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Buller's Advance

Boers Driven From Their Positions at the Point of the Bayonet.

The Enemy Were in Considerable Force and Had Several Guns.

According to Burghers, Dewet, With 13,000 Men, is Marching on Johannesburg.

London, June 12.—About 50,000 British troops are within 50 miles of the marauding Boers, north of Kroonstad, and they are expected, of course, to make short work of them. Nevertheless, outside of the slender war office telegrams no one knows what is going on.

South of Kroonstad there is a wide gap. The railway is only partially defended, and as General Kelly-Kenny has hurried all the available troops northward, the assumption is that there is danger of a second raid. The loss of the Derbyshires is estimated at from 600 to 700 men.

A Reuter's dispatch from Maseru, dated June 11th, says fifteen hundred Boers surrender to Gen. Brabant to-day in the Ficksburg district.

Machadorp has been finally proclaimed the capital of the Transvaal.

A dispatch from Lorenzo Marquez says that the village has swollen into a small city, the majority of the inhabitants living in tents.

An official Boer telegram reports the British have been defeated with considerable loss at Donkerspoort, in the southern extremity of the Orange River country, ten miles from Norvalspont. It was thought this district had been cleared of Boers and rebels long ago. The Boers still cling to Laing's Nek, but General Buller's force is still working far around in that direction.

Lord Roberts has wired Capetown, that prior to Wednesday, he liberated 151 officers and 3,500 of the rank and file. The Boers consequently only took off 900.

All of Gen. Carrington's force landed at Beira a week ago. The organization to invade the Transvaal from the north is already far advanced.

A Boer deserter who arrived at Maseru yesterday asserts that 7,000 Boers participated in the Roeckrantz engagement, that General Olivier was killed and that Gen. De Villiers was mortally wounded.

The Times correspondent at Lorenzo Marquez says: "At Machodorp President Kruger has a body guard of 1,000 burghers. Stores are being moved as quickly as possible from that point to Lydenburg. The Portuguese authorities sent a further body of troops to the border to-day."

GEN. WALKER'S DISPATCH.

He Tells of Situation on the North of the Orange River Colony.

London, June 11.—Following is a dispatch from Gen. Forestier Walker to the war office:

"Capetown, June 11.—On Sunday the following telegram was received from Charles Knox, Kroonstad: 'The following casualties reported from Roodeval, June 7th, received from Stonham, commanding the Imperial Yoemanry hospital, dated Rhenoster River, June 8th, were received here by flag of truce on June 10th: The Fourth Battalion of the Derbyshire Regiment (the Sherwood Foresters) killed—Lt.-Col. Baird Douglas and Lieut. Hawley and 15 of the rank and file. Wounded—Col. Wilkinson, Capt. Bailey, Lieuts. Hall, Lawder and Blanchard, and 59 of the rank and file; the Shropshire Light Infantry, 1; Cape Pioneer Railway Regiment, 7; ammunition party, Royal Marines and Imperial Telegraphs, 1 each; post office corps, 1.'

"Stonham reports that many were severely wounded and the remainder of the Fourth Derbyshire and details of prisoners, except six of the rank and file, are in his camp. All the wounded are in the camp lately occupied by the Fourth Derbyshire. Enquiries are being made as to the names."

It is inferred that the Boers captured 500 men and as late as June 10th held positions cutting off the British forces north of Kroonstad from reinforcements. Another dispatch from General Forestier Walker says General Methuen was fighting within ten miles of Heilbron on June 8th. It is as follows:

"Capetown, June 10.—Kelly-Kenny reports from Bloemfontein this morning that Methuen, with the greater part of his division, was fighting early in the morning of June 8th, 10 miles south of Heilbron where Colville was reported to be with the Highland brigade. Methuen left Lindley on June 5th with ample supplies for himself and Colville, leaving Paget to hold Lindley with a sufficient force and supplies.

"Kelly-Kenny has ordered Knox to press on the enemy's outposts, believing the enemy's strength to be exaggerated.

"All is quiet and there is no anxiety as regards the district to the south. Communications north of Kroonstad have been cut since June 6th."

SCHREINER WILL RESIGN.

He Has Only Ten Supporters—Rundle Receives Boer Delegates.

