poking at it with sticks.

well the max lished his received and on the rail way, and with sublime effrontary attributed the disasters not to the "Boxers' but to the foreign-drilled solders of General Nieh. Telegraph communication by every route had been cut. Almost the last of the servants who were not Christians had fled from their inasters.

On the 12th a deputation, consisting of Chi Hsiu, a member of the Grand Council and newly appointed to the Yamen, Hsu Ching-cheng, the ex-Minister, the "Boxer" leader Chao Shu-chiao, and another Manchu, called upon the British Minister. Chi Hsiu made a long address, his theme being the enduring nature of the

ang-tang, or east Catheliames into the sky. The Church in the northeast of the London Mission build-pandsome pile of the America Mission, and the entire buildings belonging to the Imeritime Customs in the east ned throughout the night. It appalling sight. entirely burnt to e soldiers witnessed, if sist in the burning.

Maritime Customs in the east in med throughout the night. It was an appalling sight.

Late in the night a large party of "Boxers" bearing torches, were seen moving down Customs street toward the Austrian Legation. The machine cun mounted was in waiting for them. They were allowed to come within 150 yards in the open street near the great cross road, and then the order was given and the gun rained forth death. It was a grateful sound. The torches disappeared. They and none, we thought, could have escaped. Eagerly we went forth to count the dead, expecting to find them in heaps. But there was not one dead. The gun had been aimed very wide of the mark. Two hundred yards north of the "Boxers" there is a place where, 30 feet above the level road, the telegraph wires crossed to the station. Next morning they were found to have been cut by the Austrian fire. The only persons who suffered injury were possible wayfarers two miles up the street. There can be little doubt that this fires co helped to confirm the "Poxers" in a belief in their invulnerability.

The Tang-tang, or east Cathedral, having been burned, it was clear ound the soldiers witnessed, if they be not assist in the burning. But the the sevents were to happen that in the afternoon news assed the Pekin that Mr. Suglyama, wellor of the Japanese Letter been murdered by soltheen some by high Minme to Machia-pu to prival of the troops. In the gate on the way to the atameter of the gate on the way to the atameter of the gate on the way to the atameter of the gate on the way to the atameter of the gate on the way to the atameter of the gate on the way to the soldiers of the gate on the way to the stand he was seized by the soldiers of the gate on the way to the stand he was suited by the soldiers of the foreign of the American Legation waiting at the American Legation was cured for being in the service of the foreigners. He rode to the Yung-ting Men, where he saw the foreigner dead and mutilated, but was not permitted to enter, and riding furiously, he came round by another gate and so breathless into the Legation. Mr. Narahara, the second Secretary, at once went to the Yung-ting Men, where was cut out, and there is every reason to believe was sent as a trophy to the savage General Tung-fuh-siang himself. No attempt was ever made to recover the body, and the follow-

in their invulnerability.

The Tung-tang, or east Cathedral, having been burned, it was clear that the Nad-tung, the south Cathedral, was in danger. Pere Garrigues, the aged priest of the Tung-tang, had refused to leave his post and had perished in the flames. But the fathers and sisters at the Nan-tang might yet be saved. Their lives were in great perli; it was necessary to act quickly. A party of French gentlennen, led by M. Fliche, of the French Legation, and accompanied by M. and Mmet. Chamot, rode out at night and early the following morn-M. and Mmet Chamot, rode out at night and early the following morning safely escorted to the hotel every member of the mission—Pere d'Addosio and his two colleagues, a French prother, five sisters of charity, and some twenty native nuns of the Order of Josephine. They were rescued just in time. Scarcely had they reached a place of safety when the splendid edifice they had forsaken was in flames. To the sky wreathed the smoke, a pillar of cloud marking the destruction, not of a faith, but of a nation. This historic pile of Verblest and Schaal, with its memorial tablet given to the cathedral by the Empeace Kang Hel, was ruthlessly sacrito the savage General Tung-Inh-siang himself. No attempt was ever made to recover the body, and the following morning my servant, sent by me to inquire, found his mutilated body roughly covered with earth at the place where it had been murdered. One leg was exposed, and children, to the anusement of their eders, were A decree published after the mur-der attributed the crime to the ac-tion of desperadoes outside the city whereas it was notorious that the murder was committed by the soldiers of Tung-fuh-slang, the favorite body-guard of the Empress Dowager. In another decree General Nieh was cen-sured, apparently for his too guer-getic treatment even to the cathedral by sacri Kang Hel, was ruthlessly sacri continued burning all day ntinued burning all day, and t, the chief Catho-being also

being also burnt.

