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SEYMOUR RELIEVED!

Well Entrenched the Column Could Have Held Out Only a Day or Two Longer.

Railway Line Re-opened from Taku to Tien Tsin—A Large Force Advancing Toward Pekin.

LONDON, June 28, 3.20 a. m.—The composite brigade of 2,300 men who raised the investment of Tien Tsin and pushed on to help Admiral Seymour, has probably saved him, but the news has not yet reached Che Foo, the nearest wire point. The last steamer arriving at Che Foo from Taku brought this message, dated Tien Tsin Monday, June 25:

"The Russian general in command of the relief force had decided, in view of Saturday's heavy fighting and marching, that one day's rest to the troops was essential, and that the advance should not be resumed until today."

Meanwhile came Admiral Seymour's heliograph that his position was desperate and that he could only hold out two days. The relief started at dawn today (Monday).

Saturday's fighting began at daybreak. The allied forces opened with seven of the Terrible's 4.7 naval guns, six field guns and numerous machine guns, the firing being at long range. They continued to advance steadily, the Chinese artillery replying. The guns of the allies were more skilfully handled and put the guns of the Chinese out of action one by one, the Chinese retreating about noon. There was keen rivalry among the representatives of the various nations as to which should enter Tien Tsin first; and the Americans and British went in neck and neck. The Russians stormed the arsenal, thereby sustaining the largest losses."

Several thousand Japanese have left Taku for Tien Tsin, and altogether 13,000 Japanese have landed. The international troops now aggregate 30,000, and Japan is preparing to send 30,000 more. With British, American and other troops ordered to go, probably sixty thousand men will be available in a month.

LONDON, June 29.—The missing links of the chain of relief in China are being recovered one by one. Seymour, with a mixed force of 2,300 men, has been relieved after failing to establish communication with Pekin. His arrival at Tien Tsin is announced from Che Foo, Berlin, St. Petersburg and other sources, and will be reported in the course of time with the compliments of the secretary of the admiralty. His casualties are said to be 62 killed, 312 wounded, and 200 wounded have been taken into Tien Tsin by Russian and other foreign troops. The only remaining missing link is the body of foreign ministers and refugees at Pekin, and this is reported by the German commander at Taku to be with the landing force and quite safe. There are other reports to the effect that the ministers have not left Pekin, and also that they are

PASSING TO THE COAST

by another route, but there seems little reason to doubt that they are safe, whether in the capital or on the way to the coast.

The British admiralty is behind time, but has managed to report that Tien Tsin was holding out for five days, with little loss, and that Seymour seized the arsenal during the retreat, and was hard pressed when reinforcements were sent to him. To these meagre explanations was added in parliament yesterday the additional detail that the viceroy at Hong Kong has telegraphed to the British consul general at Shanghai that the foreign legations at Pekin continue to receive every protection from the imperial government. Details are still lacking, but it is evident that Seymour's relief column was cut off from supplies and unable either to reach Pekin or to return to Tien Tsin. When the Russians, Americans and other allied forces reinforced it Monday it had not accomplished any useful purpose, and had been

UNDER FIRE FOR A FORTNIGHT

and on short rations.

The situation has cleared sufficiently to admit of a prospective view of the British and American policy. What the British policy in China is, and nobody outside the foreign office professes to understand, Salisbury has not disclosed any objective points beyond protection of the British legation and commercial interests. He has not started out well, for the relief force commanded by Seymour has returned to Tien Tsin after being thwarted and baffled in an attempt to reach Pekin, and the Russian column with other foreign contingents has rescued it. England has taken a subordinate part in the bombardment of the Taku forts, and European forces have rescued an expedition which was badly planned by the British admiral. Salisbury will now fall back, without doubt, upon the European concert, and the initiative will be taken by Russia. The American government, unlike the European powers, seems to know its mind, and this is

A GREAT ADVANTAGE.

