CHINESE MUDDLE.

English Public and Press Will Not be Satisfied Until Communication is Re-opened With Pekin

That the Ministers Are Safe Despite the Conger Message and Sir Halliday MacArtney's Assertion that the Legationers Are About to Proceed to Tien Tsin.

LONDON, July 23, 4 a. m.-Sir Chih regulations by entering, and Chen Loh Fong, the Chinese minister in London, took the unusual step yesterday of paying a Sunday call at the foreign office. As Lord Salisbury was absent, the visit was without special result, but its importance may be gathered from an interview with the secretary of the Chinese legation, Sir Haliday MacArtney, in which the legation officials seem to have assumed at least comething like personal responsibility.

Sir Halliday ...dmitted that communication had been practically re-opened with Pekin and that messages from might be expected almost immediately. He said he hoped the trouble would soon be over, since the Chinese government was doing its utmost to overcome the difficulties and to control the lawless element. In his opinion, the Americans had taken the most common sense view of the situation, and he insisted that China should not be misjudged. Against the suspicion that Li Hung Chang had any but a sincere pacific object in view, he protested warmly, declaring that all stories about the perfidy and treachery of Earl Li were "absolutely baseless."

With regard to the prospects in the mitted that there might be small outnothing serious, and that Europeans the wires and blocked the roads."

long as possible and to avert retribution by sowing discord among the

Li Hung Chang's visit to Shanghai seems to be a complete failure. Excordial invitation to meet him at luncheon, but all declined.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail pretends to have authority for the assertion that Great Britain will repudiate any credentials Li Hung Chang may bring from the empress dowager, and he adds:

"Russia, however, is willing to make terms with Li Hung Chang, whose real mission is to sow dissension among the powers. The British. German and American representatives were resolute against receiving him."

SHANGHAI, July 22.-Li Hung Chang, who arrived here today on the steamer Anning from Hong Kong, was coldly received. The native officials sent an escort of three hundred armed troops, but as the French consul clijected to their passing through the French settlement, they were withdrawn, and Earl Li landed under an | Che Foo, dated July 21, saying: escort of twelve French police. Once ; place of residence, on Bubbling Well

war on board, violated the harbor has communicated to the press the

ash handles.

compelled to leave the limits.

The consuls have decided not to call epon Li Hung Chang officially. PARIS, July 22.-The Berlin corres-

pondent of the Temps says: "It is asserted in Berlin that the emperor of China has sent a telegram to Emperor William deploring the assassination of Baron Von Ketteler by the rebels and declaring that the murderers are being actively sought and will be punished. He also expressed hope that the relations of China with Germany would not suffer from this state of things."

HONG KONG, July 22.-The second Sir Claude MacDonald, the British Indian brigade has been ordered to reminister, and the other foreign envoys | main here. The British first class battleship Goliath and two Indian transports with troops have arrived off Hong Kong. WASHINGTON, July 22.-With the

exception of the brief despatch from Admiral Kempff, announcing that the Newark was going to Nagasaki, there has been nothing received in Washington today regarding China. Minister Wu said after dinner today that he had not a word from the country today. The latter continues extremely optimistic of the safety of the legations from Minister Conger, received here Friday, is but the precursor of more southern provinces, the secretary ad- detailed information of a still brighter character from the Chinese capital. breaks, but he said there would be Many of the callers today inquired of of enabling the powers to obtain him about the report that China had would be quite safe in treaty ports. asked the United States government to ministers. Until such proofs are se The long silence he explained as "due exercise its good offices for his country probably to the rebels, who have cut in the present crisis, but he declined the opinion that the Chinese are merepositively to make any statement on ly juggling to gain time. Thus, according to the secretary of the subject. At the Japanese legation, the Chinese legation, a few days more which has been a source of much of the should bring a solution of the great news which has recently come from mystery. Nevertheless no one in Eng- China, the officials also were without land believed that the alleged despat- advices today. Nothing has been ches and edicts are anything but sub- heard at the legation of the report terfuges to hide the real situation as published in the American newspapers that the Japanese government is

troops from Yokohama for China. When Secretary Hay received the Conger despatch on Friday, he promptcept the Chinese customs officials, no ly telegraphed the fact to our ambasone has visited him. Sheng, the taotai sadors and ministers abroad, coupling (chief magistrate), gave the consuls a it with instructions to lay it before the respective governments to which they are accredited, and to urge on them the necessity for co-operation for the relief of the foreigners in Pekin. Several replies have been received at the state department in response to the secretary's despatch, but they are withheld from publication for the present. The officials here will abate none of the efforts now making to obtain more definite news and to push forward the relief column on its way

to the Chinese capital. LONDON, July 23, 11.30 p. m.-Sir Halliday MacArtney, counsellor and English secretary to the Chinese legation in London, asserted this evening that the Pekin legationers were safe and about to proceed to Tien Tsin.

