The Siege of Pekin Legations:

Dr. Morrison's Graphic Story of the Siege of the Pekin Legations, as Furnished to the London Times.

the west. Then the Germans, retir- tion corner on the east. ed to their own barricade, while the Americans retained the position which had been thus, gained. At the head of the ramp behind the Legation they began to build hastily a covering wall to shelter them from the fire which was shortly rained along the open surface from the west. The German and American

each other about 500 yards.

No Enemy Could Live between them, and the security of the American Legation was increased tenfold. But a great blunder was made at this stage. The Americans built a barricade across the wall from the ramp to the eastern corner of the bastion, leaving the bastion outside their lines. The enemy swiftly seized the advantage offered them. They mounted the wall by the next ramp to the west and, under cover of night, threw an exactly corresponding barricade across the wall to the western corner of the bastion. Thus there were two barricades facing each other at a distance of 80 y rds. The Christian coolies worked all night at etrengthening the barricade, while small pickets of Germans and Russians were sent to assist the Americans to hold the position, which was subsequently held by the British and Russians in conjunction with the Am-

Down in the besieged area the enemy pressed upon every side. Again. they attempted to fire the British Legation from the Mongol market on the west, but a sortie was made by British marines and volunteers, and the Chinese were driven from house to house out of the market.

The Work Was Dangerous and Captain Halliday was dangerously wounded, while Captain Strouts had an extraordinary escape, the bullet grazing the skin above the carotid artery. The sortie was entirely successful; some rifles were captured and ammunition, which was more precious than bilver. The buildings were then fired by us, the fire being kept under control, which cleared a long distance round the west of the Lega-

Fortification proceeded without intermission, and all the defences of the besieged area quickly gathered strength. For the first time war art was a feature in the fortification. Sandbags were of every color under the sun, and of every texture. Silks and satins, curtains and carpets and embroideries were ruthlesely cut up into sandbags. In the Imperial gifts and accumulated out this distance to fire from a hun-

ly families in China. a determined attempt to force their with the way into the Palace in their frenzy to slaughter the native Christians. In the angle of the wall in the northeastern court of the Palace they made a breach in the wall, and rushed wildly in. But the Japanese were waiting for them, and from loop holes they had made opposite rolled them over like rabbits, driving them helter-skelter back again. Some 20 were killed, and but for the unsteadi- still living-a marvellous recoverythe splendid main pavilion of the Palace. The Japanese in their turn were driven back, and the Christians escaping from the burning building overflowed from the Fu into all that quarter lying between the Palace grounds and Legation street.

Chinese Freachery. Ministers and stop firing. A despatch will be handed at the Imperial Canal Bridge." A placard whereon was written, "Despatch will be received," was sent by one of the Chinese clerks employed at the Legation, but when he approached the bridge, a hundred rifles from the Imperial Palace gate were levelled at him. The despatch was never received. The Artifice Decrived No One.

Treachery was feared, vigilance was redoubled. Sandbags were thrown on positions which during fire were untenable. So that when at midnight the general attack was made upon us we were prepared and every man was at his post. The surprise had failed. As firing had ceased so it began. Horns were sounded, and then from every quarter a hail of builets poured over us, sweeping through the trees and striking with sharp impact the roofs of the pavillons. No harm was done though the noise was terrific. Great steadiness was shown by the men. They lay quietly behind the sandbags, and not a shot was fired in reply. It was suggested as an exComplete Isolation.

Our isolation was now complete. and the enemy's cordon was conrifle and cannon, but of fire and starvation. The small garrison detached from the guard was known to be inadequately supplied and ammunition, so there was a hope, | handed. though a faint one, that the Chinese themselves had assisted in the de- was hard pressed. One of their offisiege for a garrison of 3,000 souls the attack was repulsed; was not known. Their condition was some of the outer buildings of a constant source of anxiety to the Legation were burned, and flagration.

