

# IMPORTANT CABLES FROM CHINA TO-DAY.

## More Assurances that the Ministers Were Safe on July 18th.

### THE STRUGGLE AT TIEN TSIN.

Story of the Battle Told From a U.S. Standpoint. Allies Had to Meet Heavy Odds—Some Blunders—The Losses—Death of Colonel Liscum—The London Embassy also Informed of the Situation at Peking—Will Li Hung Chang be Permitted to go to Peking?—British Vessel Goes to Meet Him.

London, July 21.—The unreserved credence given to Minister Conger's message by officials at Washington continues to occasion surprise in London. The absence of any date, and the absence of acknowledgment from the cipher telegram from the State Department were considered here as fatal drawbacks to acceptance of the message, as a reply to Secretary Hay, or as anything but a spontaneous appeal for help sent off long prior to the alleged date of the message. This all-absorbing topic is fully canvassed in its pro and cons, but all authorities admitted they present difficulties which only add to the obscurity of the situation, and render harder the unravelling of the puzzle.

#### Doubts Li.

The announcement of the British cruiser Bonaventure's departure from Woo Sung, as alleged, in pursuit of Li Hung Chang, comes somewhat as a surprise after the honors paid the Viceroy at Hong Kong, but confirmation of the news will meet the approval of a large majority, as Li Hung Chang's present attitude is regarded as being characteristically dubious. Li Hung Chang was booked for Shanghai, but the departure of the warship from the nearby port of Woo Sung, seems to indicate a suspicion on the part of the Government that his real objective point may be elsewhere, where he would not be so easily reached by representatives of the powers.

#### Blames Dead Man.

Forward lays the blame for the blunder and sacrifice of life on Liscum. But forward's chief of staff was heard to say when Liscum moved: "Get in down the road where you can, Col. Liscum hurriedly led his men through the gate in as open order as possible. They were immediately under fire. The staff saw them pass over the bridge to a field which proved to be a cul de sac."

#### Caught in a Trap.

Before the two battalions of Americans, numbering 426 men, could extend themselves, the fire from the loopholes in the fort, to a fine line of fortified mud houses on their flank. Three thousand rifles, possibly, were turned on them with an accuracy which has amazed every one among the allies. The blue shirts of the American troops made them distinct marks, where the khaki uniforms of the other allies could not be seen. The American charges were repulsed, and they had to retreat to the flank fire with rushes, the ground over which they charged being marshy and lined with ditches. It was evidently Col. Liscum's intention to rush the houses, and thus get a position for flanking the wall.

#### Death of Liscum.

At 2.30 the line had just reached the shore of the moat, and thirty yards separated them from the houses when the colors were flung and the American troops were turned on them with a sharp-shooter's bullet went through the brave Colonel's abdomen.

#### London Knows It Too.

Brussels, July 21.—The charge d'affaires at the Chinese legation here this morning received a telegram from the Chinese Minister at London, transmitting the report that the foreign representatives at Peking were safe. This despatch having been communicated to the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Paul De Fovonor, he demanded to be put in communication with the Belgian Minister at Peking and informed as to the situation of Belgian refugees in this city.

#### Chinese Quit Tien Tsin.

London, July 21.—The Admiralty this afternoon received the following telegram from Admiral Seymour: "The Tien Tsin anchorage is now entirely evacuated by Chinese."

#### A. P. Says It is Doubtful.

London, July 21.—Sir Chih Chen Lo Feng Lo, the Chinese Minister to Great Britain, this afternoon communicated the despatch purporting to be an Imperial edict giving assurance of the safety of the Foreign Minister at Peking. The alleged edict was received without comment. The correspondent of the Associated Press has the highest authority for saying that not the slightest credence is attached by the British Government to this latest statement, and that the Government is quite unable to understand the credence which is accorded at Washington to Minister Conger's message to the State Department there. Salisbury,

according to this authority, is convinced of the truth of the original reports of the massacre of foreigners at Peking.

#### BATTLE OF TIEN TSIN.

The Story of the Assault From United States Sources.

