

SEYMOUR AT PEKIN

Relief Column Said to Have Reached the Capital.

REPORT LACKS CONFIRMATION

Rebellion Spreading Far and Wide—Startling News From Shanghai—A Japanese Expedition.

LONDON, June 21, 3:15 A. M.—The reports of Admiral Seymour's arrival at Peking and the safety of the foreign legations, originally made by Chinese sources, are still unverified. However, the Italian Consul at Shanghai has wired to the Italian Foreign Minister, Viscount Venosta, that the legations are safe.

The rebellion is spreading far and wide. There is an impression in diplomatic circles here and on the Continent that the allies have not grappled with the situation effectively, and even 50,000 foreign troops would be powerless to do much to control 1,000,000 square miles.

The latest story sent out by the Shanghai gossiper is that Prince Tuan, President of the Tsungli Yamen, has ordered the imperial police at Peking, and murdered the Emperor and that the Empress Dowager has committed suicide.

The effect of the bombardment of the Taku forts, as described by the Shanghai correspondents, was "gory in the extreme, nothing less than rivers of blood" and "multitudes of people" were killed.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Times, telegraphing yesterday, says: "An American transport from Manila is due at Taku on Tuesday, and has been ordered to land troops and supplies at the local tent, and the wealthy native merchants are panic-stricken."

THE AMERICAN REINFORCEMENTS.

Delay in Getting Troops From Luzon to China.

NEW YORK, June 20.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says: General MacArthur has approved the selection of the two additional regiments to be sent to Tien Tsin on the transports Warren and Sherman, and the authorities at the War Department are of the opinion that the Fourteenth and the Twentieth Infantry, the other, it is thought, will be the Twenty-second Infantry.

Chagrined is expressed that General MacArthur cannot start the Ninth Regiment before next Sunday, and that the United States must be represented together by naval forces until the last day of June, at least. Of the 300 men comprising the crew of the Newark, 16 were at Peking, 104 were with Captain McCalla in the International column, and as nearly 100 are noncombatants in the steamer force of that vessel, there remained only 100 fighting men to guard the ship.

The Oregon will not reach Taku for at least a week or 10 days, as she will be compelled to proceed cautiously on account of her draught. The Iris from Manila will carry mail, but is not likely to furnish supplies to the fleet.

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and the Viceroy of Nan Chan and Wa Chang, which accounts for the quietness in the Yangtze Kiang Valley. It is reported that Su is executing large bodies of suspects daily.

The British armored cruiser Undaunted arrived at Woo Sung yesterday and cleared for action while passing the forts as a precautionary measure. Wire communication between Tien Tsin and Peking is impossible. The foreign officials here are totally ignorant of the state of affairs in the north.

CHINA IS RESPONSIBLE.

German Sentiment In for Violent, Resolute Action.

BERLIN, June 20.—The responsibility of the Chinese Government for the recent events is held a high place in the Foreign Office today. "It is now clearly proved. It has been ascertained that 300 Chinese troops who deserted to the Boxers did so on the instigation of the Chinese Government. The promotion to the highest positions of the notoriously anti-European officials also points in the same direction." The German Foreign Office is of the opinion that the Chinese Government is responsible for the recent events.

The Berliner Tageblatt, which reliably reflects the view of political circles in Berlin, says: "A power which is unable, in time of peace, to protect the envoys accredited to it from its own subjects has ceased to be a power, and we do not doubt that all the cabinets are inspired by a determination to save what can be saved."

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MAKING COMMON CAUSE

ADMIRAL KEMPFF ACTING WITH THE FOREIGN FORCES.

Report From the Consul at Che Foo—Matter of Reinforcing the Americans in China.

WASHINGTON, June 20.—The Navy Department has given out the following statement regarding the commander of the German fleet, Admiral Kempff, brought from Taku to Che Foo, and forwarded by Commander Tausig, of the Yorktown: "The department has received a cablegram from Admiral Kempff dated June 18. He says that the Taku forts were captured by the foreign forces, and that heavy firing was heard at Tien Tsin the evening of the 17th inst. He is making common cause with the foreign forces for the general protection. There are 300 American troops at Peking as yet. There are 5000 men ashore now at Che Foo, and about 3000 troops—Russian, German and English—have just arrived."

The expected cablegram from Commander Tausig was received at the Navy Department yesterday afternoon. Acting Secretary Haskett did not feel at liberty to make it public until he had had an opportunity to confer with the President. It is known, however, that the cablegram had been forwarded to the President by the port of entry of Admiral Kempff's expedition to Peking.

