

# WERE TORTURED BY CHINESE

## Particulars of the Massacre of Russian Minister, His Wife and Bodyguards in Peking.

### M. DE GIERS WAS BOILED TO DEATH.

#### First Dragged Through Streets and Beaten—Sufferings of Mme. de Giers—Remains of Czar's Envoy Thrown to Dogs

(Associated Press.)

London, July 14.—Through hope still struggles against the conclusion that the silence at Peking is the silence of the grave, the official admissions in both the United States and Europe that the diplomatists have adopted the pessimistic views held by the consuls at Shanghai have quieted those attempting to reason against the circumstantial evidence which is becoming so cogent.

The Chinese assurances and edicts appear to observers here to be merely part of a plan to break cautiously the news of the tragedy and delude the foreigners with a tale of Imperial guiltlessness. But if the bombardment mentioned in United States Consul Goodnow's last message occurred, it must have been carried out by Chinese regulars, so the plea of imperial defense of the legations seem to fall to the ground.

The situation at Tien Tsin appears to be slowly but surely growing worse. The allied forces are experiencing the greatest difficulty in sending forward reinforcements.

**The Death of Russians.**

New York, July 14.—The following dispatch is printed here:

St. Petersburg, July 11, via Paris, July 13.—The Czar has received with great emotion the dreadful particulars of the tragic catastrophe at Peking. Tears coursed down His Majesty's cheeks as he read the cablegram from Admiral Alexieff, at Port Arthur, confirming the horrible details of the assassination of M. de Giers, which, merely in the form of a rumor, had already reached Russia.

"The admiral declares that the Russian envoy was dragged through the streets by the Boxers, insulted, beaten and tortured, and then thrown into a great kettle and boiled to death. Then the remains were thrown to the dogs.

"While M. de Giers was being disposed of the fanatical mob danced around the cauldron.

"Mme. de Giers, Admiral Alexieff's wife, was also tortured and killed. She was beaten and tortured with sharp sticks until life was extinct. The legation officials are said to have been tortured until death ended their sufferings.

"M. de Giers and his legation officials resisted desperately and his brave bodyguard killed many of the attacking mob. In the midst of his tortures the envoy is said heroically to have proclaimed his faith in Christianity, encouraged by the wife, who so soon shares his martyrdom.

"The announcement of this intelligence to the relatives of the Russian martyrs in China was accompanied by heartrending scenes. Count Lamonsot received the friends of the murdered ones at the foreign office and unfolded to them the tragic story. The scenes of frenzied terror and grief that followed were unspeakable. The building of the foreign office was besieged by an excited throng and the whole of St. Petersburg is full of lamentation.

"Immediately upon receipt of Admiral Alexieff's report the Czar ordered the cabinet and council of state to go into session at once."

**Report Credited.**

Washington, July 14.—The Russian embassy here has received no information of the killing of the Russian minister at Peking. The officials do not discredit it, but say that the Russians are under the same disadvantage as the other powers in getting telegraphic information from Peking. They think that if this should prove true it would naturally and very seriously alter the whole situation.

The Chinese have rendered the navigation of the river most difficult by diverting its waters. Happily St. Petersburg to-day announces, officially, that the telegraph between Taku and Tien Tsin has already been restored and that railroad communications will shortly be re-established.

To the other trials of the besieged people at Tien Tsin has been added an outbreak of scarlet fever.

Dispatches from Tien Tsin report that a number of ladies there have become white-haired through the horrors of the siege.

**No Hope.**

London, July 14.—The British consul-general at Shanghai, in transmitting to the foreign office messages from the governor of Shang Fung, already published, says he fears there can be little doubt in regard to the foreigners at Peking.

**Fortifying Tien Tsin.**

St. Petersburg, July 14.—A dispatch from Khabarovsk, dated Thursday, July 12th, says an international council of war, held at Tien Tsin, has decided for the present to confine the efforts of the allied forces to fortifying Tien Tsin and establishing safe communications with the Taku forces and arsenals. Tien Tsin, it is added, is being armed with guns of the highest class.