London, June 11.—The news that the shutting off to Lord Roberts's communication with the outer world was accompanied by such a serious loss came like a bolt from a comparatively clear sky. In London, until the news came, it had been thought the destruction of the railway was accomplished by Free Staters, who were avoiding rather than annihilating the British detachments stationed at the point attacked. Nor are General Forestier Walker's vague statements regarding Methuen and the situation at Heilbron looked upon as reassuring. The Boers appear to be in sufficient strength to separate all the British forces north and south of a line stretching some 50 miles between Roodeval and Heilbron. Methuen's march up to the latter place seems somewhat in the nature of a movement for the relief of Colville. The only British officer left at Roodeval appears to be the doctor in charge of the hospital, which is full of wounded.

What has happened to the troops immediately north of Roodeval is still a subject for conjecture.

The ministerial caucus at Capetown has resulted unfavorably to Premier Schreiner, only ten supporting him, and Mr. Schreiner has given notice of his intention to resign. The question at issue is Mr. Schreiner's desire to introduce immediately bills punishing the colonial rebels and indemnifying the government for acts committed under martial law.

There is no further word of Gen. Buller's progress.

Reports from Maseru, Basutoland, June 9th, say the Boers around Ficksburg refuse to surrender and severe fighting is expected, though a dispatch of June 8th from Hammonia, which is only a few miles from Ficksburg, says the situation in southeast corner of the Orange River colony is unchanged, that Gen. Rundle has received the Boer delegates sent to negotiate peace terms. The result of the peace negotiations is not known.

London, June 12.—A plentiful crop of Boer reports have been filtering through Lorenzo Marquez. According to these General Dewett, with 13,000 burghers, is marching on Johannesburg; the Boers have retaken Bloemfontein, where President Steyn again occupies the presidency, and the British have sustained a severe defeat at Elands Fontein and lost 750 killed and wounded, and 150 prisoners at Vrede Fort.

Nothing from any source lends color to these stories with the exception of the last, which is probably the Boer version of the disaster to the militia battalion of the Derbyshire Regiment at Roodeval.

In regard to

President Steyn

being at Bloemfontein, a dispatch from Maseru, Basutoland, dated Monday, 11th, says President Steyn was then at Vrede, 200 miles from Bloemfontein.

Gen. Buller seems to be meeting substantial progress and ought soon to possess the railroad at Charleston, in the northern extremity of Natal, whence presumably he will advance on Heidelberg and effect a junction with Lord Roberts.

A dispatch from Lichtenburg, dated 11th, says sixty Johannesburg mounted policemen, with a Maxim gun, have surrendered to Gen. Hunter.

A probable explanation of the reports that a British force is moving through Swaziland comes in a dispatch from Port Elizabeth, dated June 11th, announcing the return of the British cruiser Doris from Koosi Bay, where she had taken a number of whale boats with the object of

Landing an Armed Force

presumably part of a plan to penetrate in Swaziland. The Boers, however, got wind of the expedition and the force was not landed.

According to Capetown dispatches the cabinet crisis continues. It is alleged that should Premier Schreiner secede from the Bond, as he pretends, his action would place the Bond in the minority in the assembly. Mr. Schreiner has accepted the resignations of Mr. J. X. Merriman, treasurer, and Mr. J. W. Sauer, commissioner of public works.

Among the members of the Yeomanry killed at Lindley was W. T. Power, proprietor of Canyon Ranch in North Texas, and son of Sir W. T. Power.

DISPATCH FROM BULLER.

London, June 12.—The war office posts the following dispatch from Buller:

"Headquarters in Natal, June 11.—We forced Almonds Nek to-day. It is not marked on the map, but is the last defile to Charleston Flats. The enemy were in considerable force with several guns in position. The brunt of the fighting fell upon the Second Dorsets, who carried the position at the point of the bayonet, and the Third Cavalry brigade, who also heavily attacked on our right from very broken country round Iketini mountain.

"I hope our casualties are less than 100, which, considering the length of the position, is much less than I expected.

"The whole attack was directed by Hildyard, whose dispositions were good. The artillery, Tenth Brigade and Third Cavalry Brigade did the most of the work."

RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Ottawa, June 12.—Hon. J. Chamberlain, writing to Lord Minto, under the date of May 24th, and enclosing correspondence from Lord Roberts and Lord Methuen, says: "I observe with great pleasure the high terms in which Lord Roberts and Lord Methuen have reported on the work of the society.

"On March 29th Lord Roberts writes to the Secretary of War from Government House, Bloemfontein, in which he forwards a letter from Lord Methuen bearing testimony to the excellent work done by the Canadian Red Cross Society at Kimberley and the energy and zeal of Lieut.-Col. Ryerson. The date of Lord Methuen's letter is March 19th. He says in writing to the chief of staff: 'I wish to bring before the commander-in-chief the fine and unostentatious work performed by the Canadian Red Cross Society here under the guidance of Lt.-Col. Ryerson.' The day that Lord Methuen wrote, four Canadian nurses arrived. Lord Methuen wanted that the good work done by the society should be made known to the president in Canada."

NEAR VOLKSRUST.

London, June 12.—9:12 p.m.—The war office has issued the following from Gen. Buller to the secretary of war:

"Joubert's Farm, June 12.—12:50 p.m.—Encamped four miles north of Volksrust. Laing's Nek and Majuba were completely evacuated by the Boers last night. General Clery, from Ingogo, is now coming over the Nek. I have had to camp here for want of water. A correct list of yesterday's casualties will be sent as soon as secured."

BOERS DEFEATED.

London, June 12.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Gen. Kelly-Kenny:

"Bloemfontein, June 12.—Our troops from the north are at Honingspruit (south of Roodeval), where the Boers cut the British lines of communication. Having defeated the enemy, they will be at American Siding to-morrow at 8 a.m. Gen. Knox moved out from Kroonstad to intercept the enemy. Fuller particulars later."

FIGHTING HIS WAY.

London, June 12.—The following dispatch has been received at the war office from Gen. Forestier-Walker, in command of the lines of communication in South Africa:

"Capetown, June 12.—The following is from Kelly-Kenny: 'June 11.—No communication from Methuen since June 7th. He was fighting on June 6th to the north of Vetchkop. Steyn is near Reitz. The British prisoners sent to Vrede, are well treated.'"

TWO CANADIANS DEAD.

Ottawa, June 12.—Sir Alfred Milner cables to Lord Minto that Lance Corporal A. F. Van Norman, R.C.R., of infantry, died of enteric fever at Bloemfontein on June 6th; Gunner Neild, who belonged to the 13th Battery, Manitoba, was severely wounded by a Colt gun at Campbell, Griqualand West, on June 4th; Private Robson, of 13th Hamilton; W. Glover, of A squadron, Canada Mounted Rifles, and formerly of the First Hussars, London, and E. Mullens, of the Canadian regiment of infantry, of London company, are dangerously ill with enteric fever; Capt. Harrison, transport officer, of Sussex, N.B., died on June 10th of enteric fever, and Pte. C. C. Owen, accidentally shot himself.

B. C. Politics In The House

Col. Prior Asks if Instructions Have Been Sent to the Lieut.-Governor.

Premier Says No Action Will Be Taken Until Official Information is to Hand.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, June 13.—In the House to-day Colonel Prior asked if the government had sent any instructions to the Lieut.-Governor of British Columbia?

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—I may inform my honorable friends that I have not sent any instructions to the Lieut.Governor of British Columbia. The Lieut.-Governor has appealed to the people of the province and the answer is in their hands.

Clarke Wallace reminded the Premier of what he had previously said in the House, and therefore he wanted to know whether the Governor was to be recalled or what was to be done in the matter, considering the decisive majority that was against him.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—The question was not one which was to be treated with levity. The election only took place on Saturday last, and the exact result was not yet known. The government will not take any action on newspaper reports. We must have something official before us.

GENERALS CAPTURED.

(Associated Press.)

Washington, June 12.—General MacArthur at Manila cabled the war department to-day as follows: "Report capture of General Hizon, near Mexico, and Cavesthany at Alcala, both important. The latter was a very important leader of guerillas in Panga Sinan, province Luzon. (Signed) Macarthur."

