

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN N. B., AUGUST 22, 1900.

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Chinese Capital Taken and Ministers Safe.

London, Aug. 18, 4 a. m.—Pekin was relieved on the night of the 15th. This message was received last evening at the imperial customs office in London from the commissioner of customs in Chefoo.

Proceeding to discuss the probabilities of a cessation of hostilities, the Morning Post assumes that the United States are willing to abandon any idea of further aggressive action but it questions the disposition of Germany and the other powers to agree to such a course.

The Berlin correspondent of the Morning Post says he learns that no formal request for an armistice has yet reached the powers and that it is improbable that any such request would be granted.

The other papers comment guardedly upon the general situation owing to the lack of definite news when the editorials were written. Most of them advance a stern inquiry regarding outrages and the punishment of the leaders even if they have to be pursued all over China.

The Daily Graphic, in a paragraph apparently inspired, says there is no reason to believe that any of the powers will repudiate the previous understanding and respect the integrity of the empire and the dynasty, adding that the proposal to land a British force at Shanghai originated not with the British government, but with the Chinese, who at the same time urged that this should not be done if likely to lead to international complications.

"This," says the Daily Graphic, "disposes of the story that the victory of Nankin changed his mind under the influence of the consuls. Her Majesty's government, we believe, have no intention of contesting the right of France or the United States to land troops should either think it necessary."

Shanghai dispatches say that Emperor Kwang Su accompanied the Empress Dowager to Hsian Fu, much against his will. Prince Tuan commanded the rear guard of the imperial escort, which Boxers formed sixty-five per cent. It was expected that General Tung Fuh Siang would follow after the arrival of the allies. All the palace treasures were sent to Hsian Fu.

The heavy accounts of the method of entry into Peking are contradictory, some maintaining that there was severe fighting and others that the entrance was not opposed. New Chung was again attacked on August 13, but the Russians repulsed 2,000 Chinese, inflicting heavy loss, although they also suffered severely.

According to a despatch to the Daily Express from Chefoo the despatch from Minister Conger, which was received by United States Consul Fowler Wednesday, after saying that all the Americans were alive, except the Ingles baby and seven miners, admitted that there was some sickness, but said that he expected the food would last until relief came.

A Guess in Washington on the Method Employed to Enter Peking. Washington, Aug. 17.—The allied armies have captured and entered Peking in the face of obstinate resistance, and the members of the foreign legations are safe.

Official confirmation of the fall of the Chinese capital came to the United States government tonight in the shape of two cables, one from Admiral Remey and the other from Consul Fowler at Chefoo. The cablegram from Admiral Remey came to hand first, early in the evening, followed very soon after by that from Consul Fowler and the officials, realizing the great public interest in the events which it was believed had happened in Peking, at once made them public.

Admiral Remey's despatch is as follows: "Taku, Aug. 17, 1 a. m.—Bureau Navigation, Washington: 'Just received telegram from Tien Tsin, dated 16th, 10 p. m.: 'Pekin was captured on Aug. 15. Foreign legations are safe. Details follow shortly.' (Signed) 'REMEY.'"

The acting secretary of state makes public the following plain telegram received this (Friday) evening from the United States consul at Chefoo: "Chefoo, Aug. 17, 1900 (received Aug. 17, 7:55 p. m.). 'Secretary of State, Washington: 'Seventeenth, Japanese admiral reinforcements attacked Peking, east, 15th. Obstinate resistance. Evening, Japanese entered capital with other forces. Immediately surrounded legations. Im-

Japanese Losses.

Previous information which has been received here showed that the allied armies took possession of Tung Chow on the 12th inst. From that city to Peking the distance is not very great, not more than a dozen miles. It seems evident, therefore, that the armies halted for a time at Tung Chow, probably for the purpose of giving the men a rest and preparing for the attack on the capital city by advancing until the rear of the advancing hosts should arrive at the front. Possibly also the delay was the result of negotiations inaugurated by the Chinese officials looking to the delivery of the ministers with a Chinese or other escort.

If negotiations were attempted they must have failed, as the army continued on its march and attacked the capital three days after reaching Tung Chow. The officials here were aware of the fact that the stronghold of the Boxers was in the Chinese city and for the allies to attempt to force their way through it into the Tartar city in which the legation compounds are located might mean a great loss of life and possibly a defeat. It was also known that many of the imperial troops which have sided with the Boxers were in or near the Chinese city and that much of the artillery and rifle fire which has been poured into the legations had been from the walls separating the two cities. These facts evidently were communicated to Gen. Chaffee and the other commanding officers of the allies. Realizing these obstacles it appears the allies decided to attack the city by the east gate. There are four entrances to the city on the east, two leading to the Chinese city and two to the Tartar city. Just which of these was selected as the attacking point Consul Fowler's despatch does not disclose.