PARIS, July 23.-M. Delcasse, minister of foreign affairs, has received a telegram from the French consul in "The governor informs me that ac-

out of French jurisdiction he was cording to reliable news from Pekin, handed over to the Cosmopolitan set-i all the foreign ministers are safe, and tlement police, who escorted him to his the government is taking all necessary steps to deliver and protect them." LONDON, July 24 .-- The Chinese The Anping, having minitions of minister, Sir Chih Chen Lo Feng Luh,

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"Gen. Yung Lu is going to the Throne, to send them all under excert to Tien Tsin, in the hope that the military operations will them be ister excepted.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail, telegraphing July 22, says:
"A letter from a Chinese official in than Tung has been received by a native functionary here containing the following passage:

"'At the beginning of the month the foregn missionaries (?) made several attempts to send messages out of Pekin, but thanks to the strict watch kept on the city, the bearers were all caught and executed. On the sth list. only 400 foreigners, much exhaused, were left alive in Pekin, and the night when the big gurs were incessight when the big gurs were incessight. santly fired, it was known that all the legations and the foreigners were fin ished, although pretended telegrams contradict these facts."

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Mail asserts that there are differences of opinion in the Russian council of war. The minister of war, Gen. Kouropatkin, wishes to send one hundred thousand men to clear the rebels out of Manchuria. On the other hand, according to this correspondent, Emperor Nicholas wishes the operations limited to the defence and pacification of the frontier districts. Let two strong armies, one of the ailies in the south and the other of the Russians in the north, confront the Chinese, and the rising, so the Czar is said to argue, would be bound to col-

"We want no conquests," he is reported to have declared at the conclusion of a sitting of the council "What we desire is to protect carr frentiers, and to steer into smooth waters the Chinese ship of state, now buffetted by the waves of civil war." There is nothing further this morning that throws any light upon the mysterious situation. Two urgent destatches were addressed yesterday by in Pekin and hopes that the despatch | the Chinese minister to the Pekin government and to the director of telegraph administration, strongly advocating the necessity of restoring telegraphic communication, with a view proofs of the safety of the foreign cured, no one here is inclined to alter

Rumor circulates briskly around the personality of Li Hung Chang. He is credited with a mission to offer to cede o the allied powers two provinces as indemnity for the outrages, and the offers to restore and give facilities for trade with the outside world on condition of the surrender of the Kio about to despatch a second division of Chou, Wei-Hai-Wei and Manchuria by the powers and the withdrawal of all missionaries. Little attention, however, need be paid to any of these rumors.

In a private message from Shanghai it is understood that Li Hung Chang avows that the object of his journey is to place the regular Chinese army in line with the allied troops for the suppression of the Boxers.

The Times editorially suggests that Li Hung Chang is playing the old game of the sublime porte by putting forward proposals which will appear in different degrees and ways to different powers. It says:

"President McKinley has been asked to mediate, and the request is facilitated by the care which has been taken in Washington not to commit the United States to any very thor- gium.

ough going policy." Indian troops are daily arriving at there yesterday, and two others have

left Hong Kong for Taku. Reports from Canton say the city is strong undercurrent of unrest among the Chinese. Only a few European ladies have left, many still remaining. St. Petersburg despatches represent the situation in Manchuria as far more serious than had been supposed. It is asserted that the Chinese have occu- ing the Maine to China. pied Hailar, where the Russia railway

straits. According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times Gen. Kouroupatkin, Russian minister of war, will of the Russian forces in China and will presumably take command of all the allied troops.

staff is surrounded and in desperate

For this season we have Waterville WASHINGTON, July 23.-The president has listened to the appeal of the Mfg. Co's celebrated Hay Forks, with the Chinese government, as transmitted to Minister Wu, and has signified his willingness to mediate between the very finest selected ash handles. 12 different imperial government and the powers, but only upon conditions which first styles of Hay Rakes, with the very finest must be met by the Chinese government. The exact nature of the terms cannot be stated until tomorrow, when it is expected publication will be made of the text of the Chinese appeal and of the president's answer. It is known, however, that the answer is entirely consistent with the statement of prin-Waterville Mfg. Co.'s - American Clipper '' - Double Beaded ciples laid down by Secretary Hay in his identical note to the powers, and, moreover it accepts as truthful the Chinese statements relative to the safety of the foreign ministers at Clipper Pekin.

