

LETTER FROM CHINA.

(Correspondence of the Philadelphia Protetorian.)

Shew of the insurgents repelled—Present state of the rebellion—Provinces in possession of the rebels—Need for progress.

CANTON, May 20, 1854.

The North China Herald of the 6th May gives a summary of the events recorded in the Peking Gazette from the date of the late letter, viz: March 15th to April 15th. According to these statements, the imperial forces were still successful against the Northern army of the insurgents; and they had driven it out of Chihli, the metropolitan province, into Chantung province. According to the statements of the Gazette, up to March 15th, the insurgents were then at Fanching district, in Hoku department, in Chihli, and by these last statements, they were at Linshing, in Shantung, seventy miles to the south southeast of Fanching. The insurgents are stated to have lost, in various engagements, between three and four thousand killed.

It may be interesting to many of your readers to have a connected statement of the condition of the rebellion at the present time. The portions of the country in the hands of the insurgent forces, at the present time, lie on both sides of the Yangtze river, extending a distance of perhaps four hundred miles along the course of the river, on both the north and south side of it. They hold possession of three provincial capitals out of the eighteen that are comprised in China proper, viz: Hankow, the capital of Kiangsu, London, the capital of Nanking, and Wuchang, the capital of Hupeh. In Kiangsu province they hold possession of one large city beside Nanking, viz: Chinkiang. They hold two small places on the bank of the river between Nanking and Chinkiang, a distance of forty-seven miles.

The largest territory that is in the possession of the insurgents lies in Nganahui province. If we may judge anything from their holding nearly all the cities of departments, they are in possession of nearly the entire southern half of this province. They hold the principal cities of Ninkow, Chichau, and perhaps Houchau departments, which are situated south of the Yangtze river, and Nanking, Luchau, and Lougan-chau on the north of the river. In Kiangsi province they hold possession of the cities of Kukiang and Jachau departments. And the adjacent departments of Nanchang, Nanchang, and Kiangsi, are so disturbed, that the usual literary examinations have been postponed.

In Hupeh, beside the provincial capital Wuchang, they have taken the two great commercial marts Hankau and Siangtan, the cities of Hanyang and Hwangchau departments, and the city of Hinkau district in Hwangchau department, and the city of Yungching district in Tchengau department, to the northwest of the provincial capital. In Hunan province they have taken recently the city of Yehohu department, and the cities of Siangsi and Ningsing districts in the department of Changsha. The city of Changsha is also the provincial capital, so that it is no doubt invested ere this.

The insurgents have three armies now in the field, viz: the one which has met with such success in Nganahui, and the third in Hupeh and Hwangchau. The Government-General of these two provinces was killed in battle with the insurgents on the 10th of February. The number of inhabitants comprised in these contiguous portions of five adjacent provinces, may perhaps be forty millions out of the three hundred and sixty millions in the empire.

The insurrection which has broken out in Kwangsi again is extending. The volunteers which were sent in February from Canton to quell it, have been worsted in every engagement with the insurgents. The leader of this band is said to be Hwang Fiang, a man who formerly kept a shop for the sale of quack medicines, near the office of the Peking magistrate, in the city of Canton, and taught the art of boxing and other athletic accomplishments.

May Christians be excited to earnest prayer, that God may overturn and overturn until he shall come whose right it is to reign, and until the kingdom, and the greatness of the kingdom, shall be given to the Lord of lords. With much respect yours very truly,

OSAGE AT ST. LOUIS—THE LATE RIOTS.—The St. Louis Democrat of the 11th inst., speaking of the restoration of order in that city after the late election riot, says: "The city was never more quiet. The proclamation sweeping the streets of boys after eight o'clock, seemed to be the very measure desired for a long time, and having observed its excellent results in this late emergency, we hope it will be persevered in for all time to come. All over the city tranquillity was re-established. Mr. Farrington, one of those wounded during the riot, has since died. It is estimated that 2000 pistols and 500 bowie knives were sold in the city while the riots were in progress. The military who were ordered out, came in a cart that their pieces were loaded with ball and buckshot so that had it been necessary to fire on the mob, bloody work would have ensued."

THE WAR.

LETTER FROM CONSTANTINOPLE.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Aug. 17.—Still a state of feverish anxiety reigns, mingled with vague despondency. The certainty of an immediate movement, and the severe and perhaps lengthened struggle, drives away all other topics of conversation and reflection. The internal state of the country, its financial prospects, its capabilities to bear protracted warfare, in short, all these subjects which during the period of inactivity occupied men's minds, are now for the moment forgotten, or are thought of only by those whom long residence in the country, or immediate interest with the machinery of government, has taught to look beyond the bustle and excitement of the present hour.