Contrary to the press reports of today Consul Fowler's despatch shows that the attack on the city met with strong resistance. The Japanese force engaged with the Chinese, according to the understanding of the officials here, numbered 10,000 men, so that the loss suffered by them was over one per cent. No mention is made of the losses of the forces of the other armies, but it is presumed that it was in proportion to that suffered by the Japanese.

The president was overjoyed on hearing the news of the safety of Minister Conger and his associates. He had been hopeful all along that their rescue would be successfully accomplished. Tonight's news confirms that hope and brings a feeling of great relief to him. The president entertained a number of friends informally at dinner tonight. Later in the evening, as soon as he learned of the news, Secretary Root came in from the Country Club and remained for some time with the president discussing the latest information which had come to hand.

Nothing has come to the war department directly from Gen. Chaffee but the adjutant general's office is momentarily expecting advice. The officials were on hand during the evening and waited until a late hour before leaving for home without receiving any despatches.

And Peking Captured. Berlin, Aug. 17.—Field Marshall Count Von Waldersee and the Countess dined this evening with Emperor William at Wilhelmshöhe.

Germany is Going to Campaign. Berlin, Aug. 17.—Germany beyond any doubt, is preparing everything for an autumn and winter campaign in China. One striking evidence of this is the fact that a slow steamer has been chartered for December to carry to China material for a sixty mile field railroad. The correspondent of the Associated Press is informed, on high authority, that the steaming will not be summoned until October, unless extraordinary developments ensue in the far east.

Prince Tuan Wanted.

London, Aug. 18.—The Chinese minister at Tokio has telegraphed Li Hung Chang, according to a despatch to the Times from Shanghai, that Japan is willing to use her good offices in behalf of the Empress Dowager and Emperor Kwang Su, but it is determined to prevent the escape of Prince Tuan, of Kang Yi, president of the board of war of Hsi Tung, guardian of the heir apparent and of Chao Shu Chiao, commissioner of the railway and mining bureau.

"Li Hung Chang," the despatch continues, "has received instructions from the throne to ask Russia if she is willing to assist China to arrive at a peaceful settlement and to give assurances that she has no intention of annexing any part of Manchuria. If the reply is favorable, Earl Li has orders to negotiate without delay, and to give assurances that the military governor of Manchuria will be directed to cease hostilities."

Wissionaries Murdered.

Toronto, Aug. 17.—The China Inland Mission authorities today received a cablegram from Shanghai confirming the report of the massacre of eight missionaries in the province of Cheh Hiang. Three of the bodies are from the United States. They are Mrs. Ward of Nebraska, Miss Manchester of New York, and Miss J. E. Desmond of Minneapolis. The following missionaries who were sent out from England are reported murdered: G. F. Ward, Mrs. Ward, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Thompson, Miss Sherwood, Miss Therod.

Japanese General Disappeared.

Tokio, Aug. 17.—Extracts from a long despatch describing the advance of the allied forces from Tien Tsin say General Ma disappeared during the fighting at Yang Tsun, that the immediate advance on Peking was decided upon at a council of war in which 28 officers took part, held at Yang Tsun Aug. 7, and that the advance columns were drawn up in the following order: Japanese, Russian, British and American. The French contingent was obliged to remain at Yang Tsun on account of its inadequate commissariat.

At Tien Tsin.

Washington, Aug. 17.—The navy department today made public the reports of Col. Robert L. Meade and Major J. W. Lawler, of the United States marine corps on the battle of Tien Tsin. They give not only a graphic account of this initial engagement in the Chinese campaign but also the information with reference to the situation around Tien Tsin held at the general's headquarters to attack the city about daybreak the following day. Col. Meade's report in describing the early fighting in which the marines and 9th infantry took such a gallant part, says: "I reached the advanced position about 8 a. m. I took 180 rounds per man with me—100 rounds in the belts and 80 in the haversacks. This is not sufficient for an all day fight and as it grew toward night I began to be apprehensive of being cut off by the bayonet to fight with."

On the living line the action was especially hot and the enemy's fire was very rapid. This company was ordered to march on the left and flank the enemy. I made a turning movement to the left and rear and drove them away about 2 p. m. They were in a state of confusion and the artillery company was on the right. This company was ordered to march on the right and flank the enemy. The effort of the enemy proved a failure and we drove them in."

"We remained in the trenches until about 8 p. m., when we received an order from the brigadier general commanding us to withdraw. We were ordered to march on the right and flank the enemy had so well covered our position that their shots struck the crests of our trenches and threw dirt in our faces—many being hit."