play havoe upon the Legations, the the shells burst everywhere and esfurthest of which-the British-was at capes were marvellous, few people tion, which was on the left. Then the its nearest point not 400 yards dis | were hit. tant. Still more exposed than the American barricade was the outpost on the wall held by the Germans. At the Fu nearly one-third of the buildfirst they had been reinforced by the French and Austrians, but the needs of the French Legation were equally pressing and the guards were withdrawn and a small picket of British sent to aid the Germans. Already the Germans had lost terribly, for the outpost was situated at a dis- city wall was increasing. The posithe Prince's Fu the sandbags were tance of 250 yards from the Legation made of the richest silks and satins, and the reliefs were exposed throughtreasures of one of the eight prince- dred snipers. One hundred yards in front of the German barricade was

> Banners of Lung Vu. Here was mounted a Krupp gun. from which shells burst over the German barricade, seriously wounding two of the six British who were there on guard. On the same day that this happened two Germans on guard at the barricade were shot through the head stone dead, a third was shot through the head, but is

ness of the Italians who were assist- | a fourth was wounded in the face by ing the Japanese, the execution a shell, a fifth was shot through would have been greater. The Chi- the thigh in the same deadly corner. nese were driven back, but the same | Two men going to relieve guard were evening they threw fireballs of pe- shot by snipers, one slightly, troleum over the wall and set fire | through the hand, the other fatally to the building. Flames spread to through the right leg-he died from tetanus 11 days later; while, crown the misfortunes of the day Corporal Robert Goelitz, who wore the war medal given him only last year for an act of heroism in the field at Kiaochau, was shot through the head and died instantaneously. Altogether this barrier on the wall cost in the one On June 25, a truly Oriental meth- day four men killed and six wounded. od of weakening our defence was at- During the night the position was held tempted by the Chinese. Up to four by eight Germans and three British. in the afternoon the shooting of ri- In the morning of July 1st the Chinfles and field gaus had been contin- ese climbed up the ramp and surprised uous, when suddenly bugles were the guard. The order was hastily sounded north, east, south and given to retire, and the picket west, and as if by magic the firing shaken by its losses of yesterday, left ceased. It was under perfect con- the wall. The German non-commistrol-Imperial control commanded by sioned officer who gave the order was responsible central authority. The severely blamed for thus abandoning silence abruptly following the fusil- a position that he had been ordered to lade was striking. Then an official hold. Withdrawal left the Americans of low rank was seen to affix to exposed in the rear. They saw the the parapet of the North bridge Germans retire, and in a panic fell near the British Legation a board back to the Legation, rushing pellmell inscribed with 18 Chinese characters down the ramp. Nothing had occurred - "Imperial command to protect at the barricade itself to justify the retreat, although two men had fallen within a few hours before. Yet the wall was the key of the position and had to be maintained. A conference was held at the British Legation, and as a result orders were given to return to the post. Captain Myers at once took back a strong detachment of fourteen Americans, ten British and ten Russians, and re-occupied the barricade as if nothing had happened. The Chinese, ignorant that

> the post had been evacuated, lost their opportunity. back, and M. Wagner, a volunteer, egaped back down the lane. courage and spirit, the Acting Postal | send, acted with admirable ian to lay down his life in the defence | were the last of the detachment. of women and children in Pekin.

A Gallant Sortle. planation of this wild firing that not 300 yards from the British Legation. One pierced both first gave cause for anxiety. He to devise in the face of innumerable the shots were to kill the guardian tion, and fire was opened upon a was struck just as he entered the walls of the dining-room, passing be- gradually sank and died on July difficulties. If no reply is received by spirits which were known to hover storied building occupied by marines hole by two, bullets, one through hind the portrait of the Queen. Two 24th. Mr. Narahara was a brill- the time fixed, even our affection over us. Similar fusilades took place in the south court of the Legation. the back of the shoulder, another came crashing through the walls of ant Chinese scholar. He was for will not enable us to help you. Comat the American Legation and at the Fired at thort range, the shells through the thigh. The five young a student's room where a few minFrench Legation, with the same recrashed through the roof and walls. The five young a student's room where a few minmerly private secretary to Marquis pliments."