Two great subjects occupy the reflections of all—the contemplated expedition, and the aid which which has descended with such suddenness on the fleets and armies of the allies. Of the military arrangements little more remains to be said from this place. Varna is now the centre of interest, and the intelligence received direct from headquarters will be more exciting, as well as more accurate, than what is derived from the disjointed narratives of officers arriving here, or from the rumours which pervade the counting-houses of Galata. The Bosphorus is now deserted by all but a few vessels. The gigantic Ottoman still retains its position at Belice, and the Rides' land adds to the gates of Thracia, and its sister villages. The slopes of the giant mountain are whitened with tents which the last detachments of British and Russian have pitched on the beach, and which they will only strike when they re-enter the vessels which hang in the stream beneath, and proceed at once to the Russian shores. Ships of the line make their appearance by one's and two's, drop down to the Golden Horn, and return with huge pontoons clinging to their sides, and long trains of boats following in their stern.

The arrival and departure of vessels are the only incidents. When a new and unusually elegant steamer passes the long line of villages, whose walls are washed by the rapid current of the Bosphorus, innumerable telescopes are directed towards it by the ladies, whose chief occupation is to sit at their windows; and the consequence of several months' experience is that much intellectual knowledge has been acquired in these quarters. A clumsy construction of ten years back is criticised contemptuously, while the Jason or the Simk excites transports of admiration. In fact, English progress has been chiefly advanced of late by two things—the large stature of the British officers, and the size and elegance of our mercantile vessels. Of the former I will say no more except that their nature affords an advantage of the regulation shell jacket, but as regards the exhibition of maritime power, it has impressed upon the Turkish mind, in a manner which has not been rivaled in strength and perhaps surpassed in elegance by those of her ally, yet the observation is frequently heard that no one can doubt the naval superiority of the English fleet, which compares the ships in which their soldiers have arrived with the little craft of the French.

The presence of cholera and the dread of fever give all news from the army a mournful tinge. The disease seems much abated in the army, and it is to be hoped that the precautions of the surgical staff and the good sense of the men will deliver the camp entirely from the scourge. It has been noticed that the men who wear white trousers have suffered much more severely than the Highlanders, and the medical men of the country have long been aware that warm clothing over the stomach is a great preventive of the disease. Accordingly, a supply of flannel belts has been ordered, which will, no doubt, have a good effect. Fever, however, weakens many a frame, and though its consequences have been in very few instances fatal, yet it tends to make the army more unfit for service, and, unlike the cholera, it spreads to rank. General Cator, chief of the artillery, and Colonel Bayle, of the 7th Regiment, have arrived at Thracia, ill, and the effect of the heat and malaria is felt in every division of the army.

Accounts from Tschoum state that the Russians, after having passed the Arghastai with 30,000 men, namely, 15,000 infantry, 6000 cavalry, and 10,000 Georgian irregulars, with thirty pieces of cannon, had advanced to Karak Dera, and taken up a position in front of the Ottoman army, which was encamped at Bolaisan. Shymbeek took place daily between the Russian and Ottoman columns, but the Russian losses were heavier, and money to buy them with was still scarce. The Kurds still continue their ravages, but with the help of the European Corps, it is hoped that the disorders will be quieted.

The loss of 350,000 lbs of bread by the fire at Varna is of some consequence to the British army. It amounts to a fortnight's consumption for the entire force. The navy has made up part of the loss by making over 100,000 lbs for the use of the land forces.

Some deaths prevail in certain quarters as to the prevalence of mauling large bodies of men

for transport while so great a mortality prevails in the fleet. The French navy has suffered most severely. The Ville de Paris has 60 or 65 dead, the Montebello no less than 140, and other ships have been afflicted to a great extent. The English fleet has met with much less severe fortune, although the Britanna, Admiral Dundas's flagship, is said to have lost some men.

THE GREAT FIRE AT VARNA.

