

# ATROCITIES OF BOXERS.

Details of Horrible Massacres Now Practiced in China.

Missionaries Tied to Trees and Hacked to Pieces—Most Fiendish Crimes in the World's History.

Details received by the Empress of China, which arrived yesterday, eleven days from Yokohama, of the Boxer outrages on their march towards Peking, and the horrors enacted by the way, reek with stories of bloodshed and of atrocious cruelties perpetrated by the rebel hordes. Some of the unfortunates who fell into the hands of the Boxers were tied to trees—some with their thumbs and toes tied together—and, after being horribly tortured, disembowelled. The Belgian engineers who were captured in that heroic running fight, briefly described in cable reports, from Fengtai to Tientsin, were literally hacked to pieces. Native Christians suffered particularly; village after village was ravaged, and the natives known to be converts to foreign religions were cruelly done to death.

The Empress brought a number of missionaries among her passengers, several of whom were hurrying away from the theater of the trouble. Shanghai, they reported, was daily becoming more filled with the fugitives, and at Tientsin, too, they were crowding in when the last news reached Shanghai from that port on June 11. The correspondent of the Shanghai Mercury at Peking was one of those who fled to Shanghai from the Chinese capital. He says that when he visited the foreign legations on May 28th the ministers were then content with the promises of the Tsung Li Yamen (the foreign office), that the Boxers would be suppressed. Then came story after story of the Boxer outrages, of the massacres at native villages, and lastly of the destruction of the railway station at Fengtai; that the railway had been torn up, the telegraph line cut, and the Boxers advancing to attack Peking. Then the ministers were at last aroused to action. The diplomatic corps held a meeting and telegraphed for the legation guards to come up at once. This was on June 2.

The troops occupied some time in getting up to Peking. Only one American and one Japanese vessel were already at Taku. The Russians had to telegraph to Port Arthur, the French and Italians to Chee Foo, the British to Wei-hai-wei, and the Germans to Kiao-Chan. By the following Wednesday most of the guards were ready to come. Then the Chinese government began to object to their coming. The viceroy at Tientsin refused to give his permission unless he had orders from Peking. The railway being a Chinese imperial road, could not very well be used unless the Chinese government gave consent. Furthermore it was noised abroad that forcible opposition would be made to their coming by Gen. Tung Fu-Shing and his troops. The soldiers are among the best drilled of the Chinese soldiery, and are intensely hostile to foreigners.

On Wednesday afternoon, says the fugitive correspondent, the British, American, Russian and French ministers went to the Tsung Li Yamen to present their ultimatum. They asked if any trouble would be placed in the way of the coming foreign guards. The Yamen expressed its strong disapproval of the insult to the Chinese government, as Prince Ching had already promised to protect all foreigners in Peking. The foreign ministers said it was too late to discuss the matter, for the guards were coming to Peking, and if any opposition arose more would come, and foreign countries would act accordingly. The Chinese officials said they must first consult Prince Ching, and would reply on the following day. Early next morning the foreign ministers were notified that facilities would be afforded to bring up the legation guards.

Prince Ching was at the summer palace when he received word from the Yamen. He had an audience with the empress dowager and Gen. Tung Fu-Shing, who was called in, and a stormy interview it was. The general claimed that the coming of the guards was an insult, and this officer—whose troops, if not practically Boxers, were in league with them—was unwilling to back down. At last, though, it was decided to allow of the coming of the troops without resistance, and the military governor of the city was ordered to take charge of the reception of the foreign troops.

It was at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of June 1 that the 330 foreign guards arrived at Peking, and the excitement at

the Chinese capital was intense. Crowds of Chinese, knowing full well that Gen. Tung Fu-Shing was eager to oppose the foreigners, expected that the marines would be overcome, and that then all foreigners in Peking would be slaughtered. Many of the foreign residents not cognizant of the arrangements of the Yamen were also fearful of an awful massacre. There were hundreds of ruffians ready for slaughter. That peace prevailed was not due to the presence of the marines, but that the empress dowager had yielded and compelled her officers to submit to the insult.

It was in the evening that the guards came. The Americans, under the command of the captain of the Newark, were the first to march in. Then came the Russians, the Japanese and the French. The British did not arrive until two hours later than the other troops. The Germans and more Russians arrived on the following day.—Victoria Colonist, June 27.

