

Asheville Daily Gazette.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 19, 1900.

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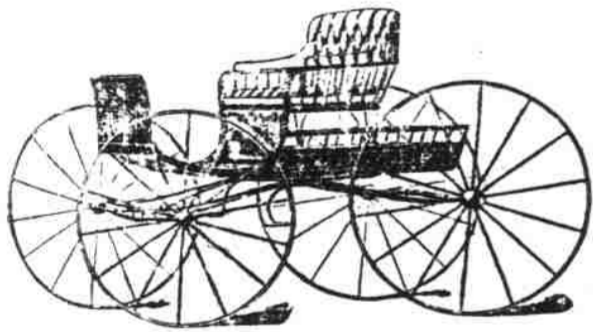
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Grant's Talcum Powder, 10 cents at Grant's. Experience must be a high-school teacher.

FORTS AT TAKU SURRENDER; AMERICAN TROOPS TO CHINA

Foreign Warships Silence the Orientals in the Real Beginning of the Conflict That May Bring About the Most Important Results of This Century.

China Now at War With the Civilized World.

Several Ships Badly Damaged by Fire From Forts.

Allied Fleet Has Casualties and 400 Chinese Killed—Fear for International Expedition to Peking.

London, June 19.—While the main incidents of the capture of the Taku forts have been clearly outlined, there is nothing to relieve the anxiety concerning the Americans and Europeans besieged in Peking. The silence is almost as complete regarding the position of the international relief force. The only authority for the statement that it has returned to Tien Tsin is a message brought to Chefoo by the Japanese warship.

The action of the Chinese in attacking the fleet at Taku is regarded here as putting China at war with the civilized world. The first care of all the powers will be to save their respective legations and subjects in Peking. The fact that the combined fleets acted in hearty co-operation at Taku is taken, however, as a good augury of the successful unity in greater operations for the subjugation of the country which must follow.

SHIPS SUNK.

Berlin, June 18.—The German consulate at Chefoo cables that the Japanese torpedo boat arrived here last night. She reported that the Chinese had placed a torpedo in Taku river and assembled troops at Taku. The foreign naval commanders sent an ultimatum to the Chinese demanding the withdrawal from the forts before 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. At 1 o'clock Sunday morning the forts opened fire and the German, Russian, British, French and Japanese vessels replied. The firing lasted seven hours. Two British ships were apparently sunk between the forts.

Some official despatches from Chefoo state that the Chinese at the time the despatches were sent were firing into the foreign settlements at Tien Tsin. It adds that nothing has been heard of the German detachment sent to Peking or the legations at the capital.

CHINESE BOATS SEIZED.

Chefoo, June 18.—The forts on both sides of the Pei Ho are now occupied by the foreign forces. It is reported that the British warship *Algerine*, the gunboat *Itis* and a Russian gunboat were badly damaged by the fire of the forts. The total casualties have been placed at 21 killed and 57 wounded, chiefly Russian. The Chinese torpedo boats have been seized by the allied fleet.

400 CHINESE KILLED.

London, June 18.—A Shanghai despatch states that fully 400 Chinese were killed in the Taku fight and that the Yorktown was among the attacking ships.

LEGATIONS TAKEN.

London, June 18.—An official despatch from the German consul at Chefoo received in Berlin confirms the arrival of a Japanese torpedo boat with the following message: "The Japanese torpedo boat reports that the legations at Peking have been taken." Whether taken by the boxers or the Chinese troops or the mob is apparently not stated nor is mention made in the message of the Japanese torpedo boat of the capture of the Taku forts.

FROM TAKU.

London, June 18.—The admiralty office has received the following official

despatch from Chefoo under today's date: "The Japanese man of war *Teyashi* has just arrived from Taku. She reports that the commander in chief and troops are back in Tien Tsin."

SEALED ORDERS.

Manila, June 18.—The gunboat *Concord* with marines aboard, has sailed under sealed orders, supposedly for China.

The British cruiser *Buena Vista* has sailed for Hong Kong with troops and stores for Hong Kong and Tien Tsin.

MAGAZINE EXPLODED.

London, June 18.—A despatch from Chefoo, under today's date, says: "The forces of the combined fleets occupied the Taku north forts yesterday, after exploding a magazine. The British gunboat *Algerine* was damaged and two of her officers and four men wounded. Japan and Russia are reported to be landing a large force of troops. All is quiet here."

