

The Watchman and Southerner.

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 SOUTHERN, Established June 1846

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GEN. CHAFFEE

REPORTS BATTLE.

THE U S TROOPS HAVE A HAND IN THE FIGHT.

Washington, Aug 7.—The war department has received the following cablegram from Gen Chaffee:

Chefoo, Aug 7.

Adjutant General, Washington:

Tien Tsin, Aug 3.—Conference today decided battle Sunday. Chinese entrenched east and west through Peitsang. Left of Chinese protected by flooded ground practically unassailable. Japanese, English, American forces about 10,000 strong will attack Chinese right west of river flank. Other forces Russian, French, about 4,000 strong, opposite side between river and railroad. Chinese position apparently strong. Army reported 30,000 between Peibang and Yang Tsun or cross of road over Pei Ho Yang Tsun objective. Our force 2,000 and battery Conemaugh arrived. Sixth cavalry left (at) Tien Tsin for guard of city and awaiting mounts. Ministers safe on July 28. Chaffee.

Washington, Aug 7.—The information which came today that American troops engaged in the battle at Peitsang established positively, for the first time that notwithstanding the difficulties which Gen Chaffee had encountered in debarking troops and supplies, at least a part and a considerable part of our force was in the vanguard of the forward movement. Gen Chaffee's dispatch to the war department conveyed the most satisfactory evidences that the commanders had thoroughly agreed in advance upon a plan of action and that there is every indication that this plan had been followed as Gen Chaffee on Friday sent the cable saying that the attack upon the Chinese at Peitsang would be made on Sunday, the day when Admiral Remy and the press correspondents say the fighting occurred. Gen Chaffee's announcement that the present objective of the international column is Yang Tsun, is interpreted by the officials at the war department that this point where rail road and wagon road meets, is to be made the advance base for the operations on Pekin.

The most positive addition to the news of the day was the brief line from the correspondent of the Associated Press at Tien Tsin stating that the Ninth and Fourteenth infantry, Reilly's battery and the marines were in the battle of Peitsang. It was this force which, with the British and Japanese, bore the brunt of the attack on the left flank which was to turn the enemy's position. This plan had already been made clear by Gen Chaffee's dispatch although he did not mention what American troops would be engaged.

In view of the participation of the American troops, the war and navy departments are anxiously expectant of reports of the part taken by our troops and the losses which the Americans may have sustained. No light has yet been thrown upon the subject of whether the commanders of the international forces have agreed upon a commander. The Chaffee dispatch would seem to indicate that one had been agreed upon. The movement was planned evidently by the commanders in conference and the part which each command was to play agreed upon in advance. It is perhaps noteworthy and significant that in this plan of attack upon the enemy at Peitsang, the American, British and Japanese forces were joined in the movement to turn the enemy's right flank, while the Russians and French operated together on the opposite side of the river against the enemy's left. This may indicate the line of cleavage among the allies, whose general dispositions were reported at Tien Tsin. It also is exceedingly significant that Gen Chaffee does not mention the German force at all. The war department officials do not believe this could have been due to an oversight on his part if it was arranged that they were to participate in the movement. It therefore seems likely that the Germans were not engaged at Peitsang. It is thought possible that they may be acting independently.

THE CHINESE WAR.

Latest News From Scene of Hostilities as Known in Washington.

Washington, Aug 8.—The Chinese situation is considered very grave by the authorities in Washington. The receipt of the message from Minister Conger last night, which indicated a continuation of the firing upon the legations, and the Chinese government's insistence that the ministers should leave P-kin, which Mr Conger considered would mean certain death, brought matters to an acute stage. All day the cabinet officers who are in town have been consulting with each other, and the president has been communicated with by telegraph and over the long distance telephone. Secretary Root held two conferences with Attorney General Griggs and several with Acting Secretary of State Adee, and their views were communicated to the president. As a result of these consultations it was announced officially at the close of the day that a message to the imperial government at Pekin had been delivered to Minister Wu for transmission to his government. The text of the message was prepared by Acting Secretary of State Adee and Secretary Root and its final form was made known to the president in a talk conducted by Mr Root over the White House long distance telephone. It was then stated definitely that the authorities of this government would not make public the text of this latest communication to China till Mr Wu had opportunity to forward it to his government. The chief officials of the government were not willing to outline in any definite manner the contents of the message, although generally it was accepted that the communication was emphatic and to the point.

