

# CABLES FROM CHINA TO-DAY.

## Assurances that the Ministers Were Safe on July 18th.

### THE STRUGGLE AT TIEN TSIN.

Story of the Battle Told From a U.S. Standpoint. Allies Had to Meet Heavy Odds—Some Blunders—The Losses—Death of Colonel Liscum—The London Embassy also Informed of the Situation at Pekin—Will Li Hung Chang be Permitted to go to Pekin?—British Vessel Goes to Meet Him.

London, July 21.—The unreserved credence given to Minister Conger's message by officials at Washington continues to occasion surprise in London. The absence of any date, and the absence of acknowledgment from the cipher telegram from the State Department were considered here as fatal drawbacks to acceptance of the message, as a reply to Secretary Hay, or as anything but a spontaneous appeal for help sent off long prior to the alleged date of the message. This all-absorbing topic is fully canvassed in its pro and cons, but all authorities which only add to the present difficulties which only add to the obscurity of the situation, and render harder the unraveling of the puzzle.

#### Doubts Laid.

The announcement of the British cruiser Bonaventura's departure from Woo Sung, as alleged, in pursuit of Li Hung Chang, comes somewhat as a surprise after the honors paid the Viceroy at Hong Kong, but confirmation of the news will meet the approval of a large majority, as Li Hung Chang's present attitude is regarded as being characteristically dubious. Li Hung Chang was booked for Shanghai, but the departure of the warship from the nearby port of Woo Sung, seems to indicate a suspicion on the part of the Government that the real objective point may be elsewhere, where he could not be so easily reached by representatives of the powers.

#### ASSURANCES OF SAFETY.

Two important telegrams received at Washington. Washington, July 21.—The Chinese Minister, Wu Ting Fang, communicated to the Secretary of State this morning two important telegrams.

The first is from Sheng, the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, in Shanghai, and says: "Fortunately that Minister Conger's telegraphic reply has come. Imperial decree of the 22nd this moon, corresponding to July 18th, stated that all Ministers were safe. Insurgents were fighting and killing each other. Li Hung Chang, in proceeding northward, to suppress the riot, will find it difficult to go." The second telegram is from Li Kuei Yi, Viceroy of Nanking, dated the 21st of July, and received by Minister Wu at 10 o'clock this morning. It is as follows: "According to the report of the 22nd of this moon (July 18th), with the exception of the German Minister, who was killed by Anarchists, with regard to which rigorous measures are being taken, the other Ministers for whom strenuous efforts are being made for their protection, are fortunately unharmed."

Li Kuei Yi, the Viceroy of Nanking, is one of the great officers of China, and stands next in rank among the diplomats to Li Hung Chang.

#### France Assured Too.

Paris, July 21.—Yu Keng, the Chinese Minister here, to-day handed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Delcasse, an Imperial edict, dated July 18th, giving the assurance that all the foreign Ministers in Pekin, except Baron Von Ketteler, the German Minister, were then safe and sound, under the protection of the Imperial court.

#### London Knows It Too.

Brussels, July 21.—The charge d'affaires at the Chinese legation here this morning received a telegram from the Chinese Minister at London, transmitting the report that the foreign representatives at Pekin were safe. This despatch having been communicated to the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Paul De Ryckere, he demanded to be put in communication with the Belgian Minister at Pekin and informed as to the situation of Belgian refugees in that city.

#### Chinese Quit Tien Tsin.

London, July 21.—The Admiralty this afternoon received the following telegram from the Chinese Minister at Tien Tsin and neighborhood entirely evacuated by Chinese.

#### A. P. Says It is Doubtful.

London, July 21.—Sir Chih Chen Lo Feng Loh, the Chinese Minister to Great Britain, this afternoon communicated the despatch purporting to be an Imperial edict giving assurance of the safety of the foreign Ministers at Pekin. The alleged edict was received without comment. The correspondents of the Associated Press has the highest authority for saying that not the slightest credence is attached by the British Government to the Imperial edict, and that the Government is quite unable to understand the credence which is accorded at Washington to Minister Conger's message to the State Department there. Salisbury,

according to this authority, is convinced of the truth of the original reports of the massacre of foreigners at Pekin.

#### BATTLE OF TIEN TSIN.

The Story of the Assault From United States Sources.

New York, July 21.—The Evening World publishes a detailed story of the Tien Tsin fight. It comes from Frederick Palmer, who has been copying for the papers. It follows: Chefoo, July 19, via Shanghai, July 21.—The attack on the native city of Tien Tsin on July 13th, resulted in the narrowest escape from what seemed up to midnight would be a terrible disaster to the allies.

