

TOPEKA, KANSAS, JULY 28, 1900. SATURDAY EVENING.

CORBIN ON CHINA.

The Views of a Very High Authority

On the Military Situation in the Far East.

THE CHINESE ARMY

Its Strength and How It Is Organized.

Thinks a Hard Campaign Ahead For Allies.

As events now occurring in China are engrossing the attention of the civilized world, some account of the Chinese army, of the forces the powers can bring against them, and of the operations likely to take place will be of interest.

Brigadier General H. C. Corbin writes this review of the military situation in China for today's issue of Collier's Weekly.

THE BEGINNING OF THE TROUBLE.

On May 31 there were at Taku 7 Russian, 1 French, 2 British, and 1 Italian warships, all of which landed detachments of sailors and marines; other ships afterwards arrived, and on June 8, the number of ships had been increased to 22, 2 of which were American.

Meanwhile, detachments of various nationalities had been sent into Peking to guard the legations. The troops, when landed, proceeded to take possession of and repair the railroad.

June 10 a force of about 2,000 men under Admiral Seymour left Tien Tsin for Peking. Arriving about forty miles from the capital, it was found that the railroad had been destroyed, and that further progress would have to be made by marching.

For some time nothing was heard from this column. On June 17 the Taku forts, at the mouth of the Pei Ho river, were attacked and captured.

On June 21 an attack on Tien Tsin began, and it was necessary to send a force to its relief. The first detachment, consisting of about 400 Russians and 120 American marines, under Major Waller, met with serious resistance and were in great danger until reinforced by about 1,000 British troops.

The rest of the relieving force arriving, an entrance into Tien Tsin, which had been held by about 1,000 men, principally Russians, was effected on June 23. It was then learned that Seymour's column not only had been unable to do anything for the relief of Peking, but after hard fighting against greatly superior forces, had been compelled to withdraw and had intrenched near Tien Tsin.

On June 25, 2,000 men went from Tien Tsin to Seymour's relief. The arsenal was destroyed and the whole force returned to Tien Tsin. In the early part of the troubles the boxes had been opened by Chinese troops, but afterwards the latter joined the boxes, and in the recent fighting their forces have been combined.

Prince Tuan, thoroughly opposed to all foreigners, is reported to have poisoned the Emperor to have put himself at the head of the anti-foreign movement, and to be actively directing the troops.

While the news of the assassination of the German minister and of the massacre of all foreigners in Peking is agitating the civilized world, the combined forces of the powers are at present at Tien Tsin and Taku, and unable with their present strength to make a forward movement. The steps taken by the powers to increase their strength in China will be referred to hereafter.

THE CHINESE ARMY.

The total strength of the Chinese army cannot be accurately given, and if it could, the statement would have but little value, as many of the men who are carried on the rolls are neither armed nor equipped, and a large number are following civil vocations and performing no military duty whatever.

These troops are organized into eight banners of varying numbers, and are designated as follows: the Banner of the Blue Clouds, the Banner of the White Clouds, the Banner of the Yellow Clouds, the Banner of the Red Clouds, the Banner of the Green Clouds, the Banner of the Purple Clouds, the Banner of the Black Clouds, and the Banner of the Grey Clouds.

These eight banners nominally contain about 200,000 men, but the number maintained on a war footing is very much less, men being taken from the banners to form other corps. The nationalities comprising the Banner forces are three in number: viz., Manchu, Mongolian, and Chinese, the latter being descendants of the Banner forces who accompanied the Manchus during the period of their conquest with the Ming Dynasty in the early part of the seventeenth century.

The Banner forces are distributed under each color according to their nationality. Thus, there being three nationalities, each Banner is subdivided into three parts (Kusais). There are, therefore, 24 Kusai-3 in each Ku. The Kusai are more administrative than tactical.

Under one or other of these divisions all living Manchus, and all descendants of the Manchus and Chinese soldiers of the conquest, are enrolled. The Bannerers constitute, in fact, the population of Peking, with offshoots in various provincial garrisons, and a certain number of the adult males of the force receive pay as members of one or the other military corps into which they have, from time to time, been organized, in addition

to the pittance they receive as soldiers of the Banner.

The various corps are divided into companies (Lyanza), numbering 250 men each in the Infantry and 150 in the cavalry.

According to the latest reliable authorities about all the organized and drilled Chinese troops to be counted upon in the present operations are as follows: approximate strength:

Table listing military units and their strengths: General Sung's corps (10,000), Soon Ching's corps (7,000), Tsin Fu Slang's corps (10,000), General Nieh's corps (13,000), Hu Shen's corps (5,000), Pekin Field force (10,000), Division of guards (20,000).