BRITISH HAVEN'T HEARD.

London, June 18.—The despatch from Admiral Kempff, dated Washington, containing the American admiral's report of the engagement at Taku was the first news to Lord Salisbury received of the capture of the Taku forts. The British government was aware that an engagement was proceeding, but it was ignorant of the result and great satisfaction is evinced. The officials of the foreign office say no word has been received from the British minister at Peking since June 12 and the government is ignorant as to whether the legation at the Chinese capital has been captured or not. The admirals on the spot are relied on to overcome all difficulties, Admiral Seymour, the British commander, not being hampered by orders, and any request which he may make will be promptly met.

OFFICIAL NOTICE.

Washington, June 18.—The navy department has been informed by Admiral Kempff that the Taku forts yesterday fired on the foreign ships and after a brief engagement surrendered.

MORE DETAILS.

London, June 18.—In the house of commons today Mr. Broderick, the parliamentary secretary of the foreign office, amplified the admiralty news from Chefoo. He said the Japanese warships reported that the Chinese forts opened fire on the gunboats at the mouth of the river yesterday at 12:30 a. m., that the ships then engaged the forts and that the engagement was pending when the Japanese ships left at 5 a. m. yesterday. Detachments from all the foreign warships were landed Sunday to protect Taku. There was one Chinese ship at Taku, which remained impassive. British, Russian, Japanese and French reinforcements were due to arrive about Thursday. Within the last hour, added Mr. Broderick, in conclusion, he had heard the telegraph line from Taku to Tien Tsin had been restored.

FRENCH CRUISERS ORDERED.

Paris, June 18.—The French first class cruiser *Guichen* and the French armored cruiser *Admiral Charner* have been ordered to fit out immediately for China.

MISSIONS DESTROYED.

Paris, June 18.—The French consul general in South China, who was instructed to send into Tonquin all French citizens at Yunnan Sen, cables from the latter place under date of Thursday, June 14, that he has been prevented from leaving with his companions by the viceroys, and that his house and all the missions have been burned. He adds that everything, including their clothes, have been stolen and they are practically prisoners. The foregoing is the situation referred to by the French minister of foreign affairs, M. Delcasse, in his speech of June 11.

SALISBURY UNEAS.

London, June 18.—Lord Salisbury was questioned in the house of lords today on the Chinese situation, and he said he regretted he was unable to enlighten the house on the state of affairs in China. Admiral Seymour, he continued, had returned to Tien Tsin, but the government did not know exactly why nor what his intentions were. The failure of the international forces to reach Taku here as to the fate of the Europeans huddled together in the legations at the Chinese capital, and it was feared also that the check to Admiral Seymour's forces, necessitating their return to Tien Tsin, will lead to

