

A DARK PICTURE.

TERRIBLE CONDITION OF AFFAIRS EXISTING IN CHINA.

Foreign Military Rule—Murder and Pillage the Price of Occupation—Little Children Wantonly Impaled on Lances.

New York, May 7.—The latest mail from China, says a Washington special to the Tribune, has brought to the state department new proofs of the terrible and perhaps irretrievable conditions which exist under the foreign military rule in north China, involving a situation not heretofore realized even in Washington, and utterly unappreciated in the United States generally. The character of the information which has now come into the administration's possession is summarized in the following extracts from a communication written by one of the most trusted officials in the service abroad and mailed from Peking a month ago.

"The question of raising the indemnity, though one of the most serious for the Chinese government, is not paramount. All the people who are likely to know declare that the Chinese peasant can stand no greater burden of tax than in the past, so the question resolves itself largely to reducing the expense of collection, which in China involves radical reforms. Another proposition for meeting the indemnity is to grant lucrative mining and other concessions to foreigners, but that involves endless trouble for the Chinese, who are quick to recognize the fact.

"If the whole horror of the murder and pillage done between Tien Tsin and Peking comes to be understood in the United States and Europe the sum of it is so great as to be compared with the number of Christians who had suffered at the hands of the Chinese that might or wrongly the Chinese are likely to be held the injured party."

MURDER OF LITTLE CHILDREN.

"Lancers wantonly impaling little children by the wayside in the streets of Peking are some of the least of the well authenticated horrors, and to some foreign soldiers a dead Chinese Christian is just as satisfactory an evidence for no quarter as a dead boxer—they neither care for such trifling distinctions."

"All the officers, if they could agree, could not set up an administrative machinery of their own for the empire. They must restore the power to some native party, and the quicker they do it the better for China. The Chinese estimate 1,000,000 of their people have lost their lives by violent deaths or starvation about Peking and Tien Tsin since the allies came. Well informed foreigners long resident here do not regard the estimate as exaggerated."

The North China News of March 28, endeavoring to tell why such a situation as the one alleged can exist, says: "Simply because Chinese civil authority has been suppressed, harried, driven away and nothing substituted for it. The country between the sea and Peking has been devastated and people have been killed indiscriminately or driven out of their homes to become bandits. We should have thought that one of the first acts of the foreign administration after Peking had been relieved would be to strengthen the Chinese civil authority and make it responsible for the preservation of order. But what magistrate can be expected to remain in his post and exert himself to put down opposition to foreigners when at any moment a foreign lieutenant with a handful of troops may come to him and demand a sum of money on pain of having his town or village burned down in case of refusal."

Collision in a Ravine.

OTTUMWA, Ia., May 7.—One man killed and thirty passengers and trainmen injured is the result of a collision between a Burlington passenger train and a freight engine which was endeavoring to make a sliding at Thayer, Ia., a small town eighteen miles east of Creston, yesterday afternoon.

Flinds a Handsome Fortune.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 7.—Joseph Collins of Seattle, who was appointed administrator of the estate of Frederick Hutchinson, one of the pioneer miners of the Yukon, who died recently in Philadelphia, has discovered that he is in control of an estate worth \$200,000.

When Collins opened Hutchinson's box in the safety deposit vault he discovered sacks of gold nuggets and securities valued at nearly the sum named. This fortune will go to Herbert Hutchinson of Philadelphia, the brother of the dead Klondike miner and two sisters who live in England.

Wedded Life Brings no Bliss.

RELLSFONTE, Pa., May 7.—Jesse R. King, living near Millheim, yesterday shot and fatally wounded his bride of two months, and shot himself through the heart, dying almost instantly.

Looks Like a Sea Serpent.

HARBOR SPRINGS, Mich., May 7.—What resembled a sea serpent, but which is believed to be the sea lion which escaped from Lincoln park, Chicago, three years ago, was seen in the lake of this harbor yesterday. The keeper of the light house saw the animal when it came out of the lake to sun itself and make an attempt to seize some gulls. The president of the Harbor Springs bank, has, within the last few days, seen the animal.