The message sent to the Chinese government through Mr Wu, according to the best information obtainable, informs that government that the removal of the restrictions upon communication with our minister, evidenced both by the receipt of Mr Conger's message and the transmission of the edict of the 5th is very gratifying, but is not an entire compliance with the original demands of the president in his reply to the appeal for mediation. The president in his original communication to the emperor of China laid down three conditions, precedent to any action looking to negotiations for the settlement of the difficulties between China and the powers. These conditions in the president's own words were as follows: "I most solemnly urge upon your majesty's government to give public assurance whether the foreign ministers are alive and, if so, in what condition.

"2. To put the diplomatic representatives of the powers in immediate and free communication with their respective governments, and to remove all dangers to their lives and liberty.

"3. To place the imperial authorities of China in communication with the relief expedition so that cooperation may be secured between them for the liberation of the legations and the protection of foreigners, and the restoration of order."

American Consul Objects to Troops at Shanghai.

London, Aug. 9. 4 a. m.—Beyond the official news given out yesterday the morning papers contain no direct information of importance from China. Thanks to the dispatches of Sir Claude Macdonald and Rear Admiral Bruce there is a general disposition to take a more hopeful view of the situation. The report of the appointment of Field Marshal Count von Waldersee as commander in chief of the international forces, meets with general approval.

The Rome correspondent of the Daily Mail announces the receipt there of official dispatches from the Italian minister in Pekin, asserting that he left Pekin on July 31, presumably for Tien Tsin. This, however, is so utterly at variance with the action and intentions of the other ministers heard from that it seems almost incredible. If true, it opens up an interesting field of speculation concerning the fate of the Italian representative.

The Chinese legation believes that the members of the foreign legations have not left Pekin but that they will do so.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily News writing yesterday says: "The United States Consul at Shanghai strongly opposes Admiral Seymour's intention to land 3,000 troops on the ground that such an act would not be warranted by the circumstances and would be likely to create trouble.

opinion is that the landing of troops here at the present moment would be a grave mistake."

London, Aug 8.—In the house of commons today Mr Brodrick, parliamentary secretary for the foreign office, read a telegram from Sir Claude Macdonald, British minister to China, received in cipher at the foreign office this morning. The dispatch was in reply to a government message and bore date of Pekin, Aug 3. It was as follows:

"I have today received your cipher telegram forwarded to me by the Chinese minister. The shell and cannon fire ceased on July 16, but the rifle fire has continued from the Chinese position held by government troops and Boxers intermittently ever since.

"The casualties since then have been slight. Except one private of marines all the wounded are doing well. The rest of the British in the legation are well, including the whole garrison.

"The total of killed is 60 and of wounded 110. We have strengthened our fortification. We have over two hundred men and children refugees in the legation. The Chinese government has refused transmission to telegrams in cipher until now."

Mr Brodrick also read the following dispatch from admiral Bruce filed at Chefoo Aug 6:

"The allies, about 12,000 strong, attacked the Chinese entrenched position at Hsiku, about two miles outside Tien Tsin, early this morning. The Chinese were driven out and retired northward pursued by the allies who occupied Peitsang. Transports followed up the troops by road and river the advance upon Pekin has begun."

Mr Brodrick said he thought the messages were, on the whole satisfactory. The country understood the policy of her majesty's government in regard to China, which was to carry on with absolute firmness and determination the measures taken to preserve the country's interests.

The Americans Suffer Serious Loss—Casualties of 60.