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On the 24, a party of Germans and, had availed themselves of the quiet tinued, but no one was injured, though hurled stones and threw shells to ex-Americans, leaving the Austrians and to throw up earthworks in the a crack racing pony in the stables plode overhead. Only after the ar-French in charge of the Ger- Carriage Park alongside the British below was killed and next day eaten. mistice, when we received the Pakin man barricade, advanced again Legation, in the Mongol market be- It was determined to capture this gun, Gazette, did we find that word to westward along the wall sweeping | tween the British and Russian Lega- | so in the early morning a force con- | burn out and slaugh or on. the way clear past the American | tions, and at both ends of Legation | sisting of 26 British. 10 Germans, 10 | had come from the highest in Legation for 200 yards towards the street facing the Americans on the Russians, 5 French and 5 Italians, and land. Chien Men, the other great gate on west and facing the French Lega- about 20 volunteers made a sortie he Japanese were driven still fur-

The Attempt Was a Fiasco. world outside Pekin, but it was cut knew where to go, the captain lost | Equally impressed were most of barricades were now distant from the Pei-tang. No messenger could the rear, and the men retreated fire of the Chinese coolies. be induced for love or money to | pell-mell. As the British marine de- | morning five of them carry a message there. Bishop Fav- scribed the operation-"The capt'n, wounded going up the exposed to the danger not only of wall, 'e waves 'is bloomin' arms in the air and then 'e sets fire to the 'ouse be'ind us." This was a bungle. Attack on the French Legation with ammunition. It was known French and German Legations had however, that the danger of the sit- | suffered heavily . The German Legauation had long been foreseen by tion was especially exposed, and since

Monseigneur Favier, who, speaking the soldiers were more than their alwith unequalled authority, had, weeks lies, disdainful of cover, the small before the siege, vainly urged his Min- | band, numbering originally only 50 ister to bring troops to Pekin. When men, was being daily reduced in numthe crisis occame inevitable and Chris- bers. Their commanding officer, tian refugees poured into the city, Graf Soden, was untiring in his duty, the Bishop endeavored to buy arms working, as he had to do, single On the 29th the French Legation

fence. So with stores, Large quanti- cers, the midshipman, Herbert, ties of grain were stored in the Pei- was shot. Reinforcements were tang, but whether sufficient for a hastily sent from the Fu. and Europeans within the Legations, French had to retire further into the who were powerless to help them. Legation. In this siege it was strik-Watch was kept unceasingly for any ing what a powerful part petroleum sign of the disaster that seemed in- was made to play. ; Already the evitable-the massacre and the con- French Legation had suffered more severely than any other Legation; of Toward evening of the 28th a their 45 men 16 had been killed or Krupp gun was mounted in the wounded. Krupp guns had been Mongol market occupied by Chinese | mounted not 50 yards to the easttroops, the walls being loopholed and ward and the eastern walls of the lanes barricaded. And all were so close pavilions were being gradually and the leadership of Captain Myers, Capthat you could not look through a systematically battered into ruins. loophole without being shot at. Yet All day now and until the cessation the American barricade, with its of hostilities shells were pounding inmixed guard of Americans, Russians to the French Legation, into Chamot's | American barricade, which left the and British, had to be held at all hotel, and from the Chien Men on the hazards; otherwise the Krupp gun wall promiscuously, everywhere. Much of within the American lines. The could be brought down the wall and property was destroyed, but, though | two barricades faced each other at

A Day of Misfortunes. The cordon was drawing closer. In ings had been abandoned and the Japanese retired to a second line of defence. Shells were fired by the hundred. On the 29th 70 shells were thrown into the British Legation. The difficulty of holding the American and German barricades on the tions were ver, much exposed. A Krupp gun was brought close the American Russo Chinese Bank and all the buildings near were In the Prince's Fu the Chinese made the Chinese barricade, picturesque firing at short range into the Fu (i.e. the Prince's Palace), was a serious menace to our communications. Captain Paolini, the Italian officer, conceived the idea that he could capture the gun if volunteers could be given him and if the Japanese could assist. The Japanese under Colonel Shiba readily did so; they forced their way to a rendezvous agreed upon, losing one man killed and two wounded. Their sacrifice was fruitless; they waited, but, the position being un

