

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not--Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1866

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 1900.

New Series--Vol. XIX. No. 51

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The Watchman and Southron.

Published Every Wednesday,

BY

N. G. Osteen,
SUMTER, S. C.

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No Authentic News

Comes From Peking.

Such the Conclusion on Dispatches Received in London

London, July 11, 4 15 a. m.—"No authentic news from Peking" is still the burden of the dispatches from the far east; and, although the disposition is to believe the optimistic reports from Chinese sources, no real confidence is possible until the legations, if they are still in existence, are permitted to communicate with their governments. If, as alleged, the Boxer movement is losing ground in Peking, it might have been supposed that the Boxers would have to send up reinforcements from Tien Tsin; but, instead of that, they are still in great force in the neighborhood of the latter place and are assisted by the imperial Chinese troops, with ample, efficient artillery. According to a special Che Foo dispatch, the fighting around Tien Tsin on the 3rd and 4th was the

SEVEREST YET EXPERIENCED.

The British losses alone were 30 killed or wounded. The Chinese had 75,000 men at Peking simultaneously from the west, north and east, and made excellent practice with over 100 guns. The defenders numbered 14,000, with scant supplies, and it was only the presence of the newly arrived Japanese and Russian guns that prevented a disaster. One Russian company of infantry, numbering 120 men, had 115 killed or wounded. The German contingent also suffered heavily. By the evening of the 4th the situation was very critical. The allies narrowly escaped total defeat. Providentially, when things were at their worst, a torrential rainfall compelled the Chinese to retire. On July 6th, the rain having abated, the Chinese

RENEWED THE ATTACK.

opening fire on Tien Tsin with two batteries of four inch guns; but the allies, aided by two of the H. M. S. Terrible 47 guns, succeeded in silencing the Chinese artillery after eight hours of fighting.

INTENSE ANXIETY.

At Shanghai it seems now to be the general belief that the date of the dispatch of July 3, asserting that two legations were still standing, was an error, either accidental or intentional. The couriers must have left Peking at least five days earlier, making the real date of the message June 28, while the alleged massacres are said to have occurred on June 30. Until this point can be cleared up the greatest anxiety will be felt as to the fate of the Europeans.

THE EMPEROR PROTESTS

London, July 11.—The Shanghai correspondent of the daily Mail, telegraphing yesterday (Tuesday) says: A message has arrived here from Emperor Kwang Su, dated July 2, by couriers from Peking, forwarded it here. It is addressed to the Russian, English and Japanese governments. It deprecates the recent occurrences and solemnly affirms that the foreign governments are mistaken in supposing that the Chinese government is protecting the Boxers against the Christians. The emperor further implores their aid in suppressing the rebellion and upholding the existing government.

In a separate dispatch to the Japanese government Kwang Su expresses deep regret for the murder of Legation Chancellor Sugiyama.

The dispatches are taken to indicate that the emperor is in seclusion and is ignorant of the seriousness of recent events.

SHELLED THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENT.

Tien Tsin, Wednesday, July 4.—The Chinese shelled the foreign settlements all day long July 31. Upwards of 150 fell into the concession and many houses were partially wrecked. The casualties, however, were few, the civilians and women and children being ordered to seek shelter in the cellars of the town hall and the Astor hotel.

Three companies of Japanese infantry, a mountain battery and a body of Russians engaged the Chinese artilleryists but with little effect. The 12-pounder of the British first class cruiser Terrible then came into action but the enemy placed two shells fairly under the gun, damaging the carriage and wounding the crew. The gun was withdrawn and replaced by a French gun which had a similar experience, a shell bursting in the midst of the crew.

The Japanese casualties during the day's fighting were an officer and two men killed and 20 men wounded. The casualties of the other forces are not known.

The Chinese in the vicinity of Tien Tsin have been reinforced during the last 48 hours by several thousand of Gen Mas and Gen Song's troops from Peking. The Chinese have also mounted a number of heavy guns commanding the settlement.