Washington, Aug 9.—The capture of Yang Tsun, the final objective point of the international forces, was the supreme news of importance received today on the Chinese situation. The first word of this capture, effected last Monday, came in a brief dispatch to the signal office at the war department from Col Scriven, the signal officer at Chefoo, saying:

Chefoo, Aug 9.
To Signals, Washington, Aug 6th.
Yang Tsun captured today. Wire up. Need own transportation. All well. Scriven.

Half an hour after this message a cablegram came from Gen Chaffee, giving additional details of the capture and showing that it had been at the cost of about 60 casualties among the American troops. Gen Chaffee's dispatch is as follows:

Yang Tsun, Aug 6.
Yang Tsun occupied today. Wounded Second Lieut Frank R Long, Ninth infantry, moderate; casualties about 60 men, Ninth United States infantry; Fourteenth United States infantry and Battery F, Fifth U. S. artillery. Nearly all from Fourteenth infantry. Names later. Many men prostrated, heat and fatigue. Chaffee.

A JAPANESE REPORT.

Hardly less important was a dispatch from Gen Terauchi, second in command on the Japanese staff, sent to the war office of Japan, and transmitted to the legation here, stating that the international army would total 50,000 men on Aug 15, at which time the real advance on Pekin would begin. Gen Terauchi's dispatch stated that on the 4th, when it was forwarded, the advance had not yet begun. This was at first incomprehensible, in view of the fact that fighting has actually occurred. But the later statement that the international force would total 50,000 on the 15th appears to make clear Gen Terauchi's meaning and to reconcile it with Gen Chaffee's dispatches. The present movement of some 16,000 men doubtless is viewed in the light of a reconnaissance in force, the main movement of the army of 50,000 to follow on the 15th. This makes clear the meaning of Gen Chaffee's dispatch that Yang Tsun was the objective point. The war department here has been considerably puzzled over this statement of an objective point, far short of Pekin. It would appear, however, from Gen Terauchi's dispatch that the first force of 16,000 men having opened up communications to Yang Tsun, brought forward supplies and established this advance base, the way would then be clear for the advance of the larger force on the 15th. The capture of Yang Tsun is therefore an important strategic branch of the fast maturing military plans. The place is about 18 miles beyond Tien Tsin

and little less than quarter of the way to P-kin.

FINE WORK OF SIGNAL SER VICE MEN

Col Scriven's statement "wire up" contains much meaning as it is accepted as showing that their direct telegraphic communication with the army in the field. Aside from the assurance this gives of speedy transmission of news from the front, it gives the additional assurance that the line of communication is intact back to the first base of operations. The capture of Yang Tsun on the day following the battle of Peitsang is regarded as a highly successful military achievement, especially in view of the fact that it was looked upon as a stronghold whose capture might give the foreigners considerable trouble.

Aside from the military developments of the day and diplomatic aspect of the crisis was made more clear by the publication of the demand made by the United States on the imperial government to China and transmitted to Minister Wu last evening. The document is as follows:

OUR LAST DEMANDS

"We are availing ourselves of the opportunity offered by the imperial edict of the 5th of August allowing to the foreign ministers free communication with respective governments in cipher, and have sent a communication to Minister Conger, to which we await an answer.

"We are already advised by him, in a brief dispatch received Aug 7, that imperial troops are firing daily upon the ministers in Pekin. We demand the immediate cessation of hostile attacks by imperial troops upon the legations and all foreigners therein.

"We are also advised by the same dispatch from the minister Conger that in his opinion for the foreign ministers to leave Pekin as proposed in the edict of Aug 2, would be certain death. In view of the fact that the imperial troops are now firing upon the legations and in view of the doubt expressed by the imperial government in its edict of Aug 2 to its power to restore order and secure absolute safety in Pekin, it is evident that this apprehension is well founded, for if your government cannot protect our minister in Pekin, it will presumably be unable to protect him upon a journey from Pekin to the coast.

"We therefore urge upon the imperial government that it shall adopt the course suggested in the third clause of the letter of the president to his majesty, the emperor of China, of July 23, 1900, and enter into communication with the relief expedition so that cooperation may be secured between them and that liberation of the legations, the protection of foreigners and the restoration of order may be accomplished. Such action on the part of the imperial government would be a satisfactory demonstration of its friendliness and desire to attain these ends.

