

DEFEATED BY TREACHERY.

Army of Chinese Reformers Caught In a Trap.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED KILLED.

Tong and Twenty-six Other Reform Leaders Executed—Lured by Governor Chang Chi Tung, Whose Soldiers Surrounded Them—Fought for Their Lives.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 26.—News of a terrible massacre of the reform forces in China and the beheading of 27 of its leaders was received here yesterday in a cablegram by W. A. Cumrow, secretary of the Chinese Reform association in America. The engagement took place in the province of Pechili, a populous section of the Yangtze valley, in central China. It resulted in the killing of 1,500 men and the complete demoralization of the reform forces. The battle into which the reformers were brought by treachery occurred on Dec. 18, and the work of the movement has, as a consequence, been dropped in all that part of the country. The Chinese here are loud in their expressions of disapproval of the conduct of the campaign by their leaders. It appears from the few details given in the cablegram received yesterday that Tong, the reform leader, at the head of a badly armed force of 12,000, paid a visit to Chung Chi Tung, governor of the district, who, though an imperial officer, was believed to be in sympathy with the reform movement. Tong was invited to the governor's palace and was with his 12,000 men marched into the city. They left all their arms outside the gates, taking the precaution only to carry their loaded revolvers. There were 5,000 imperial troops in the town, but nothing was feared from them, and a delay of a day took place in order that other reform leaders might be sent for, and when the audience with the governor was finally arranged there were 27 of the leading followers of King Yung Wei admitted. Then a disagreement arose. The governor had the leaders seized and taken into the court yard, where they were beheaded, and, in the meantime, a strict order had been sent to the imperial troops to descend upon a poorly armed rabble of the reformers. The few well drilled soldiers took the country people completely by surprise but nevertheless the latter pluckily fought their way through and escaped. They carried away their own weapons, but left 1,500 dead on the field scattered in the streets of the city. The cablegram says that the scene of the butchery was frightful.

FRENCH SEIZE EXHIBITS.

Railway Puts Embargo on Their Return to the United States.

Paris, Dec. 26.—Thirty cars, forming part of the United States government exhibit at the recent Paris exposition, have been laid under embargo at Havre, and the railway company declining to return them pending payment of \$7,110 francs. The exhibit was taken to the United States by the departure of the United States mail ship, the *Albatross*, from New York with the exhibit. The exhibit was made the subject of a formal protest to the French government by United States Ambassador Porter.

The company bases its claim on demurrage charges on freight in the cars when the goods were brought to the exposition for installation.

Evidence Against Youtsey.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 26.—One of the clerks in the office of the auditor of the city of Frankfort, in searching the vault for old records, found a cartridge box containing eight metal patched smokeless powder cartridges, 38-55, corresponding exactly to the bullet found in the hackberry tree and which was believed to have passed through Senator Goebel's body. The significance of the discovery lies in the fact that Henry Youtsey, convicted of participation in the Goebel assassination in October, was a clerk in the auditor's office at the time of the assassination and had access to the vault where the cartridges were found and that George Barnes, another clerk in the office, testified that he saw Youtsey with a box of cartridges.

Key West Talks With Havana.

Key West, Fla., Dec. 26.—An interesting experiment has just been made here. In the presence of several prominent persons the officers of a well known telephone company connected the wires here and at Havana with the gulf cable between the two cities. For a few minutes a roaring noise prevented any communication, but finally this subsided and the officials heard from Havana distinctly the words "I cannot understand you" clearly transmitted. Havana, however, failed to clearly understand. The experiment was regarded as highly successful.

Many Desires Peace.

Manila, Dec. 26.—Advices from the island of Leyte show that while the east coast is quiet, the west coast is in a state of turmoil. Lieutenant French and three men of the Forty-fourth volunteers were wounded near Ilonagan. An address from the new federal party has been published, stating that the number of Filipinos who really desire peace is growing daily, and that the object of the party is to unite all Filipinos who really desire to work for peace.

Wheat Going by Way of Suez.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 26.—The British ship Glenloch, now in the harbor, is to establish a precedent in the exportation of Pacific coast wheat. She is to load with 221,000 bushels in sacks and will sail for Liverpool via the Suez canal, being the first steam vessel to go from Tacoma to Europe over that route with wheat.

CAPE DUTCH JOIN BOERS.

General Dewet's Forces Augmented by the Colonists.

KITCHENER AT THE FRONT.

British Commander-in-Chief to Lead His Forces Against Boer Invaders—Battle in Progress Near De Aar—British Occupy Britstown Without Opposition.

SEARCH FOR PAT CROWE.

Must Either Surrender or Prove His Innocence.

MORE CLEWS TO KIDNAPERS.

Man at Pacific Junction Holding Pony Used in Omaha Job at Big Figure—Demands Five Thousand Dollars for the Animal—Suspect at St. Joe.

Omaha, Dec. 26.—It is said that Mr. Cudahy has given Pat Crowe until midnight of Tuesday to either prove that he had nothing to do with the kidnapping or surrender, and that Steve Crowe, his brother, is here to deliver the message to him.