tenable, they retired. Meanwhile a party of 16 Italians four Austrians, two Frenchmen, seven British m ines and five British students, were led by Captain Paolini to the capture of the gun. He conceived cade. Taken by surprise, the Chinese that the gun was to the northeast of the Fu, to be reached by a lane running from Canal street opposite the British Legation eastward. No one knew that this was his concept tion. One hundred yards up this lane there was a high Chinese barricade; the houses on the north side of the lane were held by the Chinese and loopholed. From a position occupied by Captain Poole's men in the Hanlin the lane could be enfilled. They were therefore on watch, expecting that the Chinese were to be taken in the rear and driven down the lane into the canal. Close to the barricade there was a hole in the wall of the Fu from which a previous attempt had been made to enter the lane. The Italian captain was ignorant of the existence of this hole. Then, to the amazement of the British who were watching it from the Hanlin, the men were lined up under the wall opposite, and after waiting a little Captain Paolini called his men and dashed up the lane. Wildly cheering, they fol

lowed him. Into the Death-Trap. By the rush they were able to ad vance some distance before fire was opened upon them. Then rifles from behind the barricade and from the loopholes broke forth. The column recoiled; the men fired wildly into the air, the captain's arm fell pow- 300 loaves a day. Shelled out of the into the breach. It was quick work, erless, two Italians fell dead. The men were turning to rush back courage inspired the Chinese, and when they saw the man-hole, and they followed him under fire with an Before, however, any casualties beimmediately the Italians and Austrians, who were leading, made dash for it and fought like wild Then the guard in the French Le- beasts to burst their way through. gation was driven a stage further | One British marine, badly wounded, was killed by the bursting of a shell live British students, Russell, Bris-He was a young Frenchman of much tow, Hancock, Flaherty and Town Secretary in the Maritime Customs possession. Projecting slightly into under Sir Robert Hart, with a career | the lane on the opposite side from opening before him of much promise. the man-hole was a house which The son of a former Consul General gave just sufficient cover. There at Shanghai, he was the first civil- the men stood for shelter, for they

his dash across he picked up a Lee-

Thus, by this effective sortle our | Another ploughed through the carts. small garrison was reduced by three men killed, one officer and four men and one volunteer wounded. Fortu- City wall, where the bombardment nately it was no worse. The gun that was not captured was Dowager and her counsellors, and

brought up again next day into play, and continued battering down the Fu walls. The enemy were working their way ever nearer to refugee Christians. Their rage to reach the Christians was appalling. They cursed them from over the wall.

from the Legation to try and capture | ther back. Already they had lost | hour. the gun and burn the houses covering | heavily for upon them had fallen the brunt of a defence, the gallantry of which surpassed all praise. When stantly drawing closer. Every wall The men got tangled up in the lanes the siege was raised it was found beyond the lines was loopholed. Not so that the reserve line with the kero- that of the entire force of marines only was the besieged area cut off sene marched ahead of the firing line; only five men had escaped without from all communication with the there was a Babel of voices, no one | wounds; one was wounded five times. off from all communication with his head, and set fire to the houses in with the courage and coolness under ier and his guards must have been 'e sez, 'garn boys, garn, chawge boys, to the American barricade. Withalready hard pressed, for they were chawge,' against a bloomin' 'ouse out their assistance our danger would have been increased tenfold. Many were killed and wounded when working under fire, On July 2nd Mr. The Chinese, however, were alarmed, Kolima, an attache of the Japanese Legation, was killed and also two Japanese marines. On the same day a German marine was shot dead while standing in the first secretary's room in the German Legation. A coolie was shot in the leg while tion, Shots fell everywhere. Twice | were forced to retire. Their gallant was struck by a stray bullet. One of the Ministers-such was the and one Christian volunteer killed. French Captain Darcy, the Austrian

ed, he could see nothing at night, a dozen Customs and student volunand he had never handled a gun. His teers and of six British marines. offer was not accepted, but the spirit which prompted him to make it was

admired. A Desperate Counter-Move. At daybreak on July 3rd the Chinese barricade on the top of the wall near the American outpost was successfully stormed by a party of Britisn, Americans, and Russians, under tain Vroublevsky and Mr. Nigel Oilphant, I have spoken of the error committed in the construction of the width of the bastion outside instead the distance of the width of the bas-Chinese, working with great cleverness, always keeping under shelter, pushed forward a covering wall across the bastion, until it curved round and reached the left-hand corner of the American breastwork. Here they began erecting a small fort, the centre of which was feet from the centre of the nearest American picket. The position was intolerable. It was imperative to rush the barricade and drive out the Chin-

ese; nothing else could be done.