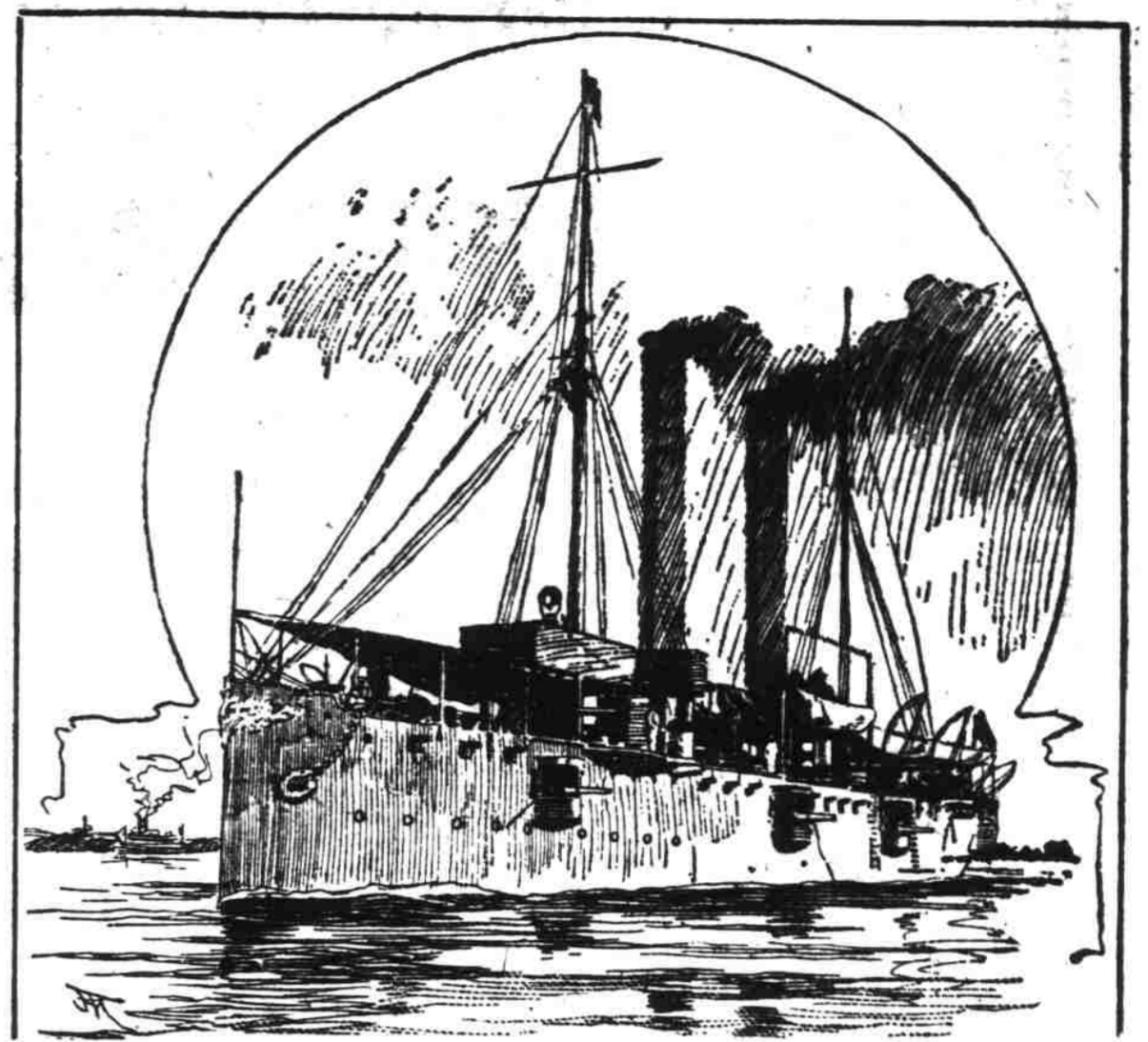
large accessions to the ranks of the boxers and make their repression still more difficult.

FEAR FOR RELIEF COLUMN.

Washington, June 18.—The state department this morning received a cable from Consul Goodnow, at Shanghai, repeating the news previously conveyed to the navy department by Admiral Remy and Commander Taussig. The officials here are puzzled by the Taussig statement that the British admiral has arrived at Tien Tsin. They did not know that more than one British admiral was in the Pei Ho river, and that one was Admiral Seymour, who led the international relief column towards Peking. If it is this officer who has returned to Tien Tsin, then the assumption is that the relief column has failed and has been compelled to retreat to Tien Tsin. This assumption would explain the statement brought by the Japanese torpedo boat that the foreign legations at Peking had been taken for that is the only manner in which the news could have reached Tien Tsin. In this case it is said that nothing can be done for the relief of the foreign ministers at Peking, supposing that they are still alive, until a very much stronger relief column can be formed and marched overland to Peking. Weeks must elapse before this can be accomplished. As the Logan draws too much water to get above Taku, the Ninth infantry will be obliged to trans-ship at that point to light draft river craft in order to get up to Tien Tsin. It is difficult to get a precise official view of the status of our relations with China since this is a state of war is emphatically negated by the officials, competent to speak. The Chinese minister, Mr. Wu, was an early visitor to the state department today. He does not believe that we are at war with China. He said that there had evidently been a great misunderstanding and he was confident that if it were true that the Chinese forts had fired upon the international fleet, it was either because the Chinese commander of the forts did not understand what was wanted, or he had failed to receive proper instruction from his superior through an error. He had himself received no word of news from his home government and will remain here until further developments. Herr von Holleben, the German ambassador, was also without official news today. At the state department the view prevailed that, notwithstanding there had been a bombardment and that our forces were on Chinese soil, still there was not war up to this stage. So far the state department has had no proof that the Chinese government has sanctioned or ordered any attack upon the international fleet. It is possible that the Chinese commandant at Taku may himself have revolted with his troops and joined the boxers. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that we are at war until formal assurance of that effect has been received from competent authority.

