

MESSAGE FROM A MINISTER

Mr. Conger, United States Representative in the Chinese Capital, Sends a Brief Dispatch.

FOREIGNERS SAFE ON WEDNESDAY

They Had Taken Refuge in British Legation--Relief Must Be Quick to Prevent a Massacre--Missionaries and Native Converts Killed.

(Associated Press.)
London, July 20.—To add to the gloom occasioned by the extremely serious import of news showing the daily developing strength of the anti-foreign movement in the south of China, comes this morning, from Shanghai, a report that 60 missionaries and 100 native converts have been massacred at Tai Yuan.

Though the report is not yet corroborated, it tends to confirm the belief that the hope that the central and southern viceroys would hold aloof from the Boxer rising has never had much foundation.

If this massacre has occurred in the province of Shan See, there can be little question that the intense anxiety for the safety of international colonies at the river ports and even at Shanghai is justified, for an attack later by the masses of Chinese gathering in and about the international consular would mean horrors, compared with which the massacre at Pekin would be insignificant.

The rumor is again current in Shanghai that the Empress and Emperor are preparing to retire from the capital to See Ngan Fue.

The authorities at St. Petersburg are satisfied that the measures for the relief of Harbin, which is identical with Charbon, will be successful.

With a view to showing his good faith the Chinese minister at St. Petersburg has begged the Russian government to examine all dispatches arriving for the legation before their delivery.

Indian troops are daily arriving at Hongkong, en route to Taku.

A Hongkong dispatch reports a daring act of piracy with the harbor there. A score of pirates armed with revolvers seized a launch and took it up the Canton river, capturing two junks en route. After looting the craft the pirates abandoned them.

The Chinese legation at London has been notified by Sheng, Chinese administrator of telegraphs at Shanghai, that the government of Shan Tung has received a message from Minister Conger for transmission to Washington.

Minister Conger's message to the state department at Washington is not regarded here as justifying overmuch optimism, but on the contrary is generally accepted as a further Chinese attempt at mystification. Some think that the fact that the message is undated and the similarity of its contents to Sir Robert Hart's message of June 24th suggest it was sent off about the same time, but was intercepted by the Chinese. The sceptical are confirmed in their suspicions by the fact that a message was received to-day by M. Delcasse, the French minister of foreign affairs, through the Chinese minister at Paris, purporting to come from the Emperor and asking France's mediation with the powers. This, it is alleged, was dated July 19th, and made no mention of the foreign legations at Pekin.

Message From Conger.
Washington, July 20.—The Chinese minister has just received a cipher cable from Minister Conger. It is in the state department cipher, and is transmitted through the legation of Li Yamen and the Shanghai Taotai. It contains 50 words and is signed in English, with the name Conger. The minister has taken it to the state department.

At 2:40 a.m. Minister Wu handed the Conger dispatch to Secretary Hay. No doubt was expressed by the state department officials as to the authenticity of the message. Mr. Conger's message 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 it was sent from Pekin on the 18th.

In the East City.
Washington, July 20.—The state department has just issued the following bulletin:

The secretary of state received this morning a dispatch from Consul Fowler at Chee Foo, dated midnight, July 19th, saying: "Shanghai paper of the 19th said all foreigners were murdered. Fowler wired the governor demanding the truth. The governor replied that his courier left Pekin on the 11th, and all were safe, but Pekin east city had been carried by rebels with intent to kill."
Massacred By Boxers.
London, July 20.—A dispatch from Shanghai received here this morning reports that 80 missionaries and 100 native converts have been massacred by Boxers at Tai Yuan, a fortified and

fire in British legation in Pekin. Use and urge every means possible for immediate relief. (Signed) Long."
Believed to Be Safe.

Toronto, July 20.—Rev. Dr. Warden, secretary of the Presbyterian foreign missions, received the following cablegram from Rev. Dr. McLure, dated Shanghai: "Victory's launch escorted down Han river believed safe."
It is understood the meaning of the cable is that all the Canadian missionaries who were at Chee Foo a few days ago and a party of Canadian missionaries said to have been plundered at Nanyang, are safe at Shanghai.