New York, July 21.—The Evening World publishes a detailed story of the Tien Tsin fight. It comes from Frederick Palmer, who has been copying for the papers. It follows: Chefoo, July 19, via Shanghai, July 21.—The attack on the native city of Tien Tsin on July 13th, resulted in the narrowest escape from what seemed up to midnight would be a terrible disaster for the allies.

#### The Plan of Attack.

General Tukushina, the Japanese commander, promised that the Japanese engineers, after three hours' shell fire from all guns, would cross the bridge over the moat, before the wall, and blowing up the great south gate, make a breach for the infantry to enter. Upon this depended everything. The Japanese had not scouted the bridge, and a 24 hours had not scouted the ground over which the charge on the bridge had to be made. The Chinese destroyed the bridge and flooded the land around it. The allies' shell fire, in no wise subdued the Chinese rifle fire from the loop holes which commanded the field, with a most twenty feet in depth around it.

#### Evident Blundering.

An outer wall of mud made it impossible for the infantry and marines coming up the field to reply to the Chinese fire. They lost fifty men in ten minutes, then rushed back from the mud wall, which they had reached. Gen. Doward, the British commander, hastened forward with a fragmentary instead of an integral skirmish line. The U. S. marines and the Welsh Fusiliers, together, under command of Waller, were on the extreme left. Then the British marines and the French advanced, followed by the Japanese, along the road toward the gate in the mud wall. Doward's plan for the Americans to support the Japanese was not made clear to Col. Liscum, of the 10th Regiment.

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as hoped during the day and the total loss of the allies was 700. The Japanese losses were severe. The Japanese most gallant in the fight, but for the Americans stopping the flank fire, the Japanese loss would have been much heavier. The French, the Japanese, the Americans and the British entered the city about 2 o'clock on the morning of July 14th. Their entry was unopposed. The U. S. flag at half-mast was hoisted over the south gate. The walls were strewn with the corpses of Chinese soldiers killed by the shell fire which cut off their flight. None apparently were hit by bullets, the damage being done by lyddite shells.

There is a terrible odor over the burning of the town. Several foreign officers are reported lost. The dead bodies remain on the wall. The natives went looting through the Chinese town. The bank and the arsenal were heavy sufferers. An advance movement on Peking is not contemplated. Colonel Liscum was buried at Long Ku.

Remedy Heard From. Washington, July 21.—The Navy Department has received a cablegram from Admiral Remy, dated Taku, July 20th, in which he says: "The latest report, Russian sources, July 13th, legations Peking still holding out. Reliability of this information uncertain."

Gone to Meet Li. Shanghai, July 20.—The British cruiser Bonaventure left Woo Sung early this morning. It is reported, to seize the Au Ping, with Li Hung Chang aboard. A triumphal arch erected in Li Hung

Chang's honor has been ordered by the Council to be removed.

Laying in Supplies. Chicago, Ill., July 21.—A commissary depot for supplies for United States troops in China is to go there has been established at Taku. This announcement is made by Col. W. L. Alexander, chief of the subsistence bureau of the department of the army. Heavy shipments have been forwarded from Manila, and thirty more carloads, comprising canned, dressed and salted beef, will be despatched by Col. Alexander next Friday, to be divided between Manila and Taku.

About the Tien Tsin Fight. New York, July 21.—"Keep up the firing" were the last words spoken by Colonel Liscum, according to a cablegram from the Chinese legation. The correspondent says: The Ninth Regiment and other Americans, with the Japanese, advanced against a flanking fire, but were forced to lie in the mud all day, unable to drink canal water. They could not drive the foe, or charge or do anything except fire a few rounds. Col. Liscum's body was needed. Col. Liscum's body was escorted to the burial place by two battalions of the Ninth. The Japanese were the heroes of the battle, fighting with remarkable bravery. They charged the breaches and fought the Chinese hand to hand. Their conduct after the bat-

tle was equally good. Fifty guns were captured by the allies.