STEP TOWARD FREEDOM

Cole and Jim Younger See Prospects of Parole.

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 8.—Coleman and James Younger, the most noted convicts in the state prison at Stillwater, today won the first step towards freedom from that institution, to which they were sent for life over twenty-five years ago.

For over twenty years their friends have been working in their behalf each succeeding governor being asked frequently for a pardon. The third brother, Bob, died in the Stillwater prison a few years ago, but the efforts for the liberation of the now old men have never ceased. Ten years ago a pardon board, composed of the governor, attorney general and chief justice, was created one of the arguments in its favor being the relief it would give the chief executive from the friends of the Youngers. Since then the pardon board has been asked repeatedly to act favorably on applications for pardon of the Youngers, but the required unanimous vote could never be secured. Two years ago a bill was presented to the legislature providing for the parole of life prisoners and passed by the senate, but killed in the house. This year a similar bill, after several hard encounters on the floor of the two houses, got through and secured the approval of Governor Van Sant, but an amendment to it required the unanimous approval of the board of pardons before paroles of life prisoners could become effective.

Under the provisions of this law the board of prison managers yesterday unanimously recommended the parole of the Youngers. This recommendation will be at once presented to the board of pardons, but none of the members of the board would say whether a special meeting would be called to consider the matter. The next regular meeting will be held in July. Before final action it would be necessary to have the legality of the two provisions of the new law passed upon. In the meantime the two surviving Youngers are rejoicing over the hope of ultimate release.

Meet on Equal Grounds.

New York, May 8.—Conciliation as a means of maintaining industrial peace between labor and capital was discussed by leaders of unionism and finance at the chamber of commerce this afternoon. The meeting was arranged by the industrial department of the national federation and all the contributors to the symposium were leaders of the several fields of activity. They met on common ground, and were a unit in the hope that strife would be eliminated from the relations of employer and toiler and a perpetual truce declared. The speakers were Samuel Gompers, president of the American federation of labor; Bishop Potter, John Mitchell, president of the united mine workers of America; Chas. R. Flint, president of the American Rubber company; Daniel J. Keefe, of the Illinois board of arbitration; William Sayward, of the national association of builders; James O'Connell, president of the international association of machinists, and Herman Justice, commissioner of the Illinois operators' association.

GOMPERS THE FIRST SPEAKER.

Samuel Gompers presided, and in opening the meeting expressed the hope that a new epoch had come in the relations of labor and capital.

"We want industrial peace, but not at the sacrifice of any of the elements of manhood," he said. "The increased growth in the organization of labor has brought greater responsibility. The work is going ahead actively, however, and we are meeting our problems in a practical way. We are dealing with living men, and living women and living children, in the hope of better things for all. The laboring people insist that they be regarded as something more than wage-earners. They are men with rights, and hopes and aspirations and love."

He expressed the belief that the plan of conciliation should be aided by every man who was against strife and for peace. He said that the unions sought to do no injustice, but were formed to conserve the rights of those who formed them.

John Mitchell said he was for peace, because he had known the bruises of war. "The relations of labor and capital," he said, "are purely a business proposition."

Samuel Gompers in closing, said that the thorough organization of labor presaged a complete protection for the honest employer against his dishonest competitor, who "nibbled" at prices.

With Military Honors.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 8.—The remains of Lieut. Frank Polk arrived at Lincoln yesterday and the funeral will be held today at 1077 L street at 2:30. Lieutenant Polk died at San Francisco soon after his return from the Philippines where he was in active service in the army. General Victor Viquain has been chosen as master of ceremonies.

Conditions of Wheat Crop.

New York, May 8.—Carefully compiled reports from the American Agriculturalists' corps of observers make the May 1 condition of winter wheat 91.50, against 91.5 last month, and compared with an average at this date for five years of 84. April was wholly favorable for the development of the wheat crop over the greater part of the belt. The report shows little damage through insect pests outside of Texas, Oklahoma and Michigan.