A force of Boxers numbering about 3,000 men was seen entering the native city yesterday.

Vice Admiral Alexieff has arrived here and is expected to assume supreme command.

The allied forces now number about 10,000 men, including 800 Japanese who arrived yesterday.

Arrangements are being made to send all the women and children to Japan by way of Taku and Chefoo.

JAPAN'S FORMIDABLE PREPARATION.

London, July 11.—The Chefoo correspondent of express telegraphing Tuesday says:

"The Japanese force is equipped with 36 heavy mortars and 120 field guns and has pontoon and balloon sections. It is expected that either Marshal Nodzu or Marshall Oyama will take command. The plan of campaign contemplates operations extending over two or three years.

"A further force of 13,000 men will be landed at Taku a week hence, and 10,000 additional soon afterward. Before the rainy season is well advanced Japan hopes to have 63,000 troops in China.

"These formidable preparations are viewed with great distrust by Russia, Germany and France."

FORTY THOUSAND MEN ARE WANTED.

London, July 12, 3 30 a. m.—The Chinese situation again bears a most ominous aspect. Eighteen days ago Sir Robert Hart dispatched his last message declaring that the situation was desperate and since then no word has come from the Europeans in Peking.

According to the Daily Mail's Shanghai correspondent Li Hung Chang has received an imperial degree ordering his immediate departure for Peking, presumably to break the news of the Peking tragedy to the European powers, and, in his usual role of negotiator with Europe in difficult matters, to endeavor to act as mediator and to avert the vengeance of the powers.

To add to the grimness of this suggestion, all advices from Tien Tsin tend to confirm the reports of the perilous conditions of the allied

forces and belie the optimistic Chinese rumors. Unless reinforcements speedily reach Tien Tsin another disaster may be expected.

The Daily Mail Tien Tsin correspondent, telegraphing on July 5, says:

"The situation is about as bad as it can well be. I only trust that we shall not soon want relieving ourselves. A forward movement is impossible. From 30,000 to 40,000 troops are wanted, and there are only 10,000 here. The foreign troops are working well together, but it is inconvenient that there is no supreme commander. In some quarters the feeling is, 'Let us rescue Peking and then clear out in favor of Russia.'"

Other Tien Tsin correspondents say that no advice is possible until September 1 and explanations are being asked by the papers here of the tardy action of Japan in sending troops, since it is known that she was ready and willing to send them and that Russia raised no objection to her doing so. It is hinted that a difficulty arose as to the manner in which Japan was to be repaid for her heavy outlay. Rumors are current that Japan demanded the cession of a Chinese port.

The Russian papers report that the Boxers are ravaging Manchuria, and have damaged 60 miles of the railway, threatening Tsin and Kierin, while Port Arthur and Neu Chwang are said to be endangered. Russia, therefore, has notified the powers of her intention to dispatch a large military force to Manchuria.

ALLIED TROOPS DEFEATED.

London, July 12.—The Express this morning publishes a dispatch from Tien Tsin, dated Friday last, via Che Foo, saying:

"Gen Ma has defeated the allied troops and recaptured the Chinese eastern arsenal, after inflicting great loss upon its defenders. The engagement lasted 6 hours, and was fought with great determination by both sides. The Chinese were eventually able to use the effective guns of the fort abutting on the city walls near the Taotai's yamen, the allied troops suffering severely from lack of guns and cavalry.

"The Japanese commander sent an urgent appeal to hurry reinforcements, as the allies were in imminent danger of a general defeat."

A Monster Devil Fish

Destroying its victim, is a type of constipation. The power of this murderous malady is felt on organs and nerves and muscles and brain. There's no health till it's overcome. But Dr King's New Life Pills are a safe and certain cure. Best in the world for stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels. Only 25c at Dr J. F. W. DeLorme's drug store.

VEIL OF SILENCE

ENSHROUDS PEKIN.

FEARS THAT THE WORST HAS COME.