**Burning of the Tsung Li Yamen.**

Washington, July 14.—The Japanese

legation here has received a dispatch from the minister of foreign affairs that after the German minister was shot at Peking, the German marines made an assault upon the Tsung Li Yamen and burned down the building. The dispatch goes into the affair in detail.

**Ex-Minister's Opinion.**

Ann Arbor, Mich., July 14.—Ex-Minister to China James B. Angell spoke to a thousand people in the University Hall last night on "The present crisis in China." The principal cause of the uprising, in his opinion, was the rumor that the great powers are going to bring about an immediate partition of the empire.

**Anxious to Hear From Conger.**

Washington, July 14.—The Chinese minister has sent a cable dispatch to the "Lao Tai, of Shan Tung, telling him that the American government is anxious as to the fate of Minister Conger and requesting him to cable any information he may have on that point. This in addition to the cablegram he forwarded Wednesday at the request of Secretary Hay.

**Summoned to Peking.**

Hongkong, July 14.—Li Hung Chang yesterday received an urgent telegraphic summons to Peking. It is reported that he will proceed north to-morrow. The Chinese agree that his absence is certain to lead to trouble at Canton.

**Favors Boxers.**

Washington, July 14.—Secretary Hay has received an undated dispatch from Consul General Goodnow at Shanghai stating that the governor of Honan Shan Si has issued a proclamation favorable in its terms to the Boxers. Honan Shan Si is the province lying immediately northwest of Shanghai, and between that city and Peking.

London, July 15.—The following, the only news from China last night, was issued at midnight: "The foreign office has received information from the consul-general at Shanghai that the whole foreign community from Wen Chow has been safely landed at Shanghai."

As no mention is made of the alleged statement of Sheng, the director general of railways and telegraphs of China to the consuls at Shanghai announcing the murder of the foreigners in Peking, it is presumed that the story crediting Sheng with these assertions and announcing that he blamed Prince Tuan for the attack on the legation is one of the many inventions emanating from Shanghai.

According to the dispatch from Berlin, the mobilization of Germany's expeditionary force being carried out in splendid fashion. Some 10,000 volunteers and 145 officers have already been accepted. It is announced that the government contemplates chartering thirty of the largest vessels belonging to two of the most important companies, Bremen and Hamburg liners, for transports. The expedition is being organized on the basis of a year's campaign.

**No News at St. Petersburg.**

St. Petersburg, July 14.—It is officially stated here that no report of the murder of M. de Giers, the minister at Peking, has been received here.

**Dispatch From Remy.**

Washington, July 14.—Secretary Long has received the following cablegram from Rear-Admiral Remy, commander-in-chief of the naval forces on the Asiatic station: "Chee Foo, July 14.—The Japanese transports arrived to-day, landed the commander and the marine regiment, stores, field pieces and ammunition. They report the Chinese defeated at two new positions commanding the river communication with Tien Tsin. (Signed) Remy."

The importance of this cablegram, in the opinion of Secretary Long, lies in the fact that it makes no mention of the reported massacre at Peking, which it would surely do had the story come to Admiral Remy's ear.

**Correspondent's Opinion.**

London, July 14.—The fate of the legations at Peking continues to absorb almost undivided interest in Great Britain. One of the clearest pronouncements upon China is from Mr. Archibald Ross Colquhoun, the well known correspondent of the London Times, whose study of the Far Eastern conditions has made him an authority on the subject. Writing to the parliamentary secretary of the foreign office, Mr. William St. John Broderick, Mr. Colquhoun declares that unless prompt relief is attempted the Europeans would be massacred, and if they are able to hold out until the revolt subsides there will be "an indelible impression on the Chinese that their escape was due not to the strength and determination of Great Britain but to their own forbearance."

He adds: "The loss of prestige will be irreparable in either case. I am convinced that a determined assault on the native city of Tien Tsin would clear the situation and open the way to Peking."

The commanders now at Tien Tsin are

not winning golden opinions from the English public who, while suspending severe criticism, fail to see why the united forces should be so impatient to achieve anything and so apparently unclassical by the Chinese, not only in numbers but in artillery, and some people are almost inclined to believe in strategy.

