battalions of the Fifteenth Regiment, stationed on Governors Island, will go to San Francisco. They will take two carloads of provisions, medical stores, canvas warehouses, hardware and entrenching tools. The first battery of artillery from Fort Wadsworth and the first battery from Fort Hamilton will take the place of these three battalions on the island.

Sixteen packers have been sent to Seattle to join the packing trains now preparing for service in China.

AMERICAN ATTITUDE DISPLEASES GERMANY

BERLIN, July 23.—Disappointment is experienced in official circles at the tenor of the reports from Washington regarding America's policy. On this point the Berliner Tageblatt, with evident inspiration, says:

"The Chinese have nearly succeeded in creating differences of opinion among the powers. The Government of the United States seems determined thus early to occupy a separate standpoint with the concert of the powers. As at Taku, where the American admiral would not join, so now President McKinley apparently means to oppose the joint action of the powers aimed at the re-establishment of order in China, all of which proves that the Chinese are indeed the most cunning diplomatists in the world."

While most of the papers point out the impossibility of an advance upon Peking, because of the smallness of the allied forces, as against a greatly superior force—because of the disastrous effect which a possible defeat would have upon the whole of China, and also because of the rainy season—the National Zeitung contends that there is but one way to ascertain the truth or untruth of the Chinese claim that the legations are safe, namely, an immediate advance on the capital.

The semi-official Berliner Post points out that Germany must send a number of warships to the Yang-tse Kiang to protect the German commercial interests in Shangai and Hankow.

DEMANDS INFORMATION.

BRUSSELS, July 23.—In reply to the demand of the Belgian Government the Chinese Charge d'Affaires says he has telegraphed indirectly to the Tsung-li Yamen with a view of placing the Belgian Minister at Peking, Baron de Vinck, in communication with Belgium.

MISSIONARIES ESCAPE.

REDWING, Minn., July 23.—A cablegram was received from Rev. T. H. Hilme announcing that the missionaries of The Hague Norwegian Synod of America had safely reached Shanghai from their stations, 700 miles inland.

GERMAN FORCE REDUCED.

BERLIN, July 23.—A dispatch from Taku, dated Friday, July 20, says the German force at Tientsin has been reduced to 200 men.

PROBABLY AN ERROR IN NAME

Alleged Message From Prince Tuan on Safety of Forei ners.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—The State Deparfment made public the following: The State Department has received a dispatch from Mr. Goodnow, the Consul General at Shanghai, dated to-day, saying that Prince Tuan wires that an officer of the Tsung Li Yamen saw all the Ministers on the 18th; that none were injured, and that no attack was at that time being made. He does not say to whom the dispatch of Prince Tuan was addressed, and it is to a certain extent at variance with the dispatch of Mr. Conger of that date, describing the legation as being under fire at that time.

After mature consideration the officials of the State Department have come to the conclusion that by a telegraphic error the name of the informant of Consul General Goodnow has been turned into "Tuan" from "Yuan." The latter is the famous Yuan Shih Kai, the Governor of the province of Shantung. He always has maintained an attitude of neutrality and ever leaned toward positive friendship for the foreigners. He has from the first divided with Sheng, the director of posts and telegraphs at Shanghai, the distinction of being the only means of communication between Peking and the outside world. Therefore, it is extremely probable that he has served in the same capacity in this instance.

On the other hand, if this dispatch really came from Prince Tuan, the fact would be of great significance. In the opinion of the officials here, it would indicate that this official either has been grossly misrepresented as to his anti-foreign tendency, or that he is seeking to escape responsibility for the outrages upon foreigners, an act in itself significant of the breaking of the anti-foreign party, with each principal looking out for himself.

WUNG KEE WILL DO NO MORE NEWSPAPER WORK

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NEW YORK, July 23.—Wung Kai Kee of Chinatown was engaged by a New York newspaper to render in Chinese hieroglyphics certain mandates said to have been issued by the Peking Government and by the Boxers. He also made some Chinese drawings and gave his opinion of the trouble in China over his signature. Chinatown immediately concluded that he was the author of all the fakes that have stirred up trouble with the Flowery Kingdom.

Mass-meetings were held to decide his fate, but Wung got away and remained away until to-day, when he slipped quietly into his little shop, where his loyal young wife, Ah Que, was awaiting him, and great was the joy of reunion. She had kept solitary vigil for absent Wung, hoping that he would come back to her in safety.

Wung remained indoors to-day and there was no hostile demonstration except by a couple of Chinese youths, who hurled a brick through his window. A watcher in a window above a saloon opposite Wung's shop kept his post, however, and he made mental note of everybody who entered Wung's place.

The Chinese council, Chung Wah Kung Chah, met at 16 Mott street to-night to further consider Wung Kai Kee's case, but its deliberations were brief and it was said no action was taken.

Leh Sang, who is very much Americanized and has recently come from Washington to reside in New York, said to-day that Wung Kai Kee when he resided in San Francisco, and later when he was connected with the World's Fair, had antagonized a secret society, and that the present campaign against him is being carried on by members of this organization.

