

IN THE LEGATIONS AT PEKIN.

From Dr. Morrison's Thrilling Story to the London Times.

Colossal Impudence.

Following as it did immediately after the attack on the French Legation, which reduced to ruins, the letter did not lack for impudence. "Boxers" had driven back our troops, "Militia" had not "Boxers" had been attacking us in Pekin. The latter was read with derision, was interpreted as a guileless attempt to seduce the Ministers away from their Legations and massacre them at once. News, we heard subsequently, had just reached the Chinese of the taking of Tien-Tsin city.

It was difficult for His Excellency to "show the confidence" asked for, and "to seek their help" which "affection" for him prompted the Chinese to offer.

On the 15th a reply was sent denouncing on the part of the foreign representatives the invitation to proceed to the Tsung-li-Yamen, and pointing out that no attacks had been made by our troops, who were only defending the lives and property of foreigners against the attacks of Chinese Government troops.

The reply concluded with a statement that if the Chinese Government wished to negotiate they should send a responsible official with a white flag.

Firing continued furiously, the attack being mainly directed against the Fu where the Chinese had raised their barricades till they could sweep with fire the palace grounds. On the 15th one of the British students, Henry Warren, was mortally wounded while doing duty at the Japanese outpost. He died the same night, another victim to Chinese treachery.

The death of Captain Strouts. The morning of the 16th opened with a disaster. Captain Strouts, the senior British officer, was shot while returning from the outposts in the Fu. He was struck in the upper part of the left leg by an exploding bullet and died an hour after being brought into the hospital, to the grief of the entire community.

Throughout the siege he had acted in a way that won the admiration of all. He was always cool and self-reliant, and never spared himself, while always considerate for his men. Both Englishmen were buried the same afternoon. It was a mournful gathering that followed them to the grave, officers and soldiers of many nationalities, Ministers and their staffs, missionaries and ladies who have shared the discomforts of this unhappy siege. While shells were bursting in the trees, and amid the crack of rifle bullets, the brave young men to whose gallant defence we all owed so much was laid to rest beside the student for whom a career of brilliant promise was just opening.

More Chinese Assistance. While the service was proceeding a messenger bearing a flag of truce was approaching the gate. A shell burst almost at his feet, the passengers in the carriage punctuated by cannon fire directed against the Legation from the wall of the Imperial city. This is what the Chinese were, no doubt, continuing to do, both in Europe and in the Legations protection from local banditti." It was a striking evidence of the disregard for the usages of civilized warfare which characterizes the nation.

The letter was from "Prince Ching and others." It explained that the reason for suggesting the removal of the Legation to the Tsung-li-Yamen was that the Chinese Government could afford more efficient protection to the members of the Legations if concentrated than if scattered as they were. Foreign Ministers did not agree, however, the Chinese would, as in duty bound, do their utmost to protect the Legations where they were. (Wildly the intercession was being read the translator had to raise his voice in order that it should be heard above the crack of the Imperial rifle bullets.) They would bring reinforcements and continue their endeavours to prevent the "Boxers" from firing, and they trusted that the foreign Ministers on their part would restrain their troops also from firing.

From the Outside World. By the same messenger a cipher message was brought to Mr. Conger, the American Minister. It said: "Communicate tidings to bearer." It was in the cipher of the Legation and had no date or indication by whom it had been sent. Mr. Conger replied in the same cipher: "For one month we have been besieged in the Legation under continuing shot and shell from Chinese troops. Quick relief can prevent general massacre." When forwarding his reply he asked that it should be sent to the address from which the message had come, which address had not been communicated to him. Next day the Yamen sent him an answer saying that his message had been forwarded and explaining that the telegram sent to him had been contained in a telegram from Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese Minister at Washington, and dated July 11th.