In Sympathy With Rebels

Dowager Empress No Longer Pretends to Be Opposed to the Boxer Movement.

Native Christians Murdered by Chinese Soldiers Sent to Protect Them.

Pekin Isolated and no News Has Been Received as to Situation.

(Associated Press.)

New York, June 12.—A London correspondent of the Tribune says London has been severed temporarily from communication with two centres of the most interesting news, Pekin and Pretoria.

The Boxers, like Boers, have cut wires, and Tien Tsin and Taku have not known with precision what has been happening at Pekin. The force of over 2,000 marines, which left Tien Tsin on Sunday in three trains, is believed to have reached the capital in safety. The presence of this force was urgently needed for the Dowager Empress has dropped all pretense and is in open sympathy with the enemies of the missionaries and foreigners. And all the mission property at Pekin is menaced with the fate of the station at Tung Chau, where the buildings were destroyed and the native Christians murdered by the soldiers commissioned to protect them. It is the story of Armenia repeated at Pekin. All Christian converts and foreigners at the capital are at the mercy of the mobs as well as the regular soldiers, unless the marines from eleven ships of war can protect them. A reassuring fact of the situation is apparent in the heartiness with which the great powers are co-operating in a determined effort to protect foreign interests in China.

The United States government is accepting its responsibility for the lives and property of Americans, and even the minor states, like Denmark, are adopting protecting measures.

The reports that Russian troops have crossed the frontier and that 6,000 men, from the garrison at Port Arthur, are preparing to go to Pekin under arrangement agreed upon by the European powers are not fully confirmed, but the crisis is so momentous that the jealousies of the suspicious European capitals may be overcome and the nearest foreign army be dispatched to Pekin to avert massacre and rapine.

Will Act Independently.

Washington, June 12.—The cabinet meeting to-day was devoted largely to a discussion of the Chinese situation. Secretary Hay laid before the cabinet dispatches from Minister Conger, which indicated that the situation was very critical. The steps that have been taken to reinforce Admiral Kempff were gone over, and it was decided to stand by the policy for pushing measures for the protection of the lives and property of American citizens, and of acting independently as far as possible.

Asks for Cruiser.

Washington, June 12.—The following dispatch was received at the state department to-day.

"Chin Kiang, June 12.—Secretary of State: Large numbers of natives have organized secret society and halted here. People are very apprehensive. No protection, want cruiser. (Signed) Martin."

Martin, who signed the above dispatch, is the United States consul at Chin Kiang.

London, June 12.—The following message, the last out of Pekin to reach London, left there yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, going by way of Russian telegraph, through Manchuria, the Tien Tsin lines being cut: "Gen. Tung, a Mahometan, extremely hostile to foreigners, arrived this morning and had a long audience with Prince Tuan, father of the heir apparent, who is seemingly friendly to the Boxers. Prince Tuan has been appointed chief of the foreign office, over Prince Ching, who is more friendly toward foreigners. The dispatch of more marines was in response to a telegram from the ministers to the consuls at Tien Tsin for additional troops. Conveyances have left Pekin to meet the troops coming by the first train. The arrival of the Empress Dowager has rendered the city somewhat more quiet than it had been recently. The Protestants have erected a barricade before the building in which they have taken refuge, and they have a small guard. The Catholics are concentrating north of the cathedral under the protection of a French guard of 25 men, who will hold out to the end. I am convinced that Pekin, especially the Tartar city, is safe."

At Tien Tsin the viceroy of the city consented to furnish transportation for a relief force of four hundred under an American commander. The partial restoration of the railway is expected to be effected by to-morrow. A massacre of Christians is reported.

Shanghai, under yesterday's date, cables that there has been street fighting in Pekin since early Sunday afternoon.