CAPTAIN M'CALLA REFUSED TO DELAY

Special Dispatch to The Call.

BOSTON, July 23.—The American Board has received a letter from Rev. George D. Wilder dated Tientsin, June 12, in which he says the Boxer movement has reached a climax. Murder and arson are filling the province from Kaigan to Linching. Many minor outrages were committed on Catholics and Protestants during May and a great number of Boxers assembled.

"At the last of the month," he writes, "the word came down from the thone for the Boxers to 'create disorder' as rapidly as possible. After the trains stopped frantic appeals came for protection to the Ministers. Last Saturday night the various Consuls here had a stormy meeting until midnight. The French and Russian representatives bitterly opposed sending troops to repair the road and to relieve Peking. They withdrew for consultation several times. Consul Carts (British) held steadily for that action, backed by the American and Japanese Consuls. Fihally Captain McCalla said: 'We have talked a good deal; now I will tell you what I will do. Our Minister telegraphs that he is in danger. It matters not what others do or do not do. My entire force of bluejackets—100—will take a train and start for Peking to-morrow morning.'

"The British, Japanese and Germans followed this lead, the French and Russians refusing. But the next morning when the train was made up they sent in large forces which had to report to Captain McCalla and then wait, partly for a second section. Two thousand four hundred set out that day and the next day 300 more Germans. To-day another train with officers has gone.

"The Chinese troops are armed with foreign rifles and artillery, but, thank heaven! with Chinese ammunition."

SURROUNDED BY KOOFAN BOXERS

Dr. Roberts, a Former San Franciscan, in Grave Peril.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

TOLEDO, Ohio, July 23.—The following cablegram, dated yesterday, was received at the Cheney Company's laboratory here from Shanghai:

"Chinese runners arrived to-day bearing an appeal for military protection from Dr. Roberts, a missionary at Koofan. He says he is surrounded by Boxers and is in great danger. Advise family. (Signed) "JOHNSON."

Johnson is manager of the China branch of the Cheney Company, it being a receiving depot for their catarrh herbs, raised on the Koofan farm, which lies forty miles west of Shanghai. Dr. Charles Roberts has charge of the farm, and employs missionaries and Christian Chinese of the neighborhood. He has been connected with the Cheney Company for about seven years, three of which were spent in China. Prior to that he resided in San Francisco with his parents. Frank J. Cheney, president of the company, has appealed to Washington for assistance, and has cabled the Shanghai branch to spare no expense to effect immediate relief.

WRITES OF CAPTURE OF THE TAKU FORTS

WICHITA, Kans., July 23.—A letter from Dr. Pruen, a missionary in China, has just reached his mother, who lives in this city. The letter was written June 22 from Shanghai, and says:

"Mrs. Mills, an English lady, arrived here yesterday from Tientsin. She tells us that after the 2000 Russians had repulsed an attack on the settlement by the Chinese soldiers and Boxers the Consul ordered all women and children to leave Tientsin. The Mills family did so. The steamer in which they came down the river reached Taku just in time for the bombardment of the forts, so the ladies had to crouch beneath great stacks of coal to avoid the shells. Presently from a few of the thirty gunboats they saw the British and Japanese land marines, who rushed forward and seized one of the forts. Then the others fell into the hands of Russia and Germany."

CHINESE REPULSED NEAR WEI-HAI-WEI

ST. PETERSBURG, July 23.—Two encounters are reported to have taken place between British and Chinese forces near Wei-Hai-Wei. The latter, it is reported, were repulsed after a stubborn encounter. No dates are given.

M. Krutiszki, engineer of the Eastern Chinese Railway, telegraphing from Algatchi, in the trans-Baikal territory, under date of Friday, July 20, reports the occupation of Chailar by Chinese troops. The Russians, according to this dispatch, continued to concentrate at Charbin.

TEXT OF CHINESE EDICT GIVEN OUT

Special Dispatch to The Call.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—The State Department to-day gave out the text of the imperial edict received yesterday by Minister Wu, which, like other official communications received from Peking, is designed to put the Chinese Imperial Government in the position of doing all in its power to protect foreigners and to make reparation for any outrages that may have been committed. It also attributes the opposition which the powers have met to the attack upon the Taku forts, which precipitated the meeting of force with force.

TRANSLATION OF AN EDICT OF THE BOXERS

NEW YORK, July 23.—Rev. Dr. John Fox of the American Bible Society to-day received a translation of one of the inflammatory posters used by the Boxers. This was forwarded by Rev. John H. Hykes of Shanghai, who received it from Rev. Charles Gammon at Tientsin. It is a sample of many varieties, of which 200,000 copies were distributed in Tientsin City on June 4. Only the prompt arrival of foreign troops prevented a second Tientsin massacre. It is as follows:

Sacred edict, issued by the Lord of Wealth and Happiness.

The Catholic and Protestant religions, being insolent to the gods and extinguishing sanctity, rendering no obedience to Buddhism and enraging both heaven and earth, the rain clouds now no longer visit us, but 8000 spirit soldiers will descend from heaven and sweep the empire clean of all foreigners. Then will the gentle showers once more water our lands, and when the tread of soldiers and the clash of steel are heard heralding woes to our people, then the Buddhists' Patriotic League of Boxers will be able to protect the empire and bring peace to all its people.