This telegram read—"The United States cheerfully aid China, but it is thinking of Mr. Minister Conger. The Hon. Secretary of State impudently after him by telegram, which I beg to be transmitted to him and get his reply." From this we could well imagine what specious assurances had been given to Mr. H. H. Wu Ting Fang's bland assurances that there had been a most regrettable outbreak on the part of lawless hands in the north of China, when the Government was vainly struggling to cope with that the most benevolent protection had been accorded to the foreign Legations and foreign Ministers by the Imperial Government, but that help was needed to quell the insurrection, etc. We hoped, however, that the message of Mr. Conger would show the value of his assistance.

Cessation of Hostilities. On July 17 there was a cessation of hostilities; not that men were not afterwards and Christian fired upon whenever they themselves, but the organized forces and the Krupp guns

were muzzled. Fearing treachery, however, we relaxed none of our vigilance. Trenches were cut where mines might have been driven. All walls and shelters were so strengthened as to be practically shell-proof. Our preparations were purely defensive. On their part the Chinese also continued work at their barricades. From their barricade on the top of the wall near the German Legation they advanced westward so that they could fire directly down into the German Legation and pick off men going up the steps of the Minister's house. They built a wall with loopholes across Legation street not 20 yards from the Russian barricade. In nearly every position the enemy were so close that you could shoot into the muzzles of their rifles thrust through the loopholes. The German was still drawn up in the street, and we were penned in to prevent our acting in co-operation with the troops who were coming to our relief. No provisions were permitted to be sent into the Legation, and the women and children were surreptitiously sold us by Chinese soldiers. All were

On Reduced Rations. The allowance for the 2,750 native Christians whom we had to feed was being barely sufficient to keep them from starvation. Their sufferings were very great, the mortality among the children and the aged pitiful. No one could have foreseen that within the restricted limits of the besieged area, with the food supply therein cut off, 473 civilians of these 14—namely, 191 men, 147 women, 76 children—were inside the British Legation, a garrison of 400 men, 2,750 refugees, and some 400 native servants could have sustained a siege of two or three months. Providentially, in the very centre of Legation street, there was a mill with a large quantity of grain, which turned out 100 lbs. of flour a day, divided between the British and the German Legations. One day the Tsung-li-Yamen insultingly sent us a present of 1,000 lbs. of flour and some ice and vegetables, but no one was permitted to eat the flour, fearing it might be poisoned. Communications passed now almost daily with the Tsung-li-Yamen or with the officials whose despatches were signed "Prince Ching and others." On July 17th Sir Claude MacDonald replied to the suggestion that the Ministers would restrain their troops from firing upon the Chinese. He said that from the first the foreign troops had acted entirely in self-defence and would continue to do so. But the Chinese must understand that previous events had led to a want of confidence and that if barricades were erected or troops moved in the vicinity of the Legations the foreign garrisons would be obliged to fire.

In the afternoon the Chinese replied, reviewing the situation and ascribing the hostilities to the attacks previously made by the Legations. They noted with satisfaction that a cessation of firing was agreed to on both sides, but suggested that as foreign soldiers had been firing against the city wall east of the Chien Men, they should be removed from that position.

Next day Sir Claude MacDonald replied from the foreign point of view. On June 19th the Yamen had given the Legation notice to quit Pekin, and the foreign representatives had replied pointing out that there were no facilities of transport. The Yamen had then replied, extending the time, but in spite of this fire was opened on the Legations on June 20th and they had been under constant fire ever since from Government troops, a condition of things unparalleled in the history of the world. He alluded to the incident of the board hung up on June 25th, the free moving of Chinese flags during the cessation thus caused, and the removal of the board after the preparations thus made possible were completed. He hoped that mutual confidence would gradually be restored, and meanwhile he again pointed out that cessation of hostile preparation as well as firing was necessary on the part of the Chinese troops, to secure that the foreign troops should cease firing. As for the suggestion that the foreign troops should leave the city wall, it was impossible to accede to it because a large part of the attacks on the Legations had been made from the wall. He concluded by suggesting that the foreign troops should be allowed to come in.