The Russians are making large purchases of canned provisions at Shanghai, and everything points to an outbreak of hostilities. All British missionaries will probably be ordered to return quickly to treaty ports.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, in a dispatch dated yesterday at 1:40 p.m., says: "The reports from the Yun Kan Fu district says that the French minister has telegraphed that a crisis is imminent, and he is advising foreigners to evacuate Yun Nan. All the telegrams indicate that the situation has not in the least improved. On the contrary, the disorder has spread from the neighborhood of Pekin to the capital itself, which is growing turbulent in anti-foreign demonstrations. In addition to the burning of the Pekin Club, the secretary of the Belgian legation has been roughly handled in the streets. Hostile crowds continue to demonstrate against the legations. Two thousand international troops are approaching the city and the advance guard is due to arrive to-day (Tuesday). The United States, according to dispatches from Copenhagen, has given 'hearty adhesion' to the scheme for a European demonstration. The Russian minister in Pekin, who also acts as the envoy of Denmark, is credited with having sent a dispatch to the Danish foreign office to the effect that a demonstration has been planned under the leadership of England and Russia, in which all the great powers and several of the smaller will take part. The latter are not called upon to send troops, as there are enough on the spot, but they are to be asked to denote the right to hoist their flags to the great powers in order that a demonstration may be made or a battle fought under the flags of all Europe. Japan and the United States have been informed and have agreed to the arrangements."

A special dispatch from Shanghai, dated Sunday, says: "All the naval forces, except the Russians, are acting under the orders of the British admiral. It is reported that the head of a foreigner has been exposed on a pole northwest of Shanghai. There are ominous indications of outbreaks in the Yang-tse district. All classes of natives in the north display intense hostility towards foreigners, and the Chinese soldiers point their guns at them as they pass."

Emperor's Appeal.

London, June 12.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Express telegraphing yesterday, says:

"Weng Tung Ho, Emperor Kwang Hsu's tutor and confidant who was dismissed by the Dowager Empress after the coup d'etat in 1898, sends with the special sanction of the Emperor and his party, including three viceroys, a message to the peoples of the west. In part it is as follows: 'His Majesty is convinced, through amply trustworthy sources, that the loyal support of many scores of millions of Chinese will be accorded to his proposals for putting an end to the state of anarchy brought about by the action of Empress Hsi Tsi.'

"The government of China being virtually non-existent, the Emperor proposes that the foreign powers whose troops dominate the capital shall remove his imperial person from the palace in which His Majesty is confined as a prisoner, shall declare the Empress Hsi Tsi and her present ministry to be usurpers, and shall bring Emperor Kwang Hsu to Nanking, Wu Chang or Shanghai, whichever the said foreign powers deem to be the most suitable situation for the new capital of the Chinese empire under the new conditions. It is proposed by His Majesty and his advisers that the foreign powers shall declare a joint protectorate, and take the task of governing the country through His Majesty."

The message suggests that the protectorate should abolish certain boards in Pekin, appoint new ministers, abolish the existing so-called armies, establish gendarmes under foreign officers, take control of the customs posts and telegraphs, and work them through Chinese officials, establish a uniform currency, readjust taxation and insure a freedom of religion. Weng Tung Ho also predicts a peaceful acceptance of such a regime, and goes on to say:

"China is ripe for the change of tide which the reactionaries vainly seek to stem. If it should so be, on the other hand, that the foreign powers seriously contemplate the dismemberment of the Chinese empire, they have before them the huge task of facing dense millions, who although lacking training, and who make but contemptible soldiers, possess boundless powers of passive resistance and who will be able to wear out the patience of any European rulers seeking to govern them without regard to the prejudices of the oldest civilization. The conquest and division of China would be possible with 100,000 troops, but to retain the government would require one million soldiers, and centuries of work. The task would end with the most unhappy results for both the conquered and the conquerors. If the people are assured that the powers are guiding and protecting His Majesty, and do not intend to swallow the country piecemeal, they and the soldiers will return unquestionably to the allegiance from which the Empress diverted them."

Conger's Instructions.

Washington, June 11.—Minister Conger was heard from again this morning. Mr. Conger's telegram this morning was to the effect that the Pao Ting Fu missionaries were safe up to the present, and that the Chinese government had sent troops there and promised ample protection for the mission, though it was not thought this protection would insure permanent safety. According to Mr. Conger, it was impossible at the moment to send any foreign forces from Pekin to Pao Ting Fu.

Mr. Conger's doubt as to permanency of the Chinese ability to protect the missions is in line with his previous expression of opinion, indicating a belief in his mind that the few Chinese generals who are disposed to protect the foreigners are to be overcome by the element at the Chinese court, which is favorable to the Boxers.