re destroyed and
ads put to the kept. Streets withdefended were kept
were thrown up
ton begun for the
detence was still hope that reinforcements would arrive before it
was too late. Postal couriers were
prevented from passing through the
enemy's lines, and only the scantiest
information reached us from outside.
During the evening "Boxers" were
killed on the north bridge endeavoring
to rush the British sentries.
On the 15th rescue parties were
sent out by the American and Russian Legations in the morning, and
by the British and German Legations
in the atternoon, to save if possible
native Christians from the burning
rums apound the Nantang. Awful
sights were witnessed. Women and
children were hacked to pieces, men kept. Streets withcalled upon the British Minister. Chi Hislu made a long address, his theme being the enduring nature of the friendship between China and Eng-land and the duty which China has always recognized as a sacred obli-gation to protect the members of runs a bund the Nantang A signts were witnessed. Would children were hacked to pieces, the Legations who were her guests and the strangers within her walls. Chi Hsiu assured the Minister that the movement was at an end, that all was now tranquil, and that there was no more reason to fear. Yet the very next day Baron Von Ketteler himself captured a "Boxer" from amid

was now tranquil, and that there was no more reason to fear. Yet the very next day Baron Von Ketteler himself captured a "Boxer" from amid the crowd in Legation street. He carried the consecrated headpiece, and was armed with a sword. Round his was armed with a sword. Round his waste he had a helt containing a their work was still incomplete, and with mystic red symbols, by which the was rendered "impermeable" foreign bullets." And in the afternoon the "Boxers" came down in force from the north of the city and the burning of foreign bulleting bullet to pass. Guards were on watch at all the Legations, "but their numbers spread over so many posts were very inadequate, and they were still further reduced by the guards detached for duty at the Pei-tang Cathedral, where, three miles distant within the Imperial City, were gathered in the

ther reduced by the guards detached for duty at the Pei-tang Cathedral, where, three miles distant within the Imperial City, were gathered in the one great compound Mgr. Favier, the Bishop, his coadjutor, Mgr. Jarlin, the missionaries and lay brothers, the sisters of charity and a vast concourse of Christian refugees, estimated at 2,000, who had fled from the massacre in the country.

A guard of five Austrians was sent to the Belgian Legation. The Austrians with their machine gun, commanded the Customs street, leading to the north; the Italians, with a one-pounder, commanded the Legation street to the east. The British with bridge, the Russians were on the South bridge, while the Americans with their Colt machine gua had command of Legation street to the west as far as the court facing the Imperial Palace. The Russians, having no round a far and the reduced this day that only "Eoxers" might enter the Imperial City. The Government was rushing head for the reduced t

property laid in ashes.

It was announced this day that only "Soxers" might enter the Imperial City. The Government was rush-

mand of Legation street to he west as far as the court facing the Imperial Palace. The Russians, having no gun, dropped their heavy ammunition town the well.

As darkness came on the most awful ories were heard in the city, most demonated are unforgettable, the cries the Baxes. "Sha kweitze" "Kill devis —mingled with the arrieks the actims and the groans of the dring. The Boxers were sweep through the city massacring active Christians and burning alive in their homes. The perial City. The Government was rushing headlong to its ruin.