The last three corps of these troops are drawn from the Manchu Banner-men. There are other troops more or less well organized and drilled in distant provinces, but they must be considered as a factor in the present operations.

The governor of Shantung is said to have collected the following troops, drilled according to German methods. The value of the boxes as a fighting force against organized European troops is an unknown quantity, but is not thought to be great.

FORCES OF THE POWERS.

When the troubles in China began, the armed forces of the powers available were composed of the sailors and marines who could be landed from the ships. Some of these troops are at hand, while others were in different parts of the Orient, but within a few days' sail. The total number of warships of all classes in those waters is as follows:

Table listing warships of various nations: Great Britain (22), Russia (20), United States (20), France (12), Germany (9), Japan (9).

Italy had one ship at Taku, Austria had some marines ashore, so her navy must be represented; but these two nations are omitted from the foregoing list. Germany had, besides the men on shipboard, about 3,000 men at Kiaochow. Russia had perhaps 20,000 men at Port Arthur and a large number of troops in Eastern Siberia.

She has also a large force on the northern frontier of China, but it is at great distance overland from Peking and cannot be considered available. Any reinforcements would probably be sent from Odessa. Japan has a large number of troops available, and can furnish at short notice as many as may be needed.

Late reports state that the powers have all agreed to utilize Japanese military strength, and give her their mandate to bring order out of chaos. The powers, however, not depending entirely upon that, are preparing to send troops home. Great Britain has sent about 1,000 troops from Hong Kong. Between 4,000 and 5,000 men were to leave Calcutta on June 24. Lord Roberts' force, if he could spare any from South Africa, but he answered in the negative.

Later telegrams from India give the force to be sent to China from India as follows: 223 British officers, 308 British warrant and non-commissioned officers and men, 490 native units and men; 170 followers, 1,250 horses and ponies; 2,050 mules; six guns and 11 Maxim's. Two coals of force of 1,000 each will also proceed, with the following: France for China, June 23, three warships and two transports carrying two battalions of infantry and two batteries of artillery. There are also reported about 10,000 French troops at Saigon ready to embark. Germany had already made preparations to strengthen her position in China, but the news of the assassination of her minister makes it certain that she will eventually have to be entirely dependent upon the aid of the United States.

The United States have sent a battalion of marines and a regiment of infantry from the Philippines. There are also present about 1,000 troops en route for or under orders to the Philippines. As they go via Nagasaki, they can be sent from there to Taku instead of by the coast. It is reported that Italy and Austria will also send contingents.

Because of unavoidable delays, and the approximate number of days required to reach Taku from the various starting points, it is apparent that all the troops under orders for China cannot arrive there until early in August. There will be constant accessions, however, from now on, and there will perhaps be enough troops at Taku to take the offensive much earlier. There certainly will be if Japan's offer is accepted. The question of the manner in which Japan is to be permitted to prove a stumbling block. There would be no objection to a money payment, but there probably would be to a cessation of territory. The great necessity for prompt action may, however, cause all objections to be overlooked.

In regard to the use of the navies of the powers, the effect will depend upon two things—the use of their ships and their capacity to furnish men for duty ashore. Active operations will be entirely dependent upon the navy. Draught will be useful in river work, not only on the Pei Ho, but near treaty ports in other parts of China where protection is needed. The larger ships, particularly the battleships, will be useless except to furnish landing parties. The transport fleet may be near the scene of action five gunboats whose draught will enable them to be of service in navigable inland waters.

THE TREATY PORTS. It is not certain within what limits active operations on shore will be confined. China is not a homogeneous nation. As a rule, the people of one province have little or no care little for what is occurring in a distant province. Each is governed by a viceroy or governor, who, though appointed by the central government, is almost entirely independent of it, and is practically a king within his own dominions. He controls the army of the size he wishes and that he is able to pay for. This is illustrated by the dispatches from China, which show the Republic company is to disband some of its troops, and the non-union company is to be disbanded at once. Further business in bars shows that agricultural implement makers are more active. Export orders advanced electrolytic copper from 19 to 18 1/2 cents. Jobbers in boots and shoes are demanding prompt delivery on orders for new business is scarce. Manufacturers of portable leather only for immediate needs. A reduction from 7 to 6 cents in the price of bleached cotton closed out the entire stock in 48 hours, prices then being restored. Similarly in iron, the depression in which has resulted in hesitation and fear in other industries, the tone is better, and in the Pittsburgh district the mills have booked a line of orders in bars and plates. Structural and bridge materials are better taken.