London, July 16.—"Revenge to-day, mourning to-morrow," is practically the cry of Europe, but it is for the incredible barbarities that are reported to have marked the last scenes within the legation at Peking.

Nothing is clearer than the anti-foreign confederation in China is rapidly peering hitherto quiescent provinces, and though it is recognized that every day which leaves Peking in the power of the mob increases the perils and difficulties of the situation, nothing comes from the diplomats here to show that the powers have overcome the Chinese in their policy in general impotency, to which is commonly ascribed the sacrifice of the handful of women, children and men, comprising the international colony in Peking.

Nothing has been received to-day that adds to the information previously obtained regarding the massacre. The only ray of light extricable from the Peking messages appears to be the statement that Chang and his followers did their utmost in defense of the legations. The rebels, however, are greatly in the majority and the few loyalists are helpless before the hordes who have joined and are daily joining the bloodstained camorilla, who have usurped authority at Peking.

The fate of the capital appears to threaten as dark as the Tien Tsin, Chee Foo and even Shanghai.

The defeat of the allied forces at Tien Tsin seems to place that town in desperate straits, and if retreat to Taku should be necessitated, observers consider that it would be likely to decide the policy of warring victors.

The departure of Admiral Seymour from Tien Tsin and the movement of warships towards Shan Heikuan, on the gulf of Liao Tung, are taken to indicate this route may be adopted for an additional seven thousand of the allied troops were attempting to storm the walls of the city. The attack began at daylight. Its success is doubtful.

The Chinese on the walls are estimated at 20,000, and they are pouring a terrific hail of artillery, rifle and machine gun fire upon the attackers.

The American, Japanese, British and French troops are attacking from the west and the Russians from the east.

The Americans suffered terribly. As the Associated Press representative left the field the chief surgeon of the 9th infantry said it was a conservative estimate that 25 per cent. of the Americans had been hit. Col. Emerson H. Liscum is reported to have been mortally wounded while walking in front of his troops. Officers declared that it was hotter than Santiago.

When the correspondent left the Americans were lying in the plain between the wall and the river under an enflading and direct fire. It was equally difficult for them to advance or retire. The correspondent counted 300 wounded of all nationalities.

**British Losses.**

London, July 16.—The Evening News prints a dispatch, dated at Shanghai to-day, giving an account of the attack of the allied forces on the native city of Tien Tsin, reported in the dispatch to the Associated Press, dated Tien Tsin, July 13. According to the Evening News dispatch the allied forces were compelled to retreat with the loss of more than 100 killed. The British loss was 40 and Japanese 60. The Americans killed were Col. French, of the 25th infantry, and Col. Liscum, of the 9th infantry. A Russian colonel of artillery was also killed.

The dispatch says that the Chinamen fought with great desperation and their marksmanship was accurate and deadly.

Washington, July 16.—The report that Col. French, 25th infantry, was killed at Tien Tsin, is not understood at the war office. There is but one Colonel French in the service and on June 30th he was in New York on sick leave.

**Remy's Report.**

Washington, July 16.—The navy department this morning received confirmation from Admiral Remy of the reports of the allied forces at Tien Tsin on the morning of the 13th. The dispatch is dated Chee Foo, July 16th, and says:

"It is reported that the allied forces attacked the native city on the morning of the 13th; the Russians on the right with the 9th infantry, and marines on the left. The losses of allied forces are large.

"Russians 100, including artillery colonel; Americans, over 30; British, over 40; Japanese, 58, including colonel; French, 25.

"Col. Liscum, 9th infantry, killed, also Capt. Davis, marine forces. Capt. Lemay and Lieut. Butler and Leonard wounded.

"At 7 o'clock in the evening the allied attack on the native city was repulsed with great loss. Returns yet incomplete. Details not yet confirmed. Remy."

