

Part Of Chinese Plot

Such, it is believed, is the story of Departure of Ministers From Peking.

Half of the Foreigners in Capital Reported Dead or Wounded.

Native Soldiers Are Preparing to Oppose the Advance of Allies.

(Associated Press.)

London, July 26.—The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Shanghai telegraphing yesterday says:

"Li Hung Chang now states that some members of the legations have already left Peking and may be expected shortly. He is becoming angry at the skepticism of the consuls.

"The impression is gaining ground that the ministers of the powers to whom China has applied for mediation may be still alive. The representatives of France, Japan, Russia and the United States have visited Li Hung Chang, but the others still keep aloof. The Americans are indignant over the fact that United States Consul Goodnow has entered into relations with Earl Li, but Mr. Goodnow defends his action on the ground that he is following the instructions of his government."

The Hongkong correspondent of the Daily Express wires as follows under today's date: "An Italian priest has just arrived here from Hen Sing-Fu, Southern Huan, where the Italian bishop and three priests have been massacred after revolting torture. This took place on July 4th. Six hundred converts were massacred, after the women had been subjected to hideous brutalities. Six other priests fled to the hills, where they were probably killed.

"The priest who escaped made a perilous journey. He hid in a coffin on board a river boat for 17 days."

Attitude of United States.

Berlin, July 26.—The German foreign office, which has received no additional news from China to-day, points out the conditions for mediation demanded by President McKinley, published in Berlin this morning, place the United States in a substantially the same position as Germany and France. Nevertheless the German press continues to assert that the Washington government is trying to part company with the powers. The Freisinnige Zeitung remarks: "All the powers, with one exception, refuse to be deceived longer by Chinese double-dealing. That exception is the United States, which formally abandoned the concert of the powers."

Another circumstance which has made a bad impression here is the refusal of the British and United States admirals to vote to give Russia control over the railway to Tien Tsin.

The Berliner Tageblatt says that such refusal is a discussion among the powers, and can only encourage the Chinese.

The Krueze Zeitung, which repeats its pessimistic views concerning the harmonious action of the powers, asserts that the present attitude of the United States united advance upon Peking are even greater than the military difficulties.

The Vorwaerts contrasts President McKinley's answer to the Chinese note with Count von Buelow's, praising President McKinley's as a masterpiece, and saying: "The United States President meets China's sympathy without in the slightest degree committing himself. While he states certain conditions clearly and energetically, he avoids every threat and rude rattling of the sabre. McKinley is really a man of fine parts."

Kempff's Action.

Washington, July 26.—The navy department has just made public the following additional chapter in Admiral Kempff's report:

"United States Flagship Newark, Taku, China, June 20.—Sir, Referring to my recent actions in declining to take part in the seizure of the Taku forts and in afterwards making common cause with the foreign forces in protection of foreign life and property, I would respectfully state that the Chinese government is now paralyzed, and the secret edicts show that it is in sympathy with the Boxers."

"Second, the fact that under the existing circumstances the troops at the forts were given much extra drill, torpedoes were provided, and, it is claimed, planted on the entrance of the Pei-wo river, was considered menacing, and by other naval officers sufficient cause to justify them in demanding the temporary occupation of the forts. This culminated in the bombardment of the forts by other foreign gunboats on the morning of 17th June, which has been described.

In this bombardment the Monocacy was upon and struck without previous warning.

"Third, it is now necessary to join with the other foreign powers for common defence and preservation of foreign life and the honor of our country.

"Fourth, I refused to join in taking possession of the Imperial Chinese railway station, and also declined to join in the demand for temporary occupation of the Taku forts, for I thought it against the policy and wishes of our

government to be entangled with other foreign powers in such a step, and also because it endangered the lives of people in the interior in advance of absolute necessity, for up to early morning on June 17th the Chinese government had not committed, so far as I am aware, any act of open hostilities toward the foreign armed forces.

"Fifth, in opening fire without warning, an act of war was committed, when many shots were fired at the place where the Monocacy was moored, about 3,000 yards from the forts. Those firing must have known her presence there, as she had been moored in that position a number of days.

