

Chinese Driven Back

They Attempted to Cut the Line of Communication at Tien Tsin. The Allies in Peking Have Destroyed the Residence of Prince Tuan.

Report From Shanghai Says the Empress Dowager Has Been Captured.

(Associated Press)

London, Aug. 24.—While the commanders of the allied forces are waiting for instructions from their governments as to what to do next, which in the present condition of telegraph service will probably take ten days to ascertain, the work of repairing the railroad beyond Yang Tsun is progressing slowly, and the transportation of supplies by boats on the Pei river is improving.

A dispatch from Chee Foo, dated Thursday, August 23rd, says there has been fighting near Tien Tsin. The Chinese sought to cut the line of communication, but were driven back with small loss upon the part of the allied forces.

Official advices from Peking, received at Tokio on August 23rd, say the allies burned Prince Tuan's residence.

According to a dispatch from Hongkong, dated August 24th, turbulent mobs are devastating portions of the provinces of Fu Kien and Kiang Su. It is added that a mandarin, with three hundred soldiers, left Amoy on August 21st to restore order.

Japanese bluejackets were landed at Amoy on August 23rd. Marines from the French cruiser Comet have cleared streets of Swatow, and freed the besieged priests.

A dispatch to a news agency from Shanghai, dated August 22nd, says eight survivors of the 14 English missionaries who started together from Sianst have reached Hankow, after suffering frightful barbarities.

Will Not Withdraw Troops.

Washington, Aug. 24.—The question of the withdrawal of the United States forces from Peking to Tien Tsin or Taku has been seriously considered by the President and by his advisers, and a great deal of pressure has been brought to bear on the administration to take this step. After mature deliberation, however, it has been determined that the negotiations for the settlement of the questions growing out of the disturbances in China must take place in the Chinese capital and, that while these negotiations are pending and until they are completed, it will be necessary for the United States forces to remain in the Chinese capital.

While it is recognized that a withdrawal of forces from Peking might be hailed with satisfaction in this country, it is said that the moral effect in China and upon the Chinese would be bad and would be interpreted as a retreat.

Dispatches were received from Gen. Chaffee to-day, but only those giving casualty lists were made public. If any dispatch relating to the situation in the capital, dated as late as August 17th, declaring a great fire was then raging in the imperial city, The Russian commander has declined to accept the decision of the other generals not to violate the imperial precincts and street fighting was going on.

Gen. Chaffee, so it is asserted, maintained the Chinese had been adequately punished already, and that it would be unwise to take the imperial palace.

This explains the withdrawal of the Americans after breaking through the gate, as called by the special correspondent of the Associated Press. The Russian general, however, maintained that his government had declared war against China and that therefore there was no reason to prevent him carrying hostilities into the sacred precincts.

Judging from various, and in many cases, contradictory dispatches that have reached Europe this morning from Peking, the commanders eventually adopted a middle course, for a Reuter telegram asserts that sentries were placed to prevent looting. Hence it is presumed that the imperial buildings, although captured, will not be destroyed.

The fires appear to be incendiary and to be caused by the Chinese themselves. All the dispatches point to the fact that, according to the latest news received from Peking, the commanders were somewhat at sea regarding their future action, all awaiting instructions from their governments.

The foreign residents appear to have been sent to Tien Tsin, although the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Mail says the ministers will not leave Peking until negotiations for indemnity are under way.

Neither the commanders nor the diplomats were in communication with the Chinese government on August 17th. They were then searching for Prince Tuan. Among the puzzling reports as to the whereabouts of the Empress Dowager, is one from St. Petersburg that she is in the vicinity of Peking, but surrounded. The Emperor seems to have disappeared completely. It is officially reported that the minister of the Netherlands, Dr. Knobel, was slightly wounded during the siege.

St. Petersburg dispatches announce good progress in the Manchurian campaign. The town of Mergen was captured August 18th, with trifling loss, while the Chinese suffered severely, leaving 10 guns, 700 rifles and large quantities of ammunition in the hands of the Russians.