BULLET IN BRAIN

HEAD OF CLEVELAND BROKER BANK COMMITS SUICIDE

Found Dead in His Room at Seattle Hotel—Name A. R. Pollock, Found Sewed on Clothing, the Only Means of Identification—Bank's Condition Unknown.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 9.—A man believed to be R. N. Pollock, the missing bank president of Cleveland, O., ended his life here yesterday in the Hotel York, by sending bullet through his brain.

A razor, a two ounce box of "rough on rats" and a phial containing 100 tablets of aconite were found at hand.

All papers belonging to the man had been burned before he committed the deed. The suicide arrived here Monday and registered as James Fisher. He failed to appear during the next day and his room was finally broken into. Lying in a reclining position was found the body. The coroner was called in. The deceased had not, apparently stirred after firing the fatal shot. No clue could be obtained in the room and the name of R. N. Pollock was found sewed on the inside of his coat, placed there by a Cleveland, O., tailor.

The man appeared well dressed and had \$30 in money in his pockets.

CONDITION OF BROKEN BANK.

CLEVELAND, May 9.—R. N. Pollock, who killed himself in Seattle yesterday, was the president of the Cuyahoga Savings and Banking company of this city. He was thirty-eight years old, married and had three children. He was the promoter of the bank which closed its doors last Monday. Pollock disappeared ten days ago, and has not been definitely placed until news of his act of self-destruction reached here this evening.

The condition of the bank is as yet a matter of conjecture, its books being in the hands of the receiver, who is making an examination and whose report is expected in a day or two. The bank had deposits to the amount of \$340,000.

Must Pay Too Much for Corn.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., May 9.—Orders have been received at the twelve or fifteen factories of the National Starch company, including the factory in this city, to get ready to close down until the corn market becomes settled again. The price of starch, it is said, has not kept pace with the price of corn and there is no profit in buying corn at the present price to make starch at the present price. The local company stopped buying corn May 1, William F. Piel, the manager, says that he understands that the glucose manufacturers will also close their plants. No date is set for the shutdown but it is believed that it will occur about June 1. The time that the shutdown lasts will depend, it is said, on the future condition of the corn market. It will not last longer, it is thought, than the period for maturity of the new corn crop.

Veterans in Encampment.

PLATSMOUTH, Neb., May 9.—The twenty-fifth annual state encampment of the Grand Army of the R public convened at the Parmalee theatre at 2 o'clock this afternoon. R. B. Windham, on behalf of the city, delivered an address of welcome, followed by Judge S. M. Chapman, on behalf of the local post of the G. A. R. Past Department Commander Russell responded. Addresses were also delivered by Mrs. Sarah Sweet of Creighton, department president of the W. R. C., and others.

The delegates who arrived yesterday were given an informal reception last evening at the A. O. U. W. hall. Supper was served, and the visitors enjoyed a very pleasant hour in social chat and renewing old acquaintances, in accordance with previous arrangements, committees selected by Department Commander Reese, visited the various schools in the city this morning. Representatives, one from the G. A. R. and one from the W. R. C., were assigned to each school and delivered brief addresses.

Wants Kruger to Surrender.

LONDON, May 8.—The Daily Chronicle says it learns that the health of Mrs. Botha, wife of Commandant General Botha, has broken down owing to worry and her constant journeys between her husband and Lord Kitchener and that she is about to sail for Delagoa bay to visit Mr. Kruger and to appeal to him to persuade the Boers to surrender.

Kills Girl Not Guilty.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 9.—William Aechterah, a farmer near Augusta, went yesterday to the home of Robert White, a neighbor, and demanded to see his daughter Maud, whom he had tried to induce to leave her home after having ruined her. Mrs. White refused him admission and he threatened her life. Miss White then appeared and Aechterah fired twice with a revolver, one bullet penetrating her abdomen causing death.

Harvard Votes to Give Degree.

BOSTON, May 9.—The board of overseers of Harvard university at the regular meeting here today voted to grant the degree of doctor of laws to President McKinley. The decree will be conferred at commencement in June. President Lincoln of the board announced the action after the meeting, but he declined to state how the vote stood. From another source it was learned that it stood twenty-six to three.

CRASH COMES.