Hasten, then, to spread this doctrine far and wide, for if you gain one adherent to the faith your own person will be absolved from future misfortunes. If you gain five adherents to the faith your whole family will be absolved from all evils, and if you gain ten adherents to the faith your whole village will be safe from all calamity. If you gain no adherents you shall be decapitated, for until all foreigners are exterminated the rain will never visit us.

Those who have drunk water from wells poisoned by foreigners should at once make use of the following divine prescription, the ingredients of which are to be swallowed, when the poisoned patients will recover:

Dried black plums, half an ounce.
Solanum delcamarel, half an ounce.
Encommia elcomoids, half an ounce.

A letter was received to-day by Dr. F. Woodruff Halsey from John M. Swan, M. D., dated Canton, June 18. He says that the province of Kwangtung, of which Canton is the capital, has been ripe for rebellion for a year past. Only the vigorous measures of Li Hung Chang in suppressing piracy and robbery had preserved order. At the moment of writing Dr. Swan says the bodies of eight men were exposed in public places within a minute's walk of his house. The men had been put to death by torture. Dr. Swan also said that large quantities of arms and ammunition had been imported at Canton during the past year.

TELEGRAM TELLING OF MINISTERS' SAFETY

PARIS, July 23.—M. Delcasse, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has received a telegram from the French Consul at Chefu, dated July 21, saying:

"The Governor informs me that, according to reliable news from Peking, all the foreign Ministers are safe and the Government is taking all necessary steps to deliver and protect them."

FRANCE'S CHINESE CORPS.

PARIS, July 23.—The Matin this morning publishes full details regarding the expeditionary corps of France which will participate in the operations in China. The corps will consist of two brigades, one of marines under command of General Frey and the other supplied by the War Department commanded by General Baillou. The total French force will number 13,000 men.

MISSIONS DESTROYED.

LONDON, July 23.—The China Inland Mission received a telegram from Shanghai, dated to-day, which reports that Siang Sien, Si Heu, Chia Kiao, Shekia Tien and Kiang Tsi Kuen, all mission stations in the province of Hohnan, have been destroyed by rioters. The missionaries are safe.

CHINESE BLOCK THE ADVANCE OF RUSSIANS

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NEW YORK, July 23.—The Journal has this from Shanghai, July 23: Three thousand Russian troops have arrived at Niuchwang from Port Arthur. Their advance is blocked by a force of 10,000 Chinese regular troops, well armed and drilled. A battle is imminent. The Chinese are on the lefensive, but will not permit the Russians to proceed.

TO SECOND READING.

LONDON, July 23.—The House of Lords this evening passed to second reading the bill empowering the Queen to prohibit the exportation of arms and ammunition or either to any country "when there is reason to believe that these or others may be used against the British forces or foreign forces co-operating with them."

GOES TO CHINA.

SAN DIEGO, July 23.—A farewell reception and banquet was tendered this evening by the Cuyamaca Club to Captain Charles Humphrey, commanding Battery D, Third Artillery. The battery leaves for San Francisco Wednesday and thence goes to China.

COMMANDER VERY TELLS OF PANIC AT SHANGHAI

Last Authentic Communication Received There From Peking Was Dated June 11.

Commander S. W. Very, recently relieved from command of the United States gunboat Castine, arrived yesterday on the America Maru from Shanghai, from which place he departed June 30. Commander Very says that there had been no authentic news from Peking for nineteen days before he sailed. The latest communication was dated at Peking on June 11, and was sent by a lady there to Mrs. Goodnow, wife of the American Consul General at Shanghai. This letter contained no hint of anxiety or trouble, and was merely an apology for not being able to attend a dinner to be given by Mrs. Goodnow.

Before June 30 the Consuls of all countries represented at Shanghai were holding daily meetings, being unable to communicate with Peking and being without instructions. A Chinese fleet had appeared but had been persuaded to depart. Chinese were crowding into Shanghai panic stricken, and others were fleeing from the city in fear. Still there was no outbreak in that city up to June 30. The Castine was not at the Taku battle, being still under repairs.

TAMMANY'S STAND ON NATIONAL ISSUES

NEW YORK, July 23.—At a meeting tonight of the Tammany Hall general committee a series of resolutions, upon motion of Richard Croker, were adopted, containing the following:

Tammany Hall believes in the supremacy of the American flag wherever it floats, but that it should float nowhere as the symbol of liberty and civil servitude combined, for that is a combination which can work only dishonor to the flag and American institutions.

Tammany Hall condemns the waging of a war for conquest as un-American in principle and false to the pledge of the nation as given by the President of the United States. It condemns the unconstitutional action of the President in carrying on a war for conquest without the authorization of Congress.

The resolutions denounce monopolies and trusts and close with the following:

The Democracy of the nation stands for national honor, national conservatism, national justice. Tammany Hall, faithful to the principles of Democracy and subordinating all things to Democratic success, closes its ranks and calls for patriotic unity in the name of Democratic triumph.