On June 16th a party of 20 British, ten Americans and five Japanese, with some Voiunteers, and accompanied by Lieutennut-Colonel Shiba, the Japanese military attache, patrolled the east city, visiting the ruins in the hope that some Ciristians might yet be in hiding. But to our calls everywhere no reply was given. Refugees, however, from the east city had managed to escape miraculously, and find their way, many of them wounded, to the foreign Legations, seeking that protection and humanity that was dealed them by their own people. As the native was alive in their homes. to be burned the Methodist burned Hata Men street.

ng up in many que

mid the most de

passing a Taoist temple on the way, a noted "Boxer" meeting-place, cries were heard within. The temple was forcibly entered. Native Christians had come within a restricted space, were found there, their hands tied behind their backs, awaiting execution and torture. Some had already been stated on the posterior of the control of the co and torture. Some had already been put to death, and their bodies were still warm and ble ding. All were shockingly must be ding. All were shockingly must be died fieldish murderers were at their ineantations, but may incense before their gods of ering Christians in sacrifice to their angered delties. They shut themselves within the temple, but their defence availed them nothing, Every one of them, 46 in all, was in "Boxer" uniform armed with sword and lance. Retribution was swift; every man was shot to death without mercy.

every man was shot to death without mercy.

In the afternoon a fire broke out in the foreign drug state in the native city outside the great gate of the Chien Men. It was the work of "Boxers," done while the soldiers were looking on. In order to burn the foreign drug store and do the foreigners a few pounds' worth of damage, they did not hesitate to jeopardize by fire property worth millions of pounds, and that is what happened. Adjoining buildings took fire, the flames spread to the booksellers' street, and the most interesting street in China, filled with priceless and the moet interesting streets in China, filled with priceless scrolls, manuscripts and printed books, was gutted from end to end. Fire licked up house after house, and soon the conflagration was the most disastrous ever known in China, reducing to ashes the richest part of Pokin the pearl and iswell est part of Pekin, the pearl and jewel shops, the silk and fur, the satin and embroidery stores, the great curio shops, the gold and silver shops, the snops, the gold and saver snops, the metting houses, and nearly all that was of the highest value in the me-tropolis. Irreparable was the dam-age done. From the street below the fire spread to the central outer Chien Men gate, which directly faces the Imperial Palace, and which is only thrown open for the passage of the Emperor. An imposing temple crowns this wall; it was engulfed in the confingration. The great tiled roof with its upturned gables fell with a crash of falling worlds, great volumes of smoke spread like a pall over the Imperial Palace, fore-boding the doom of the Imperial house. It was a sight never to be

forgotten. While the fire was in progress another broke out in the houses at the end of Legation street, and the triumphal archway was consumed. Fear of fire was to be added to other dangers assailing us.

Early on the morning of the 20th meeting of the diplomatic body was held at the French Legation. No reply has been received from the Tsung-lihas been received from the Tsung-li Yamen to the request for an audience and the proposition that all the Min no second. Had it been carried out there would have occurred one of the most appailing massacres on record.
Two chairs later left for the Yamen.
In the first was the German Minister,
Baron von Ketteler, who had this
advantage over the other Ministers,
that he group Chinese Hearthy In that he spoke Chinese fluently. In the second was the Chinese Secretary of the German Legation, Mr. Cordes. News travels quickly in Pekin. Not many minutes later my toy burst into my office—"Any man speakee have makee kill—German Minister!" Its was true. The German Minister ha been assassinated by an Imperio been assassinated by an Imperial officer. The secretary had been grievously wounded, but, running for his life, shot at by a hundred rifles, had escaped as if by a miracle. A

Graphic Statement.

On the afternoon of the 19th of June I was sent to the Tsung-Li-Yamen by Baron Von Ketteler, as on the previous day, to demand once more the withdrawal of the Kan-suh said. The foreign admirals had taken the Taku forts, and it would be very hard to keep the Chinese troops in hand. Discussion seemed useless. I left my message for Yung Lu, the Grand Secretary, Commander-in-Chief, and came away. At 5 o'clock the ultimatum of the Tsung-Li-Yamen was sent to the Ministers, giving them 24 hours' notice to leave Pekin. Believing the note to have been inspired by an access of madness and hoping that with the other Ministers, and I set out for the Yamen in two chairs. An armed escort of a non-commissioned officer and four men was ready to accompany us, but the Baron decided that it was wiser to leave it behind, partly because the passage through the streets of armed foreign soldiers might arouse excitement, but mainly because the Tsung-Li-Yamen knew that the Minister was coming, and would therefore ensure him the protection due to a foreign Envoy. We were both unarmed. Our chairs were accompanied by two Chinese outriders from the Legation. We left the Freuch Legation, where the conference had been held, passed the Austrian Legation, then turned along the Chang-Anestreet into the Hata Men-street. Along the raised way in the centre of this street our chairs were carried, one majo as usual ricking in front and the other behind.