It provided a small contingent for Seymour's column, and another one was under fire with the Russians before Tien Tsin was relieved, but both were sent into China under definite instructions, and there was no engagement to do anything more than co-operate with the other forces in the protection of the life and property of foreigners. American activity will end when its legation is safe and the lives and property of Americans in China are protected. There will be no intervention in Chinese political affairs nor any participation on the partition of the empire. The European concert will be left to settle questions relating to the deposition of the Empress and safeguards against the disposition of the empire. The Japanese may be said to have

SAVED THE SITUATION,

and also to have clouded it with uncertainty. They have saved it by despatching a large force of soldiers to China and by preparing to mobilize 20,000 troops. They have imperilled it by military occupation which is likely to be permanent, or to be until Russia is ready to agree to a scheme of partition by which Japan will profit largely. There are many rumors of massacres of Christian converts and foreign merchants, but these simply prove that there is a state of childish panic in the seaboard towns and that every wild story of outrage is believed by itching ears. Despatches received by mercantile houses here from Shanghai are reassuring. The gravity of the situation has evidently been exaggerated for the last fortnight.

The fate of the foreign ministers to China is still in doubt, but there is no lack of rumors concerning their position. An Express telegraph from Shanghai says Seymour's non-success will seriously increase the difficulties of the situation. In consular and official circles there it is freely declared that the outbreak would never have reached its present colossal proportions had the Taku bombardment not taken place. From Che Foo the Express reports that Colonel Dorward was in command of the column which went in the relief of Seymour's force. The troops were in a

VERY EXHAUSTED CONDITION

when rescued. They had been fighting continuously for fifteen days, during ten of which they were on quarter rations. Some of the prisoners captured by the British admiral stated that all the legations at Pekin had been burnt, while an imperial decree published at Shanghai last night announced that the imperial palace at the capital was destroyed on the 16th by Chinese troops, who were in a state of revolt. It is reported that the American mission property at Weiksien, in the province of Shantung, had been destroyed, but there was no loss of life.

I. N. FORD.

LONDON, June 29, 4 a. m.—The casualties of the international force attacking Tien Tsin were as follows:

Americans killed, 3; wounded, 3; British killed, 2; wounded, 1; Germans killed, 15; wounded, 27; Russians killed, 10; wounded, 37.

The gun fire of the Americans and British is described as "beautiful."

After the relieving force pushed on to relieve Admiral Seymour, Chinese regulars, under Gen. Nieh, says a despatch from Shanghai, again attacked Tien Tsin fiercely and bombarded the foreign settlement with a terrible fire.

Col. Deraard, British commanded the column that relieved Admiral Seymour. American marines participated in the achievement. The admiral was found entrenched and surrounded by immense masses of Chinese, who were driven off by the relieving column after a brisk fight. His men had made a brilliant resistance, never failing in courage for 15 days of continuous fighting. During ten days the men were on quarter rations. They started with provisions for ten days and they could have held out a day or two longer.

The column was a few miles beyond Lofa. Deeming it helpless to attempt to break through the hordes, Admiral Seymour essayed a night retreat toward Tien Tsin, but he came into collision with a strong force of Chinese arriving from the northwest, and could neither advance or retreat. There was nothing to do but to entrench and to stand siege. He vainly attempted heliographic communication.

Seymour's men caught several Chinese, who said the legations had been burned and the ministers killed. Others said that the ministers had been imprisoned. The Chinese displayed fanatical courage in the attack.

Four thousand Russians left Tien Tsin four days after Admiral Seymour, but they never got in touch with him.

Railway communication from Taku to Tien Tsin has been restored and the force is advancing toward Pekin. Fighting was in progress Wednesday in the vicinity of Tse Chulin. Large preparations are being made to support and reinforce the Pekin relieving column. Twenty thousand troops of all arms, largely Japanese, have been landed.

The fate of the members of the legations is still a mystery. If they are alive and unharmed at Pekin, the Chinese government deserve some credit, the Shanghai correspondents think, for restraining the fanatical mob.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, wiring at 9.05 p. m. yesterday, says:

"It is reported on good Chinese authority that the government, alarmed by the foreign miliary preparations, has issued an edict ordering the peremptory suppression of the Boxers and announcing its decision to protect the legations at all hazards."

However this may be, the British consulate at Shanghai received definite information yesterday, the Daily Express correspondent says, that while solemnly promising complete abstemtion from warlike preparations, the Chinese are mounting several new 6-inch guns at the Wee Sung forts.