### Pitiful Tale of Suffering.

Nome newspapers received here tell of the finding of traces of a tragedy by reindeer herders in the district contiguous to Nome. Dr. W. H. Gamble, superintendent of the reindeer station at Cape Denbigh, says his herders have discovered the body of a man who evidently committed suicide. On the person papers were found telling of terrible privations and of starvation. These papers, which the doctor has perused, state that the victim was sailing in a small boat from St. Michael to Nome, and after experiencing the greatest hardships landed at the point which he believed to be an island. A number of Indians assisted him to land. On the 10th of December, he writes, he was there 52 days, waiting for ice to form, that he might get off the island, as he called it. Writing on Dec. 14th he states that he came to British Columbia and had been on the trail for two years. On Dec. 15th he states that while on the coast at a village, presumably Sbatolik, he helped two men two days building a boat named Frank Leslie, which was painted black. The name of the unfortunate man is John Bacon, and papers on him were addressed to James Cahill, followed by an illegible word commencing with the letter B. Dr. Gamble said these were all the particulars he could glean from the Laplanders, but he would go out and investigate the case and have the body buried away from the dogs and ravens. He also said he would send the letters to Lieut. Cochran, commanding officer at St. Michael.

In a full report of further discoveries made by the doctor a short time afterwards to U. S. Marshall Lee it transpires that records of the dead man showed that his death was directly due to the Indians, whose attitude was so threatening that he was obliged to give them the bulk of his scanty supply of grub. The record is one of the most pitiful in the annals of the North.

It reads as follows:  
Lone Island—I think about December 14th, 1899. Now, as for hunger, it is a terror for to stand. For the last ten days I have been starving myself, just eating enough to keep away the pangs of hunger. Now as for that Indian who calls himself John—if man does not punish him I pray God may. That Indian is a big liar. To James Cahill, from John Bacon.

There was 4 Indians on the island when I come. Neyer but 3 of them showed up until the day they took the boat. But one of the Indians just told me that there was just eight people on the island; now as for this John Indian, he was not around. On the day they took the boat a new Indian came. he was the one that had his ride with him. Now I know that no worse can come to me. If it would freeze hard tonight there might be a show for me; but so many times I thought it would close up for good—no less than 3 times.

This is the hardest game of my life on the trail. Coming through British Columbia me and 2 other men were 5 days without any food but Berries. I have been nearly two years getting this far, oh how lonely! if God lets me off this time I will look out a little sharper next time. When I landed here I was so weak I could hardly stand up.

Lone Island, Dec. 16.—Little did I think it would be so freezing before it would freeze up for good, or I would have taken this old leaky Boat and taken chance even in the drift ice. It soon began to freeze after I struck this island. The Indian said it would freeze in 10 days, this may be a different season from the rest, but I got such a terrible deal before, it made a little backward in starting out again. But the next day he come I asked him how long it would be before it would freeze, and he told me it would freeze so I could walk out in 10 days. I partly believed him, he said that he was out on shore, that there were 2 white men

camped at their village; it is possible he was, for I stopped and helped 2 men 2 days. I have forgotten their names, but the Boat they had was the Frank Tesley, Painted Black—but right there was where my bad luck began from leaving so late I could not make the next point before dark came. A middling heavy sea came up; to get back I could not; but the Frank Trisley made back; but when I seen I could not make back, but made for the point ahead; but apparently landed here for a worse fate. Hunger is a Terror to stand now; but the present time the Sea is full of ice but soft. If it would come one good hard freeze.—Victoria Times.

### Koyukuk Not a Bonanza.

A letter written in the Koyukuk on May 28th was received here this week and from its tone it is conclusive that the Koyukuk is a good country—to avoid. The writer says there are a number of low grade claims being operated, but that nothing big has as yet been discovered to warrant any rush to that country.

At the time the letter was written flour was selling at \$100 per sack and other provisions at an average of \$1 per pound. Grub was very scarce and there was no money with which to buy it at any price. The A. C. Co., which has a store there, has, the writer states, a mortgage or lien on nearly every claim in the district for grub advanced.

The best claims yet prospected and worked on those on Slate and Myrtle creeks, and nothing over expenses are being made from them. On nearly all the creeks colors and pans running from 1 to 3 cents may be found. The writer of the letter, with another man, left Dawson late in March with three dogs and 300 pounds of freight. They made Fort Yukon in 15 days and were 20 days making the trip over the divide to the diggings on the Koyukuk. It is described as being a journey which few would attempt a second time.

In closing the letter the writer says he can not advise any one to come to the Koyukuk. He expects to get away from there this fall as he says he would not attempt to spend the winter there for the entire country.

### A True Story.

Seven years ago a farmer living west of Webster City, Ia., hung his vest on the fence in the barnyard, and as a result of it the following story is told: A calf chewed up a pocket in the garment in which was a standard gold watch. Last week the animal, a staid old milk cow, was butchered for beef, and the time piece was found in such a position between the lungs of the cow that the process of respiration, the closing in and filling the lungs kept the stem winder wound up and the watch had lost but four minutes in seven years.

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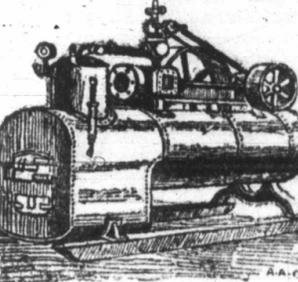
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