Mr. Conger asked for further instructions and was directed to proceed with energy in the protection of American interests, and more especially with protection of the American legation and the lives of the American citizens in China. He was warned, however, not to do anything to commit the United States in its future action.

An Unfounded Report.

London, June 11.—With reference to the St. Petersburg dispatch, the Associated Press is officially informed that Great Britain is no party to any such understanding, nor has she been consulted as to the advissability of landing a large number of Russian troops. The foreign office officials here frankly express the belief that no such instructions as those referred to in the dispatch from St. Petersburg have been sent to the Russian minister at Pekin.

Outrages by Natives.

Berlin, June 11.—The German foreign office has received a dispatch from Pekin, dated Sunday afternoon, saying the American mission house at Wung Chow, the river port of Pekin, has been destroyed by natives. The officials of the foreign office suppose this happened on Saturday or Sunday morning.

The dispatch further says the International Club, outside of a gate of Pekin, has been burned and that the Belgian secretary of the legation was attacked by Chinese soldiers.

The foreign office interprets the latter news as confirming the serious view it has taken of the situation, and expresses the fear that the ambassador will be next attacked.

Washington, June 12.—Official dispatches received in diplomatic quarters in Washington show that the rioting in Pekin has reached an acute stage with the rioters directing a number of the assaults against members of the different foreign legations there.

One of these dispatches states that the secretary of the Belgian legation was attacked twice on Monday and escaped being maltreated by the mob.

On the same day two officials of the British legation, serving as student interpreters, were attacked by a large crowd of roughs. The young Englishmen held the attacking party back for a time, but when the mob threatened to close in on them they drew revolver, and by a show of force made their retreat without bodily injury.

Japan and the Crisis.

London, June 13.—In regard to the reports that Japan is about to declare war on China, it was learned by a representative of the Associated Press at the Japanese embassy to-day that the attitude of Japan in the Chinese crisis is to co-operate loyally with European powers. In the existing situation, Japan would not be willing to see any single power take the lead.

Troops From Hongkong.

Hongkong, June 13.—Steamer Haytien has been chartered to convey 600 troops to Tien Tsin. She is being fitted by the artificers of the Terrible.

The troops to-day drew their field equipment. The date of their departure has not been made known.

Hongkong, June 13.—Orders have been issue to the contingent of British troops assembled here for service in the north to start for Tien Tsin on June 14th. Major Morris, of the artillery, will be in command.

Joined the Boxers.

New York, June 13.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: "There is a general feeling in diplomatic circles that the European powers have been united by the dismissal of Prince Ching, and that in the purging of Tsung Li Liamen of all its modern men the Empress Dowager has gone over to the Boxers, bag and baggage, and that the powers have been forced to co-operate in the restoration of order at Pekin, even if the services of Russian troops are required. The Talleyrands, "Good Europeans," have reappeared upon the scene and have dropped their jealousies and suspicions. A mixed force of two thousand marines will be inadequate if Pekin should be in the possession of the Boxers and if the insurrection should spread from province to province."

Li Hung and Reformers.

Chicago, June 13.—A special to the Record from Honolulu, dated June 5th, via San Francisco, says:

"Leung Chi Tso, the Chinese reformer, has received a most remarkable letter, purporting to have been dictated by Li Hung Chang, the grand old man of China, in which the objects sought by the reformers are commended and they are advised to continue efforts with patience but with carefulness. The letter is signed by a grandson of Li Hung Chang and bears the grandson's private seal. It is in answer to an open letter to the great viceroy, written some months ago by Leung Chi Tso. In this letter Leung Chi Tso reminded Li Hung Chang that less than two years ago, when the reformer was sent into exile, Li Hung sent word to him through Count Ito, bidding him look on his exile as an opportunity to study Occidental ways and modern methods of government as the time might soon come when China, under happier conditions, would recall the sons she was sending into exile to help reform and remodel her ancient institutions."

New Chinese Ministers.

Washington, June 13.—A cablegram has been received at the state department from Minister Conger at Pekin stating that Tuan, the father of the heir apparent, has been appointed president of the Tsung Li Yamen, also that three other new ministers have been appointed, all affiliated with the party opposed to foreigners.