Alvery A Adee
Acting Secretary.
Department of State, Washington,
Aug. 8, 1900.

CHAFFEE MAKES REPORT.

Washington, Aug 8.—The war department has received the following cablegram from Gen Chaffee:

Chefoo.
Adjutant General, Washington, Aug 5.

Peitsang handsomely taken early this morning by Japanese troops, supported by English and Americans. Japanese loss considerable; English slight; Americans none. Ground very limited. In morning American troops occupied rear position, which was to form turning movements, but were unable to form in line. We will cross Pei Ho to left bank tomorrow morning and move on Yang Tsun. Consul at Chefoo furnished copy dispatch from tsung li yamen which he has cabled.

DESPAIR OF LI HUNG CHANG

Washington, Aug 9.—An important dispatch has been received in diplomatic quarters, forwarded from the foreign offices of one of the powers taking part in the international movement and giving with much detail a conversation by Li Hung Chang in which he expressed his despair over the condition of the Chinese government in his fears that the anti-foreign element had gained complete ascendancy at Pekin. The conversation was with the consul of the power receiving the dispatch and as he is an intimate friend of long standing with Earl Li, the latter spoke unreservedly of the deplorable condition of affairs among his own people.

London Chinese War Notes

London, August 9.—The flooded country beyond Peit Sang adds immeasurably to the difficulty of the progress of the allies toward Pekin. This news reaches the Shanghai correspondents from Tien Tsin, with statements to the effect that the situation at Tien Tsin is again perilous, owing to the

assembling of Chinese troops within striking distance.

The losses of the allies in the recent operations are now said to be 113 men, of which number the Russians lost 600 the Japanese 410 and the British 120.

International suspicion has broken out among the consuls at Shanghai on account of the determination of the British to land there a brigade of Indian troops. It is reported that the French will also land troops at Shaog hai to the number of 1,200 men. While the ministers at Peking remain unrelieved it is not understood why Great Britain should divert force to garrison a place where peace thus far has been undisturbed.

A news agency dispatch from Chefoo, dated Sunday, August 5, says a messenger from Peking reports that the Dowager Empress sent four carloads of food to the legations on July 28.

The British foreign office is understood to have suppressed portions of the late dispatch of the British minister at Pekin, Sir Claude Macdonald, on the ground that his explicit statements regarding the quantity of food and ammunition available might be useful to the enemy.

No Attention Will be Paid to Chinese Representations.

Chinese News Received in Washington.

Washington, Aug 10.—In the light of the latest dispatch from Minister Conger received by the State department through Minister Wu today, the attitude of the administration is that there is but one thing to be done in the present circumstances, namely, to press on to the relief of the besieged garrison at Pekin. This was made known after extended communications between Washington and the president at Canton. The Conger dispatch was accepted as showing conclusive justification for the imperative demand of the United States sent to the Chinese government on Wednesday night, insisting that the imperial troops cooperate with the international forces in the rescue of the ministers and until this condition as well as that for the cessation of bombardment is fully conceded by China there is no other course opened but to press steadily onward in the mission of relief.

The Conger dispatch was received before daylight at the Chinese legation, and as soon as the official day opened Minister Wu presented it to acting Secretary Adee at the state department. It was in the American cipher and was found to be an identical note with that of the other ministers at Peking (that of the French minister M Pichou, already having appeared) with the additional fact that seven members of the guard had been killed and 16 wounded.