"Under these circumstances, I regarded the situation as one for the protection of the national honor and the preservation of our people, and have acted accordingly."

Legation Courier Captured.

Tokio, July 24.—A message which arrived from Shanghai yesterday makes the following assertion:

"Yuan Shih Kai, governor of Shan Tung, has received a letter from Peking, dated July 18th, declaring that a legation courier was captured by the Chinese on July 13th, and that thereupon Gen. Heng Lu, peoniered the throne to employ the courier as a messenger to communicate with the ministers. This was carried out, and a reply was received that the ministers were well and were unanimous in favoring the restoration of peace."

"An official of the Tsung li Yamen afterwards visited the legations and interviewed a minister, and it was subsequently decided to petition the Emperor to supply the legations with food and to send them to Tien Tsin. Heng Lu is said to have great difficulty in intervening between the foreign soldiers guarding the south Goka bridge, and the Tong go troops on the north side. Fighting has now ceased, however."

London, July 27.—This morning's reports from Shanghai reiterate the allegation that the surviving members of the diplomatic corps have left Peking on their way to Tien Tsin, and add that the foreigners are being escorted by troops of Jung Lu, commander-in-chief of the Chinese forces.

This move is stated to be the outcome of very stormy interviews between Li Hung Chang and the foreign consuls, and to have been taken in the hopes of abating the wrath of the powers and delaying the advance of the allies towards Peking.

Advices received from the same sources state that half the foreigners in Peking have been killed or wounded, or have died as the result of privations.

Simultaneously comes a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Shanghai announcing that a letter has been received from Sir Claude Macdonald, the British minister to China, under the date of Peking, 6th, saying the legations were under constant fire and that three were still standing, but that the foreigners were receiving no assistance from the authorities.

Owing to the cowardice of the Chinese, Sir Claude wrote, it was hoped the legations would be able to hold out for a fortnight, but if they were pressed their resistance could not last more than four days at the most.

The text of the Shanghai dispatch to the Daily Mail is as follows:

"Shanghai, July 27.—A letter just received here from Sir Claude Macdonald, dated Peking, July 6th, says: 'We are receiving no assistance from the authorities. Three legations are still standing, including the British. The Chinese are shelling us from the city with a three-inch gun, and some smaller ones are sniping us. We may be annihilated any day. Our ammunition and food are short. We would have perished by this time only the Chinese are cowards and have no organized plan of attack. If we are not pressed we may hold out for a fortnight longer, otherwise four days at the utmost. I anticipate only slight resistance to the relief forces.'

Sir Claude concludes by advising the relief force to approach by the eastern gate or by way of the river. The losses of the foreigners in Peking up to July 6th were forty killed and eighty wounded.

Some of the statements above are strikingly similar to the published version of Sir Claude Macdonald's letter of July 4th. It is not the same letters, the Chinese artillery would appear to be strangely ineffective. The casualties were the same according to the letters of both dates.

As lending color to the suggestion that the communications are identical, it may be stated that the Belgian foreign office this morning received a dispatch from Shanghai, under to-day's date, mentioning the receipt of a letter from Claude Macdonald, dated 4th, in which it was stated that the besieged foreigners in Peking were reduced to horseflesh.

The Belgian consul at Shanghai also reports that a servant of the German minister, who left Peking on the 9th, states that the British legation was only attacked at night and if resupplied, he believed it is holding out.

In missionary circles at Shanghai, according to a dispatch received here to-day, it has been learned that all the missionaries at Peking in the province of Po Chi Li, have been murdered. All of the people of the mission at Aloy, province of Fo Kein, are reported well.

A Chinese Plot.

London, July 27.—The Daily Mail correspondent at Shanghai cables that Chinese troops have retreated from the native city of Tien Tsin and are concentrating at Yang Tsin, on the railway line to Peking, with a view to opposing the advance of the allies.

The proposal made by the Chinese government to the American consul, through the Taotsi Sheng, that hostilities against the Chinese should cease upon condition that the foreign ministers were sent under escort to Tien Tsin, appears to be part

of a deep plot to conceal the date of the massacre and the duplicity of the officials, who being in possession of the news, suppressed it.