The reports of risings in northern Korea are confirmed. It is believed that these are not due to ill-will towards foreigners, but to local dissatisfaction. The Korean government is sending troops to the disaffected districts.

According to telegrams from Shanghai, considerable uneasiness is felt there over the fact that no dispatches have been received from Peking since August 20th. Other Shanghai reports locate Emperor Kwang Su as under the protection of the allies and the Dowager Empress as already captured by the Japanese.

Gaselee Tells of Fighting. London, Aug. 23.—Gen. Gaselee, commander of the British forces at Peking, has telegraphed the war office as follows: "Peking, Aug. 15, (Wednesday), via Chee Foo, Aug. 21, (Tuesday).—At a conference August 12th it was agreed that the allies should concentrate within five miles of Peking, August 14th, and the assault should begin August 15th.

"The attack, however, commenced early in the morning of the 14th, and our troops had to make a forced march of 15 miles from Tung Chow, in the great heat. We were on the extreme left, and attacked the southeast gate of the Chinese city. There was practically no opposition, as we were not expected at that point. The Indian troops broke down and rushed the gate, and I entered with cavalry and guns.

"I then sent other cavalry and the Junjab infantry to the Temple of Heaven to secure our left flank and camping ground, and with the other corps rushed on towards the legations.

"At 8 o'clock we got on the canal opposite the water gate, and were signalled from the wall held by the legations. I sent a portion of the staff and 70 Indians, who rushed across the inmost dry moat and forded through the water gate without loss. We found all well in the legations. Macdonald immediately showed me the position, with the view of further action.

"In the meantime our field artillery had been brought to bombard the centre gate of the Tartar city, but a sortie by the Americans and Russians of the garrison along the wall anticipated the bombardment, and the gate fell into our hands. Two field guns were then brought into the legation, and the rest were sent back to the Temple of Heaven.

"At about 5 in the afternoon the Americans, under Gen. Chaffee, entered the legation, and then we moved on towards the centre gate of the city for the night. By midnight we had 400 men in the legation.

"During the evening at the Temple of Heaven we were engaged, and after inflicting heavy losses we occupied the south gate of the Chinese city."

The Japs. Washington, Aug. 23.—The Japanese legation to-day received the following message from the foreign office at Tokio, dated August 23rd: "The commander of the Japanese fleet at Taku transmits by telegraph on the 21st the following report from Peking: "The Japanese regiment which had been detailed early on the 15th for the purpose of protecting the imperial palace, had hard fighting all day, but they could not bring it to a decisive issue, as they refrained from firing on the palace. On the following day, however, they took its principal gate, and now the city is almost entirely cleared of the enemy. The imperial family and the ministers of state left for Sian Fu five or six days ago, escorted by 3,000 troops, under Tung Fuh Shiang. With the object of restoring order, the city has been divided into districts, Japan being assigned the northern half, and the United States, Great Britain, Russia and France have each deputed an officer to carry on the administration. Prince Tuan's residence has been burned down by the Japanese. The Japanese naval detachment which guarded the Japanese legation lost during the siege five killed and eight wounded. The Japanese forces which now occupy the imperial palace have rescued foreign and native Christians from their confinement."

Storming the Walls. St. Petersburg, Aug. 23.—Gen. Lincovitch, commander of the Russian troops in the province of Pe Chi Li, telegraphs to the minister of war as follows: "At 2 o'clock on the morning of August 14th our troops stormed the eastern gate of Peking and were the first to enter the city. The Russian flag was the first hoisted on the walls. The bombardment of the gate lasted 14 hours. The Russians then seized and occupied the wall.

"The Chinese, however, still held the observatory and other towers, from which they subjected our troops to a heavy enfilading fire until our infantry forced them to leave their positions. Our losses were: Killed, Col. Antikoff and 22 men; wounded, Gen. Wasilo-saki, Col. Medl and five other officers and 102 men.