The fire at Varna did very considerable damage, for it destroyed nearly one half the town, and a large quantity of stores belonging to the British and French armies. It was almost miraculous that the powder magazines belonging to the British, French, and Turks did not fall a prey to the flames. The fire broke out about seven o'clock in the evening, in a spirit store. This building was nothing more than a wooden hovel, and the flames soon spread along the adjoining fabrics, all of the same construction, till they approached very near the English powder magazine. The wind blew right in the direction of the magazines, and for some time it was in much danger. But the French troops had turned out, followed by some English companies; sentries were stationed round the magazine, water was procured, and intervening houses were pulled down to arrest the progress of the flames. No impression, however, was made upon the advancing element, which now embraced both sides of the street, till a body of 400 French soldiers came up, bringing with them eight or ten fire-engines, which some of them piled most vigorously while others, with pickaxes and crowbars, demolished everything round about of a nature to feed the raging element. Parties of sailors from the ships in the harbour rendered similar assistance. But all would probably have been in vain, if the wind, which had hitherto been blowing directly upon the magazine, had not suddenly changed and begun to blow in the opposite direction. The flames being thus turned back, passed with inconceivable rapidity along both sides of the street, as the main street is now called, till it reached the depot where the commissariat stores were kept. They spread with such swiftness that it was impossible for the united efforts of more than 4000 military to stop them, by pulling down houses, throwing water, or any other measure. These stores and a large portion of their contents were destroyed, however, was saved. Thence the fire advanced, from three points at once, into the Turkish quarter, where a mosque and many houses fell a prey to it; and then the united mass of flames poured rapidly on, fall in the direction of the powder magazines of the Turks and the French. It is impossible to describe the anxiety which prevailed at this moment, increased as it was by the explosion of some spirit casks from time to time. At one moment there was a complete panic, for a row of burning houses just opposite the magazine all in a moment, increased as it was by the explosion of some spirit casks from time to time.

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of the whole country, and probably there will be but two or three occasions on which it will be appropriate. First, the taking of Sebastopol; which would be practically depriving Russia of the keys of Turkey, and accomplishing the great act of justice for which the war was commenced. Secondly, the taking of Constantinople, St. Petersburg, which would be taking the keys of our country's empire in order that we might go in and teach him his place. Thirdly, the conclusion of peace, on terms involving a material guarantee for a better observance of law and order than we have had while Russia was at large.

THE HIMALAYA AND THE GRAYS.

Her Majesty's recently purchased steam-ship Himalaya arrived at Scutari, after a rapid passage from Liverpool of 10 days 22 hours on the average of the 7th ult., and, having received orders from Admiral Boscawen, proceeded on the following morning to Koolah, a cavalry barracks about three miles up the Bosphorus, on the Asiatic side. A cargo having been constructed by Captain Kellock something similar to the one used at Liverpool, on the following day, viz: the 9th, the whole of the Scots Grays and remnants, amounting to 370 horses, were disembarked in nine hours, without accident, and the horses in apparently as good condition as they were in when embarked at Liverpool. The loss on the voyage amounts to only one horse, a horse of some 10 years of age, whose lungs could not stand the change of climate or the excessive heat which was experienced during the passage out.

On the evening of the 11th the Colonel had a parade in full dress, and so gay and lively were the horses, that if one of the officers yelped, Tooby, did not have a pretty good reason country man, he must have been kicked out of his saddle, for his mare seethed her hind legs up for about ten minutes, as though she meant to send her about to heaven.

It was really a very fine sight to see a whole regiment, and such a regiment, after a journey or voyage of 3100 miles, just as fit to go into action and gallop over a squadron of Comanches as they would have been the day after leaving Nottingham. Colonel Griffith and the officers were so gratified at the result of the voyage, and so pleased with the attention that had been paid to them, and care which had been taken of them, their horses, and men, that they presented to Captain Kellock, and Mr. Lane, the purser, a handsome pair of pants, with a letter of thanks and a subscription, expressing their feelings at the termination of the voyage.

The Lords of the Treasury have awarded Mr. John Dobson, inspector of mills, the sum of £500, as a compensation for his invention of an apparatus for transferring mail bags to and from railway carriages at full speed, without stopping.

An iron vessel of 300 tons, expressly made for encountering the floating ice on the coast of Newfoundland, is now being built by Messrs. Cate, Miller, and Co. She is the property of Messrs. Job Brothers; and is considered a very fine specimen of the combination of strength of material with lightness of construction.

Grabe, right-hand man of the King of Prussia's company, first foot guards, died at Potsdam last week. He was the tallest soldier in Europe. He stood seven feet one inch.

The Board of Admiralty have issued instructions to the controller of the transport service to provide a ship for the conveyance forthwith of 300 tons of heavy shot and shell to Malta.

DISSENTERS AT OXFORD.—A correspondent of the Cambridge Press says:—"I hear that some dozen youths from the wealthier portions of the dissenting party are about to enter at Oxford, and that inquiries are even being made by the head of a highly respectable family of Jews. At University College (Cambridge), Jewish youths, who have been successful, have, I believe, lodged and boarded at an establishment, managed, more especially, at all events, by youths of a Prussian race. No harm has resulted that I fear. The youthful Goldmid may not have become a Christian, but most assuredly his companions have not become Jews."