Three British warships have sailed from Hong Kong to reinforce the allied squadron at Shanghai. The southern provinces are sending troops toward Pekin, and the exodus of Chinese of all classes from Shanghai continues at the rate of from 10,000 to 15,000 a day.

Russian prestige has been injured during the recent fighting, and an anti-Russian rising in the Liau Tong peninsula, Russian Manchuria, is predicted.

According to the Shanghai correspondent of the Times, advices from Shan Tung say that Gov. Yuan Shik Kai maintains cordial relations with foreigners, and has sent numerous couriers to Pekin, but none of them has returned.

HOPEWELL HILL.

HOPEWELL HILL, June 27.—Sparks from the engine of the Albert train, on the up trip yesterday, set fire to the woods in the vicinity of the Cape station, and considerable damage was done before the blaze was extinguished.

There was another forest fire in Memel a few days ago, that burned over a large area of timber land, causing a great deal of damage.

Mount Pleasant Lodge, I. O. G. T., celebrated its sixth anniversary last evening. Besides the members of the lodge, a number of invited guests were present, including the members of Golden Rule Division, S. of T.

The circuit court opened at the Cape yesterday, Judge Landry presiding.

Rev. Allan W. Smithers attended the closing exercises of King's College, Windsor, last week, where he had conferred upon him the degree of M.A., in course.

Thos. Dickson has bought the Merril Robinson homestead at Chemical Road.

KENT CO. NEWS.

RICHIBUCTO, June 28.—Mrs. Haines, wife of Capt. Thos. Haines, died yesterday at noon, after an illness of several weeks. She leaves a husband, two sons and two daughters.

The closing exercises of Notre Dame Convent, St. Louis, took place last evening. There were a large number of visitors present from Shediac, while the attendance from the surrounding districts was larger than usual.

J. & T. Jardine's bark Sagont sailed yesterday for Liverpool.

John C. Brown and Wilmot Brown returned on Tuesday from Ottawa.

BOERS DEFEATED

In Two Small Engagements on Wednesday and Thursday.

Canadian Mounted Infantry Suffered Severely in the Fighting at Honingspruit a Week Ago.

BOTTLED UP THE BOERS.

MONTREAL, June 26.—W. Richmond Smith wires to the Star as follows:

"PRETORIA, June 25.—The Strathcona Horse has done one of the great deeds of the war. Leaving Cape Town a month ago, they went to Durban by water and then proceeded up country, reaching Gen. Buller's forces in time to do splendid service in the advance from Newcastle on towards Standerton and Pretoria—service for which they received special mention in Gen. Buller's despatches to the war office, approved by Lord Roberts. Now they have done a deed which will live in history. They have blown up the railway bridge at Komati Poort, on the railway between Pretoria and Komati Poort, and have cut off all communication of the Boers with the sea. All the Delagoa Bay rolling stock, the Boer artillery, the whole Boer army, including gold taken by President Kruger from the mint here and west of that break, must now inevitably fall into our hands. Strathcona's Horse has effectually bottled up the Boers."

LORD ROBERTS TO THE WAR OFFICE.

LONDON, June 26, 11.25 p. m.—The war office has received the following despatch from Lord Roberts:

"PRETORIA RESIDENCY, June 26.—Sir Charles Warren reports that the rebellion in Cape Colony, north of the Orange river, is now over. The last formidable body, under Commandant De Villiers, surrendered on June 20, consisting of about 220 men, 280 horses, 18 wagons, 260 rifles and 100,000 rounds of ammunition.

"Gen. Baden-Powell reports that pacification is going on satisfactorily in the Rustenburg district."

GERMAN CORPS SUFFERED SEVERELY.

BERLIN, June 26.—The Berliner Tageblatt today published correspondence from Vechtkop, dated May 12, regarding the engagements around Zand river, in which the German corps with the Boer forces is described as having suffered terribly. A list of the killed and wounded is given.

AWARDED VICTORIA CROSSES.

LONDON, June 26.—The Gazette today announces that Victoria Crosses have been bestowed on Major John Philipps Hornby, Sergeant Parker and Driver Glasock of Q Battery, Royal Artillery, for conspicuous bravery in saving four of the guns from the convoy disaster at Kornspruit, Orange Free State, March 31 of the present year.