INDEPENDENT COMMAND.

Washington, June 18.—Owing to the eccentric action of the telegraph wires and cables, which interferes with Admiral Kempff communicating with the navy department and also with his superior officer, Admiral Remy, at Manila, the navy department may give Admiral Kempff an independent command in the interests of quick despatch of troops. There has been no friction whatever between the two admirals and the commander in chief of the sta-



THE NASHVILLE, AMERICAN WARSHIP AT TAKU, THE NEAREST PORT TO PEKIN.

THE BATTLESHIP OREGON SENT TO CHINA TO PROTECT OUR INTERESTS

At Least Two More Boats Will be Sent and More Troops if Necessary.

Washington, June 18.—The administration took prompt action today after receiving the official despatches from the far east detailing seriousness of the Chinese situation. The battleship *Oregon* was ordered to proceed to Taku immediately. Admiral Kempff was given instructions to guide him in the complications which have come from engagement at Taku and arrangements were begun for quick transportation of additional troops from the Philippines to China. At least two more warships will be ordered to join Admiral Kempff and if necessary more regiments will be sent. The instructions to Kempff were to do everything proper for the protection of American interests, keeping in mind, however, that he must avoid anything committing the United States to an alliance with other nations for political purposes. He is left free to act within a wide range.

YESTERDAY'S LEAGUE GAMES.

At Boston—	RHE
Boston	3 11 1
Brooklyn	6 12 1
Batteries—Nichols, Sullivan; McGinnity, Farrell.	
At Philadelphia—	RHE
Philadelphia	2 7 3
New York	1 8 1
Batteries—Bernhardt, McFarland; Hawley, Bousman.	
At Chicago—	RHE
Chicago	1 8 4
Pittsburg	4 5 1
Batteries—Callahan Chance; Phillips, O'Connor.	
At St. Louis—	RHE
St. Louis	8 8 8
Cincinnati	9 15 2
Batteries—Weyhing, Robinson; Newton, Peitz.	

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

At Chicago—Chicago, 4; Milwaukee, 1.
At Indianapolis—Indianapolis, 7; Buffalo, 8.
At Minneapolis—Minneapolis, 5; Kansas City, 4.

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Hotel size 75 cents

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6 NORTH COURT SQUARE.

ROOSEVELT DECLINES TO BE CANDIDATE FOR VICE-PRESIDENCY

Senator Platt Still Believes the Convention Will be Stampeded for Him, Howev.r.

Philadelphia, June 18.—Governor Roosevelt issued a statement late this afternoon in which he said he was deeply touched by the attitude of those who wished him to take the nomination for vice president and that he understood the honor and dignity of the office, but he felt that the field of his best usefulness was in New York and if the party saw fit to renominate him for governor he could in that position help the national ticket as in no other way. He therefore earnestly asked that every friend of his in the convention respect his wishes and judgment in the matter.

This statement has been made the keynote of the situation tonight. Senator Hanna and all his political and personal friends declare unreservedly that it eliminates Roosevelt as a vice presidential possibility. Hanna has asked for a conference of these friends, and says the convention should nominate Secretary Long or Senator Fairbanks, but he considers Long the stronger candidate. Governor Roosevelt's personal friends agree with Hanna.

Senator Platt would like not to talk for publication, but he still believes the convention will be stampeded for Roosevelt. Hanna late tonight declared that he had the convention in hand and that it could not be stampeded.

The New York state delegation met tonight and was in session ten minutes. Platt was made chairman and after the other officers were chosen an adjournment was taken until 4 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Before Roosevelt issued the statement he and friends were busy in an attempt to stay the tide in his favor. Hanna and his advisers went over the situation during the day but not until the statement appeared did they get down to business.

A conference lasting three hours was held, but no conclusion was reached, save that a majority believed Long to be the strongest candidate.

Messrs. Odell and Quigg, of New York, then called upon Senator Hanna to ascertain what he thought of Roosevelt's statement. Hanna said it eliminated New York from the situation and plainly told the New Yorkers that he had the convention well in hand and did not believe it could be stampeded. Odell and Quigg reported to Senator Platt the result of the talk and Platt then started out to hold a secret conference with his friends.

Just what is to be the outcome no one can tell. The vast majority believe the

(Continued on fifth page.)

(Continued on fourth page.)

WISDOM

W.W.W.

(THREE WS)

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