Chinese Symptoms of Alarm. They were never permitted to come in. It was clear, however, that events were happening elsewhere which caused alarm in the Imperial Court. On the afternoon of the first day of what might be called the armistice, M. Pellégrin, a French gentleman from Tonkin, entered the Chinese lines, and to the great anxiety of all was absent five hours. He was taken by soldiers to the Yamen of one of the big generals—knew not which—was plied with questions which speaking as a Chinese, he could answer, and was sent back unmolested with an escort of fifteen soldiers "to protect him against the 'Boxers'."

This unusual clemency was interpreted favorably. It was clear that the Chinese had sustained a severe defeat and that relief was coming. Next day direct communication was for the first time held with an official of the Tsung-li-Yamen. A secretary named Wen Jul came to the Legation to see Sir Claude MacDonald and was received by the Minister outside the gate, not being permitted to enter. He said that the respectable occurrences were due to "local banditti," that the Government had great concern to protect the foreigners, that Baron von Ketteler's body had been removed from the hands of the "local banditti" who had murdered him and been enclosed in a valuable coffin. He stated that the maintenance of foreign troops on the city wall was unnecessary, and that they should be withdrawn. It was pointed out to him that as we had been

Continuously Shelled. From the city wall both from the Hata Men and the Chien Men, it would be inadvisable to retire. Asked to send copies of the Pekin Gazette, he

hesitated a moment and then stammered that he really had not himself seen the Pekin Gazette for a long time, but he would inquire, and see if they could be bought. He never came back and never sent a Gazette. His name was Wen Jul. When we did obtain copies of the Gazette it was interesting to find two items that must have been especially unpleasant for him to have known. On June 24th, by Imperial edicts, leaders were appointed to the "Boxers" or "patriotic militia." Among the chiefs was Wen Jul. The visit of Wen Jul was on the 18th. Up to the time of his visit, though more than four weeks had passed since the assassination, no allusion of any kind whatever had been made in any Pekin Gazette to the murder of Baron von Ketteler. Then the Empress Dowager, yielding to her fears, published an allusion to the murder. Will the German Emperor rest satisfied with this official reference to the brutal assassination of his Minister by an Imperial officer?

Last month the Chancellor of the Japanese Legation was killed. This was, indeed, most unexpected. Before this matter had been settled the German Minister was killed. Suddenly meeting this news caused us deep grief. We ought vigorously to seek the murderer and punish him." No more. The date July 18th; the number June 20th!

Reassuring News. Yet even in this decree there was a complete volte-face. Missionaries who were by the decree of July 2nd "to be once and for all their own countries" were by the decree of July 18th "to be protected in every province," "to be protected without the least carelessness," "the truculence and belligerence of the edicts issued when our troops had been driven back had disappeared; the done now was one of justification and conciliation." On interpretation was possible—that the Chinese had been defeated. Confirmation came the same day. A messenger sent out by the Japanese succeeded in passing the enemy's lines and brought us the news that we had so long awaited. From this we learned that General Fokushin with 4,000 Japanese soldiers had arrived at Tien-Tsin on June 29th, that subsequently 4,000 Russians, 2,000 British, 1,500 French, 1,500 Americans and 500 Germans had landed, that the city had been taken on the 14th and that the arsenal was in the hands of the allies. We further learned that a division of the Japanese army had left Hiroshima on July 1st, that they were ordered at Tien-Tsin on the 20th, and that a relief force consisting mainly of Japanese was to start for our relief immediately. This meant that the relief was actually on its way on July 18th than we had believed it to be on June 18th. Yet every day we heard the news with satisfaction. The chief of our relief force, General Fokushin is well known in Pekin, having been here for several years as a military student. He had taken an important part in previous events in China, especially in the preparation of the intelligence reports, which were the basis of the plan of campaign. He was a well-known man and across Asia from Berlin. He landed in Japan, was received with the honors due to a Moltke returning from a victorious campaign.