Russians Were Attacked. St. Petersburg, July 20.—The Minister of War has received, by way of Chefoo, a despatch from Admiral Alexieff, dated Tien Tsin, July 12th, saying: "Our advanced posts before the railway station were attacked yesterday by more than 2,000 Chinese troops and Boxers. Half a company of the 10th Regiment were surrounded, and had to fight their way through with fixed bayonets. One was killed and 18 wounded. Reinforcements arrived, and compelled the Chinese to withdraw, with a loss of 700."

Russians Killed 2,000 Chinese. St. Petersburg, July 20.—The Chinese who attacked the town of Biagovestchensk concentrated on the right bank of the Amur. They were severely routed at the village of Sag-hallen, which was burned by the shell fire of the Russians. The latter have occupied all the important defensive positions on the right bank of the river.

and killed 2,000 of the enemy. Their own loss was inconceivable. Biagovestchensk defended itself bravely until 4 o'clock on the second day of the attack, when Colonel Gribosky relieved the city. The next day reinforcements arrived, and a fierce rifle and artillery duel was kept up all day. The Chinese, who previously numbered 8,000, were reinforced on July 17th. Col. Gribosky concentrated a portion of his force against Sag-hallen, where there were 7,000 Chinese artillerymen. After a short resistance he routed them and occupied the town.

From Belgian Consul. Brussels, July 20.—The Belgian Consul at Shanghai sends the following despatch, under date of July 19th: "Sheng, the Administrator of Tai-graphs, announces that the foreigners at Taku were safe and sound July 19th. An important decree, dated July 16th, orders the Viceroy of Tien-Tsin to appraise the damage caused by the troubles, and orders the local militia to repress the rebellion."

Li Hung Chang's Mission. Rome, July 20.—The Italian Consul at Hong Kong telegraphs, under date of Tuesday, July 17th, that Li Hung Chang informed him that he was going to Peking to negotiate with the powers, in compliance with a despatch signed by the Emperor and the Empress Dowager. The consul asked him to forward a despatch to the Italian Minister, Signor Raggi, but Li Hung Chang replied that he had no means of doing so. Li Hung Chang, the consul says, notified the directors of customs that they must obey orders from Canton, not from Peking. The

Viceroy of Nankin has given similar instructions from Shanghai.

Exportation of Arms. London, July 20.—In the House of Commons to-day Mr. A. J. Balfour, the First Lord of the Treasury, said it was impossible, in the present state of the law, to prohibit exportation of arms to China, but as the matter was extremely pressing, a bill would be introduced to give the Government the necessary power. Such a bill was subsequently introduced in the House of Lords by Earl Halsbury, Lord High Chancellor. The bill prohibits the exportation of arms or ammunition to China under severe penalties.

Safe July 20. Brussels, July 21.—The Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Fabreau, has received the following telegram from Shanghai, dated to-day: "A telegram from the Governor of Shantung announces that the Chinese were safe July 20th. They were under the guardianship of the Chinese authorities. Li Hung Chang has arrived at Shanghai."

The Charge d'Affaires at the Chinese Legation here this morning received a telegram from the Chinese Minister at London transmitting the report that the foreign representatives at Peking were safe. This speech having been communicated to the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Paul Fabreau, he demanded to be put in communication with the

Belgian Minister at Peking and informed as to the situation of Belgian refugees in this city.

Li Hung at Shanghai. Shanghai, July 22.—Li Hung Chang landed here yesterday. He met with a cool reception. The native officials sent an armed bodyguard of 300 men to meet him. The French consul objected to the guard passing the French settlement, and they were accordingly withdrawn. The Viceroy passed the settlement escorted by twelve French police. These handed over their charge to the police of the cosmopolitan settlement, who escorted him to his residence.

800 Russians Killed. London, July 23.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from St. Petersburg says, despite the official denial, it is certain that the town of Biagovestchensk, capital of the Amur district, Siberia, was captured and held by the Chinese until July 21st, when Col. Gribosky drove the enemy out, after eight hours' fighting. He captured eight guns and 200 prisoners, but sustained fearful losses himself, 870 Russians having been killed in storming the town.