The Russians swinging north, and the other allies south, at daybreak the Russian were to take the forts near the native city wall, and the allies the city itself.

#### The Plan of Attack.

General Tukushina, the Japanese commander, promised that the Japanese engineers, after three hours' shell fire from all guns, would cross the bridge over the moat, before the wall and blowing up the great south gate, make a breach for the infantry to enter. Upon this depended everything. Gen. Tukushina had not scouted the bridge, and in 24 hours had not scouted the ground over which the charge on the bridge had to be made. The Chinese destroyed the bridge and flooded the land around it. The allies' shell fire, in no wise subdued the Chinese rifle fire from the loop holes wall which commanded the field, with a moat twenty feet in depth around it.

#### Evident Blundering.

An outer wall of mud made it impossible for the infantry and marines coming up the field to reply to the Chinese fire. They lost fifty men in ten minutes. They were back from the mud wall, which they had reached. Gen. Doward, the British commander, hustled forward with a fragmentary band of an integral skirmish line. The U. S. marines and the Welsh Fusiliers, together, under command of Walker, were on the extreme left. The British marines and the French advanced, with the Japanese, along the road toward the gate in the mud wall. Doward's plan for the Americans to support the Japanese was not made clear to Col. Liscum, of the 9th U. S. Infantry.

#### Blames Dead Man.

Doward lays the blame for the blunder and sacrifice of life on Liscum. But Doward's chief of staff was heard to say when Liscum moved: "Get in down the road anywhere, quickly." Col. Liscum hurriedly led his men through the gate in an open order, instead of the immediate line under fire. The staff saw them pass over the bridge to a field which proved to be a cul de sac.

#### Caught in a Trap.

Before the two battalions of Americans numbering 426 men, could extend themselves, they were subjected, besides the fire from the loopholes in the fort, to a fierce fire from the embrasures in a line of fortified mud houses on their flank. Three thousand rifles, possibly, were turned on them with an accuracy which has amazed every officer among the allies. The blue shirts of the American troops, made in distinct marks, where the khaki uniforms of the other allies could not be seen. The Americans charged into the flank fire with rushes, the ground over which they charged being marshy and lined with ditches. It was evidently Col. Liscum's intention to rush the houses from which the flank fire was coming, and thus get a position for flanking the wall.

#### Death of Liscum.

At 2.30 the line had just reached the shore of the moat, and thirty yards separating them from the houses, when the color-bearer fell. Col. Liscum picked up the colors and stood looking around, apparently for a ford. The next instant a sharp-shooter's bullet went through the brave Colonel's abdomen. All day long the allies' line lay under any cover the men could find, running out of ammunition, the July sun beating down on them, and they had nothing to drink but the salty marsh water. Meanwhile the wounded came struggling and crawling through the yards separating them from the houses. They were sent anywhere without men to carry their litters. The doctors were hit by the sharpshooters while trying to attend the wounded of the Ninth. They could not attempt to carry off the wounded from the bloody field.

#### The City Taken.

At 1 o'clock General Tukushina reported in writing to Doward that the Japanese were in the city. They saw the loopholes blazing bullets and the shell. No infantry could charge in the face of this fire from 2 to 3 o'clock. Though waiting confidently for Doward or Tukushina knew each other's whereabouts. Under cover of the darkness the men of the Ninth crept back from their dangerous positions, bearing their wounded. They executed this movement with a loss of one man killed. The casualties were 31 men and five officers out of 4.6.

#### The Losses.

The marines lost thirty, including Captain Davis, who was shot through the heart while talking to Colonel Meade on the night of July 13th. Meade was decided to withdraw, when news came that the Chinese were evacuating. The Russians were not so sure

as hoped during the day and the total loss of the allies was worked. The Japanese losses were severe. The Japanese were most gallant in the fight. But for the Americans stopping the flank fire the Japanese loss would have been much heavier. The French, the Japanese, the Americans and the British entered the city about 2 o'clock on the morning of July 14th. The attack was unopposed. The U. S. flag at half-mast was hoisted over the south gate. The walls were strewn with the corpses of Chinese soldiers killed by the shell fire which caused their flight. None apparently were hit by bullets, the damage being done by lyddite shots.

There is a terrible odor over the burning of the town. Several foreign officers are reported lost. The dead soldiers remain on the wall. The natives went looting through the Chinese town. The bank and the arsenal were heavy sufferers. An advance movement on Pekin is not contemplated soon. Colonel Liscum was buried at Long Ku.