"Gen. Doward ordered that the troops should sleep upon their arms that night and on the following morning to enter the city. The south gate had to be blown in by gun cotton. 'The troops had no bedding whatever. They carried the small luncheon (if it may be so called) which each man carried in his haversack. Gen. Doward, knowing the situation, kindly sent word to the reservation for food and other necessities and the bivouac proved a success for the night. 'On the 14th inst. the south gate having been blown in, we moved into the walled city at about 6 o'clock. The city filled with dead Chinese and animals. No resistance was made to our occupation in the city itself but an intrepid infantry upon the enemy who responded from the suburbs. Since then we have had undisturbed possession of all Tien Tsin."

From the British Commander.

Col. Meade enclosed the following letter from Gen. Doward, the commander of the British forces: 'From the General Officer Commanding British forces in China. 'To the Officer Commanding the United States forces, Tien Tsin, China, July 18. 'Sir,—I desire to express the high appreciation of the British troops at the honor done them in serving alongside their comrades of the American army during the long and hard fighting of the 13th inst. and the subsequent capture of Tien Tsin city and of my own appreciation of the high honor accorded to me by having them under my command. 'The American troops formed part of the front line of the British attack and so had more than their share of the fighting that took place. The ready and willing spirit of the officers and men will always make their command easy and pleasant and when one adds to that steady gallantry and power of holding on to exposed positions which they displayed on the 13th inst., the result is soldiers of the highest class. 'We all deeply sympathize with you in the heavy losses you have suffered, especially your gallant colonel, E. H. Lisicum, and with the first regiment of marines in the taking up of the position of the front line of the British attack, who met a soldier's death in the front of the fight. 'I blame myself for the mistake made in the taking up of the position, that the 2nd regiment, not remembering that troops wholly fresh to the scene of action were likely to lose their way. Still the position they gallantly stuck to all day undoubtedly prevented a large body of the enemy from turning the right of the attacking line and inflicting serious loss on the French and Japanese. 'I propose specially to bring to notice in despatches the conduct of First Lieut. Smedley D. Butler, United States Marine

Corps, in bringing a wounded man from the front under heavy fire. Lieut. Butler was wounded but I am glad to learn that he is recovering. The regimental adjutant, Lieut. Henry Leonard, and Lieut. Butler were suffering severely, volunteered to carry him out of the firing line. This gallant feat he successfully accomplished, but I regret to say he was very dangerously wounded. 'The 9th regiment were fighting somewhat outside my sphere of action so I am able to bring forward only one instance of personal gallantry in that regiment, although fighting for about 12 hours almost alone and unsupported and never giving back a foot of ground until directed to retire under cover of night and the morning. The 9th's business must have been very numerous. The one I would refer to is the bringing back to me by the acting regimental adjutant, Captain Lawton, of the account of the position of the regiment, across a wide and fire-swept space, and returning with reinforcements to guide them to his regiment when he was severely wounded. 'The withdrawal of the regiment was a delicate military operation, finely carried out, on which I am glad to congratulate Lieutenant Col. Coolidge and the officers and men under his command. 'I have the honor to be, sir, 'Your obedient servant, (Signed) 'A. R. F. DORWARD.' 'Official copy: 'Robert L. Meade, colonel U. S. M. C., commanding U. S. forces in Tien Tsin, China. 'Col. Meade gives a list of the casualties and details the circumstances of the death of Col. Lisicum and Captain Davis. 'Major Waller's report is of especial interest as he had command of the marines in the fight before Tien Tsin was reached. The report is dated Tien Tsin, July 28, and says in part: 'At two in the morning, July 19, the Russian I disabled and wounded me that he would push on with his 400 men and attempt to get into Tien Tsin and aid in the defence of the city. I objected but was told that there was a slim chance of passing the Chinese force with only 530 men and no guns. The three-inch rifle proving defective I disabled and wounded it into the river and followed the Russians in the twelve mile march on Tien Tsin. The Russian column was in advance, 400 strong, with my Colt gun in their front, under the command of Lieut. Powell. The advance continued until 7 a. m. without opposition, when we reached a point opposite the imperial arsenal and there we were quickly silenced by a small flank fire which was quickly silenced by our sharpshooters. About ten minutes later we met a heavy front fire. The fire was silenced by our sharpshooters. We deployed and my line feigned the flank fire, turned to the left and rear, confronting the flank movement, our line at that time having its front advanced and right flank exposed. 'The support of the Colt gun having dwindled to two men, and the gun having jammed several times, I was obliged to leave that gun but one, Mr. Powell very properly decided to abandon it, which he did, after disabling the gun. Receiving notice that the Russians were retreating to the arsenal beyond our bivouac, I began my retreat, moving by the right flank and keeping up a fight for four hours with the enemy who were in force, and in falling back bringing our wounded by hand. At 2 p. m. we had reached our bivouac, having marched 30 miles and fought four hours. I was obliged to leave the dead but brought of the wounded. Our casualties were four killed and nine wounded. 'It was agreed that we should advance in two columns on the next day, at 4 a. m. my force occupying the advance of the British column and the right of the firing line. We struck the enemy at about 12:30 p. m., when we entered Tien Tsin, relieving the besieged Europeans, our losses being one killed and three wounded. 'At noon on the 27th the Russians having attacked the arsenal, asked for reinforcements. I sent out Second Lieut. Joly for a reinforcement and placed the whole under the command of Commander Craddock, R. N. This force, about 1,800 strong, succeeded in driving the Russians out of the arsenal and in full flight. It was developed that the enemy had about 7,000 men at this point. Our men charged over the parapet with a British company, being the first in this part of the fight. Our loss here was one wounded and Lieut. Joly overcame by the heat, but not until after he had brought his men back to their quarters. Lieut. Harding captured an imperial flag. 'Our men marched 97 miles in the five days, fighting all the day. They have lived on about one meal a day for six days but have been cheerful and willing always. They have gained the highest praise from all forces present and have earned my love and confidence. They are going to the front in appearance, but with brave hearts and bright weapons. 'I have to earnestly recommend to your notice for such reward as you may deem proper, the following officers: 'Lieut. S. D. Butler, for the admirable control of his men in all the fights of the week; for saving a wounded man at the risk of his own life and under a very heavy fire. 'Lieut. A. H. Harding for conspicuous gallantry in action for saving a wounded man at the risk of his life under a heavy fire; Second Lieut. Joly for the same risk and for leading a fine charge over two parapets in the face of a heavy fire; First Lieut. Leonard for saving life under fire and for admirable control and direction of the fire; First Lieut. Powell for working and managing the Colt gun under a fierce fire and without support after the crew had been shot down. 'First Lieut. Wynne for his steadfast