The refusal of the Amalgamated Association to allow a change in the scale adopted in May has led to strikes at numerous bar mills, and the Republic company is to disband some of its troops, and the non-union company is to be disbanded at once. Further business in bars shows that agricultural implement makers are more active. Export orders advanced electrolytic copper from 19 to 18 1/2 cents. Jobbers in boots and shoes are demanding prompt delivery on orders for new business is scarce. Manufacturers of portable leather only for immediate needs. A reduction from 7 to 6 cents in the price of bleached cotton closed out the entire stock in 48 hours, prices then being restored. Similarly in iron, the depression in which has resulted in hesitation and fear in other industries, the tone is better, and in the Pittsburgh district the mills have booked a line of orders in bars and plates. Structural and bridge materials are better taken.

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TOPEKA SOCIETY.

City Federation Visiting the Topeka School Rooms.

Portia Club Issues a Beautiful Year Book.

AN INFORMAL PICNIC

Miss Leila Stanley, of Alliance, Ohio, Guest of Honor.

Notes Personal and Otherwise of Interest in Society.

There is little doing in clubdom just now though many new ideas are being worked up for use during the coming season. The art committee seems to be the only department of the federation that has not suspended all operations for the summer.

Friday morning Mrs. A. H. Thompson, president of the city federation, Mrs. T. J. Kellam, chairman of the central art committee and Superintendent W. M. Davidson, visited several school buildings with a view to selecting new papers. All of the rooms in Buchanan are to be repapered, six rooms in Clay and two in Douglas. Some of the North side schools were visited in the afternoon and some papering is to be done there.

The Portia Year Book. The Portia club has recently issued its course of study for next year, enclosed in a pale blue cover with blue ribbons and lettered in gold.

The officers of the club are: President, Mrs. G. F. Worley; vice president, Mrs. G. D. Startzman; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. E. G. Foster. The club has 15 members.

About half of the programme is devoted to literary subjects and the other half to domestic subjects such as the training of children, "Home Making," "Manners and Morals," "Woman as Mother, Wife and Homekeeper," "The Chemistry of Cooking," and various others which will doubtless prove of great interest. The first meeting of the club in the fall will be held, October 4.

An Informal Picnic. Miss Lottie Snyder arranged an informal little picnic in honor of her guest, Miss Leila Stanley of Alliance, Ohio, at Harfield park Friday evening. The party was composed of Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Swan, Miss Stanley, Miss Blanche Snyder, Miss Lottie Snyder, Mr. Paul Roehr, Harry Bennett and Mr. Rob Rigdon.

A Novel Affair. A number of the friends of Miss Rebecca Rodgers are making her a quilt which she will doubtless prize greatly in the years to come. About 12 of her girl friends are interested in the project. It is to be a silk "crazy quilt," and each girl is to make a block, a few of the more intricate designs being made by the girls. The quilt is to be made in the shape of a "quilted bee" and is to be held and the blocks put together. Each girl is to work her name in one corner of the block.

Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Stoddard, of Kansas City, are in Topeka to spend Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Little. Dean Sykes will leave Sunday for Maryland, to visit his children.

Miss Harry Davidson, of Indiana, and Miss Minnie Pler will go to Colorado next week for an outing. Miss Minnie Pler will go to Herington to be absent for two weeks' visit with her brother.

Mrs. J. F. Jarrell and children leave Sunday for Manitou to join Mrs. A. L. Williams, of Kansas City, who will spend Sunday in Topeka with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Johnston expect to leave Topeka for New York City, where they will spend the summer. Mrs. Belle Doyle, of Lima, Ohio, is in the city visiting her sister, Mrs. M. E. Hartley, at 713 Topeka avenue.

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[Continued on page 5.]

PERUNA BUILDS UP AND RESTORES



MISS IDA HARNED

Conspicuous among women who have attained success in the business world is Miss Ida Harned, a clever insurance writer. Miss Harned is recently in receipt of an international medal from her company for having written more insurance during a single month than any other agent in the world.

A recent letter from Miss Harned to The Peruna Medicine Co., of Columbus, O., reads as follows:

injured by an explosion in a celluloid collar factory in Chicago.

President Gompers announces that the American Federation of Labor will stand by the St. Louis strikers.

Michigan Democrats meet in state convention and nominate Mayor Maybury of Detroit for governor.

Populist, Democratic and Free Silver Republican state conventions meet at Fort Scott and nominate a fusion ticket as follows: Associate Justice, David Martin, Atchison, Silver Republican; governor, John W. Bradenthal, Topeka, Populist; lieutenant governor, A. M. Harvey, Topeka, Populist; secretary of state, Abraham Frakes, Wakarusa, Democrat; attorney general, Hugh E. Parrelly, Chanute, Democrat; auditor, E. J. Westgate, Garden City, Populist; treasurer, Conway Marshall, Garnett, Democrat; superintendent, Levi Hummer, Abilene, Populist; superintendent of insurance, Webb McCall, Gaylord, Silver Republican; congressman at large, Rev. J. D. Botkin, Winfield, Populist; Jerry Simpson's aspirant for the United States senatorship turned down.