The police will not deny that such an ultimatum has been issued, but they refuse to give any details. If it is true that an edict of this kind has gone forth it seems to imply that the police do not know the exact whereabouts of Pat Crowe, but the inference also is that, in their opinion, Pat Crowe is in hiding somewhere in Omaha or South Omaha and that he doesn't dare emerge for fear of being arrested.

It is well known that there are certain houses in South Omaha that are under constant police surveillance night and day, but the police will not admit that Pat Crowe is suspected to be in any of them.

New evidence implicating Crowe in the kidnapping case is said to have been developed. A curious complication has arisen at Pacific Junction concerning the proprietary rights in the matter of the little bay pony which it is believed was used in the Omaha kidnappers. Joseph Goodrich, the Burlington engineer who now has the animal, refuses to permit it to be brought to Omaha or to relinquish control of it unless he is paid \$5,000, so Detective Heitfeld, who was sent down there to bring it back, was compelled to return empty-handed.

St. Joseph, Mo., Dec. 26.—At police headquarters here it was stated last night that Pat Crowe, whose name has been mentioned in connection with the Cudahy kidnapping case, was believed to be in St. Joseph. The police are said to be searching for Crowe.

FIRE ON FROM AMBUSH.

Four Officers and Thirty Mexican Soldiers Killed by Yaquis.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 26.—Mexican troops in Sonora, Mexico, were recently attacked by a band of Yaqui Indians and four officers and about 30 men were killed outright and Colonel Francisco Peinado, one of the leading officers of the army, was shot through the stomach and seriously wounded. C. V. Light of Guaymas, who was there when the report was made to General Torres, gave the news out here. He says the soldiers were crossing the country and were fired on from ambush near Lamisa, about 50 miles from General Torres' headquarters. The severe press censorship has kept the news from the public. Colonel Peinado, the wounded officer, is one of the most popular officers in the army.

ALLEGED EXTORTIONATE FEE.

Casualty Company Seeks Injunction Against Nebraska's Auditor.

Lincoln, Dec. 26.—Attorneys for the Lincoln Casualty company of Baltimore filed a petition in the district court for an order to restrain State Auditor Cornell from revoking the company's license to do business in Nebraska and publishing a report which, it says, is calculated to do it injury. The Casualty company alleges that from an examination made of the company's affairs by agents of the auditor's office a claim for \$670 in fees was made. Later the auditor reduced this claim to \$450, both of which sums are declared to be unreasonable and extortionate. The company further alleges that the auditor threatens to revoke its license and publish a report showing it to be in unsound condition unless the claims of the examiners are satisfied. The hearing is set for Jan. 2, one day before Auditor Cornell's retirement from office.

The Luckiest Man in Iowa.

Sioux City, Dec. 26.—The "luckiest man in Iowa" is B. M. Bills, a jeweler at Vinton, who at a mammoth cattle in Sioux City drew the John Pierce mansion, the most magnificent residence in Sioux City. It cost \$57,000 and the property on which it stands is valued at \$5,000, making a total of \$62,000. The lucky number was 36,363, and Mr. Bills paid \$1 for the ticket.

Trade Not Yet Issued.

Constantinople, Dec. 24.—The imperial trade, authorizing the signing of the contract for the construction of a cruiser for the Ottoman navy by the Cramp Shipbuilding company, to the value of \$1,000,000, has not yet been issued.

Torture and Rob Ohio Farmer.

Lebanon, O., Dec. 24.—Four masked men entered the farm residence of John Thompson near here last night, bound, gagged and tortured Thompson and his wife till they surrendered \$300 in money, their jewelry and silverware. The robbers then escaped with Thompson's rig.

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Kitchener Cables Such Conclusion to War Office.

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MORE MOUNTS FOR BRITISH.

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Lieutenant Moberly said: "By the time the horses and mules are landed in South Africa they cost the British government \$360 a head. That is a large price for an animal which will be fit for service only six weeks. Most of the animals die because of the change of climate. So great is the demand for horses at the front that it is impossible to give them the needed rest after landing before putting them into service."

"Since the beginning of the Boer war England has purchased over 100,000 head of horses and mules in the United States. Government transports will be kept very busy from now on carrying the horses which England will need in South Africa and which have been ordered purchased in the United States. Baden-Powell now has 25,000 mounted police and it is proposed to mount 50,000 of the imperial infantry. England has discovered that her soldiers must be mounted to be able to cope with the Boer, who gets over the country with alarming rapidity."

LOOT ILLINOIS BANK.

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Miss Grace Howard Married.

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Iowa Will Gain Much Revenue if Court's Decision Is Affirmed.

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Charged With Destroying Mail Matter.

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Kills Two Nebraska Farmers.

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PRICE TUNN ARRESTED.

London, Dec. 26.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Standard, telegraphing Dec. 24, says:

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CHINESE NOTE IS READY.

Document Will Be Given the Peace Envoys Today.

PROMPT ACTION IS URGED.

Ministers at Peking Informed That Li Hung Chang Will Be Sufficiently Recovered to Attend Meeting—Spanish Minister to Transfer Document.

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