Secretaries Hay and Root, First Secretary McKinley and Cramer, and Admiral Crowninshield had a long conference with the President today. On leaving the White House they stated that nothing had been heard from Peking, and that the conference was on the subject of how communication with Minister Conger could be secured at the earliest possible moment. They declined, however, to say what conclusions had been reached, or to discuss the matter further. There is no doubt that the officials here regard the Chinese situation as very critical, and that more vigorous measures than any hitherto contemplated are under consideration.

A cablegram was received at the State Department this morning from United States Consul Fowler, at Che Foo. The Consul's message principally relates to the restoration of communication between Che Foo and Taku. Its contents, as described at the State Department, were as follows: "I have received from the Phoenix (probably a chartered vessel) all the communications that have accumulated there for Mr. Conger and Admiral Kempff since the 15th inst. I have also chartered a small steamer leaving Che Foo today at noon for Yang Chi Kan for the rescue of American and British missionaries. The French Consul from the northwest region of Shan Tung reports that the Hagan British mission at Tzu Chow has been looted. It is not reported that any of the missionaries were killed, but they were carried off by the Chinese General, and their whereabouts is at present unknown. The Governor has left Che Nang, the capital, for Tzu Chow, a point 100 miles to the north. The Chinese troops at that point are not acting with the Boxers. Owing to the vague character of the French Consul's report, however, it must be said that the above inference is somewhat strained."

It is said at the State Department that the whole effort of the Government at this juncture is to get the news of the capture of the Taku forts. The French Consul at Che Foo, in promptly chartering a vessel to push the Government's message as far along as possible, has in large part, solved the problem.

It is declared that the officials today that no additional reinforcements, naval or military, have been ordered to China. The gunboats Princeton and Marietta, and the supply ship Zafiro are still lying at Che Foo ready to give notice to the Chinese Government, but the word has not yet been given.

The State Department officials do not hesitate to give a flat denial to the story that the United States Government has suggested to the power the restoration of the young Emperor of China, with Li Hung Chang as his adviser. The United States Government has made no suggestion of the kind, and is not acting with the Boxers. Owing to the vague character of the French Consul's report, however, it must be said that the above inference is somewhat strained."

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WARD REINFORCEMENTS TO CHINA FROM SAN FRANCISCO WITHOUT THE LOSS OF MUCH TIME.

Arrangements already have been completed for the dispatch of two squadrons of the Sixth Cavalry, numbering about 200 men, and a battery of 100 men, to be sent to Manila by the transport Grant, which is scheduled to sail from San Francisco about the 1st inst. This force for Manila for the relief of volunteer troops to be brought home for discharge June 20 next. In case it is determined that it will be a simple matter to charge the destination of the Grant to the Taku, and by so doing place over 1000 more drilled troops at the disposal of the officer in command of the American forces in China. The Grant is a fast ship and can make the run between San Francisco and Taku in about 30 days.

Such an assignment would have a double purpose. It would augment the strength of the American forces in China, and at the same time serve to render unnecessary a further depletion of the garrisons in the Philippines, a course which is being resisted by the Iron-Molders' Union. The Iron-Molders' Union has been notified by General Mark Arthur of the execution of his plans for the preservation of order in the distant islands.

The American Minister at Tokio telegraphed to the State Department on June 18 and 1900 troops sailed today from Japan for Taku; that 600 Japanese troops have already landed, and that five Japanese war vessels are now at Taku. He adds that the Japanese Government is preparing to send additional force should the necessity arise.

Owing to the distinction of Acting Secretary Haskett to take the responsibility upon his shoulders of making public reports of Admiral Kempff's dispatch, it was late in the afternoon before the President was advised of the contents of the rather meager statement of the Admiral's communication. It was then found to contain little that is new. The Admiral's statement is that he has received from the Consul at Che Foo, in promptly chartering a vessel to push the Government's message as far along as possible, has in large part, solved the problem.

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PLATT RETURNS TO NEW YORK

The Senator is Suffering From a Broken Rib.

NEW YORK, June 20.—Senator Platt arrived from Philadelphia this afternoon. As he walked through the corridor of the Fifth-Avenue Hotel, it was plain to be seen that he was suffering from a broken rib. He was unable to walk straight, and he kept his right arm raised to support himself. He did not, however, require the assistance of any one, nor did he use a cane. When he reached his apartment he immediately lay down on his bed. Harry B. Platt, son of the Senator, when questioned by a reporter, said: "The Senator, while suffering, is not very ill. The day he left Philadelphia, and before going from his office, he slipped and fractured a rib. He told no one of the accident, and it was after we got to Philadelphia that we learned of it. He kept up, however, and did not require the services of a physician. The strain of the convention yesterday, and the heat today, began to tell on him, and he gradually gave up. I am sure he will be about again as usual in a few days."

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