**Japanese Officers Killed.**

Washington, July 16.—The Japanese legation has received a dispatch, dated Tokyo, July 10th, stating that the Russian discipline Tien Tsin were hard pressed and had called on the Japanese troops for assistance. A combined attack was made on the Chinese, and the latter were repulsed. The Japanese lost two captains killed and thirty non-commissioned officers and privates wounded. He adds: "The loss of suffering repeated defeats. The dispatch says: 'When Admiral Seymour, in his retreat, found himself so hard pressed that he was unable longer to carry his wounded with him he asked them: "Which do you prefer, to be left to the mercy of the Chinese or to be shot by your own

comrades?" As Admiral Seymour put the question the tears were running down his cheeks. "We prefer death to torture. Shoot us now, that we may die like men," was the piteous response of the helpless soldiers. A firing squad was told off. The little allied force stopped and beat off with gun fire the Chinese hordes that surrounded it. A few merciful volleys from rifles in the hands of friends and the fanatical Chinese hordes was cheated of its victims, for the tortures and the sufferings and fears of the unfortunate were brought to an end in an honorable death under their own flag.

"The fury of Europeans against the Chinese on account of the latter's mutilation of dead and torture of the living knows no bounds. All the wounded prisoners who fell into the hands of the Chinese were frightfully tortured. The bodies of two marines, who were captured by the Chinese, were recovered. Their eyes had been hacked off and the cheeks, arms and legs cut off."

Ordered to China.

Chicago, July 16.—The battalion of the Fifth United States infantry stationed at Fort Sheridan has received orders to go to China. Within two weeks the other two battalions of the regiment are expected from Cuba. A week's rest will be allowed them and then the entire regiment will start for China.

Ready for Death.

New York, July 10.—According to a cable to the World from London, Robert Yerburgh, M.P., is quoted as saying that he knew that Sir Claude Macdonald, the British minister at Peking, long had in view the possibility of some such tragedy as seems to have occurred. "Sir Claude," said Mr. Yerburgh, "pledged his wife to shoot her to prevent her from falling into the hands of natives, and provided with a quick poison to be used in case of his inability to fulfil his pledge."

Report Denied.

St. Petersburg, July 16.—It is semi-officially denied that 30,000 Russian troops are marching to Peking from the north.

Chinese in the States.

Portland, Ore., July 16.—The Chinese population of Portland exceeds 5,000. All the leading Chinese merchants have expressed their loyalty to the United States government, and this dispelled any great feeling of hostility which might otherwise have developed towards the Chinese.

Los Angeles, Cal., July 16.—At a meeting of 150 of the Chinese merchants and residents of this city last night, resolutions were passed pledging themselves to do all in their power to hold and assist in upholding the laws of the United States so long as they are residents of this country.

Dispatch From Goodnow.

Washington, July 16.—Consul-General Goodnow cabled to the state department from Shanghai, under to-day's date, there was nothing more to report since his cablegram of the 13th inst. The dispatch reported the attack on the legation at Peking as about to begin. Mr. Goodnow's statement is a direct contradiction of the Shanghai story that a foreign consuls were informed on Saturday by Sheng that the legations had fallen and the ministers had been killed.

Meeting of U. S. Cabinet.

Washington, July 16.—Secretary Hay called a cabinet meeting to consider the Chinese situation. Few cabinet officers are in the city, and the only attendants were Secretaries Hay, Root, Long and Gage. The council was in session at noon.

At the conclusion of the cabinet council it was stated that no line of action had been determined upon, that the meeting had not been called to formulate any plans, but simply to talk over the situation.

Ladies Supplied With Poison.

Berlin, July 16.—The correspondent here of the Associated Press has received private information from London that a letter was received there from Lady Claude Macdonald, wife of the British ambassador at Peking, written when the situation was growing threatening, saying that all the ladies of the legation had supplied themselves with poison.

latest dispatch from Admiral Bendemann states the situation had improved as reinforcements continued arriving. The foreign office, while deeply deploring the horrible events at Peking, expresses confidence that henceforth the powers' solidarity on interests will assure perfect harmony. The foreign office further stated that Dr. Munaw von Schwarzenstein, appointed minister of his passport, and the late Baron von Ketteler, would proceed to China notwithstanding the latest developments there.

The German government, considering unlimited telegraphic connection between the Chinese minister to Germany and China is compatible just now with Germany's interests, to-day issued orders inhibiting Chinese legation dispatches.

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