courage and encouragement of his men. 'As for the men, I feel that I cannot do them justice, and I shall send you the names of special instances in their cases, hoping that suitable reward may be given them, as far as the law allows. 'I have also to ask that you urge the department to thank the British sharpshooters for their care on the field and in hospital of our wounded. Especially do I wish to recommend the department to the services of Sergeant Robley H. J. Brown, R. N. H. M. S. Alacety. So sure was his service and search of the field that we were enabled to get all the wounded on the firing line with the sure knowledge that the dead and wounded would be attended to. We had no surgeon or medical supplies under Commander Craddock, R. N., who was admirably planned and executed. 'Major Waller inclosed a number of reports in detail the work done by his organizations. The reports all speak highly of the conduct of officers and men. Captain Lawler, who commanded a company of English blue jackets under command of a lieutenant from the Orleans, who rendered invaluable assistance in carrying the 9th's wounded to the rear on the retreat and forming the rear guard. 'Consul at Demarara Reports Gems Superior to Those from South Africa Found in British Guiana. 'Washington, Aug. 16.—Diamonds, considered by London dealers superior to those from South Africa, and valued at from 25 to 30 per cent. higher than those found in that region, have been discovered at the diggings up the Mantaro River in British Guiana, according to a letter to the state department from United States Consul Moulton at Demarara. 'Concessions of land for diamond mining are being made and the industry promised well, as the stones already found are pronounced fully equal in quality to Brazilian diamonds. 'Entertainment at Hillsboro. Hillsboro, Aug. 17.—A very enjoyable entertainment was held at the Hillsboro skating rink on Wednesday, the 15th inst., under the auspices of the Hillsboro Methodist church, in conjunction with the H. R. & L. Club band. The music furnished was excellent and reflected great credit on Professor Hayes and his pupils, who are always ready and willing to render any assistance in their power to aid in causes of this kind. 'Refreshments of all kinds were supplied for the entertainment consisted of readings by the Misses Delta and Margaret Lynde, of the Hillsboro Normal School of Orators, which were delivered in a very creditable manner. 'Will Go Alone and Stay at the Russian Embassy. Paris, Aug. 17.—It is officially announced, according to the Petit Bleu, that the czar will visit Paris September 15, to remain five or six days. His majesty will come alone and will reside at the Russian embassy while in this city. 'ASimple Service. New York, Aug. 17.—Services at the funeral of the late Col. P. Huntington at the 5th avenue residence today, were marked with simplicity. They were conducted by Rev. A. Woodruff Halsey, of the Presbyterian board of missions. Interment here was made in the Huntington mausoleum in Woodlawn Cemetery. 'Died Aged One Hundred and One. Toronto, Aug. 17.—James Kendrick, 101 years of age, died here today. With the return of hot weather the mortality is on the increase. Twenty-four deaths were registered here yesterday, mostly elderly persons and infants. 'A Positive Woman. A woman has a right to be positive on matters which are matters of personal knowledge and experience. Every woman who has used Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription for diseases of the womanly organs is positive as to its wonderful curative value, and confidently recommends it to similar sufferers. 'Women who suffer from inflammation, ulceration, female weakness, or nervous diseases caused by disease of the womanly organs will find a complete cure by the use of "Favorite Prescription."



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