Mobs take possession of the streets in New Orleans through an entire night, killing and beating negroes wherever found. Casualties, one dead, three fatally injured, and 15 badly hurt.

Chas. H. Hoyt, the playwright, adjudged insane and sent to a sanitarium.

Secretary Hay visits President McKinley at Canton.

Li Hung Chang is told by the foreign consul at Shanghai that he must get a message from the ministers at Peking within five days.

A portion of Lord Roberts' army defeated by Boers with a loss of 50.

Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow makes his report on the Cuban postal frauds.

The United States government refuses to suspend military operation in China in consideration of foreign ministers at Tien Tsin.

Colombian revolution ends with the surrender of the rebels.

Foreign ministers reported to be en route to Tien Tsin under Chinese escort. Forty lives lost by the capsizing of a steamer on Lake La Barge.

PERUNA BUILDS UP AND RESTORES

It is with much pleasure I give Peruna my hearty endorsement.

Yours truly, IDA HARNED.

Everyone who is in the least degree subject to nervousness, sleeplessness, prostration, mental fatigue or nervous debility in any form, under the influence of weather of July and August very hard to bear, if not dangerous.

A dose of Peruna before each meal during the hot season is a safeguard of priceless value to those who are in the least subject to nervous prostration, and an effectual protection against summer colds.

Mrs. M. Dooley, Mt. Airy, Habersham county, Ga., writes: "In the spring of the year 1891 I took your Peruna for about three weeks according to directions and also one bottle of Manalin, and can truly say that I consider myself cured of catarrh of the stomach of five years' standing."

"I only took three bottles of Peruna and one of Manalin, which generally stimulated the liver, the glands of the stomach and bowels, and is a most splendid tonic."

"Peruna is a wonderful medicine for catarrh of the stomach. If I ever have any more trouble I will most assuredly try Peruna, and I also believe that I ever took that did me any good. Peruna acted like magic in my case. I believe it is the best medicine on earth for dyspepsia, and also believe that no other medicine on the market that equals it for family use."

Atonic dyspepsia is simply nervous prostration of the stomach. There is not usually much pain, but a feeling of great weight, and some times faintness should be in constant movement after a meal lies dormant, allowing the food to soon decompose instead of digesting.

This is the most common form of dyspepsia among the mentally overworked class, whose nervous systems become depressed by long continued strains and sedentary habits.

If there is a remedy in the whole range of medical preparations that is in every particular adapted to this form of dyspepsia, that remedy is Peruna. It not only acts as an appetizer, but it imparts to the stomach the vigor to properly digest the food by awakening the peristaltic movements of the digestive organs.

Mrs. Fred Bohde, Goggin, Ind., writes: "I was a sufferer from headache and pain in my stomach for ten years, more or less. I consulted doctors, but they could give me no relief. I grew weaker right along, and didn't expect that I could live very long. One day I happened to get a '99 Peruna medicine. I saw my case described in it, and also a sure cure, so I decided to give it a trial. I commenced to take it last spring, and after taking half a bottle of Peruna I felt like a new person. I continued taking Peruna until fall, following your directions carefully, and I have a copy of 'Summer Catarrh.' This book treats of the many and varied phases of catarrh peculiar to summer. Sent free."

"Hoping that Peruna may do for others what it has done for me, I recommend it to everyone." I remain, truly yours, Mrs. Fred Bohde.

Address The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O., for a copy of "Summer Catarrh." This book treats of the many and varied phases of catarrh peculiar to summer. Sent free.

CHICAGO, ILL., 607 CHAMPLAIN BUILDING. The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Brief Review of Important Local and General Happenings.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY. Report reaches Washington that foreign ministers in Peking were alive and well July 18th.

Trial of Caleb Powers on charge of conspiracy in the murder of Governor Combs continues at Georgetown, Ky.

Boer General Dewet cuts Lord Roberts' line of communication and captures 100 Highlanders.

Emperor of China issues an edict ordering protection of foreigners.

It is officially announced that the foreign ministers in Peking will be sent to Tien Tsin under escort.

Chinese Emperor appeals to President McKinley to mediate in the trouble with the Republic.

W. W. Rockhill appointed United States commissioner to investigate the Chinese situation.

PLUMBING

We are prepared to fill all Plumbing orders promptly.

Estimates furnished on Hot Water and Steam Heating.

Chaney & Morton

623 KANSAS