The story will be that the ministers all left Peking under a strong escort, but were set upon by a mob of Boxers. The world will be told that although the Chinese soldiers fought bravely, they were overcome and all were massacred.

Japs Defeat Chinese.

New York, July 27.—A Shanghai dispatch is published here this afternoon as follows:

"Shanghai, July 27.—The first important blow in the advance upon Peking has been struck and the Chinese were routed.

"Fifteen thousand Japanese troops landed at Shankai Kwan on July 27th and were resisted by the Chinese. The Japs fought gallantly and won a great victory. The Chinese were put to flight.

"Preparatory to this movement, the warships of the allies recently threatened the Chinese forts at Shan Hai Kwan.

China's Troops Defeated.

Berlin, July 27.—A dispatch received here, dated Tien Tsin, 24th, says: 'A messenger who left Peking on Sunday, July 15th, brought to-day to the custom officer here, news that Prince Ching's soldiers had been fighting Prince Tung's troops, and had been defeated. The foreigners were defending themselves in the northern cathedral near the forbidden city.'

United States Declines.

Washington, July 27.—Secretary Hay signalled his return to Washington from Canton this morning by the announcement that under no circumstances would the United States government accept the Chinese offer to turn over the foreign ministers to the internationalists at Tien Tsin in consideration of a suspension of the campaign against Peking.

A long cablegram was dispatched today to Rear-Admiral Remy at Taku and it is believed that this instruction was laid upon him.

More Missionaries Murdered.

Toronto, July 27.—The China Inland Mission received the following cablegram from Shanghai this morning: 'All missionaries murdered in Pao Ting Fu.'

Mr. and Mrs. Barnall, two of the China inland missionaries, were at Pao Ting, and it is presumed they have perished.

"Peking Aliys."

Boston, Mass., July 27.—The American board of commissioners for the foreign missions to-day received a cablegram from Rev. Henry B. Porter, a missionary of the board, dated Chee Foo, July 23rd, containing the words "Peking Aliys."

Mr. Bremner's Good Work

He Has Succeeded in Arranging Settlement of Fishermen's Strike.

The Men Have Agreed to Accept Twenty Cents Per Fish.

(Special to the Times.)

Vancouver, July 27.—Mr. Bremner, Dominion government labor commissioner, has nearly succeeded in arranging a settlement of the strike, and the whole matter will probably be concluded this afternoon at a joint meeting to be held at Steveston.

The fishermen agree to work at 20 cents and 15 cents for heavy runs, but asks, as the only concession, that the settlement of the strike, and the whole matter will probably be concluded this afternoon at a joint meeting to be held at Steveston.

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RELIEVING DISTRESS IN INDIA.

London, July 26.—In introducing the Indian budget in the House of Commons to-day, the secretary of state for India, Lord Geo. Hamilton, commended the patience, resignation, courage and abstention from crime which 32,000,000 of people in the stricken area have faced famine. The latest reports from India, he said, were anything but satisfactory. On the other hand, there were certain compensating advantages in the shape in which the revenue year closed. There was, he said, a substantial credit balance of £2,800,000, but the famine expenditure and remission of taxation would turn this into a deficit of £262,000. The government proposed to apply the unexpended balance of £3,000,000 to the famine loan towards relief; this would, he hoped, meet all demands. If the resources of India did not suffice to save the lives of the famine stricken, then an appeal would be made to the Imperial exchequer. In the last two years, Lord Hamilton said, £13,000,000 had been expended in famine relief.

STILL FREE.

(Associated Press.)

New Orleans, La., July 27.—Robert Charles, the negro murderer of Captain Day and Patrolman Lamb, has not yet been captured. There have been some minor disturbances to-day.

T. Bowerman, of the Seattle Times staff, is at the Dominion.

Banker's Story Of Massacre

He Left Peking on July 7th and States That Ministers Were Then Dead.

Reported to Have Killed Their Families When They Saw Escape Impossible.

Imperial Edict Says Foreign Representatives Are Alive and Well.

(Associated Press.)