The discussion with the president led to the determination to reply to the Conger message at once and accordingly Secretary Root and Acting Secretary Adee conferred on the terms of this reply. The text was ready by 3 o'clock and it was forwarded late in the day. It was announced officially and positively that this message would not be made public either in whole or in substance. It was made plain, however, that the message was sufficiently guarded as not to further increase the jeopardy of our minister in case the Chinese have access to our cipher. As to the terms of the message they are believed to make plain that this government will not advise, much less direct that Mr Conger leave Pekin under Chinese escort when the minister has advised Washington that this would mean certain death. Moreover the reply doubtless lets the minister know that there is an unaccountable error in the statement of the Chinese government as conveyed to him through the tsung li yamen that the foreign governments had urged repeatedly that the ministers be sent out of Pekin under suitable escort. This clause, contained in Mr Conger's latest dispatch, clearly shows that the Chinese government is leading him to believe that it is the wish of Washington that he leave under a Chinese escort, whereas the United States government never has entertained for a moment the idea of having the minister set out on the dangerous pilgrimage from Pekin to the coast, under Chinese protection.

There is no probability that the attention of the Chinese government will be directed to its apparent double dealing as indicated by the Con-

ger dispatch. This government has transmitted to the other powers interested the note to the Chinese government entrusted to Minister Wu on the night of the 8th. It has assurances from the other powers that they have not advised their representatives to accept Chinese escort from Pekin. It was officially stated at the close of the day that no further representations have been made to the Chinese government since the Adee note of the 8th and that none will be made until the Chinese government has given some indication of the attitude it will assume in complying with or denying the demands of the United States.

While the state department is continuing to send messages to Minister Conger upon the assurances of the Chinese government that communication is uninterrupted it is doing so with comparatively small hope of their delivery. This assertion was borne out tonight when Secretary Root said that there was no convincing evidence in possession of this government that any of our dispatches really had reached Minister Conger. This indicates that the minister has not given a direct and satisfactory answer to any of the queries that have been addressed him by the state department.

Cable From Conger.

Washington, Aug 10.—The department of state made public today the following telegram from Minister Conger, which was received by Minister Wu late last night, being contained in a telegram sent to him by the Taotai of Shanghai. It was handed by Minister Wu to the acting secretary of state at 9 o'clock this morning. Secretary of State, Washington:

The tsung li yamen states to the diplomatic body that the various governments have repeatedly asked through the respective Christian ministers that we immediately depart from Pekin under suitable escort. The yamen asks us to fix a date for our departure and to make the necessary arrangements to do so. Our reply is that we will seek instructions from our governments, and that in the absence of such instructions we cannot quit our post. I must inform you that in order to insure our safe departure, foreign troops only can safely escort us, and they must be sufficient force to safely guard 800 foreigners, including 100 women and children, as well as 3,000 native Christians, who cannot be abandoned to certain massacre. We cannot accept a Chinese escort under any circumstances. All my colleagues are dispatching the foregoing to their respective governments. Of the American marines, seven have been killed and 16 wounded, among them latter Capt. Myers and Dr. Lippett, who are getting along nicely.

Conger.

Neely's Extradition.

New York, Aug 8.—Judge Lacombe of the United States circuit court today rendered an opinion which indicates that on order for the extradition of Charles F. W. Neely to the Cuban authorities will be signed Aug 13.

The latter part of the document says: "The evidence shows probable cause to believe that the prisoner is guilty of an offense defined in the act of June 6, 1900, and which is also a violation of the criminal laws in force in Cuba, and upon such evidence he will be held for extradition.

"Two obstacles to his extradition now exist. He has been admitted to bail in this court upon a criminal charge of bringing into this district funds embezzled in another district. He has also been arrested in a civil action brought in this court to recover \$45,000 which, it is alleged, he has converted. When both of these proceedings shall have been discontinued the order in extradition would be signed. This may be done on Aug 13 at 11 o'clock a. m."

Anderson, Aug 7.—Saturday, Will Earle, a negro boy 18 years old, living on the farm of Mr Carey Chamber near this city, committed a brutal assault on a negro girl 6 years old. The neighboring negroes were wrought up over the affair and soon an aggregation of 75 or more had assembled and were threatening to lynch the villain. Officers of the law interfered, however, and the criminal was given a hearing before a magistrate and immediately afterwards brought here and placed in jail. The child victim is probably seriously injured.

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