#### Remy Heard From.

Washington, July 21.—The Navy Department has received a cablegram from Admiral Remy dated Taku, July 20th, in which he says: "Tien Tsin quiet. Latest report, Russian sources, July 13th, legations Pekin still holding out. Reliability of this information uncertain."

#### Went to Meet Li.

Shanghai, July 20.—The British cruiser Bonaventura left Woo Sung early this morning. It is reported to seize the Au Hing, with Li Hung Chang on board.

#### A triumphal arch erected in Li Hung

and killed 2,000 of the enemy. Their own loss was inconsiderable. Biagostschenski defended himself bravely until 4 o'clock on the second day of the attack, when Colonel Gribovsky relieved the city. The next day reinforcements arrived, and a fierce rifle and artillery duel was kept up all day. The Chinese, who previously numbered 8,000, were reinforced on July 17th. Col. Gribovsky concentrated a portion of his force against Saghalien, where there were 7,000 Chinese artillerymen. After a short resistance he routed them and occupied the town.

From Belgian Consul. Brussels, July 20.—The Belgian Consul at Shanghai sends the following despatch, under date of July 19th: "Sheng, the Administrator of Telegraphs, announces that the foreigners at Pekin were safe and sound July 19th. An important decree, dated July 18th, ordering the Viceroy of Tien-Tsin to appraise the damage caused by the troubles, and orders the local militia to repress the rebellion."

#### Li Hung Chang's Mission.

Rome, July 20.—The Italian Consul at Hong Kong telegraphs, under date of Tuesday, July 17th, that Li Hung Chang is coming here, that he was going to Pekin to negotiate with the powers, in compliance with a despatch signed by the Emperor and the Empress Dowager. The consul asked him to forward a despatch to the Italian Minister, Signor Raggi, but Li Hung Chang replied that he had no means of doing so. Li Hung Chang, the consul reports, notified the directors of customs that they must obey orders from Canton, not from Pekin. The

## Foreigners are Safe.

### THEY FIND A REFUGE IN PRINCE CHING'S PALACE IN PEKIN.

PARIS, July 20.—The Foreign Office has received information from a Chinese source, in which, however, certain reliance may be placed, that the foreign ministers at Pekin have not been massacred. According to this information, on July 7 the ministers were attacked and the legations burned but the foreigners succeeded in crossing the city to Prince Ching's palace, which was then barricaded. The Europeans were holding their own up to the time the news left on July 9. Since then nothing has been heard from Pekin.

#### Chang's honor has been ordered by the Council to be removed.

#### Laying in Supplies.

Chicago, Ill., July 21.—A commissary depot for supplies for United States troops in China or to go there has been established at Taku. This announcement is made by Col. W. L. Alexander, chief of the subsistence bureau of the department of the lakes. Heavy shipments have been forwarded from Manila, and thirty more carloads, comprising canned water, and salted beef, will be despatched by Col. Alexander next Friday, to be divided between Manila and Taku.

#### About the Tien Tsin Fight.

New York, July 21.—"Keep up the firing" were the last words spoken by Colonel Liscum, according to a Chefoo cable to the Herald. The correspondent says: "The Ninth Regiment and other Americans with the Japanese, advanced against a flanking fire, and were forced to lie in the mud all day, unable to help their wounded and compelled to drink canal water. They could not drive the foe, or charge or do anything except fire a few rounds. The U. S. hospitals at Tien-Tsin are crowded, and surgeons are needed. Col. Liscum's body was escorted to the burial place by two battalions of the Ninth. The Japanese were the heroes of the battle, fighting with remarkable bravery. They charged the breaches and fought the Chinese hand to hand. Their conduct after the bat-

#### Viceroy of Nanking has given similar instructions from Shanghai.

#### Exportation of Arms.

London, July 20.—In the House of Commons today Mr. A. J. Balfour, the First Lord of the Treasury, said it was impossible, in the present state of the law, to prohibit exportation of arms to China, but as the matter was extremely pressing, a bill would be introduced to give the Government the necessary power. Such a bill has subsequently introduced in the House of Lords by Earl Halsbury, High Chancellor. The bill prohibits the exportation of arms or ammunition to China under severe penalties.

#### Safe July 20.

Brussels, July 21.—The Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Fabreux, has received the following telegram from Shanghai, dated to-day: "A telegram from the Governor of Shantung announces that the Ministers were safe July 20th. They were under the guardianship of the Chinese."