INVALIDED TO ENGLAND.

OTTAWA, June 26.—The following Canadians have been invalided from South Africa to England: No. 12, Corp. E. Grey, brigade division Field Artillery; No. 321, Private J. Wood, 1st Battalion Mounted Rifles. No. 56, Private G. Ferguson, 2nd Battalion Mounted Rifles.

The minister of militia announced this afternoon that Private Larue, of the first contingent of the 65th Montreal, was dead of enteric fever at Wynburg hospital. He was wounded at Paardeburg. Larue was an officer who resigned his rank and went to Africa as private.

CANADIANS CAPTURE TWO GUNS.

MONTREAL, June 27.—W. Richmond Smith, special war correspondent of the Star in South Africa, cables as follows:

PRETORIA, June 26.—The first battalion of the Canadian Mounted Rifles has come in for high praise from the commander-in-chief, Lord Roberts, for the gallant manner in which they captured two of the Boers' twelve pounder guns at Rustfontein, between Pretoria and Rustenburg. The guns were defended stiffly by the enemy, and when defeat stared the Boers in the face they hid the guns in a native kraal prior to their disappearing in the night. There the guns were found by the Canadians and brought to camp, an exploit which Lord Roberts recognizes by special mention in the general orders today.

While at Rustfontein the Mounted Rifles joined hands, much to their delight, with C battery, which was present at the relief of Mafeking and has since marched across country under Maj. Gen. Baden-Powell.

Major Gen. Ian Hamilton's columns reached Heidelberg without a fight and were loyally welcomed by the inhabitants, but the general was himself injured by a fall from his horse.

It is reported here that Capt. Blanchard of A company, Royal Canadian Infantry, who was returning to hospital at Kroonstad, was killed in a fight at Boogwal.

Capt. O'Donnell (?) of G company was captured by Gen DeWet's force.

KRUGER'S GRANDSON AT ST. HELENA.

JAMESTOWN, St. Helena, June 27.—Sarel Eloff, President Kruger's grandson, who was captured by the British at Mafeking, landed here today with 11 officers and 95 troopers, mostly foreigners. The prisoners, who were clean and of respectable appearance, were immediately sent to Deadwood, the prison camp.

Most of the Boers at Deadwood are in good health, and thus far there has been but one death from enteric fever.

MOUNTED RIFLES SUFFERED SEVERELY.

TORONTO, June 27.—John A. Ewan, special correspondent of the Globe with the Canadian Mounted Rifles, cables as follows:

KROONSTAD, June 27.—The Canadian Mounted Rifles are scattered along railways in the northern section of the Orange River Colony, where Gen. De Wet is causing some trouble.

An outpost of D squadron was attacked June 22 by superior numbers at a point four miles from their camp at Honingspruit. The Canadians took to their horses, but suffered severely. Privates T. E. Patterson of MacLeod; J. T. Morden, Pincher Creek, and Kerr were killed. Lieut. Wm. Inglis, late of the Berkshire Regiment; Private T. R. Miles, Pincher Creek, and Private A. Aspinall, N. W. M. P., were wounded. Privates Bell and C. P. Ermatinger, N. W. M. P., were made prisoners. The Boers pursued the party to within rifle shot of the camp. Then Private Edward F. Waldy, Calgary, not caring to be shot or captured without making a good fight for it, jumped from his horse and killed two Boers. Another was shot from the camp. Their friends dared not attempt to remove the bodies, and the Canadians buried them.

(There are two Kerrs in the Mounted Rifles, Private S. and Private R. J. of Moosomin and Pincher Creek respectively. Mr. Ewan does not give the initials of the one who was killed. There are two Bells, Private W. and Private C. of Calgary and Maple Creek respectively. Private Ermatinger is a son of Judge Ermatinger of St. Thomas, Ont.)

HOSPITAL EXPOSURES.

