

transpired that day. About 5 o'clock on the following morning the occupants of about 150 cargo-boats that were lying by the side of the steamship *Hecate* near Messrs. Windsor Rose & Co's wharf, at a given signal rose en masse and clambered on the *Hecate's* docks. Each coolie was armed with some sort of a weapon, either spear, trident, sword or firearm, and their peremptory storming of the *Hecate*, to the no small consternation of the boat officers, was with the object of annihilating their opponents whom they thought were working on board. On being informed to the contrary, they left for the shore, and getting behind their fortifications on the main road, opened the attack upon No. 2 society with a volley from the firearms and a shower of stones and other missiles.

Several times during the day the belligerents, numbering altogether about 5000, came to close quarters, when the spears and tridents were used with terrible effect, numbers being killed on the spot, while the many wounded managed to escape and get their injuries attended to. The coolies fought more like demons than human beings—they were all more or less under the influence of drink—their barbarity being simply hideous to behold. Several times during the conflict, after felling a victim, three or four coolies would dig their spears and tridents into the wounded man, and while life's blood was still running they held the body aloft on their spear points, demoniacally grinning the while, showing the fearful lot that might befall others who fell into their clutches. This occurred on one or two occasions, and goes to prove the excited state of mind in which the combatants were.

Although these fearful crimes were being committed, it must be said that the conflict was confined to the members of the two societies. Several Europeans were in the vicinity, but at present we have heard of no assault upon any one. The battle continued all that day. During the evening it got wind that the coolies intended firing Messrs. Windsor, Rose & Co's mill. They made one or two attempts to get at it. Once they sent a bundle of burning substance dangerously close, but the stuff was soon extinguished.

About 9 o'clock the next morning, while the coolies were fighting as viciously as ever, about fifty mounted cavalymen and nearly 1000 foot-soldiers came upon the scene. After being drawn up the order to "charge" was given to the cavalry. In the rush to get away about fifteen men were unhorsed, but those who struck on with their long swords created a sheol among the belligerents, and in less than three minutes from the time the order to charge was given not a single Chinaman could be seen. The troops were then drawn up in line along the road in such a way as to entirely surround the buildings and so as to prevent the escape of the coolies. Several attempted to break through the ranks, but failing to stop when called upon

to do so they were bayoneted without mercy. In the meantime a large number of steam launches were patrolling the river, so that every possible chance of escape was shut off to the coolies.

After this chase the captain of the *Hecate* allowed his vessel to be searched. Coolies were hauled out from the boiler furnaces, the funnel, ship's boats, water tanks, the galley, coal box, and even out of the officers' bunks, where they lay as flat as any human being possibly could lie in order to avoid detection, but it was no good; the cute little Siamese stuck their bayonets here, there and everywhere. In this way something like 200 coolies were captured.

By the latest papers to hand it is learned that the riot has now ceased, although some of the mills are under military surveillance. The Bangkok Times says that over 900 prisoners have been captured, among them the eight head men.

The Bangkok Times of June 20th says: Many conflicting reports as to the number of Chinese killed and wounded during the late riots are abroad, and it is exceedingly difficult to get at the exact number for lack of facilities and the reticence of those connected with the wounded persons. It is possible, therefore, that our rough estimate of the wounded in our last issue—about 100—is yet within the mark.

ATTEMPTED CANNIBALISM.

The *Hu Pao* says a horrible case of attempted cannibalism has occurred at Poa Shan Hien, only some tens of li from Shanghai. There is a benevolent institution called the Ch'ung-shen Tang, which feeds and educates pauper children. A proprietor of some public baths was either attacked by homicidal mania or possessed by a superstition that to eat a child would cure him of an illness from which he was suffering. He bought from an old woman a child which was being taken to the Ch'ung-shen Tang, and hired a Hupeh man to kill it. The murdered child was discovered by a man employed by the bath proprietor, deposited in a large jar ready for cooking. The persons concerned in this extraordinary murder have been arrested.

THOUSANDS DROWNED.

Two thousand bodies are said to have been buried after the recent floods at Chen-p'ing, in Kuanytung. The people of Ch'ao-chow Fu, lower down in the Han river, picked up 500 bodies outside the south gate of their city and 200 outside their north gate. The viceroy, Chang Chi-tung, at once ordered 5000 taels to be allotted from the Ch'ao-chow Fu customs for relief and 200 shih (each of 160 catties) of rice have also been sent to Chen-p'ing.

CURRENT TOPICS IN EUROPE.

Those European nations which formerly regarded the United States as merely the home of good products and labor-saving machinery, have for some time past become

alive to the fact that in every department of industry, science and art, Americans must be treated on equal terms. In literature the names of Emerson, Motley, Hawthorne, Washington Irving, Prescott, Holmes, and many others, will rank with the first names in the Old World; while perhaps the best dictionary of the English language is the compilation of an American author. In poetry, Longfellow, Lowell, Whittier, Bryant and a host of others have enriched the Anglo-Saxon language with noble thoughts in noble words. In science, Americans have long held their own in comparison with the savants of the Old World; while in art—as any visitor of the *Exposition Universelle* may satisfy himself—they occupy one of the foremost places. Two medals of honor, four first-class medals, and ten second-class medals have been distributed among American artists. This number indicates a very high opinion of the American pictures on the part of the jury. No country outside France, except England and Belgium, has obtained more than one medal of honor. These two countries only have equaled or surpassed the United States. Such a result is one of which Americans may reasonably be proud. As regards the works that have been rewarded by the jury, we find that in every case they are by artists who have studied abroad. The works of Messrs. Sargent, Bridgman, Alexander Harrison, Eugene Vail, Weeks and Mosler are as familiar to Parisians as those of their own artists.

American songstresses have likewise taken the European capitals by storm. They have proved not only their capacity to interpret the finest creations of classical composers but have likewise, by the purity of their notes, completely carried off the palm in operatic and dramatic spheres. All these things the Old World has been forced to recognize. But the classical musical compositions of the West, in the higher sense of the term, are to Europeans almost unknown. True, one often hears on the streets of Geneva, Rome or Venice the music and the translation of the words of "Home, Sweet Home!" or "Evangeline;" but it is only this year that American operas and American lyrics by the dozen have become familiar to European ears. These songs and ballads are influencing the masses of Europe; and it was a grand idea to take advantage of the Exposition and show the world that Americans are not only capable of interpreting good music but have also produced and are producing works of rare merit and beauty.

The visit of the Shah of Persia is to the nations of western Europe one of the great events of the season. His reception in London was such as to mark it one of the red-letter days in the British calendar. The British people are not accustomed to do anything by halves, and so from the moment when the *Victoria and Albert* with her royal charge was saluted by the guns of the iron-clad squadron at the Nore to