#### Arbitration's Friends.

In view of the war in China a curious and almost pathetic interest is attached to the meeting this week of the International Arbitration Commission, which is to be held in London. Mr. Philip James Stanhope, member of Parliament for Burnley, president of the British Arbitration Society, has expressed a willingness to attend the international arbitration conference in the hall of the French Senate, July 31st. Between 400 and 500 members of various European Parliaments will, on that occasion, be received by President Loubet. The

## Mr. Conger Wires.

### ONLY QUICK RELIEF CAN AVERT GENERAL MASSACRE.

WASHINGTON, July 20.—The Chinese Minister has just received a cipher cablegram from Minister Conger. It is in the State Department cipher and is transmitted through the Tsung Li Yamen and the Shanghai Taotal. It contains about 30 words and is signed in English with the name Conger.

At 9.45 a.m. Minister Wu handed the Conger despatch to Secretary Hay. No doubt was expressed by State Department officials as to the authenticity of the message.

Mr. Conger's telegram is as follows: "In British legation. Under continued shot and shell from Chinese troops. Quick relief only can prevent general massacre." The message is not dated, but it is understood, was sent from Pekin on the 18th.

#### Belgian Minister at Pekin and informed as to the situation of Belgian refugees in that city.

#### Li Hung at Shanghai.

Shanghai, July 22.—Li Hung Chang landed here yesterday. He met with a cool reception. The native officials sent an armed bodyguard of 300 men to meet him. The French consul objected to the guard passing the French settlement, and they were accordingly withdrawn. The Viceroy passed the settlement escorted by twelve French troops, and handed over their charge to the police of the cosmopolitan settlement, who escorted him to his residence. The bodyguard was captured and Li Hung Chang brought from Canton remain on board the steamer Omping. They will not be admitted to the settlement.

#### 800 Russians Killed.

London, July 22.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from St. Petersburg says, despite the official denial, it is certain that the town of Biagostschenski, capital of the Amoor district, Siberia, was captured and held by the Chinese until July 21st, when Col. Gribovsky drove the enemy out, after eight hours' fighting. He captured eight guns and 200 prisoners, but sustained fearful losses himself, 870 Russians having been killed in the fighting.

## ENDS LIFE IN A BATH.

### Wm. Linton, a Traveller, Succeeds in Montreal.

Montreal, July 22.—Mr. Wm. Linton, a commercial traveller, whose family is living in Toronto, committed suicide at the St. Lawrence Hall on Saturday night in a most tragic manner. The deceased, who was a brother of Mr. James Linton, the millionaire boot and shoe manufacturer of this city, was about 55 years of age. He arrived at the St. Lawrence Hall from the west on July 16th. He was a very quiet man, and nothing was noticed about him. On Saturday night he retired early to his room.

About 10.30 o'clock one of the attendants, while passing a bath-room on the same corridor as Mr. Linton's room, noticed through the half-closed door the figure of a man. When he looked into the bath-room he was horrified to notice blood stains in the bath. A moment's examination showed him that the form was that of Mr. Linton, and that he was dead. He was attired in his night gown, and the body lay across the edge of the bath, head, shoulders, and arms in the water.

An open razor, the blade covered with blood, was in the bath near the dead man's right hand, and told an apparently clear tale of self-destruction. An alarm was promptly given, and assistance being procured, a further investigation was made, and it was found that there was a terrible gash across the left wrist, the arteries, veins, and nerves being completely severed. The body was still warm when discovered, but life was extinct.

The body was removed to the morgue to await the coroner's inquest. It is supposed that financial troubles led the deceased to commit this terrible act. More things are wrought by prayer than the world dreams of.—Tennyson. The July crop report of the Manitoba Government shows that the improvement was not so great as hoped for.

## OLD SOL FRIZZLES LONDON SOCIETY.

### Hospitals Crowded with Sunstroke Cases and Business Quiet.

### TRIBUTE TO YOUNG CANADIANS

#### Who Gave Their Lives for the Empire—Lansdowne and Carrington Speak in the Lords on the Colonies and Their Devotion—Brave Capt. Towse Led in Blind to Receive a Hero's Reward from the Queen—Friends of Arbitration—British Hot Weather Fashion Changes.

London, July 21.—"We are requested to state," said the Times on Thursday, "that the fall hat and frock coat, which had hitherto been recognized as the costume for Sandown Park on the occasion of the Royal visit, may be dispensed with tomorrow and Saturday in favor of the straw hat and other costumes more suited to the present tropical weather."

