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Special to Evening Telegram.

HAMBURG, May 1.

The Hamburg American steamer Vaterland, the largest in the world, had her trials in Norwegian waters making 25.4 knots an hour against the wind, and 26 with it.

HALIFAX, May 1.

W. R. McCurdy, news editor of the Herald, who refused to give the name of the writer of a letter published in his paper, which the House of Assembly claimed was a breach of privilege, was called to the bar of the House and on again refusing to state the writer's name, was sent to jail for forty-eight hours.

Japan Put an Official to Death For an Insult to the U.S.

Washington, April 20.—The search for precedents as to international statutes which have been forced by or upon the United States by mistakes of judgment and other offences against international comity resulted to-day in the discovery in the files of the navy department of a report to Gideon Welles, secretary of the navy, in the cabinets of Lincoln and Johnson, from Commander J. Blakeley Creighton, U.S.N., commanding the United States steamship Queida, who witnessed Japan's atonement for an offence committed against blue-jackets of the United States navy.

The following is Commander Creighton's letter to Secretary Welles, which is copied from the report of the operations of the Asiatic squadron from October, 1867, to December 1868, made by Admiral J. C. Rowan, commanding:

"Higo, Japan, March 4, 1868.

"Hon. Gideon Welles.

"Secretary of the U. S. Navy.

"Washington, D. C.

"Sir,—I have the honor to communicate the particulars of the execution of the Japanese official Tati Zanutaru, retainer of Matsudaira Bizen, No Kami, who ordered his troops to fire on the foreigners at this place on the 4th ultimo.

"This execution was witnessed by me at the request of our minister, Gen. R. B. Van Valkenburgh, and is as follows:

"I left the legation about 9 p.m. in company with the officers attached to the foreign legations and proceeded to Higo, where we were met by a guard, who escorted us to the temple, where the execution was to take place.

"There was a large number of people on each side of the street leading to the temple and quite a number of soldiers drawn up inside and about the temple. We were shown into a room adjoining the Japanese officials, where we were asked if we wished to question the person about to be executed, to which we answered in the negative. They also took the names of every official present.

"After waiting about half an hour we were conducted by the Japanese officials into what appeared to be the principal room of the temple, which was lighted with candles, and in front of the altar was a raised platform of about a foot in height which extended across the room and which was placed on the right of the altar, within a few feet of where the execution was to take place, with the Japanese officials on the left.

"In front of the altar was a green cloth and in front of that a red one. We were informed that the execution would take place on the red cloth. Seating ourselves upon the mats on the platform we waited the execution.

"In a few moments the prisoner came in, dressed in the usual Japanese dress of a person of rank, accompanied by the executioner, who was his pupil and most intimate friend. He walked with a steady, firm step in front of the altar, where he knelt in prayer. He then arose and went to the red cloth, where he knelt and made the confession that he was the officer that ordered the troops to fire upon the foreigners and also to fire upon them when they were trying to escape, and that he was sorry for what he had done.

"He then disrobed himself to his waist and reached out for a knife that was near him, which he thrust into his bowels and drawing it toward his right side, and leaning forward at the same time the executioner, with one blow from his sword, severed his head from his body. This occurred at about 10.30 p.m.

"The Japanese then bowed to the floor, on which we all did the same. We were then asked if we were satisfied with what we had witnessed, when we replied in the affirmative.

"After the lapse of a few moments, we were then asked if we were satisfied when we arose and took our departure. The whole scene was one of great solemnity and very impressive.

"Very respectfully,

"Your obedient servant,

"J. BLAKELEY CREIGHTON,

"Commander."

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