London, July 25.—The statement cabled from Washington that officials there are wavering with regard to the reliability of the alleged messages from Minister Conger and Ting Fan's assurances, has had a markedly depressing effect on this side of the ocean, where many have been buoyed up by the sanguine views of the state department at Washington regarding the various Shanghai dispatches and pessimism is again gaining the ascendancy.

No improvement in the general situation is the message one agency brings from the British consul-general to over-ought Europe, while another asserts that a week has elapsed without a reply to the consul's message to the British minister at Peking, Sir Claude Macdonald, through the Tsung Li Yamen, the belief is confirmed that the assurance of Chinese officials are only designed to gain time, and that even if the ministers are alive they are held as hostages. As commentators pertinently remark, if there is an atom of truth in all the Chinese assertions, the officials have only to supply the legations not 'vegetables' but with telegraph forms.

Definite news of any kind is scarce. The report comes from Shanghai that business has been resumed at the port of New Chang, and that a second Japanese division is mobilizing at Tokio preparatory to embarkation for China. Through a Yokohama dispatch the government has received information that Chinese attacked a body of Japanese and Koreans in the vicinity of An Tong, on the North side of the Yellow river. Refugees have arrived at Wiju, Japanese consulates were proceeding to the scene of conflict.

The latest news received at St. Petersburg from Blagovestchensk was dated July 23rd. The Russian garrison had been re-supplied with ammunition and would be able to hold out until reinforcements arrived.

The Chinese legation here reiterates the assertion that the ministers are en route to Tien Tsin.

Banker's Statement.

London, July 25.—The Daily Mail's Shanghai correspondent telegraphs that a Russian banker, who left Peking on July 7th and arrived at Shanghai on Wednesday, 25th, says that when he left Peking all the legations had been destroyed and all the foreigners murdered. The ministers, seeing that death was inevitable, shot their families. Sir Robert Hart, the banker, added, committed suicide in despair.

Another Report.

Shanghai, July 25.—The manager of the Russian Bank of Shanghai has received a letter from the bank's New Chinese branch stating that one of the Chinese representatives from Peking, who had just arrived, confirmed the report of the Peking massacre. Torture failed to shake the man's statement. He declared that all the foreign ministers were murdered, and being death was inevitable any Chinese swarming into the legations, the ministers killed their families at the last moment. Sir Robert Hart, in despair, committed suicide.

Reported Alive.

Washington, July 25.—The secretary of state has received the following dispatch from Mr. Fowler, the American consul at Chee Foo, dated at midnight on the 24th:

"This morning by request of allied admirals I wired the governor (supposed to be the governor of Shang Tung) their wish to get news from ministers themselves. The governor now replies: 'Have received to-day edict from the Emperor saying that the ministers are well. They are sending provisions to the legations. Am confident that the ministers are out of distress, and request you, Fowler, to transmit this announcement to the admirals. (Signed) Yuan, governor.'

A later dispatch from Mr. Fowler, dated 27th, to the state department, is as follows: "Another telegram from the governor. Have just received imperial edict, 24th, saying various ministers, excepting the German, are well, and some days ago had supplied provisions to legations. Am satisfied the ministers are out of distress. (Signed) Yuan, governor."

Secretary Hay has also received a telegram from United States Consul McWade at Canton stating that the Viceroy Tak assures him that the ministers were all alive and well on July 24th.

Paris, July 25.—The Chinese minister at Paris, Yu Keng, has received the following decree, dated July 24th: "The foreign ministers are highly respected, safe and sound, except Kettler. We are having the foreign legations supplied with provisions and fruit, as a token of the interest we feel in them."

From Li Hung Chang.

New York, July 25.—Li Hung Chang, the Chinese viceroy, in response to a request, cabled to him three days ago by the Tribune, sends the following reply, dated Shanghai, July 27th: "Tribune, New York: Peking reports ministers alive. Safety assured. Allied forces entrance to Peking unnecessary. (Signed) Li Hung Chang."

The Murder of Missionaries.

New York, July 25.—Cable messages were received to-day by both the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions and the American Bible Society, corroborative of the report that the missionaries at Pao Ting Fu had been massacred.