#### The Hero Blind.

Captain Towse was blinded in both eyes by a bullet wound. On Wednesday Captain Towse was taken to Windsor and led into the royal presence by his wife, where he knelt at the feet of his sovereign, who was so much overcome at the sight of the blind hero that her aged hands could scarcely pin on the most prized of all British decorations. The Queen's words of simple praise of his gallantry and thanks for his devotion were spoken so low as to be almost inaudible, and when Queen Victoria was led out there was scarcely a dry eye among the officials present.

#### High Death Rate.

The serious phase of the matter is the rapidly increasing death rate and continuance of the heat wave, and the people never tire of pointing out how ill-fitted the London hospitals are to deal with the present conditions. Ice is a luxury obtainable by the rich only and by them so much hoarded; for the poor there is no relief, not even the opportunity to bathe. The idea of flooding the heated streets has not yet dawned upon England's municipality. The supply of facilities at the London Hospital to deal with the heat prostrations is absurdly inadequate.

#### Business Suspended.

Hence it is small wonder that business is practically suspended, and social functions are cut short and made as informal as possible, to say nothing of all the military manoeuvres at Aldershot being postponed. Even the news from China enlists but half-hearted interest.

#### Colonial Patriotism.

The Earl of Carrington compared the patriotism of the colonies to an Australian undergrowth that has disappeared in the bowels of the earth, came up again and rushed on earth in a night; "torrent to the ocean it would always be so," the Earl continued, "if perfect equality were preserved between the British Colonial troops."

#### Notes.

After a keen election for the vacant associate membership in the Royal Academy, Mr. Frank Millet, the American artist, was defeated by Mr. Jos. Farquharson, the vote being 23 to 20. It is announced that Prof. Charles Eliot Norton and other literary executors of John Ruskin, have determined not to issue a biography of the great art critic, considering that Mr. Ruskin's "Praeterita," and Collingwood's biography are sufficient. However, the executors will issue representative selections from Mr. Ruskin's diaries and letters.

#### English delegation includes Lord Kinard and Sir Albert Hollis.

Awarded a V. C. One of the most touching incidents of the war in South Africa occurred this week, when Captain Towse received the first Victoria Cross bestowed by the Queen for valor in the field. Captain Towse earned the distinction by attempting to carry off Colonel Downman, who had been wounded under a hail of bullets. He was unable to do so, and lay beside him and kept off the Boers all night till help came. By that time Colonel Downman was dead.

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The Queen's words of simple praise of his gallantry and thanks for his devotion were spoken so low as to be almost inaudible, and when Queen Victoria was led out there was scarcely a dry eye among the officials present. Tributes to Borden and Burch. The Marquis of Lansdowne, Minister of War, referring in the House of Lords to Lord Roberts' telegram announcing the death of the two young Canadian officers, Lieuts. Borden and Burch, in defending the British position in the engagement on July 16th, paid a glowing tribute to Canadian volunteers, saying: "When we think who writes that telegram and with what feelings he must have written it, I think we may say no more touching tribute could be paid to the memory of the brave young representatives of our Canadian forces."

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#### WERE MEN BOILED THERE?

Chicago, July 21.—The police officials are investigating a mystery at the Stock Yards, which they think is another Luetergen case. A human skull and a pair of shoes have been found in a rendering house owned by one of the packing house firms at the yards. Several men recently in the employ of the company have disappeared, and the police are searching for them to see if any light can be shed on the mysterious find. It is a theory of the police that the victim was pushed into the tank.

#### BOERS WILL NOT EMIGRATE.

Report That 10,000 Would Go to the States Denied. New York, July 20.—Chas. D. Pierce, trustee and treasurer of the Boer relief fund and Consul-General of the Orange Free State, made the following statement to-day concerning Boer emigration to the United States: "My attention having been called to the statements in various newspapers that 10,000 or more Boers are about to emigrate from the South African Republic and the Orange Free State to the United States, I wish to state in the most emphatic language possible that there is not one word of truth in such statements."

#### SMALLPOX AT NOME.

Vessel at Point Townsend Reports Eighteen Cases. Port Townsend, July 21.—The transport Rosecrans has arrived from Nome. Her officers reported to the quarantine. Officials here say that the small-pox scare at Nome has been exaggerated. The total number of cases would not exceed eighteen.

#### Northwestern Cricket.

Minneapolis, July 21.—The Manitoba cricketers at Chicago were defeated by the Chicago team yesterday by 71 to 28. Three teams are now even in the Northwestern tournament.