near the Belgian Legation and were near the Belgian Legation and were close to the police station on the left. I was watching a cart with some lance bearers passing before the Minister's chair, when suddenly I saw a sight that made my heart stand still. The Minister's chair was three paces in front of me. I saw a banner soldier, apparently a Manchu, in fuli uniform, with a mandarin's hat with a button and blue feather, step forward, present his rifle within a yard of the chair window, level it at the Minister's head and fire. I shouted in terror, "Halt," at the same moment

The Shot Rang Out.

the chairs were thrown down. I sprang to my feet. A shot struck me in the lower part of my body. Others were fired at me. I saw the Minister's were fired at me. I saw the Minister's chair still standing, but there was no merement. One moment's hesitation would have been fatal. I ran, wounded as I was, fifty paces to the north, and turned down the street to the east, a lively rifle fire following me. Looking back I saw the Minister's chair still standing. There was no sign of life. Believing myself to be in the street leading to the Tsung-Li-Yamen, I ran on, thluking ister's chair still standing. There was no sign of life. Believing myself to be in the street leading to the Tsung-Li-Yamen, I ran on, thinking to report what had happened, and perhaps find protection. But it was not the street. Two men, armed with lances, pursued me, but, fearing I was armed, left me. Then I resolved to try and reach the American Mission buildings near the Hata Men Gate. Dripping with blood I dragged myself along, often down crowded streets filled with Chinese who witnessed my struggle without pity and nessed my struggle without pity and without emotion, and without even replying to my question as to the replying to my question as to the direction. I overheard one man remark, "A foreigner who has got his deserts." Then in a quiet road, a peddler, more humane than his countrymen, gave me the direction, and in half an hour after the murder of my Minister I reached the American Mission, and fell fainting at the entrance. My wounds were dressed and I was carried back to the German Legation. * * In conclusion, I affirm that the assassination of the German Minister was a deliberately planned, premeditated murder, erately planned, premeditated murder, done in obedience to the orders of the high Government officials by an Imperial bannerman.

Such was the statement of Mr.

Helnrich Cordes, the Chinese Sec tary. There was no more question about leaving for Tien-Tsin. The Chinese Story.

Later in the day the Yamen, evidently indifferent to the gravity of the position created by the Government, sent an impudent despatch to the German Legation to the effect that two Germans had been proceed-ing in chairs along the Hata Men street, and at the mouth of the street leading to the Tsung-li-Ya-men one of them had fired upon the crowd. The Chinese had retaliated and

he had been killed.

They wished to know his name. No reply was sent, for it was felt to be a mockery. Only too well the Yamen knew whom they had murdered. Weeks passed before the body was recovered, and it was not until July 8th that any official reference was made to the murder. In the course of the morning a despatch was sent to the Diplomatic Body in reply to the converse they had sent to the the answer they had sent to the ultimatum of yesterday. The country, it is said, between Pekin and Tlen-Tsin was overrun with brigands and it would not be safe for the isters to go there. They should, therefore, remain in Pekin. It is difficult to write with calmness of the foul treachery with which the Chinese were now acting.

Chinese Open Fire. Chinese Open Fire.

Four p.m. was the hour given in the ultimatum for the Ministers to vacate their Legations, but the ultimatum had been rescinded, and the Ministers invited to remain in Pekin. Thus it was hoped that they would be ulled into a false security. Chinese soldiers were secretly stationed under cover at every vantage point commanding the outposts. At 4 p.m. precisely to the minute, by preconcerted signal, they opened fire upon the Austrian and French outposts. A French marine fell, shot dead through the forehead. An Austrian was wounded. The siege had really begun.

The siege had really begun.

At this time, June 20th, at the opening of the siege, the total strength of the combined Legation guards consisted of 18 officers and 389 men. To this insignificant force the entire foreign quarter had to trust for its defence. Fortunately several visitors defence. Fortunately several visitors or residents had received military training, and they at once went on the active list and rendered invaluthe active list and rendered invaluable service. A volunteer force numbering altogether 75 men, of whom 31 were Japanese, was enrolled, and armed with all available rifles. They added greatly to the strength of the garrison, taking watch and watch like the regulars, fighting behind the barricades, and never shrinking from any duty imposed upon them. posed upon them.