PROPOSED ROYAL MARRIAGE.—It is rumored that the eldest son of the Prince of Prussia (heir to the throne) is to marry the Princess Royal of England, when she is sixteen—what will be a little more than two years. Her father requested leave to let the lad pass the interval in England, where he might acquire the language and study the law; but the King of Prussia has peremptorily refused, plainly declaring that England was a Prussian Prince the better.

DISMISSED CONSUMPTION OF TEA.—Although the gross export of tea from China to all the ports of Great Britain fell short of last year, yet the quantity coming forward to the United States is little more than one-third of the supply shipped to corresponding date of last year. From July 1st to December 31st, the total quantity sent forward to the United States from all the ports in

China, is stated to be seven millions of pounds of green tea against eighteen millions of green, and two millions of pounds of black against nearly seven millions, or a total of less than, also under half millions against upwards of twenty-nine millions within the same period of 1853.

The critical state of things in Prussia is known. With one party the king is almost a God—the motto of the nobles is "what the King wishes, God wills." The army wishes to hurry the king into an injurious war, for which Louis Napoleon is preparing also. With the commercial classes, on the contrary, with the mercantile marine, generally among the middle and even lower classes—there exists an opposition to the Government almost amounting to disloyalty, and personal hostility to the Sovereign.

At Barmstadt, many of the Russians, as is admitted by General Boscawen, were satisfied by the smoke of their own guns. This is probably what was predicted by a British Engineer officer, as likely to take place in the interior at Cronstadt.

UNITED STATES.

RECIPROCIITY.

A Washington Letter of the 9th announces that Mr. Crampton had received by the last Mail, the ratification of the Fishery and Reciprocity Treaty, and would probably exchange the same with the Secretary of State on Monday following. It was understood that the British Government regards the Treaty as an exclusively Imperial interest, and that American Fishermen will enter on the enjoyment of the benefits secured by it, prior to the legislative concurrence of the Province more immediately interested. The resignation of Mr. Hincks, late leader of the Canadian Ministry, will not necessarily retard the ratification of the Treaty by the Canadian Parliament. The position of Lord Elgin as the Vice Roy of the Queen, is not affected by the defect of the Ministry; the same system of "responsible government," having been introduced into Canada as obtains in England.

The following are the new Members of the Canadian Ministry: Liberals.—Hon. John Ross, Speaker of the Legislative Council; Mr. Spencer, Postmaster General. Conservatives.—Sir Allan McNair, President of the Council, John A. McDonald, Attorney General; Henry Smith, Solicitor General; Mr. O'Leary, Inspector General. No change has been made in the Lower section.

The subjoined important despatch appears in the New Brunswick Royal Gazette:— Downing Street, 18th August, 1855.

Sir, I have the honor of submitting to you a copy of a communication which Her Majesty's Government have just received from the Minister of the United States at Court, containing a Despatch from the Department of State at Washington, by which it appears that the President's ratification of Reciprocity Treaty will be ready to be exchanged against that of Her Majesty when the latter arrives at Washington; and that the Congress has already passed a Law to give effect to that Treaty. Mr. Harry also expresses the hope of the Government of the United States, that American fishermen may not be molested, if they should attempt to use the privileges secured to them by the Treaty.

It is the desire of Her Majesty's Government that this wish of the United States should be acceded to, and that the American fishermen be immediately allowed to use these privileges. Her Majesty's ratification will be sent by the Mail, to be exchanged against that of the President of the United States, by Her Majesty's Minister at Washington.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient humble servant, "ESTABLISHED, 1840." IA. Governor Sir Edmund Head, &c., &c.

The New Orleans Bee says that the population of St. Louis has ceased to multiply in it and there is good reason for the belief that for 14 years, it has become an outcast and a fugitive. Connecticut has twenty-eight clock factories employing 1,270 hands in the manufacture of 1,600,000 capital invested, and makes more than 700,000 clocks. One-fourth of these times for are sent to England.

The spiritualists of Boston are about forming a company with \$4000 capital to establish spiritual feeding houses.

DISTRIBUTION OF CRIME IN IRELAND.—T Irish News says:—"The pending session happily, are light, and show a welcome improvement in the state of the country a population. So limited, indeed, is the criminal business to be disposed of, that 4 sessions are not likely to occupy one-third the time usual in former years. At Waterford there has occurred that almost unprecedented event, a "maiden assize."

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