The same messenger also brought to the Belgian Minister a despatch from his consul at Tien-Tsin. Do not be uneasy, he said, be tranquil. The misfortune should not be taken to the interest of Belgium would not suffer. M. de Cartier, who had been Charge d'Affaires in Pekin, and was on his way home, had been detained in Shanghai and instructed to act as Minister in the event of his death. This news was very cheering to M. Joosten.

Days followed quietly now, though "sniping" did not cease. Several casualties occurred among the garrison. A Russian was killed and an Austrian wounded, an Englishman killed and also a Japanese. In the Fu it was still dangerous for the Christian refugees to move about and several were hit and two killed. But the Yamen became more and more conciliatory, until we could gauge the advance of the reliefs by the degree of apology in their despatches. But all supplies and the further cut off, and the sufferings of the Christians were acute.

Chinese Messages to the Powers. On the 21st it became known that the representatives of the Great Powers had received despatches from the Tsung-li-Yamen enclosing copies of memorials forwarded by the Throne to the rulers of their respective States. That to Sir Claude MacDonald stated that the Grand Council had on July 3rd, sent them a telegram to be forwarded from the Emperor of China to the respective Governments for England's assistance in extricating China from her present embarrassments. The Yamen said that the telegram sent long before was forwarded, and that they now sent the Minister a copy. It was a profoundly interesting telegram, especially so because it followed the very day after the promulgation of an Imperial edict which commanded that Christians should be exterminated, extolled the loyal and patriotic services of the "Boxers" in burning out and slaying the Christians, and ordered the expulsion from China of all Christian missionaries. The telegram proceeded to say that—

Lately, on account of enmity between the people and the converts, disorderly people have seized the opportunity to commit lawless acts, with the result that all Powers suspected the Throne of supporting the people and being hostile to the converts, and there followed the attack upon the Legations of the Ta-ku forts. Since then war has been threatened, and the situation has become more and more complicated. Now England relies mainly on her trade with China, nine-tenths of which is British. England's action has always been friendly and she does not desire Chinese territory. But this war against all the powers may end unfavorably for China, and in such a case another power may take the opportunity to seize territory in China. This will prejudice England alike with China. To England alone thus China appeals for aid in extricating her from her difficulties.

Presumably some such similar letter was sent to the President of the United States, which said forth the reply—"United States cheerfully aid China." Obviously this was to be China's line of defence upon the day of reckoning.

Not the Imperial troops had been firing upon the legations from the Imperial wall and the city wall with shell and bullet, and the status quo, but banditti, whom China was desirous to suppress, but unable to suppress. Chinese troops had been protecting the legations and providing them with food. That these self-same banditti had been belauded in Imperial edicts as loyal and patriotic was a contradiction, the power to explain away which might safely be entrusted to the dauntless megalomania of a Lo-Feng-Luh or a Wu Ting Fang.

Sir Robert Hart. On the 22nd Sir Robert Hart received a despatch from the Tsung-li-Yamen. They naïvely remarked that it was now one month since they had heard from him, and his silence gave them concern for his welfare. Moreover, a report had just reached them that his house had been burned, but they expressed the hope that he and all his staff were well. Another despatch requested his advice upon a Customs question that had arisen in Shanghai. Sir Robert Hart wrote a dignified reply for more than a month, he said, he had been a refugee in the British Legation with all his staff, having had to flee from his home without warning; that all his papers and letters of value that he had accumulated during a lifetime, had been destroyed; that not only his house, but some nineteen other buildings, had been burned with all their contents; that the acting postal Secretary had been killed by a shell, and two other members of his staff—Mr. Richardson and Mr. Macdonald—had been wounded by bullets. Too proud to admit that they were being slowly starved by the Government he had refused to accept of any aid, no allusion to the sufferings of the women and children, deprived of the food to which they had been accustomed, and forced to exist on slender rations of rice and horseflesh.