It would not of course be possible take even the initial steps toward mediation were either party to the negotiations to entertain openly distrust between them. The United States an-W. H. THORNE & CO, LTD., nese government could not meet, even f so disposed, if it actually is struggling for its own existence. It does, however, look to the immediate relief of the foreign ministers in Pekin, and, moreover, to the protection of all for- liev. Dr. Warden, general agent of eigners, missionaries and traders in the Presbyterian church in Canada: journey.

following despatch from Sheng, director-general of Chinese railways and telegraphs, and Tao Tai of Shanglet, dated Shanghai, July 23:

"Information from Pekin, dated July approach the powers with the Chinese propositions for a settlement for what has occurred. The Chinese appeal came to Secretary Hay yesterday through Mr. Wu. The secretary ministers and he found everyone wall, without any missing, the German minister excepted. day for its consideration, the president's answer came today to the state department. It was put in the proper diplomatic form and a copy delivered to Minister Wu, who was to forward it to his own government. The appeal and answer will be made public here

> tomorrow. The imperial edict made public today at the state department shows that the imperial government already has taken the first steps toward doing what the United States requires as to the principal condition for the exercise of its good offices, in enjoining the viceroys, magistrates and leading men to step the disorders and protect foreigners. Our government will await the result of this before proceeding further.

upon the action of the state depart. stand above indicated. The last an- a cipher tey somehow obtained. warning to Secretary Hay against the rest. ment has fully considered the message in all of its aspects, has carefully authenticity of the message, feels it before September. to be a matter of prime duty to act. The government is gratified to find upon the theory that it is genuine. that the correspondence published on son up the Pei Ho from Taku to Tien Tsin is attributed to the receipt by him of Secretary Long's urgent mess-Pekin, and important news from him Berliner Tageblatt says.

is expected soon. The war department, it appears, be required for the Grant to arrive at

that point with General Chaffee. luded from the context and other cir- ining dinlom cumstances surrounding the message would have had if it had come from the redoubtable Boxer leader.

Captain Eusedom of the cruiser Herftha, now in China, as an aide-decamp, said:

"This valiant and circumspect leader has won the admiration of all, especially the English and Russian adhelped win laurels for my young navy, I express my thanks. I appoint him aide-de-camp."

BRUSSELS, July 23.—In reply to the demand of the Belgian government, the Chinese charge d'affaires says he has telegraphed indirectly to the Tsung Li Yamen with a view of placing the Belgian minister in Pekin, Baron Devinck, in communication with Bel-

LONDON, July 23 .- In the house of commons today the secretary of state Hong Kong. Three transports reached for India, Lord Geo. Hamilton, announced that the Maharajah of Gwalior had offered the government a fully equipped hospital ship, upon which it outwardly quiet, but that there is a is proposed to spend twenty lakhs of rupees, for service in China, as a mark of deep loyalty to the Queen. The offer was accepted.

Lord Geo. Hamilton also testified to the government's great appreciation of the generosity of those who are send-

LONDON, July 23.—The house of lords this evening passed to a second reading the bill empowering the Queen to prohibit the exportation of arms and ammunition or either to any country "when there is reason to believe probably become commander in chief that these either may be used against the British forces or foreign forces cooperating with them."

NEW YORK, July 23.—The Presby terian board of foreign missions today received the following cable from Che Foo:

"Situation improved. Shantung governor, Chee Foo Taotai publish imperial edict enforcing protection to foreigners, Christians. People Pekin Trying through governor get word Pao Ting Fu, where foreigners in Yamen supposed safe. Towler." Rev. Dr. A. B. Brown, one of the officers of the board, commented or the despatch as follows:

"A taotai is about the same as mayor. The imperial edict published by sutherity of the governor of the Shantung province and the taotai of Che Foo, is, presumably, the same document as that of which the substance already has been published here. The edict would seem to order that all Christians as well as all foreigners be given protection. If the rest of the despatch is correct the for eigners in the Pekin legation must be of the accuracy of the statements of safe, and also those gathered in the the other. There must be confidence Yamen or public buildings at Pao Ting Fu. We do not know anyone named swer does not go to the length of the Towler, and we imagine the signature French answer to a similar appeal in should be Fowler. All our missionarlaying down conditions which the Chi- less left Che Foo for Corca or Japan some days ago. Before leaving they may have asked Consul General John

Fowler to keep our board informed." MONTREAL, July 23.—The following despatch was received today from borne.