# OLD SOL FRIZZLES LONDON SOCIETY.

## Hospitals Crowded with Sunstroke Cases and Business Quiet.

### TRIBUTE TO YOUNG CANADIANS

Who Gave Their Lives for the Empire—Lansdowne and Carrington Speak in the Lords on the Colonies and Their Devotion—Brav Capt. Towse Led in Blind to Receive a Hero's Reward From the Queen—Friends of Arbitration—British Hot Weather Fashion Changes.

London, July 21.—We are requested to state, said the Times on Thursday, "that the hat and frock coat, which had hitherto been recognized as the costume for Sandown Park on the occasion of the Royal visit, may be dispensed with tomorrow and Saturday in favor of the straw hat and other costumes more suited to the present tropical weather."

In a land where a few years ago sunstroke was almost unknown the hospitals are now crowded with cases of that description. For the first time in the history of Parliament one of the front bench members, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, has appeared at St. Stephens wearing a straw hat, to the amazement of the members of the House. Royalty driven to desperation by the hottest weather England has ever known, and obliged to appear at public functions, has completely discarded the usual forms of dress. In such matters London has in the short space of a week been turned topsy turvy and has become as free and easy as a Hattian village at the height of summer.

High Death Rate. The serious phase of the matter is the rapidly increasing death rate and continuance of the heat wave, and the people never tire of pointing out how utterly inadequate are the provisions to deal with the present conditions. Ice is a luxury obtainable by the rich only and by them in such quantities; for the poor there is no relief. The idea of flooding the heated streets has not yet dawned upon England's municipality. The supply of facilities at the London Hospitals is already inadequate.

Business Suspended. Hence it is small wonder that business is practically suspended, and social functions are cut short and made as informal as possible, to say nothing of all the military manœuvres at Aldershot being postponed. Even the news from China enlists but half-hearted interest.

Arbitration's Friends. In view of the war in China a curious and almost pathetic interest is attached to the meeting this week of the Parliamentary function for the promotion of international arbitration. Mr. Philip James Stanhope, member of Parliament for Burnley, president of the meeting, has expressed a willingness to attend the international arbitration conference in the hall of the French Senate, July 31st. Between 400 and 500 members of various European Parliaments will, on that occasion, be received by President Loubet. The

After a keen election for the vacant associate membership in the Royal Academy, Mr. Frank Millet, an American artist, was defeated by Mr. Jos. Farquharson, the vote being 28 to 20.

It is announced that Prof. Charles Eliot Norton and other literary exponents of John Ruskin have determined not to issue a biography of the great art critic, considering that Mr. Ruskin's "Praeterita," and Collingwood's biography are sufficient. However, the executors will issue representative selections from Mr. Ruskin's diaries and letters.

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English delegation includes Lord Kinross and Sir Albert Rollit.

Awarded a V. C. One of the most touching incidents of the war in South Africa occurred this week, when Captain Towse received the first Victoria Cross bestowed by the Queen for valor in the field. Captain Towse earned the distinction by attempting to carry off Colonel Downman, who had been wounded, under a hail of bullets. He was unable to do so, and lay beside him and kept off the Boers all night till help came. By that time Colonel Downman was dead.

The Hero Blind. Captain Towse was blinded in both eyes by a bullet wound in the forehead. He was taken to Windsor and led into the royal presence by his wife, where he knelt at the feet of his sovereign, who was so much overcome at the sight of the blind hero that her aged hands could scarcely pin on the most prized of all British decorations. The Queen's few words of simple praise of his gallantry and thanks for his devotion were spoken as low as to be almost inaudible, and when Queen Victoria was led out there was scarcely a dry eye among the officials present.

Tributes to Borden and Burch. The Marquis of Lansdowne, Minister of War, referring in the House of Lords to Lord Roberts' telegram announcing the death of the two young Canadian officers, Lieuts. Borden and Burch, in defending the British position in the engagement on July 15th, paid a glowing tribute to Canadian volunteers, saying: "When we think who writes that telegram and with what feelings he must have written it, I think we may say no more touching tribute of the kind has ever been paid to the memory of the brave young representatives of our Canadian forces."