Thornhill's Roughs. There was also an irregular force of 50 gentlemen of many nationaities, who did garrison guard duty in the sent to the Ministers, giving them 24 hours' notice to leave Pekin. Believing the note to have been inspired by an access of madness and hoping that China might still be amenable to reason, Baron Von Ketteler sent a note in the evening to the Yamen asking for an interview with the Princes and Ministers of the Yamen at 9 a. m. the following morning. The signed receipt of this note is mow in the German Legation. On the morning of the 20th, no word having come from the Yamen that the Princes and Ministers would be unable to receive my Minister, Baron Von Ketteler, after the conference with the other Ministers, and I set out for the Yamen in two chairs. An instead of the color in St. James' Park—they had a pabit of carrying Park—they had a pabit of carrying. British Legation and were most use foot of Roosevelt's Roughriders. Armied with a variety of weapons, from an elephant rifle to the fusil de chasse with a picture of the Grand Prix, to all of which carving knives had been lashed as bayonets, they were known as the "Carving Knife Brigade." They were formidable alike to friend and foe. For, all unaccustomed as they were to the military art—the most experienced of them was he who had once witnessed the trooping of the color in St. James' Park—they had a pabit of carrying the knife horizontally over the shoulder, so that when they swung quickly round the blade swept into the throat of the man behind. Diversity of language was another difficulty. ly round the blade swept into the throat of the man behind. Diversity of language was another difficulty. The opening of the wall on the southern extremity of the British Legation was not a vital point. A sentry selected from the French members of the brigade was usually staticated here. Gaing one dark evening tiened here. Going one dark evening his rounds, the British officer of the watch stopped here. "Sentinelle," he sald, in his best Sandhurst Frepch. There was no reply. Pursing his mouth to convey the correct accent he raised his voice and repeated "Sentinelle," when a scared voice from the darkness replied, "Begorra! and what the hear that?" The Armamen

Such were the effective for

120 Italian rounds, an American Coit with 25,000 rounds an Austrian machinegun, and a British five-barrel Nordenfeldt, pattern 1887. Rifle ammunition was very scanty. The Japanese had only 100 rounds aplece, the Russians 145, and the Italians 120, while the best provided of the other guards had only 200 rounds per man, none too many for a siege, the duration of which could not be foreseen.

Abandoned Buildings. Punctually, then, at 4 o'clock Chinese soldiers began firing upon us whom they had requested to remain in peace at Pekin. And immediately after the Austrian Legation was abandoned. No sufficient reason has been given for its abandonment, which was done so precipitately that not an article was saved. It was left to the mercy of the Chinese, and the guard retired to the corner of Customs lane, leading west to the Prince's Palace. This involved the sacrifice of Sir Robert Hart's ed the sacrifice of Sir Robert Hart' and all the Customs buildings, and hastened the advance of the Chinese westward. As previously arranged, the American mission buildings had been abandoned in the morning. had been abandoned in the morning, for they were quite untenable. All the missionaries, their wives and families crossed over to the British Legation. Converts to the number of several hundreds joined the other refugees. The captain and 20 American Legation. By an error of judgment on the part of the captain the mission was finally left in a panic. Almost nothing was saved, and nearly all the stores accumulated for a siege were lost. The and nearly all the stores accumulated for a siege were lost. The British Legation was now thronged. Rarely has a more cosmopolitan gathering been gathered together within the limits of one compound. All the women and children were there, all the missionaries, Ameri-can, British, French and Russian, all the Customs staff, the French, Belthe Customs staff, the French, Bel-gian, Russian, American, Spanish, Japanese and Italian Ministers, and their families, the entire unofficial foreign community of Pekin, with the exception of M. Chamot, who re-mained in his hotel throughout, though it was in the hottest corner, of the besieged area.