Return to Their Posts.
Shanghai, July 20.—The customs officials will return to Winchow to-night, their safety having been guaranteed by the Tao Tai.

Apprehensions of local danger have been somewhat modified by the arrival of warships, but there are some signs of international disagreements.

Sir C. Dilke's Opinion.
New York, July 20.—In an interview yesterday Sir Chas. Dilke, regarded as being the principal authority in England on foreign affairs, stated that he regarded the latest news from China as extremely grave, says a cable to the Journal-Advertiser. He added: "I must confess that I am much impressed by the fact that Li Hung Chang should have felt it incumbent upon him to comply with the summons to proceed to Pekin, which reached him from the imperial government there. It is extremely significant and constitutes another proof that there is a responsible imperial government in control at Pekin."

To Protect Shamien.
London, July 20.—A special dispatch from Hongkong says: "French gunboats have landed three hundred Annamese soldiers to protect Shamien, a suburb of Canton."

London, July 20.—Lord Salisbury presided at a meeting of the cabinet yesterday, and it is expected that it will be followed by a statement in parliament, throwing light upon the situation.

The Chinese assertions that the members of the foreign legations safe in the Republic would wait until it could be certain that the French minister at Pekin was safe and sound.

Reported Alive on July 9th.
Paris, July 20.—The foreign office has received information from a Chinese source, on which, however, certain reliance may be placed, that the foreign ministers at Pekin have not been massacred.

According to this information, on July 7th 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 9th. Since then nothing has been heard from Pekin.

Refugees From China.
Yokohama, July 19.—The United States battleship Oregon has arrived at Kure, where she will undergo temporary repairs.

The leading papers still urge the dispatch of more troops to China, but there is a growing sentiment against Japan's engaging in extended operations. The decision of the government is not known, but another division from Sendai is on its way to embark at Ujina.

Many refugees from China are arriving in Japan.

New Guns at Shanghai.
London, July 20.—The Daily Mail prints a cablegram from its Shanghai correspondent which says that the foreign settlements of that city are full of suspicious characters, and in the native quarters a continually increasing number of armed Chinese are arriving from the north. The troops in the Woo Sang forts are being reinforced daily and a number of new guns have been placed in position.

The foreign consuls have presented a united protest against these offensive preparations. Viceroy Li Hung Yih replied that he had ordered the work of strengthening the forts to cease immediately, but the local commander refused to heed the viceroy's remonstrations.

These forts completely command Shanghai and the guns already mounted are capable of blowing the foreign settlements to pieces in twelve hours.

Exportation of Arms.
London, July 20.—In the House of Commons to-day Mr. A. J. Balfour, the first lord of the treasury, said it was impossible in the present state of the law to prohibit the exportation of arms to China, but as the matter was extremely pressing a bill would to-day be introduced to give the government the necessary power. Such a bill was subsequently introduced in the House of Lords.

Killed Chinese Women.
New York, July 20.—Russia is pouring troops over the northern Chinese border, but her forces are not yet concentrated and are meeting with serious losses at the hands of Chinese Boxers who overrun all Northern China, says a Chee Foo cable to the World.

It is reported that after the allied army recaptured the native city of Tien Tsin last Saturday, their shells set fire to the town. The Chinese, before they fled, killed all their own women. It is reported, to prevent their falling into the hands of foreigners.

Native Chinese report that there are in and about Pekin at least 300,000 Chinese troops, and that the Boxers are armed with the best and most modern weapons.

Instructions for Remy.
Washington, July 20.—Secretary Long has sent the following cablegram to Adm. Remy:

"Conger telegraphs that he is under

pletely demolished the railway north of Tschichuan. The Russians are now in New Chwang."

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Express says: "Intense indignation is felt here at the honors which the British in Hongkong have accorded to Li Hung Chang, who is looked upon in Shanghai as the originator of the whole fiendish anti-foreign plot."