morning, and before that hour

An attack was planned for 3 in the

strong force of British was sent over

from the Legation. The combined

force assembled for the attack consisted of 26 British marines under Sergeant Murphy and Corporal Gregory, with Mr. Nigel Oliphant as volunteer, 15 Russians under Captain Vroublevsky, and 15 Americans, all being under the command of Captain Myers. When asked if they came willingly one American begged to be relieved and was sent below. This left the total force at 56, of whom 14 were Americans. So close were the Chinese that it was only a couple of jumps from our barricade to their fort. There was a rush to be first over, the fort was stormed, and dashing round the covering wall the "foreign devils" charged behind the barrifired into the air, fled incontinently, eral Ma" were captured. Fifteen Chinese soldiers of Tung-fuh-sing were killed outright and many more must have been wounded. Some rifles and ammunition were captured. Captain Myers was wounded in the knee by tripping over a faller spear, two Americans, Turner and Thomas -one having accidentally jumped on the wrong side of the barricadewere killed, and Corporal Gregory was wounded in the foot.

Most of the shelling was now directed against the French and German Legations and Chamo's Hotel amazing confidence.

British Legation Hard-Pressed. Then suddenly a new attempt was made to reduce the British Legation. Guns firing round shot, 8-pounders and breach had been formed by the 4-pounders were mounted on the bursting of the gun or by the wave Imperial City wall overlooking from of concussion, and the gun was sil the north the Hanlin and the British | ent. Legation. With glasses-the distance was only 350 yards-one could clearly see the officers and distinguish their Imperial Peacock feathers and Mandarin hats. Adjoining the battery an upper row of stones on Then all the marines having got the wall was raised to form loopsafely through, the students fired a holes for sharpshooters, who could the leg, while Mr. Narahara, the the original messenger deliver the It was a day of misfortunes. In the voiley into the barricade, and one thus enfillade the canal and our com- well-known secretary of the John reply in order that we may settle afternoon, the most disastrous man rushed across, then the four municatons eastward. Round shot ese Legation, wounded by the burst the day for leaving the Legations. sortie of the siege was fired and another rushed across. In were hurled into the Hanlin and ing of a shell, suffered a compound "This is the single way of preservattempted. A Krupp gun was this way all passed unscathed, un- crashed through the roofs of the fracture of the leg, which from the ing relations which we have been able sult. During the armistice the Chinese For an hour the bombardment con- showed conspicuous coolness, for in had been standing watching the pre- negotiations in Shimonoseki in 1895. July 14, 1900.

parations being made to bombard us. Metford rifle which a marine had Another struck the room of a lady who was in bed and fell at her side. Three batteries in all, carrying five guns, were mounted on the Imperial could be witnessed by the Empress day after day round shot were thrown from them into the British Legation, into a compound crowded with women and children. This is what his Excellency Lo Feng-Luh was describing to Lord Salisbury as "giving effective protection to the British Legation.

On July 5 Mr. David Oliphant, of the British Legation, was killed. He was felling a tree by the well in the Hanlin, when he was shot by a sniper concealed in a roof in the Imperial Carriage Park, and died within an

The Chinese Pressing On. Day by day the Chinese were pressing us more closely, in the Fu they were gradually wedging their way in northeast so as we cut the communications between the British and the Legations to the east. They burned their way from house to house. Keeping under cover, they set alight the gables within reach by torches of cloth scaked in kerosene held at the end of long poles. If the roofs were beyond reach they threw over fireballs of kerosene, or, if still further, shot into them with arrows freighted with burning cloth. In this way and with the use of the heavy gun, they battered a way though the houses and courtyards of the Prince's Palace. A daring attempt made by the Japanese to capture the gun resulted in failure. Coolies failed them when they were withdigging a grave in the British Lega- in four yards of success, and they within the British Legation a pigeon | leader, Captain Ando, was shot in the throat while waving on his men; the French Legation. Everyone worked at the defences. one marine was seriously wounded, When the first mine exploded the ficer commending. He volunteered to had been reduced to 13 marines and