Preparing for Hostilities. When the Austrians withdrew from their Legation, the British picket on the North bridge retired to the main gate, where a redoubt was built and the Nord leldt mounted. Stores were commandeered. Shops in Legation street were stripped In Legation street were symplect.
Sniping began and was not discontinued till relief came. Late in the
evening Mr. Huberty James, the
professor of English in the Pekin
University, was killed. He had renprofessor of English in the Pekin University, was killed. He had rendered great services, for it was through his influence with Prince Su that the palace had been thrown open for the Christian refugees. He seemed to have a blind faith in the Chinese. Prince Su had assured him that Yung Lu had given him his word that no soddler would fire upon a foreigner, and he believed him with the fatal confidence that was his undoing. To cross from the Palace to the British Legation he went round by the North bridge, though he knew that the bridge had been evacuated. On the bridge he was fired at by a soldier at short range, ran back apparently unhurt, and was fired at from another quarter.

He Raised His Hands. to show he was unarmed, and fell shot into the canal, where volleys were fired into his body from the water gate under the imperial city wall. The murder was seen from the wall. The murder was seen from the British Legation. Desultory firing continued through the night. One Russian marine was shot dead through the forehead. In the morning a letter reached the American Legation from one of the captains in the relief column. Dated June 14, it was written from a point only
35 miles from Pekin. It was a casual, chatty letter which gave no
indication that in the opinion of the
writer there was any need for hurry.
At the British Legation fortificafugees working like coolies. Sand-bags were made by the thousand, and posts mounted round the Legation. A way was knocked through the houses to the Russian Legation, so that the Americans, if they had to fall back, could pass through to the British Legation. During the day every Legation was exposed to a continuous fire from surrounding house-tops, and in the case of the British Legation from the cover the British Legation from the Sover in the Imperial Carriage Park. Chin-ese put flames to the abandoned buildings, and the Belgian Legation, the Austrian Legation, the Methodist Mission and some private houses

Sir Claude in Command. June 22nd opened disastrously. The evening before Captain Thomann, the Austrian commander, announced that as the senior officer he had taken command in Pekin. This morning, hearing from an irresponsible American that the American Legation was abandoned, he, without taking steps to verify the information was abandoned, he, without taking steps to verify the informa-tion, ordered the abandonment of all the Legations east of Caual all the Legations east of Call street, the detachments to fall back upon the British Legation. There had been no casualties to speak of, none of the Legations had been attacked, and every commander been attacked, and every commander who received the order to retreat regarded the action as madness. Peremptory orders were sent to the Japanese to abandon the Prince's Palace or Ff (b) I shall henceforth call it), and they retired to their Legation. In the British Legation nothing was known of the order when, to the amazement of all, the Italians. Auktrians and Freach talians, Austrians and French came running down Legation street, followed a little later by the Japan-Italians, Austrians followed a little later by the Japan-ese, and subsequently by the Ger-mans, who recalled their post on the wall and marched without a shot being fired at them down under the wall to Canal street. Americans and Saw Themselves Cut Off.

their communications though not even been remarked, and retreated precipitately into the British Legation. It was a verifable stampede—a panic that might have been fraught with the citest disaster. Prompt action was taken. Capitali Thomain was relieved of his amount of the control of the relieved of his dominated Claude MacDonard, at the stance of the

mand. The French and Austri-reoccupied the French Legation, but the barricade in Customs street was lost. One German only was killed and the position was saved but the blunder might have been disas-

Itawas obvious from the first that It was obvious from the first that the great danger at the British Legation was not so much from rifle, fire as from incendiarism, for on three sides the compound was surrounded by Chinese buildings of a highly inflammable nature. Before time could be given to clear an open the could be given to clear an open the could be given to clear an open the country of the buildings. buildings of a. pace round the Legation, the b ings to the rear of Mr. Cockburn's house were set on fire, and as the wind was blowing strongly towards vent the fire from bursting into the Legation. Water had to be used sparingly for the wells were lower than they had been for years, yet the flames had to be fought. Bul-lets were whistling through the trees. Private Scadding, the first Englishman to fall, was killed white on watch on the stables near by. Men and women lined up and water was passed along in buckets to a small fire engine that was played upon the fire. Walls were broken through, trees hastily cut d.wn, and desperate work saved the building. It was the first experience of intense excitement. Then the men set to with a will, and till late at night were demolishing the temple and buildings outside the wall of the Le-Work was continued in the gation. Work was continued in the morning, but when it was proposed to pull down an unimportant building in the Hanlin Academy that ing in the Hanlin Academy abuts upon the Legation to North, the proposition was North, the proposition was vecued. Such descration, it was said, would wound the susceptibilities of the Chinese Government. It was "the most said building in China." To lay hants open it even to safeguard the lives of bleaguered women and children, could not be thought of for fear of wounding the susceptibilities of the Chinese Government! So little do the oldest of us understand the Chinese.