"A Chinese merchant who has just arrived from Pekin gives horrible details of the massacre. He says he saw European women huddled in the streets by shrieking Boxers, who stripped them and hacked them to pieces. Their dismembered limbs were tossed to the crowd and carried off with howls of triumph. Some were already dead, having been shot by foreign civilians."

He says he saw Chinese soldiers carrying the bodies of white children aloft on their spears, while their comrades shot at the bodies. He gives other details too horrible to be particularized here.

It seems the Boxer leaders had organized a plan, including the offering of rewards and rich loot for the extermination of Europeans throughout China and that Prince Tuan's generals have been emphasizing the opportunity the soldiers have of seizing the bodies of white women."

London, July 21.—The message from Mr. Conger, United States minister in Pekin, fails to carry conviction to either the British press or public. Its genuineness is not disputed, for it is pointed out here that the Chinese must possess quite a sheet of such messages, which the ministers fruitlessly endeavor to get transmitted, from which they could easily select a non-committal dispatch to serve the required purpose.

A slight rise of hope is admitted in the fact that both Mr. and Mrs. Conger are well and have been on friendly terms with the Empress Dowager, but the universal opinion here is that, if the dispatch is genuine, the date is falsified. The Spectator says: "It matters nothing whether the Empress Dowager or Prince Tuan is the reigning monarch; both are devoted to the extirpation of foreigners, and not one of the viceroy's will dare oppose the anti-foreign policy. The plot has covered the whole empire. Men who have dared to order a Russian city upon Russian ground to be stormed are wiring anything. Within a month the viceroys of the coast towns will have thrown off the mask and the only safe place for Europeans will be on shipboard. Europe has a terrible task, in which hurry is out of place. Who would have dreamed six months ago that for 10,000 miles to take Tien Tsin would be a difficult and glorious task?"

well and the proper Chinese authorities are devising measures for their rescue and protection.

As was anticipated, the Japanese government has given its cheerful assent to the application of the United States troops and supplies as much as possible.

The quartermaster's department of the army has provided three large transports of the Philippine service for use on the line between Nagasaki and Taku and it is expected in this way to expedite the movement of troops to China.

SOUTH AFRICAN REBELS.
Leaders Will Be Tried by Special Court.

Capetown, July 20.—The speech from the throne read to-day at the opening of the Cape parliament by Sir Alfred Miller, governor of the colony, referred to the noble manner in which all the self-governing colonies had responded to Great Britain's call for aid, saying that indications were not wanting that the end of the war was approaching.

Those concerned in the rebellion would have to answer for their misconduct. Parliament would be asked to approve a bill providing for a special court with special powers to try the rebels who have already been put in jail and others who appear to have taken a leading part in the rebellion. A commission would be created to deal with the rank and file of the rebels, with the power of sentencing for a period of five years and to disfranchisement and deprivation of other civil rights.

Sir Alfred Miller said that he trusted the deliberations of the parliament would be characterized by wisdom and moderation, so that when the troubles should be passed all would be prepared for the great developments that were assuredly awaiting united South Africa under the sway of the Queen's sceptre.

Mr. W. P. Schreiner, former Premier of Cape Colony, and Mr. Selouson, formerly Attorney-General, occupied seats in the opposition benches. Mr. Merriman, Treasurer, Mr. Sauer, Commissioner of Public Works, and Dr. Water, minister without portfolio in the recent cabinet, occupied seats on the front opposition benches.

Dr. Jameson was sworn in as a member of parliament amid profound silence. Mr. Merriman gave notice that he would move that the actions of the military in the districts where resistance had terminated were contrary to the inherent rights of British subjects, and that martial law should be repealed.

QUESTION OF COMMAND.
German Official Denies Stories of Want of Harmony Among Powers.