LONDON, June 28.—The exposures regarding the hospitals in South Africa, which began with a three column letter to the Times, Monday, from W. A. Burdette-Coutts, M. P., conservative, detailing the great suffering endured by soldiers owing to mismanagement, led to a number of questions in the house of commons today, in response to which the government leader, A. J. Balfour, the first lord of the treasury, made a long statement, saying that so far as the government was aware not any of the sufferings of the sick or wounded were due to insufficiency in the supplies sent out. He then proceeded to read extracts from correspondence with Lord Roberts on the subject, in which the British commander-in-chief in South Africa dwelt on the difficulties of transport owing to his rapid advance. He could quite understand that people imperfectly experienced in these matters were concerned at hearing of the hardships the sick and wounded had to undergo. He did not wish to shirk responsibility or screen anyone, and suggested that a committee of medical men and persons of sound common sense proceed to South Africa to investigate the charges.

Mr. Balfour also informed the house that the government agreed to the appointment of an independent committee, as suggested by Lord Roberts, and he tomorrow would propose a nominal grant for the army medical corps, so that the house would have an opportunity to thoroughly thresh out the matter.

LONDON, June 28.—The war office has issued correspondence with Lord Roberts regarding the charges of Mr. Burdette-Coutts. On June 4 his attention was called in brief telegrams to the allegations and also to other complaints of a general breakdown in the hospital system. Two days later he replied in part as follows:

"The principal medical officer reported that the arrangements at Kroonstad were in all respects in good order, and Lord Methuen said they were thoroughly satisfactory. I was deeply distressed at being unable to make suitable arrangements for the sick on our first arrival at Kroonstad; but it is obvious that a certain amount of suffering is inseparable from the rapid advance of a large army into an enemy's country."

On June 20 the war office cabled Lord Roberts that disquieting reports regarding the hospitals were accumulating, and asked him if anything could be done, and particularly whether more nurses were needed.

On June 25 Lord Roberts replied, saying that he did not wish to shirk responsibility or to screen the shortcomings of the medical corps, and he suggested a committee of inquiry. He said there had been an abnormal number of sick at Bloemfontein, due to the exhausting nature of the march and the terribly unsanitary condition of the camp at Paardeberg, where the only water available for drinking flowed from the Boer camp, higher up, where the river was crowded with decomposing animals, and also with a considerable number of wounded after the fight on March 10.

To improvise accommodations at Bloemfontein for such a number, which had become 2,000 before he left Bloemfontein, was no easy task, said Lord Roberts. No tents were carried and the public buildings had to be turned into hospitals. In three months there had been 6,369 admissions to the hospitals of patients suffering from enteric fever, while the deaths numbered 1,370, about 21 per cent. Lord Roberts observed that he did not know whether this would be an abnormal rate in civil hospitals in peace times; but if the rate were abnormal it was due to the exhausted state of the men and not to the neglect of the medical corps.

WAR SUMMARY.

LONDON, June 29, 2.30 a. m.—Lord Roberts has sent bulletins of two small fights, occurring on June 26 and June 27, in which the Boers were defeated. In a despatch from Pretoria, dated yesterday, he says:

"A small force of mounted troops, with two guns, commanded by Lieut. Col. Dreiper, was attacked by the enemy under Prefers and Nel on the morning of June 26, seven miles north of Senekal. They beat off the enemy and burned their laager. Our casualties were three killed and ten wounded.

"Hunter, temporarily commanding Ian Hamilton's column, made one march yesterday from Heidelberg toward Frankfort without meeting any opposition.

"The enemy attacked our Roodval Spruit post on the railway yesterday, but were easily beaten off by a detachment of the Derbyshire Light Infantry, the West Australian Mounted, a 15 pounder and an armored train.

"Baden-Powell reports the capture of an influential Boer named Ray, who was endeavoring to raise a commando in the Rustenberg district. A patrol brought in over a hundred rifles. More than four thousand rifles and 1,000 inferior pieces have been taken during the last few days."

WOODSTOCK.

WOODSTOCK, June 28.—The closing exercises in connection with the Grammar School were held today. The W. M. Connell medal for the best essay on the topography of South Africa was won by Victor Bedell. The W. W. Hay medal for mathematics, grade 10, was won by Matilda Winslow. Mr. Hay's medal for Latin, in grade 9, was won by Mary Wetmore.

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