Wall Street Bubble Bursts and Panic Follows.

New York, May 10.—Bitter stress developed in Wall street by the second hour of trading on the stock exchange yesterday. The violence of the commotion had spent in a moment of its force, at least for the time being, when the chairman's gavel fell at the close of the day's trading.

The casualties were great and the field of battle was strewn with the wounded and maybe with the dying. But of actual fatalities none were recorded during the day. During the height of the panic rumors of insolvencies were bandied about more quickly than they could be reported. But no confirmations could be had of the intimations of financial wreck. These against whom the rumors pointed refused even to show any sign of distress and professed themselves ready to meet all obligations. Notwithstanding these assurances the fact was too obvious from the crash of values on the exchange that credits and borrowing power were shrinking at a too prodigious rate not to leave the mind of the whole financial world in a condition of intense strain.

SPECULATORS HEAVY LOSERS.

But the indications at the close of the day were strong that the principal damage had been wrought upon the speculative class or upon the holders of securities on margins, for whatever purpose. The shrinkage of collateral made it necessary for the banks in many cases to exact additional collateral during the day, and this added much to the distress for a time. But in the late dealings the principal banks in the financial district agreed to form a pool and raise a fund to loan the money rate down to 6 per cent on the stock exchange. The bid for money had been run up to 60 per cent and was threatening to keep alive the panic. The dozen banks quickly came to an agreement to raise \$16,000,000, with implied willingness to increase the sum if necessary. There were very heavy loans placed by individual banks, ranging in some cases to \$25,000,000 and \$30,000,000. Through the early part of the day bankers exacted the market rate for loans. But with the growing need to suppress the panic they offered the rate down to 6 per cent.

FEW SENSATIONAL SCENES.

The state of excitement was very apparent all through the financial district during the period of the panic, but there were few sensational scenes. Now and then a white-faced woman would peer from a cab outside a broker's office and would be driven off in a fainting condition after receiving a message from the interior. But the real stress of the occasion came upon the men who were shut up in either their private rooms or those of brokers who were struggling and even fighting on the floor of the exchange.

In the brokers' office sat many men who were reduced to absolute ruin as a result of fifteen minutes' proceedings in the exchange. Some of these have been made opulent within a few weeks past as a result of the unparalleled rise of prices. With the true gambling spirit they have replaced all their winnings in new ventures on each successful term. Today's drop, therefore, wiped them all out. In many cases one could see the gambler's fortitude with which the chances of gain were accepted. But the glittering attraction of this market had brought into it a constantly increasing assortment of more staid and inexperienced speculators; men and women who have brought long outstanding borders from secret places and from saving bank deposits with the determination to make one successful stroke and then retire with the proceeds. The demonstrations from this class, which includes many women speculators, furnished the hysterical scenes and sensations of the day.

CLOSING TRANSACTIONS.

The following was sent by a news bureau:

"It may be stated authoritatively that if the same condition of affairs exists tomorrow as today, J. P. Morgan & Co., and Kuhn, Loeb & Co., will continue the agreement not to insist on deliveries of Northern Pacific common or adopt a measure that will afford similar relief."

The closing transactions showed an excited tone to the market, some stocks being well supported and others declining. Continental Tobacco, which throughout the day had shown considerable strength, sold at 48 3/8 cents and at the time amalgamated copper was off at 106. Southern Pacific held well at 45. The last sale of New York Central was at 147 3/4 and of Union Pacific at 90.

SPOOLS ALL THEIR PLANS.

The Evening Post quotes an eminent authority of the railroad world as follows:

"It will be recognized when the field of battle clears that the balance of the railway power must not be seriously disturbed."

PEKIN, May 9.—An indemnity claim of \$450,000,000 taels was presented to the Chinese envoys this evening. Official Chinese through the empire have been communicating with the court and giving advice. Most of them seem to favor a loan, guaranteed by the foreign powers. Others, prominent among them is Chang Chi Tung, believe in raising the money in every possible way without a loan and in paying off the entire demand within five years.

CUTS DOWN AREA

ACREAGE OF WHEAT GROUND NOT UP TO LAST YEAR.