> tificial rockery were stationed a ment or two later by the second. 9th there was a sudden panic, a and "providing its staff with food." yards away had the range and long. Many men were wounded there, and | the one Italian had his head blown off. Shell fire finally made it impossible to live there. The advanced posts were abandoned, and the sentries fell back to the main picket. No sooner was the advanced post abandoned than it was occupied by the Chinese, and the defences we had

made were turned against us. French and German Legations. Meanwhile, the French and German Legations were being roughly handled, and men were falling daily. At the German Legation shells burst room. Most of the other buildings, uninhabitable, but every member of the Legation remained at his post. ten by Prince Ching "and others," So, too, in the French Legation, addressed to the British Minister. and were shot down as they ran | where the Austrians were, Dr. and It was the first communication of along the open surface of the wall. Madame von Rosthorn remained by any kind whatsoever that had Captain Vroublevsky and his detach- the side of their men. Chinese and reached us from outside for nearly ment acted with special gallantry, French were so close that the voices one month. the British and Americans took it in were within the Legation itself. and there has been no communica a shell. He was talking at the time to Captain Labrousse and Captain Darcy, but they escaped unscathed. Then, still pressing us closer, the Chinese brought a Krupp gun along from the Chien Men and mounted it behind a wall on the top of the city wall, in a position directly facing The hotel was struck 91 times and the American barricade, at a disseveral times set on fire, but the tance of 40 yards. Suddenly the Chiflame was extinguished. Work con- nese threw open an embrasure untinued there, however hot the shell- covering the gun, and fired point ing, for food had to be prepared blank at the wall in front of them there for half the community in Pe- | behind which were the ten British kin, Russians, French, Germans and and two Russians. The shell burst Austrians. The energy of Chamot overhead, but no one was hit. The was marvellous. He fed the troops gan was in a moment withdrawn. and a crowd of Christian refugees, At the second shot the British fell killed his own mules and horses, flat down, the shell burst, they jumpground his own wheat, and baked ed to their feet and fired a volley kitchen he baked in the parlor. His smartly and bravely done, but the position could not have been held. curred a curious thing happened. At the fifth round when the gun was fired a mass of bricks and earth were thrown outwards. A wide

A Day of Heavy Losses. July 11th was a day of many casualties. One German was mortally wounded; one Englishman, one Italian and one Japanese were serious

He was universally respected. In a reckless attempt to capture a Chinese banner three Frenchmen were wounded, one of them, M. Gruingenst. fatally. He was an engineer on the Luhan Railway, who had escaped from the burning of the Chang Hain Tien before the outbreak of hostitities. Chinese banners, indeed, hung temptingly close to every outpost One morning we awoke to find one waving from a sandbag shelter in the carriage walk over the very wall of the British Legation. No marine could suffer such an affront. Durng the day Sergt. Preston, of the Oriando, with two volunteers mounted the wall, shot two soldiers who were on guard behind the sandbags, while his mates seized the flag and hauled it into the compound. On the 11th 18 prisoners were captured, by the French in a temple near the Legation. They were soldiers and a Chinese Christian gave information as to thir whereabouts. Every one of them was put to death without mercy in the French Legation, bayoneted by a French corporal to save cartridges. Questioned sefore death they gave much information that was obviously false. One man, however, declared that a mine was being driven under the French Legation. His story had a quick corrotoration. As the afternoon of the 13th was closing a feint attack was made on the Japanese entrenchments in the Fu. Then the sound of many ougles was heard from the camps round the French Legation, to be followed in a few minutes by