DON'T FORGET

Our cut prices in Clothing and Furnishings, to clear before August first.

New and stylish, Gent's furnishings, Shirts, Collars, Neckties, Hats, Caps, Trunks and Valises. All must go.

Fraser, Fraser & Co., - Foster's Corner. 40 and 42 King Street, St. John, N. B.

day at the state department shows from Dr. McClure, Shanghai: 'All mis-

It is expected that adverse criticism | despatches of Dr. Von Bergen, secretary of the German legation, and Sir ment in this matter will be heard from Robert Hart, but suppressed, or was Europe, where the governments are captured from the messenger to whom acting upon the belief that all of the it was entrusted, and is now produced foreign ministers in Pekin have per- to create the desired effect in Washished, but our government regards its ington, or, on the other hand, that course as the correct one. All of the the whole despatch was concocted for European governments have taken the purposes of deception, with the aid of

swers to Secretary Hay's note reciting | U. S. Ambassador White said today the Conger message have come, and that the latter theory was quite plausall of them, in terms polite and diplo- ible, for, if the American legation had matic, express utter incredulity in the been captured and the records there authenticity of the Conger messages. seized, the cipher key would likewise Consul General Goodnow himself, a be secured, and then it would be an man of good judgment, also cabled a easy matter for anybody to do the

acceptance of the message without No Pekin or other important China confirmation. But the state departnews has arrived today, and the question whether there is or is not a responsible government in Pekin is as weighed the numerous objections and much in doubt as ever. The German suspicions put forth here and in Eu- government considers it unlikely that rope, and without guaranteeing the an advance to Pekin will be feasible

Admiral Remey's notification to the the subject proves that Japan honestdepartment that he had gone in per- ly intends to co-operate with the powers, and considerable disappointment is expressed at the tenor of the reports from Washington regarding age to hasten the efforts to get to America's policy. On this point the "The Chinese have then already suc-

ceeded in creating differences of opinunderestimated the time that would ion among the powers. The government of the United States seems de-Nagasaki. She sailed on the 1st inst., termined thus early to occupy a separso that she is not yet quite due at ate standpoint within the concert of powers. As, at Taku, the American The Goodnow cablegram reciting the admiral would not join, so now Presidmessage from Prince Tuan as vouch- ent McKinley apparently means to oping for the safety of the foreign min- pose the joint action of the powers isters on July 18th, caused a ripple of aimed at the re-establishment of orexcitement for a time at the state de- | der in China. All of which proves that partment, but the official soon con- the Chinese are indeed the most cun-While most of the papers point cut

that Yuan was meant instead of Tuan, the impossibility of an advance upon so that the message lost the value it Pekin now, the National Zeitung contends that there is but one way to ascertain the truth or untruth of the BERLIN, July 23.—Emperor William Chinese claim that the legations are in announcing the appointment of safe, namely, an immediate advance upon the capital.

The correspondent of the Associated Press learns authoritatively that the question of the chief command on both land and sea still forms the subject of diplomatic negotiation, and mirals. To him and all who valiantly that absolutely nothing has yet been settled in that matter.

PARIS, July 24.—The Matin publishes full details regarding the expeditionary corps of France which will participate in the operations of the powers of China. The corps will consist of two brigades, one of marines and the other supplied by the war department. The total French force will number 13,000 men.

RELIEF OF KUMASSI.

Willcock's Column Carried Several Ashanti Positions at the Point of the Bayonet -Relief Came None Too Soon.