Colonial Patriotism. The Earl of Carrington compared the patriotism of the colonies to an Australian, referring to the fact that disappeared in the bowels of the earth, came up again and rushed onward in a mighty torrent to the ocean. It would always be so. Earl Carrington's perfect equality were preserved between the British Colonial troops.

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# Foreigners are Safe.

## THEY FIND A REFUGE IN PRINCE CHING'S PALACE IN PEKIN.

PARIS, July 20.—The Foreign Office has received information from a Chinese source, in which, however, certain reliance may be placed, that the foreign ministers at Peking have not been massacred. According to this information, on July 7 the ministers were attacked and the legations burned but the foreigners succeeded in crossing the City to Prince Ching's palace, which was then barricaded. The Europeans were holding their own up to the time the news left on July 9. Since then nothing has been heard from Peking.

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# Mr. Conger Wires.

## ONLY QUICK RELIEF CAN AVERT GENERAL MASSACRE.

WASHINGTON, July 20.—The Chinese Minister has just received a cipher cablegram from Minister Conger. It is in the State Department cipher and is transmitted through the Tsung Li Yamen and the Shanghai Taotai. It contains about 50 words and is signed in English with the name Conger.

At 9.45 a.m. Minister Wu handed the Conger despatch to Secretary Hay. No doubt was expressed by State Department officials as to the authenticity of the message.

Mr. Conger's telegram is as follows: "In British legation. Under continued shot and shell from Chinese troops. Quick relief only can prevent general massacre." The message is not dated, but, it is understood, was sent from Peking on the 18th.

Belgian Minister at Peking and informed as to the situation of Belgian refugees in this city.

# ENDS LIFE IN A BATH. FOUND IN A LARD TANK.

## Wm. Linton, a Traveller, Sui cides in Montreal.

Montreal, July 22.—Mr. Wm. Linton, a commercial traveller, whose family is living in Toronto, committed suicide at the Lawrence Hall on Saturday night in a most tragic manner. The deceased, who was a brother of Mr. James Linton, the millionaire boot and shoe manufacturer of this city, was about 55 years of age. He arrived at the St. Lawrence Hall from the west on July 18th. He was a very quiet man, and nothing unusual was noticed about him. On Saturday night he retired early to his room.

About 10.30 o'clock one of the attendants, while passing a bathroom on the same corridor as Mr. Linton's room, noticed through the half-closed door the figure of a man. When he looked into the bathroom he was horrified to notice blood stains in the water. A moment's examination showed him that the form was that of Mr. Linton, and that he was dead. He was attired in his night gown, and the body lay across the edge of the bath, head, shoulders, and arms in the water.

An open razor, the blade covered with blood, lay in the bath, near the dead man's right hand, and told an apparently clear tale of self-destruction.

More things are wrought by prayer than the world dreams of.—Tennyson.

# CHICAGO POLICE MAKE A GRUESOME DISCOVERY.

## WERE MEN BOILED THERE?

Chicago, July 21.—The police officials are investigating a mystery at the Stock Yards, which they think is another Lutetia case.

A human skull and a pair of shoes have been found in a rendering house owned by one of the packing house firms at the yards. Several men recently in the employ of the company have disappeared, and the police are searching for them to see if any light can be shed on the mysterious find. It is a theory of the police that the victim was pushed into the tank.

Report That 10,000 Would Go to the States Denied. New York, July 20.—Chas. D. Pierce, trustee and treasurer of the Boer Relief fund, and Consul-General of the Orange Free State, made the following statement to-day concerning Boer emigration to the United States: "My attention having been called to the statements in various newspapers that 10,000 or more Boers are about to emigrate from the South African Republic and the Orange Free State to the United States, I wish to state in the most emphatic language possible that there is not one word of truth in such statements."

Smallpox at Nome. Vessel at Point Townsend Reports Eighteen Cases. Port Townsend, July 21.—The transport Rosecrans has arrived from Nome. Her officers reported to the quarantine station that she had eighteen cases of smallpox on board.

ONTARIO ARCHIVES TORONTO