A Terrific Explosion

and in a moment or two by another, and bricks and debris were hurled into the air. It was a dull roar in the midst of the devilish cries of hordes of Chinese, shricking like spirits in hell, the rattle of musketry and the toom of heavy guns. The mine of which the prisoner had warned us had exploded and burst an entrance into

emulation of all to do something- By the 8th the position in the Fu Charge d'Affaires, two French marines offered his services to the British of- was alarming, for the Japanese force and Mr. Datelan, of the customs, were standing over the death trap. Mr. Deskeep watch and watch by night, but 14 volunteers; yet with decreasing telan was buried up to the neck, but his offer was hampered by qualifica- numbers they were constantly call- was rescued unhurt. The two marines tions. He was eager to keep watch, ed upon to defend a longer line. Rein- were engulfed, and their bodies were he said, but he was very shortsight- forcements were sent them of half never recovered. Capt. Darcy and Dr. von Rosthorn escaped miraculously. The latter was buried by the first In the northwest corner of an ar- explosion and released unburt a momixed force of 15 Italians and five The buildings they left were set fire

Austrians. But the position was an to and the ruins were occupied by the exposed one, and it was difficult to Chinese, and when the flames had keep the southerners at their posts. burnt out Imperial banners were They were said to have no lack of hoisted over the ruins of what had spirit, but their forte was in at- once been the residence of the French tack. They lacked the dull, pati- Minister. And while this tragedy was ent courage of sitting behind loop- being enacted in Pekin the Chinese holes cooped up in a sandbag shelter Ambassador in Paris was assuring within earshot of the enemy. They the President that his Government were always running away. On the was "protecting" the French Legation stampede and the position was eva- | Smultaneously with this attack cuated. The civilian in charge, Mr. upon the French Legation the Chinese Caetani, of the Italian Legation, made a determined assault upon the acted with much courage and induced German Legation, the effective his men to return. Five Austrians strength of whose garrison numwere sent away and British marines bered only one officer and thirty-one put in their places. Ever after- men. They broke into the club alongwards a British picket was kept side the Legation, and were on the there. The position was one of con- tennis ground when Count Soden and stant solicitude, for the loss of the a handful of German soldiers gal-Fu would have imperilled the British | lantly charged them at the point of Legation. A Krupp gun mounted fifty the bayonet and drove them out head-

raked the post with shell and shrap- Reinforcements of nine Russians nel. To strengthen the breastwork, and five German volunteers, under exposure to rifle fire was incurred Herr von Strauch, came up at the from 20 yards' distance, while to double, but their services were not reach the post required crossing a needed. The attack was over. Unlzone of fire which was perhaps the forms on the dead Chinese showed that hottest in the whole of the defences. the attack had been carried out by

Troops of Yung Lu.

einforced by the savages of Tunguh Slang. Some of the dead were armed with the latest pattern Mauser and the newest German army revolver. Some ammunition, of which he guards were in much need, was recovered and distributed among the Japanese and Italians.

A Chinese Communication.

On July 14th, a messenger sent out on the 10th, with a letter for the troops, returned to the British Legation. He had been arrested by through the Minister's drawing- | the Chinese, cruelly beaten, and taken, he said, to the Yamen of conspicuous by their height, were Yung Lu, and there given the following letter, purporting to be writ-

for their duty it was to attack the of the Chinese officers could be heard "For the last ten days the sol-Chinese barricade in the front, while encouraging their men. Chinese diers and militia have been fighting the rear. Two banners marked "Gen- Their guns literally bombarded the tion between us, to our great anx-Minister's residence a bout portant, lety. Some time ago we harg up a and the noise of the exploding shells | board, expressing our intentions, but was terrific. Yet the men never no answer has been received, and flinched. On the 8th the Austrian contrary to expectation, the forcommander, Captain Thomann, of the | eign soldiers made renewed attacks, Zenta, was killed by the bursting of | causing alarm and suspicion among soidiers and people.

> "Yesterday the troops captured a convert named Chin Seu-hei and learned from him that all the foreign Ministers were well, which caused us very great satisfaction. "But at the time of leaving the Lehappens. The reinforcements of foreign troops were long ago stopped and turned back by the Boxers and if, in accordance with previous agreement, we were to guard your Excellencies out of the city, there are so many Boxers on the road to Tien Tsin and Taku that we should be apprehensive of misadventure.