The So-Called Armistice. Meanwhile the armistice continued, if armistice it can be called where there was no truce, no cessation of hostilities, no cessation of the sallying fire, no cessation of the Chinese outposts. Friendly relations were, however, opened with some Chinese soldiers in the Fu. A Japanese volunteer established an office of intelligence, to which the enemy's soldiers had access. One soldier was especially communicative and earned high regard on the part of the British Legation. An unbroken series of victories was attending our relief forces.

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ther by day or by night, a single hour or a single moment's remission may produce an alarm without time to take precaution. This can readily be understood and there is no inconsistency involved. As your excellency and the other foreign members have to arrange the re-establishment of the status quo, it would seem better to settle matters at Tien-Tsin, and we would repeat our request that you will pack your baggage by an early date and name fixed day in order that we may prepare boats and provisions. In the envelope which brought this letter were two other communications of the same guileless nature.

IGNATIUS DONNELLY DEAD. Expounder of Baconian Theory of Shakespeare Gone.

HEART DISEASE TOOK HIM. Minneapolis, Minn., despatch: Ignatius Donnelly, politician and author, was taken suddenly ill last night while visiting at the home of his father-in-law, Barton Hanson, and died at 12:02 this morning, aged 70. Dr. Murphy, who was summoned, pronounced the trouble heart failure.

Ignatius Donnelly, known as "The Starling of Nebraska," had been conspicuous in the political and literary field for many years. He came to Minnesota 25 years ago, and since that time had been a member of both House of State Legislature and represented his district in Congress. At the last general election Mr. Donnelly was a candidate for Vice-President of the Middle-of-the-road populist ticket.

China Will Compel Princes to Commit Suicide. AN EXECUTION DESCRIBED. It is learned from an official Chinese source that the Chinese commissioners wish the initiation of the question of punishment to come from the allies. China is now prepared to behold Yu Heien, formerly Governor of Shan Si, as soon as the powers demand his death. The Government will also banish Prince Tuan to the northwest border for life, instead of to Mongolia. It will compel Prince Chwang and Duke Lan to commit suicide, will ultimately behead Gen. Tung Fu Hsiang and inflict the severest punishment, up to life banishment, upon the northwest frontier, on seven other princes and officials whose heads were originally demanded.

The murderer was a soldier. At the outbreak of the Boxer troubles he was stationed in Hatanan street, with orders to shoot any foreigner who tried to pass. The killing of Baron von Ketteler was done in obedience to orders. It is admitted by foreigners, including Dr. Mumm von Shvartzstein, the present German Minister, that the man would not have been executed in a European country.

Better Whistle Than Whine. Two little boys were on their way to school. The smaller one tumbled and though not badly hurt he began to whine in a babyish way—a little creaking whine.

The older boy took his hand in a fatherly way and said—"Oh, never mind, Jimmy, don't whine; it is a great deal better to whistle." He began to whistle in the merriest way a cheerful boy whistle. Jimmy tried to join in the whistle.

"I can't whistle as nice as you, Charlie," said he; "my lips won't pucker up good."

"Oh, that's because you haven't got all the whine out yet," said Charlie; "but you try a minute, and the whistle will drive the whine away."

So he did, and the last I saw or heard of the little fellows they were whistling away as earnestly as though that was the chief end of life.—Junior Christian Endeavor World.

After Twenty-Five Years Boy and Girl Lovers Will be United. BOTH HAVE HAD EXPERIENCE. Chicago report: Twenty-five years ago a girl of 11 and a boy two years older were chums in the then budding city of Los Angeles, Cal. Together they attended the little adobe school-house, where within easy whispering distance of each other they studied the three "R's. After study hours, hand in hand, they wanders out to play in the yellow sand of the village's outskirts or climbed to the hill from where they could see the blue of the Pacific Ocean two-six miles away. They exchanged childish promises to marry when they grew "old enough."

Once he saved her from a mountain lion that had crept down from the Madiera mountains to the northward. The beast was about to leap upon the girl from an overhanging rock, when her companion noticed the peril and ran at the lion with waving arms, which demoralized the intruder to ignominious flight. At all times he was her protector from the annoyances of her schoolmates, who pointed their fingers at them in childish sport and shouted after them "Sweethearts! Sweethearts!"