"In the meanwhile the allied troops stormed and captured another gate and entered the city.

"We found the imperial government had fled and that the legations were in great straits."

The dispatch concludes with describing the recent attacks on the legations. During the siege the inmates of the Russian legation had 5 men killed and 20 wounded.

London, Aug. 25.—Street fighting breaks out intermittently in Peking, according to dispatches from Shanghai, the allies not having sufficient forces to police the vast city. As small parties of the allied troops penetrated into the new districts they have to engage half-armed mobs.

A Shanghai dispatch, of date, repeats the report that the Japanese press accused the Dowager Empress and the court and overtook them eighty miles southwest of Peking. The Emperor, it is added, threw himself on the protection of his captors. The prisoners have not yet reached Peking.

The viceroys of Szechuen is reported at Shanghai to be sending troops to the frontier and to be intending to fight the French at Meng Tse.

The bulk of the German fleet recently at Shanghai has gone to Taku as an escort to the new German minister, Dr. Mumm von Schwarzenstein, who is bound for Peking.

Clan fights are of daily occurrence in the Tsung Chan district.

The foreign residents of Shanghai are alarmed at the arrival of the extraordinary number of warships and are fearful of European complications, though they have been assured by the naval commanders that the gathering was accidental.

London, Aug. 25.—The Peking correspondent of the Times, wiring last Saturday, says: "Peking is now entirely under foreign control. Looting is proceeding systematically. The French and Russian flags are flying over the best portion of the imperial domain, where it is believed the Imperial treasure is buried.

The Forbidden City is respected by international agreement, although any punishment will be ineffective unless it is occupied.

"The Japanese have seized a horde amounting to 50,000 taels of silver.

"The Empress Dowager, the Emperor, Prince Tuan and all the high officers escaped to Tai Yuen Fu, province of Shan Si, from which point they proceeded to Sian Fu. There is no governor."

En Route for Taku. Taku, Aug. 2.—Transports are pouring into Taku. Three large German vessels arrived and are unloading. One regiment that has disembarked is on its way to Peking and another is bound for Tien Tsin. Three Russian vessels are in harbor.

The 15th Infantry, the 3rd Artillery and 500 marines are encamped at Tien Tsin awaiting orders. Rations for 40 days are being forwarded to the Peking contingent by boats.

A hundred civilians have left Peking, including the custom force, and are on the way down.

British Casualties. London, Aug. 24.—The following dispatch has been received from Lord Roberts: "Pretoria, Aug. 23.—Baden-Powell rescued 100 British prisoners at Warmbaths on August 22nd, and captured 25 Boers and a German artillery officer.

"Buller's casualties on August 21st were 7 killed, and Capt. Ebershaw and 21 men wounded, 5 missing.

"Kitchener on the 22nd had eight casualties.

"While reconnoitring in the Komati Valley, Rundle found 140,000 rounds of ammunition buried.

"The columns pursuing Dewet have made wonderful marches. Col. Mackinnon covered 224 miles in 14 days."

Gamble Returning. Montreal, Aug. 24.—Privates C. W. Gamble and W. Brooking, of 5th Regiment, C.A., are among the Canadian soldiers from Africa who sailed on the Tunisian. The steamer should reach Quebec on Friday next.

Due To-day. Montreal, Aug. 24.—Among the invalided Canadians on the incoming S.S. Lake Ontario, due in Quebec this evening, are the following British Columbians: Privates Carter, Finch-Smiles and J. W. Jones, all of the Fifth Regiment, C. A., Victoria.

Reception of Canadians. Quebec, Aug. 25.—The reception tendered the returned Canadian invalids, who reached here last evening by the Lake Ontario, was of the warmest character.

Leading members of the contingent speak in high terms of the hospital treatment in South Africa, and cannot understand the grounds for the charges of poor accommodation, etc., by certain British members of parliament.