> "We now request your Excellencles to first take your families and the various members of your staffs, and leave your Legations in detachments. We should select trust worthy officers to give close and strict protection, and you should temporarily reside in the Tsung-li-Yamen, pending future arrangements for your return home, in order to preserve friendly relations intact from beginning to end.

> But at the time of leaving the Legations there must on no account whatever be taken any single armed soldier, in order to prevent doubt and fear on the part of the troops and people, leading untoward inci-

"if Your Excelliences are willing to show this confidence, we beg you to communicate with all the foreign Minly wounded. Mr. Nigel Oliphant, a listers in Pekin, to-morrow at noon volunteer, received a bullet wound in being the limit of time, and to let

PL01

A THRILLING STORY OF

CHAPTER VI. A Compact of The Wolfenden, for an idi oung man of fairly pre ar 10 o'clock next more breakfasted, and before riding in the park. Perh ome faint hope of seeing thing of the two people to was now greatly int o, he was certainly d He looked with a new cu the faces of the girls wi to take particular notice promenaders. But he di anything of Mr. Sabin of

panion. At 12 o'clock he return rooms and exchanged clothes for the ordinary the West End. He even his hall-table as he passed to see if there were at card for him 'He could scarcely loc just yet, at any rate,"

d. as he walked slowly a

dilly, "for he did not ev

for my address. He took thing so coolly that p oes not mean even to Nevertheless he looked thing against his name. into pieces the few u notes be found there, wit tionce which they scard ed. Of the few acquaint there, he inquire whether they knew anyt man named Sabin. No on have heard the name b even consulted a director hall, but without succe o'clock, in a fit of restit went out, and taking drove over to Westin Harcutt's rooms. Harcut and with him Densham. den's entrance the three at one another, and th simultaneous laugh "Here comes the hero!

not to impart it." Wolf swered, selecting a cigal taking an easy chair. " cisely as much as I

us everything.

remarked. "He will be a

"I came to gather if

"Mr. Sabin has not be out his gratitude yet. t sham asked. Wolfenden shook his he

" Not yet. On the whole clined to think that he come at all. He doubtles that he has done all the sary in the way of than not even ask for my car ing me his was only a form, for there was no a "But he knew your m

cutt reminded him. "I not "Yes. I suppose he con if he wished to," Wolfen ted. "If he had been about it, though, I should would have said somet His one klea seemed to away before there was a "I do not think." Har "that you will find him ed with gratitude. He dos that sort of man." "I do not want any gra

him," Wolfenden answere ately. "So far as the m is concerned, I should rad never to see him again. bye, did either of you fell them home last night?" Harcutt and Densham quick glances. Wolfenden his question quietly, but i dently what he had come "Yes," Harcutt said, "w They are evidently people of sequence. They went first to

of the Russian Ambassad Lobanski." He could have been thers. mental note to leave a card bassy that afternoon. "And afterwards "

"Afterwards they drove in Chilton Gardens, B where they remained." "The presumption being,

Wolfenien began. "That they live there, put im "In fact, I may sa ascertained that definit man's name is 'Sabin,' and is reputed to be his niece. know as much as we do. Th ship, however, is little mo "Da either of you go to

twon f" Wolfenden asked. "We both did," Harcutt Wolfenden raised his ey "You were there! Then you make their acquintant "I asked for an introduct girl," he said, "and was p clined. She was under t charge of the Princess, and sented to no one.

"And Mr. Sabin ?" Wolfen "He was talking all the Baron von Knienstein, th Ambassador, They did not s Wolfensien smiled. "It seems to me," he said. had an excellent opportunit

Harcutt threw his cigaret fire with an impatient ges "You may think so," he si oan say is, that if you had yourself, you could have any rate, w no very particular now in finding out who terious Mr. Sabin and the We may assume that there tionship," he added, "or the soarcely have been at the where, as a rule, the guest

in respectability what the brilliancy," "As to the relationship,"

said. "I am quite prepared that for granted. I, for on "That," Harcutt remarke cause you are young and a li otic. When you have lived a

have you will doubt ex You will take nothing for gr less you desire to live for eve the ruins of your shattered asms. If you are wise, you w comme that your swans are the you have proved them to b "That is very cheap cynicis