Berlin, July 20.—The German government feels confident the present attempts by Chinese officials to deny the Peking massacre are insincere and dictated solely by a desire to hamper the powerful joint action of the powers. At the Chinese legation here, where also denials of the massacre have arrived from the viceroys, the statement was made to-day that the Chinese minister himself placed small reliance upon them.

The foreign office considers that the gravest point in the situation just now is the doubtful attitude of the southern and central viceroys, with the evident spread of the anti-foreign hostility. The news received on this score is very meagre, but it all points to treachery and to a cunning policy of procrastination by the viceroys until the moment shall have arrived when they can afford to discard dissimulations. Yuan Shi Kai, governor of Shan Tung, is regarded here as worse than unreliable.

Official circles deny a number of sensational stories printed by the English press, stories which the foreign office characterizes as made of the same cloth as many that were afloat during the Spanish-American war and the earliest stages of the hostilities in South Africa.

The only story having any foundation, according to the foreign office, is that the question as to who is to be commander-in-chief in China is now engaging the attention of the powers.

Regarding this a foreign official said to-day: "The suggestion to make Lord Wolsey or some other British officer the commander-in-chief does not meet with approval anywhere. This is hardly strange, because the British land force in China is rather insignificant as well as authenticated information shows. The proposal to make German the chief in command would not be accepted by Germany, unless a unanimous wish to that effect was expressed by the powers."

The semi-official Militar Wochenblatt asserts from alleged authentic figures that the number of alleged troops now in China is 43,000. Of these, however, 20,000 Russians are located in Liao Tung peninsula and Kwang Tung province, and 1,000 Germans with 19 field guns, 12 heavy guns and six machine guns are at Kiao Choo. Now on the way from Germany, France and England there are about 15,000, and the first part of a Japanese division is also en route. Arrangements have been made for the departure of 37,000, with 144 guns, and altogether there will be from present arrangements in China by September 16,000 Germans, 12,000 British, 65,000 French, 50,000 Russians, 21,000 Japanese, 7,000 Americans, 2,000 Italians and 170 Austrians, altogether with 311 guns and 36 machine guns.

General von Boguslawski, a high military authority, whom the correspondent of the Associated Press questioned regarding the foregoing estimate, said it was quite possible that this force would prove insufficient in bringing China down, but that in such emergency each power would increase its contingent. "If the whole of China should rise," he continued, "it might prove to be a question of unparalleled military magnitude, but in that event the powers, by skillfully using their fleets and troops in the harbor and harbor cities, should dictate peace on their own terms."

WANT TAX REDUCED.
(Associated Press.)
Montreal, July 20.—Local Chinese have decided to petition Minister Wu, at Washington, to use his good offices with Lord Minto to have the tax of 850 placed on Chinese laundries by the city council of Montreal reduced. A large number of the Celestials have been confined in prison for non-payment of this tax, which they regard as unfair and unjust.

KEEP COOL.
(Associated Press.)
London, July 20.—Queen Victoria and her suite arrived at Osborne to-day. As a special protection against the weather Her Majesty's saloon carriage was filled with blocks of ice.

STRIKE OVER.
(Associated Press.)
Rotterdam, July 20.—The strike of dock laborers, which had been in progress here for some time, is practically ended, and work has been general resumed.

CANADIAN BRIEFS.
(Associated Press.)
Toronto, July 20.—John H. Lee, a well known stock broker, is dead of heart failure as a result of shock sustained by being crushed by an elevator in the Trust and Guarantee building a few days ago.

Charles McGinn, the young moulder who was so terribly burned on Wednesday by falling into a vat of boiling clay water, is dead.

Queen's, July 20.—Efforts are being made here for a milk trust.

Judge Taschereau of the Supreme court, is acting Governor-General of Canada while Lord Minto is absent in the West.

Hon. Wm. Mulock is acting administrator of the new department of labor created under the Conciliation bill of the past session.

Washington, July 20.—The state department has received a dispatch from Consul Fowler, dated July 20th, in which he communicates the following message, telegraphed to him that day by the governor of Shan Tung:

"I have received definite information that the various ministers in Pekin are

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