LONDON, July 23.-Advices just received here say that Col. Willcocks, the commander of the relief column in Ashanti, describes his entrance into Kumassi July 15 as presenting a scene of horror and desolation, burned houses and putrid bodies being visible on all sides. He adds that the native soldiers were too weak to stand and that the British officers thanked God for the relief, as a few days more would have seen the end. Gen. Willcocks left the garrison well

supplied with food and ammunition. FUMSU, July 22.-The Kumassi relief column has just arrived here from Kumassi, which it left July 17, bringing the old garrison, about 20 fairly fit men, 70 broken down invalids and some women and children in a pitiful

The success of Col. Willcocks was due to his choice of a route not suspected by the Ashantis, who had concentrated in thousands along the eastern route, but in much smaller numbers along the western route, via Picci, which Col. Willcocks adopted. Even as it was the Ashantis wer

active and the roads knee deep in rud. Col. Willcocks took a couple of villages by bayonet charges. Beyond Exwanda he found the tribesmen in a strong position behind stock ades. It was a large war camp with the chief commander of the Ashanti army, estimated at 4,000 men.

After a heavy fire on both sides for nearly an hour, Col. Willcocks ordered a bayonet charge, and the troops rushed through the thick bush cheering vigorously.

The Ashantis did not wait for the bayonet, but fled in confusion. The casualties of Col. Willcocks were two officers wounded, two natives killed and 17 wounded.

On finding Kumassi in such a terrible condition, Col. Willcocks after cutting bush and burning the bodics, placed the whole force upon half rations, an arrangement cheerfully

OTTAWA.

Rumors Regarding Col. Domville and Hon. Dr. Pugsley.

Why Blair, fielding and Davies Are Visity ing England - Canadian Trade With Antigua and Trinidad - Notice to Sch. Owners and Captains.

OTTAWA, July 22.—The contract for Montreal harbor works was awarded at yesterday's meeting of the cabinet to Malone Bros. of Three Rivers, Quebec, their figure being in the vicinity of \$700,000.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier will attend the Acadian convention at Arichat, Cape Breton, next month. The election frauds commission will not be able to proceed with the

enquiry into the West Huron matter at Toronto on Tuesday, as counsel are reported not to be ready. Hon. Mr. Sutherland is acting minister of railways in Mr. Blair's ab-

Since the Welland canal outrage a oustant watch has been kept on all canals. Today the force on the Cornwall canal was strengthened by the addition of 32 special constables, in anticipation of trouble. It is said the authorities got a tip from United

tates detectives. OTTAWA, July 23.—Complaint is made that schooners leaving Nova Scotia ports for Newfoundland and St. Fierre do not report outwards and obtain clearances for a large proportion of their cargoes. Collectors are te advise masters of such vessels that they are subject to penalties under section to of the Customs Act on failing to properly report their cargoes outward and obtain clearance.

A report was received by the department of trade today from Mr. Bryson, commercial agent for Canada in Antigua. He says the sugar crop has been a disappointing one. Of that produced very little was sent to Canada, but Mr. Eryson says there has this country. He reports that the in-Canada will not affect this season's crop, as it was nearly all shipped before the preference took effect. He looks forward to a considerable development in trade between Canada and the West Indies, consequent upon the

improved steamship service. Advices have been received by the department of trade and commerce from Trinidad of the imposition by that colony of export duties for this year upon certain products, with the object of aiding immigration. The duties affect sugar, rum, cocoa, coffee, molasses and cocoanuts. Cn sugar the rate is \$1.20 per ton; cn cocoa, 18 cents per hundred pounds; on molasses, 60

cents per hundred gallons. With a view to improving the condition of cheese and apples on shipboard, the department of agriculture allowing \$100 for each vessel engaged in the trade to put ventilating shafts into the holds and maintain a forced circulation of air.

It is rumored that Charles Burpee has resigned his seat in the senate to accept a commissionership to the Paris exhibition, representing New Brunswick; that Col. Demville is to succeed Mr. Burpee in the senate, and that Hon. Wm. Pugsley is to run fer Kings. It is said Blair fixed it all up before he left for England.

It is understood that the mission of Davies, Blair and Fielding to England is to endeavor to secure a fast freight steamship service for St. John and Halifax in connection vith the Intercolonial.

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The Sun has secured magnificent portraits, 18x24 inches, of F. M. Lord Roberts and General Lord Kitchener, printed in fifteen colors, and Major-General Baden-Powell in khaki, on coated calendered paper suitable for framing. The pictures are art gems. fit to grave any Canadian home, and are pronounced by military men to be the most life-like portraits of British leaders of the South African campaign ever placed on the market.

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No opposition was met on the return Sun Printing Co., St. John.

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