Two States Fall Far Short—Unusual Conditions in Texas and California—Conditions Fair Generally and in Some States Excellent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 11.—Returns to the statistician of the department of agriculture, made up to day 1, show the area under winter wheat in cultivation on that date to have been about 28,267,000 acres. This is 2,015,000 acres, or 6.7 per cent, less than the area shown last fall, but 2,032,000 acres or 7.7 per cent in excess of the winter wheat acreage harvested last year. Of the reduction about one-third came from Texas and California due in the former state to the ravage of the wheat plant louse and in the latter to the cutting, as is not unusual in that state, of a considerable acreage for forage. In the states that had one million acres or upwards sown last fall the following percentages are reported as abandoned or cut for forage:

Missouri 1, Kansas 1, Illinois 1.9, Pennsylvania 2, Indiana 2.5, Ohio 3.2, Tennessee 4.7, Michigan 9.6, Oklahoma 12.5, California 18.5, Texas 42.4. For the area remaining under cultivation the average condition on May 1 was 94.1. While this average is 10.5 points above the mean of the May averages for the last ten years, and has been exceeded only three times in seventeen years, it must be remembered that the acreage plowed up, cut for forage, or otherwise abandoned, has been entirely eliminated. In Kansas the wheat crop has held its own at the high average of 105, reported April 1, while an improvement is reported of 5 per cent in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, 8 in Illinois and 4 in Missouri. On the other hand, notwithstanding the elimination in Texas and California of so much of the acreage as will not be harvested, a decline is noted amounting to 4 points in the former state and 14 in the latter.

The average condition of winter rye on May 1 was 94.6, as compared with 91.1 on April 1, 1901, 88.5 on May 1, 1900 and 89.2 the mean of the May averages of the last ten years. The present condition is the highest since 1891.

The average condition of meadow mowing lands on May 1 was 38.8 against 30.8 last year.

The average condition of spring pasture on May 1 was 91.5 against 91.3 on May 1, 1900.

Of the total amount of spring plowing reported planted it is estimated that only 63 per cent was actually done up to May 1 the proportion usually done by that date being about 75 per cent of the whole. The lateness of the season is especially marked in New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska.

The Panic Has Fanned.

New York, May 11.—Wall street emerged from its gloom yesterday morning, and with glowing confidence in the day, with something like buoyant elation. Prices of stocks went up with a rush, at the last closing at about the top, and with the net losses left after Friday's session partly recovered. There were some clouds remaining on the situation and some natural trepidation lest the violent collapse of Friday should have left some casualties which would not be disclosed until the clearing house sheets of the stock exchange had been made up. Early in the day the official announcement was made that the sheets of all the members had been cleared perfectly, and that all their checks had been honored. This relieved the last feeling of apprehension, and the feverish and earnest signs which were manifest in the stock market during the first hour disappeared. Things quieted down into a steady condition of business such as has not been witnessed in Wall street for many weeks.

Admiral Schley at London.

LONDON, May 11.—Rear Admiral Schley has arrived in London on his way to the United States. He is accompanied by Lieutenant James H. Sears. The Admiral is visiting his daughter's relatives, the Stuart-Wortleys. He will dine with Mr. Choate, the United States ambassador, and will stay here about ten days before sailing for New York.

Identify the Suicide.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 11.—The body of R. N. Pollock, who committed suicide in the city Wednesday at the Hotel York, was positively identified by his former pastor and friend, Rev. R. A. George of the Trinity Congregational church of Cleveland, who is in Seattle on his way to Nema. Rev. George will take charge of the body and may possibly accompany it to Cleveland.

DUBLIN, May 11.—The police of Cork seized the copies of William O'Brien's weekly papers found at the news dealers'. The offending articles, it now appears, were abusive attacks on King Edward.

Tournament Goes to Omaha.

LINCOLN, May 11.—The Nebraska state sportsmen's association held a meeting in the parlors of the Lindell hotel Thursday night and decided to hold the next annual tournament in Omaha. The date for the tournament was not set, this being left to the Omaha sportsmen to determine. There was no contest over the location the Lincoln men conceding the tournament next year to Omaha. Officers were elected for the ensuing year.