Ambushed by Boers. London, Aug. 25.—Lord Roberts has left Pretoria and has fixed his headquarters at Wonderfontein, the second station west of Machadorp, where the bulk of the enemy's army are supposed to be. Wiring from there on August 24th, he says: "Buller reports the Boers laid a trap for his cavalry on August 23rd, opening with several guns at fairly short range. The British guns silenced the Boers, but when the firing ceased and the pickets were being placed for the night by some mistake the companies of the Liverpool regiment advanced fifteen hundred yards into a hollow out of sight of the main body, where they were surrounded by the Boers and suffered severely.

"The Liverpool lost ten men killed, and Capt. Plomers and fifty-five wounded. In addition they had thirty-two men missing.

"Gen. Buller's other casualties on August 23rd were 20 men killed, wounded or missing.

Lord Roberts also wires that Gen. Pole-Carew occupied Belfast, near Machadorp on August 24th without opposition. Gen. French with several brigades of cavalry is moving east of Machadorp.

The dispatch of the British commander-in-chief in South Africa says: "There is a welcome green over the veldt, which I hope means that our riding and transport animals will get grazing shortly. They have fared badly thus far."

Dewet's Escape. Krugersdorp, Aug. 25.—Commandant Delarey appeared yesterday before Bank station with a large force and summoned the garrison, commanded by Lord Albenmarle, to surrender. The garrison refused.

In the meantime Dewet took advantage of this ruse and crossed the river towards Orange River Colony.

Will Locate in Yellowstone Valley. Helena, Mont., Aug. 25.—A. Wormser, of this city, has made arrangements to purchase a large tract of land in the Yellowstone valley on which he declares a large number of Boers from the Transvaal will locate.

BOUNDARY CLAIMS BONDED. Greenwood, B. C., Aug. 24.—Andrew Laidlaw yesterday obtained a working bond from Fraser Bros. on the Evening Star and Selby claims in Wellington camp for \$45,000. The property has an immense surface showing, carrying principally copper values running from a half to nineteen per cent.

Ordered To Pretoria

Colonel Otter Says First Canadian Contingent Will Return to Capital.

The Liverpool Regiment Was Ambushed by Burghers and Suffered Severely.

Casualties Ten Killed and Fifty-Six Wounded—Thirty-Two Missing.

(Special to the Times)

Ottawa, Aug. 25.—The following dispatch reached the militia department this morning from Lieut.-Col. Otter, commanding the first Canadian contingent: "Johannesburg, Aug. 24.—The battalion reached Krugersdorp on the 22nd after three weeks' marching, only 453 strong. Ordered to Pretoria. Macdonald released. (Signed) Otter."

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Cordua Has Been Shot

He Was One of the Ringleaders in Plot to Kidnap Lord Roberts.

Dewet Abandons His Transport—Three Victorians Have Arrived at Quebec.

London, Aug. 25.—A Pretoria dispatch says that Lieut. Cordua was shot yesterday (Friday) afternoon.

Gen. Baden-Powell, according to a dispatch to the Standard from Pretoria, dated August 23rd, headed off General Dewet, preventing his junction with the main body of the enemy. Dewet abandoned his transport and got to the hills, the commando dispersing, some trekking south.

Lord Kitchener has returned to Pretoria. Victorians Reach Quebec. Quebec, Aug. 24.—Steamer Lake Ontario, of the Elder-Dempster line, arrived in port to-night with 119 invalided Canadian soldiers on board, including three Victorians—Messrs. Arthur Carter, Frank Finch-Smiles and James W. Jones. They were in the pink of condition and anxious to get home. Carter was knocked out early in the campaign, having contracted enteric fever at Gras-Pan. He had been engaged principally on transport duty, but took part in the Sunnyside engagement, when the Canadians received their baptism of fire. Finch-Smiles was wounded at the battle of Modder river, February 18th. He was shot in the left knee, the bullet entering the front and making its exit at the back, tearing a ligament. Jones fought in several engagements, but was stricken at Ofontein with rheumatism.

The three men spoke in the highest terms of the hospital service.



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