The message received by the Presbyterian board came from Shanghai and was supposed to have been sent by Rev. Geo. F. Fitch. It reads as follows: "Simcox and Hodges, Taylor, Mackey and other missionaries, seven, massacred at Pao Ting Fu, July 8th, Nonking and Hainan missionaries, all Shanghai, Japan."

The American Bible Society to-day received a cablegram from Shanghai as follows: "All massacred at Pao Ting Fu. Foreigners interior order Shanghai. Wire \$3,000."

This was sent by Rev. Dr. John H. Hykes, to whom the \$3,000 was at once cabled.

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Village Burned.

St. Petersburg, July 25.—An official dispatch from Prjezensk, dated Friday, July 27th, says the Schwarvine detachment, en route to reinforce Blagovestchensk, captured and burned the village of Merche, opposite the Russian port of Igaschina on the Amur river. The inhabitants fled.

Parliamentary Paper.

London, July 25.—A parliamentary paper on China was issued this afternoon dealing with the period of the murder of Missionary Brooks, January 4th to July 13th, when the Chinese minister at London communicated to Lord Salisbury the Imperial edict. The penultimate written communication from the British minister at Peking, Sir Claude Macdonald, dated May 21st, declares that "The demeanor of the inhabitants of Peking is quiet and civil towards foreigners, although, from the panic among native Christians, it may be assumed the latter are being subjected to threats of violence."

Sir Claude Macdonald was convinced that a few days of heavy rain fall to terminate the drought which had helped to excite the unrest of the country districts would do more to restore tranquility than any measures the Chinese or foreign governments could take.

Sails for Taku.

San Francisco, July 25.—The transport Hancock will sail to-day for Taku. She carries 500 marines, a battery of artillery and a number of soldiers. She will be followed by the Meade next Wednesday.

London, July 25.—Sir Chi Chen Lo-feng Lu, Chinese minister, yesterday received a telegram from Sheng, director of railways and telegraphs, to the effect that an imperial decree in the following terms was issued on July 24th: "It is fortunate that all the foreign representatives except Baron von Kettler are found in safety and unharmed. Provisions in the shape of foodstuffs, vegetables and fruits will be supplied to the legations in order to show our courtesy."

The Morning Post goes so far as to assert that there is now direct communication between the Chinese authorities in Peking and London, and that the ministers are safe. However this may be, it is quite certain that the attempts of the French, Italian and other consuls to get direct replies from Peking have utterly failed, and it is pointed out that the ability to supply the legations with fruit and vegetables involves the conclusion that communication is not impeded by the Boxers.

Thus despite the daily alteration of hopes and fears the reiterated Chinese assertions of the safety of the ministers fall to carry conviction.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Express says that Li Hung Chang says the legation party ought to reach Tien Tsin on Sunday.

The Morning Post correspondent at Chee Foo, wiring on Wednesday, says there is a rumor that Prince Ching rescued the legations and conveyed them to a place of safety.

Eighteen missionaries have been massacred at Tung Caau, where the churches have been burned.

Gen. Sir Alfred Gaszelle has started for Taku.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Express says: "It is reported here that a large section of the Boxers have revolted against Prince Tuan, alleging that he is making tools of them for his own ends. A desperate conflict took place outside of Peking on Sunday. Prince Tuan personally led his followers, two of the generals having deserted him. The battle lasted several hours and Prince Tuan was defeated and killed."

The Daily Express has the following from Chee Foo, dated July 27th: "Four more British missionaries have been murdered in the province of Shan Si. News from native Christian sources says that for eight days a general massacre of foreigners has been in progress in the province of Honan and Shan Si."

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says: "Trustworthy information which reached me to-day (Friday) convinces me that all the ministers except Baron von Kettler are still alive. Some of the European survivors are leaving Peking."

"Use Your Weapons."

Berlin, July 27.—The Lokal Anzeiger says the Emperor, when addressing the troops at Bremerhaven before they sailed for China, referred first to the responsibility which had sprung up for the German Empire during the last decade.

"German troops," he said, "must now show in the face of the enemy whether their tendencies—tendencies which Ger-

man military methods had forwarded—were right. Their comrades of the marine had already proved the training principles on which that arm of the forces had been built up were the right ones, and now it was for the troops to do the same."