London, July 13, 4 10 a. m.—A terrible veil of silence enshrouds Peking and there is nobody but believes the worst has happened. It is taken for granted that all the powers have exhausted every means to get direct news from their legations, and the fact that their efforts have been vain leaves but one interpretation.

The Chinese representative in Berlin denies the statement that Li Hung Chang had sent to him a hopeful telegram. He says that, on the contrary, no direct telegram has been received from Li Hung Chang for some time past.

The correspondent asserts that Capt Baily of H. M. S. Aurora, distinctly saw a man in European garb directing the Chinese artillery operations outside of Tien Tsin.

Foreign refugees from Tien Tsin openly accuse a European official, whose name the Express correspondent suppresses, and Col von Hanneken, who was formerly employed to drill the Chinese troops, of being parties to a plot to procure the escape of Gen Chang and themselves from Tien Tsin before the bombardment, leaving the other foreigners to their fate.

Statements are in circulation in Shanghai accusing the Russians of indiscriminate slaughter of friendly Chinese non-combatants without regard to age or sex. The manager of a Chinese steamship company who has arrived in Shanghai, asserts that he only escaped from Tien Tsin by cutting off his queue and donning European clothes. It is said that the Taotai of Shanghai protested to the powers against these Russian slaughters.

It is asserted that the Buddhist priests throughout the empire are propagating Prince Tuan's anti-foreign gospel.

A CHINESE STORY.

London, July 13.—The Shanghai correspondent of The Daily Mail says the following story regarding the situation in Peking emanates from Chinese official sources:

"The two remaining legations, the British and Russian, were attacked in force on the evening of July 6th. Prince Tuan being in command. The attacking forces were divided. Prince Tuan commanded the centre, the right wing was led by Prince Tsai Yin and the left by Prince Yin Lin. The reserves were under Prince Tsin Yu. The attack commenced with artillery fight-

ing which was severe and lasted until 7 o'clock in the morning by which time the legations were destroyed and all the foreigners were dead, while the streets around the legations were full of the dead bodies of both foreigners and Chinese.

"Upon hearing of the attack, Prince Ching and Gen. Wang Wen Shao went with troops to the assistance of the foreigners, but they were outnumbered and defeated. Both Prince Ching and Gen. Wang Wen Shao were killed.

"Two foreigners are said to have escaped through the gates, one with a heavy sword wound in his head.

"Prince Tuan, in celebration of the victory, distributed 100,000 taels and huge quantities of rice to the Boxers."

ARTILLERY DUEL.

Che Foo, Sunday, July 8.—An artillery duel is proceeding at Tien Tsin. The Chinese guns are so masked that the allies find difficulty in locating them.

OPERATIONS BADLY HANDICAPPED.

Tien Tsin, July 4. (via Che Foo, July 8th, and Shanghai, July 12th.)—A homogeneous army of half the strength of the allied forces could do better work than is being done by them. The operations are dangerously handicapped and the safety of the city is imperiled by lack of organization and the want of one commander to control all the forces. The representatives of the several nations manage their civil and military affairs largely without cooperation. The ranking officer of each nationality has absolute jurisdiction over the operations of his government's troops. Questions of policy are discussed daily at international conferences which have not the power to enforce the wishes of the majority.

Admiral Seymour's method of commanding is to make requests, which the other commanders generally follow, but there have been instances of the ranking officers holding off from operations of which they disapproved.

The week's work resulted in a substantial gain for the Chinese as the allies lost 50 or 60 men and succeeded in accomplishing nothing.

A Night of Terror.

"Awful anxiety was felt for the widow of the brave Gen Burnham of Machias, Me, when the doctors said she could not live till morning," writes Mrs S. H. Lincoln, who attended her that fearful night. "All thought she must soon die from pneumonia, but she begged for Dr King's New Discovery, saying it had more than once saved her life, and had cured her of consumption. After three small doses she slept easily all night, and its further use completely cured her." This marvelous medicine is guaranteed to cure all throat, chest and lung diseases. Only 50c and \$1. Trial bottles free at J. F. W. DeLorme's drug store.