Parents Smile at Attachment. Little did the boy and girl care and their parents smiled at the fervor of their youthful affection. "It matters nothing now," they commented, "they will drift apart before they become man and woman grown."

The prophecy turned out to be true in that they were separated when she was 16 and he 18. The time had come for him to begin making his own living. He secured a position with a surveying party for one of Huntington's Southern Pacific Railroad divisions. "I'll come back in a few years and marry you," he promised, and she agreed to be true.

But the "few years" became ten and still he was busy "making his fortune." His image grew in her memory and other suitors pressed their claims, for she was fair to look upon. The lover of her childhood discontinued writing and in place she accepted the attentions of a well-to-do business man, Emma Jamieson became Mrs. Andrew McCormick. She was left a widow at 70.

Marries a Second Time. Money and lands were her widow's portion, and though time and trouble had brought a suggestion of wrinkles, she still was handsome. Memory took her back to the days when she played with her school-boy lover, but she heard his name married in an eastern city. She was lonely and A. U. Morton, a breeder and handler of race horses, as well as other "blooded stock," won her hand, and she was married a second time. Their life was happy for four years, but again she was made a widow, when he died two years ago at their home in Grand street, Los Angeles. She was left childless, but well provided for in worldly goods.

She was watering the flowers in her garden on the nation's holiday, July 4th last, when the postman brought her a letter, addressed to a strange handwriting. And yet it was not altogether unfamiliar. The blood mounted in her face as she noticed how like it was to the writing on the notes flipped to her in school by her boy admirer. Tremblingly she opened the envelope and turned to the signature. It was George Morrison, from whom she had parted twenty years ago.

Childhood Lover Asks Hand. "I have just heard," he wrote, "that you are a widow. My own wife died four years ago. Is it too late? Is there any of your one-time love for me left in your heart? I still have your photo, but it is dimmed beyond recognition, and I carry in my memory your fair face, fresh with ruddy health and smiling."

The widow found a few happy tears, then a few came to her eyes, as she gazed at a mirror. The glass showed her face seamed with scores of wrinkles. The smooth, fresh countenance that had so delighted her young sweetheart years ago had replaced by a visage aged before its time.

"He would not love me with those wrinkles," she told herself. "What he remembers is the girl and young woman."

She resolved not to answer his letter at once, but a month later met a sister of Dr. Elizabeth Tompkins, of this city, a specialist in dermatology, who officiated at the Masonic Temple. The sister told of the method Dr. Tompkins employed to remove wrinkles, and stirred in Mrs. Morton a desire to regain the bloom of her youth.

Wrinkles Removed From Face. The widow became more and more filled with the idea, especially when in reply to letters sent Mr. Morrison, he urged her to marry him. Five weeks ago she came east and put herself under the care of Dr. Tompkins. She took the last treatment yesterday. Her wrinkles had disappeared. Her forehead and cheeks were as smooth as when she was a girl.

"In two weeks," said Mrs. Morton yesterday, to a fellow patient, "my face will show no signs of the doctor's operations, and then—well, then, I suppose, I will be married. My future husband is a travelling man, and the ceremony will take place in Milwaukee."

Dr. Tompkins was much annoyed when asked for further particulars regarding her patient, but admitted that Mrs. Morton was under her care.

Mr. Geo. Wagner, of Neustadt, was crushed to death under a tree while chopping in the woods.

Bishop W. X. Nindo, aged 68 years, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was found dead in his bed at his home in Detroit to-day.

The colony of New Zealand adopted penny postage on Jan. 1, and now the postage on letters sent from Canada to New Zealand is 2 cents per half ounce.

Horatio Lebonillier, Liberal candidate for Gaspé in the Provincial Legislature, was brutally assaulted at his residence on New Year's day by two residents of Seal Cove.



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