Chinese Fired it.

Chinese Fired it.

A strong wind was blowing from the Hanlin into the Legation, the distance separating the nearest building from the Minister's residence being only a few feet. Fire the one and the Minister's residence would have been in danger. Suddenly there was an alarm of fire. Smoke was rising from the Hanlin. The most venerated pile in Pekin, the great Imperial Academy, centre of all Chinese learning, with its priceless collection of books and manuscripts, was in flames. Every one who was off duty rushed to the back of the Legation. The Hanlin had been occupied during the night by Imperial soldiers, who did not hesitate in their rage, to destroy foreigners, to set fire to the buildings. It was first necessary to clear the temple. A breach was made in the wall. Captain Poole headed a force of marines and Chinese Fired it. Poole headed a force of marines and volunteers, who rushed in, divided, searched the courts, and returned to the main pavilion with its superb pliars and memorial tablets. Chinese were rushing from other burning buildings to the main entrance. They were taken by surprise and many were killed, but they had done their evil deed. Other great libraries have been destroyed by the victorious invader. What can be thought of a nation which destroys its own most Poole headed a force of marines and nation which destroys its own sacred edifice, the pride and glory of its learned men through centuries rder to wreak vengeance upon the

Pulling Down Ruins.

foreigner? To save the Legation it was neces To save the Legation to was necessary to continue the destruction and dismantle the library buildings. With great difficulty, with inadequate tools, the buildings were pulled down. Trees endangering our position were felled. An attempt was made to rescue spectages of the manuscripts. mens of the more valuable manuscripts, but few were saved, for the danger was pressing. Sir Claude MacDonald, as soon as the fire was discovered, despatched a messenger to the Tsung-li-Yamen, telling them of the fire and could be rescued, but no attention was given to his courteous communication. The Dutch Legation was burned on the 22nd, and next day Chinese soldiers set fire to the Russo-Chinese Bank and a greater part of the buildings were destroyed, involving in danger the American Legation. Chinese volunteers were called for, They re-ponded readily, worked with much courage exposed to fire from the wall, and the Legation was saved. All the buildings back from the bank to the Chien, Men (the main gate between the Chinese and Tartar cities facing the entrance to the Forbidden City) seemed to be to the Forbidden City) seemed to be on fire. Then all the customs buildings were fired, so that flames on ever side, and the smoke tremendous, while the fusilade incessant. An Italian and a German died of their wounds. The first American was killed, shot from the wall, then a Russian fell. They were dropping of one by one, and already we were well accustomed to the sight of

Then a new terror was added to the fears of the besieged, for the Imperial troops mounted a 3-in. Krupp gun on the Chien Men, the gate opposite to the Forbidden City, and began throwing segment shells from a distance of 1,000 yards into the crowded Legation. The first shell struck the American Legation, others burst over the British compound, while others crashed into the upper rooms of the German Legation. It was known that the Chinese had ten similar gape in De Chinese had ten similar guns in Pekin, while we had nothing with which to answer their fire, and no one ever knew where the next gun might be mount-ed. Immediately all hands dug bombproof shelters for the women children. Rifle-fire also playe the Americans from the walk close to them at a distance of a Rifle-fire also played on hundred feet only, whence sheltered by the parapet of the men could enfilade the bar which was held by the America man barricade, advanced the street running east and under the wall. The barried under the wall. ame untenable, and to wall was a paramount which could no longer be d'Already, on the 22nd, the had occupied the wall eas German Legation, thus cu mana the Chinese troops from t east gate, Hata Men, and un tain von Soden had patrolled past the American Lege