NEBRASKA NOTES.

The Wisner Free Press got out a fine illustrated edition last week.

Within the last two weeks Sarpy county has paid bounty on eighty-eight wolf scalps.

The Elkhorn Valley Editorial association meets at Valentine the first Saturday in June.

Work has commenced on the construction of a telephone line from Taylor to Burwell.

Headquarters of the 1st Regiment of the National Guard have been established at Beatrice.

Wausa is to have a new brick hotel and a \$12,000 brick business block during the present season.

A special train left Rushville recently with 150 Indians aboard, bound for the Buffalo Exposition.

The electric light company at Superior renews its contract with the city for another year without any difficulty.

The new building for the school on the Winnebago reservation has been completed and turned over to the government.

Palmer has taken on quite a building boom this season. There are now thirty houses in process of erection in that place.

W. M. Bruce has made a proposition to the people of Harland that he will erect a flour mill at that place if he is paid a bonus of \$3,000.

Deposits in the state banks of Nebraska are over \$3,000,000 greater than ever before, and a similar state of affairs is reported by the national banks.

According to a circular issued by State Superintendent Fowler, there are 210 High schools in the state subject to the free High school attendance law.

Henry Cordes, of Beatrice, the faster still abstains from food. He says he realizes that he is growing weaker each day, but that he will not eat until May 15.

Bloomington will submit to having two saloons this year, but the citizens will draw the line on gambling and will wage a war against anyone who tries to inaugurate it.

The wagon bridge near Berlin, in Otoe county, collapsed last Friday while a man was driving across it. He and his team went down with the crash and the man was seriously injured.

H. P. Uplike, for a number of years cashier of the Union bank at Harvard, has resigned his position and will move to Omaha where he will take an active interest in the Uplike Grain company.

Evert Buchanan was sentenced last week at Nebraska to nine years in the penitentiary for assault with intent to commit rape upon the person of a child of a well-to-do farmer living near Bloomfield.

The Great Eastern Irrigating Ditch company of Plate county contemplates extending the ditch and enlarging it so that in addition to irrigating land it will furnish 6,000 horse power for manufacturing purposes.

The money has been raised and work will be begun at once at Plainview to sink an artesian well 1,000 feet. The heaviest rainfall of the season has occurred since last Friday night and the crop prospects are flattering.

Last fall the town of Craig voted to issue bonds and build a system of waterworks. The town board has done nothing as yet toward putting the will of the voters into effect and some of them are beginning to enquire why.

Dr. Johnson, superintendent of the Institute for the feeble minded, has issued an order prohibiting anyone from visiting the institute and forbids the employees of the institute to come to town, except Steward Metzger, until the abatement of small pox.

An attempt to burn the house of A. J. Ewing, a farmer residing four miles south of Nebraska City, was made by some unknown party who saturated the side of the building with coal oil. The property has been in litigation for some time and was recently decided to be the property of Mr. Ewing.

Work is so nearly completed on the Gering Canal that preparations are being made to conduct the water in laterals over the town. It is now expected that the water will flow around the bluff, where the most difficult work was situated, inside the next two weeks. It has been a long and trying struggle, but the assurance of a rapid development of the territory watered by the canal is no longer in doubt.

Charley Robinson, a young man about twenty-three years of age, who is employed as a farm hand by Charles Frey, Jr., of near Pender, was drowned in the Logan river. He was driving some cattle to pasture and one of the animals jumped into the stream and swam across and he rode his horse in after it and both sank, the horse later coming up and swimming to the shore. His rider, however, did not again appear. The body has not yet been found, and as the stream is high it is difficult to secure it.

Thompson, the ranchman who raffled off his \$45,000 ranch to himself at a drawing held in Alliance, is now willing to make restitution by offering to return the money to those who took a chance. The people who held tickets in the drawing are not inclined to let him go at that and will insist that he be tried for obtaining money under false pretenses.

The Oakland Republican has prospered to the extent of being able to put in a fine cylinder press.