"If you close with the enemy, remember this—spare nobody; make no prisoners; use your weapons so that for a thousand years hence no Chinaman will dare to look askance at any German. Open the way for civilization once for all."

Natives Killed.

Washington, July 27.—The following dispatch has been received at the state department from Consul-General Goodnow at Shanghai, dated July 27th:

"An official telegram received here on the 15th says that 17 foreigners and many native Christians have been killed at Taoting and the missions burned. The Americans were Simcoe family, Taylor, Perkin, Misses Gerald, Morrill. The customs officer reports disturbances at Yunnan Fa."

The name Perkin in this dispatch is believed at the state department to be Pitkin, as inquiries for an American of that name have been made at the department.

Morgan's Statement.

London, July 27.—In the course of a debate in the Commons to-day, Mr. William Fitzhard Morgan, member for Metheny, Tynwald, who has extensive business interests in China, asserted that he had the most reliable information that all the foreign ministers, except Baron von Kettler, the German minister, in Peking were alive on Tuesday, July 24th.

Again Reported Safe.

Brussels, July 27.—The Belgian consul at Tien Tsin, in a dispatch dated Chee Foo, July 26th, says: "It is persistently reported here that the legations are safe and sound, under the protection of the Chinese government. About 10,000 Chinese soldiers are entrenched at Pei Tsang, fourteen kilometres from Tien Tsin."

The Ontario Murder

Two Men Charged With Being Implicated in the Death of Farmer Sifton.

Two Miners Killed by an Explosion—Lives Lost in Railway Collision.

(Associated Press.)

London, July 27.—Gerald Sifton and Walter Herbert, an eighteen-year-old son of Wm. Herbert, a respectable farmer of Biddulph township, Ontario, are understood here to have been charged with being implicated in the murder of Joseph Sifton, the former's father, at Arva, on 30th June. According to the evidence produced by the crown authorities, it is alleged Herbert confessed to witnesses to the murder of the old man. Herbert is alleged to have struck the old man as he was entering the barn, but losing heart after striking the first blow with the side of an axe, assisted him to prevent him from falling, whereupon Gerald, it is alleged, grabbed the axe, struck his father two or three times with it, then pulled him through the hole of the hay loft and struck him again two or three times while lying on the floor. The preliminary examination has been fixed for August 2nd at Lucan.

Madoc Junction, Ont., July 27.—A fatal collision between two passenger trains on the Grand Trunk railway occurred about half a mile south of here yesterday afternoon, resulting in the death of Engineer Arch. Edmund of Lindsay, and Samuel Burd, a brakeman. The engines were badly smashed and two cars broken into matchwood. A number of other trainmen and some of the passengers were more or less injured.

Toronto, July 27.—It is expected that when Toronto's assessment roll is completed in a few days it will show a population in the city limits of 200,000.

Belleville, Ont., July 27.—Particulars have reached here of a fatal explosion in Belmonte gold mines, which occurred on Tuesday night, resulting in the death of Louis Dufresne and Peter Fernion, two miners. The victims had loaded two holes with dynamite and were being hoisted to the surface when the blast went off, throwing the men to the bottom of the shaft from a height of 100 feet.

Lindsay, Ont., July 27.—The little daughter of Mr. McNash, of this place, was instantly killed by lightning yesterday.

Ottawa, July 27.—A milk truck has been formed with about \$50,000 capital.

Pontiac County, Que., is vacant, W. J. Poupore, Conservative M.P., having handed in his resignation to Speaker Dain on account of his connection with the firm of Poupore & Malone, just formed since the contract for improving Montreal harbor was awarded to the latter a few days ago.

COAL FAMINE THREATENED.

Sydney, N.S.W., July 26.—A coal famine in the island of Newfoundland is among the possible results of the present inability of the Dominion Coal Co. to fill the demands made upon them. Coal is carried between Sydney and Newfoundland by coasting vessels and as they have been unable to get across, the captains have returned home, laid up their vessels and discharged the crews, throwing 400 men out of employment.

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