

FIFTY-FIRST YEAR.

KEMPF MAKES A GRAPHIC REPORT

Is Commended for Not Beginning the War—How the Allied Forces, Except Americans, Began the Fighting.

The American Admiral's Account Puts the Other Nations in the Attitude of Commencing War on China—Americans Would Not Do It—Blowing Up Magazines on Gunboat and in Fort—Taking Forts by Storm—Losses of Combatants—The Monocacy Hit—Close Call for Capt. Wise—He Has an Itching to Fight.

Washington, July 25.—The navy department today made public the mail reports of Rear Admiral Kempf, explaining his reasons for refusing to join with the ships of the other powers in the attack on the Taku forts and giving an account of the attack which includes many details not heretofore published. Admiral Kempf also includes the report of Commander Wise, of the Monocacy, giving a graphic account of the action.

Rear Admiral Kempf's explanation for refusing to participate in the attack on the fortifications of a power with which we were at peace is warmly commended by Secretary Long. The reports are as follows:

WOULD NOT BEGIN WAR.

"U. S. Flagship Newark, Taku, China, June 17, 1900.

"Sir—I would state what follows in regard to the happenings previous to the resolve yesterday by other senior foreign naval officers here to get possession of the Taku forts.

"On Thursday, June 14, Rear Admiral Bruce called and asked what I thought of the matter, and I informed him that I was not authorized to initiate any act of war with a country with which my country was at peace, that my limit was to protect American interests, both by regulations and under recent instructions from both the department and from the commanding officer of the United States naval force on the Asiatic station.

AMERICANS NOT ON THE GRAB.

"On the 15th, at a consultation of the other foreign naval officers, it was agreed that the railroad station at Tong Ku should be taken (The railway is under Chinese government control, and in case any Chinese government force acted against the force of any foreign nation, all should be involved and act unitedly. Under my instructions, I could not join in taking possession of Chinese government property, and did not care to become a party to such an agreement without special authority.

KEMPF OBEYED ORDER.

"Yesterday, June 16, the same foreign naval officers signed a compact that it was necessary to take temporary possession of the Taku forts, and notice

was served on the viceroy at Tien Tsin and on the commandant of the forts. Consignees at Tien Tsin were informed of what was contemplated. I did not join in the attack on the forts. Captain Wise, of Monocacy, had orders to protect American interests, based upon departmental orders, but in case of attack by a Chinese government force he was to consider it as a declaration of war and act accordingly.

"Very respectfully,
"LOUIS KEMPF,
"Rear Admiral U. S. N."

TAKING THE TAKU FORTS.

"U. S. Flagship Newark, Taku, June 15, 1900.—Sir—I have the honor to report as follows: The commanding officers of the gunboats in the river met on the afternoon of June 16, and agreed for the senior officer of the gunboats to direct the movement. This officer happened to be a Russian. The positions for the various gunboats were then assigned, taking positions in the second 'V' of the river above the north fort. The gunboats participating were the Korona, Gullak, Rohr, Russian, Hils, German, Lion, French, Algerine, English, The English torpedo boat destroyers Fame and Whiting joined the U. S. S. Monocacy, being ordered to capture the boats near Tong Ku. The Japanese gunboat claimed that her engines were disabled, so she moved to Tong Ku and was assisted in charge of the railroad station at that place. The U. S. S. Monocacy, being ordered, remained moored at Tong Ku and took no part in the action. Many foreigners were afforded shelter and protection during the night. A copy of the report of the commanding officer of the Monocacy is herewith enclosed.

FORTS OPENED FIRE.

The vessels, except the Hils, took their assigned positions early in the evening, of the 16th instant, and about 12:35 a. m., one hour before the expiration of the time limit, all the forts' guns, which could be trained on the ships, fired simultaneously, many shots striking the Korona. The vessels returned the fire with a rapid fire from their guns, which, with the exception of the guns of six-inch caliber, were of small rapid-fire type.

The guns on the north fort were chiefly 4.2 inch, while the south fort has a number of guns from six to eight inches in caliber.

GUNBOAT MAGAZINE EXPLODES.

The Algerine, having aboard a landing party of some 300 men, immediately put them ashore. A portion of them advanced through Taku to the navy yard, and took by surprise four new modern torpedo boats, carrying two torpedoes and six three-pounders each, and striking the Korona. The French, English, took them to Tong Ku. The other landing parties and the remainder of the

general massacre by Chinese soldiers, who are shelling legation daily. Relief soon, if at all. City without government except by Chinese army. Determined massacre all foreigners. Pekin. Entry relief forces into city probably hotly contested."

The message comes from Capt. Charles M. Thomas, commander of the Brooklyn.

English, aggregating some 650 men, awaiting an opportune time for the assault. The firing continued with more or less spirit until daylight, when it became very rapid and active, and it is reported very disastrous to the Chinese. About 4:30 a shell entered the magazine of the Gullak, blowing it up, causing her to take water and burning 47 men more or less severely. She got over an awning (as a collision mat), and after a few hours' work, was floating at her normal height.

SILENCING THE FORTS.

About 6 a. m., the gunboats having silenced the Northwest fort, a landing force charged and occupied it, where, holding the flag, casualties occurred, notably the captain of the Japanese landing party and one English sailor killed and several wounded. The Chinese then abandoned the North fort, which is joined to the Northwest fort by a protected passage. After about two hours more the South forts were taken, after the explosion of the magazine. Most of the occupants fled but were not pursued. Some 20 or 40 were found hiding in various parts of the fort.

The various nations participating hoisted their flags on the various flag-staffs. The forts being of thick mud and grass adobe, were but little damaged by the gun fire, although they received a number of projectiles. The guns and gun shields, as a rule, were not damaged. Two or three of the modern guns were disabled.

LOSS OF COMBATANTS.

The dead Chinese were not counted, but it is estimated by eyewitnesses that some 200 dead were left in the fort. The loss on the side of the allied forces was as nearly as possible as follows:

Algerine, one officer badly injured; eight men wounded. Hils, captain badly injured; three or four men killed, six or eight wounded.

Korona, two officers badly wounded, eight men dead; twelve wounded.

Gullak, one officer badly injured; eight men killed, ten wounded; forty-seven burned by explosion of "powder-room."

Lion, one man killed; one badly wounded.

The vessels engaged, injuries of minor importance.

The above is an account gleaned from conversations of officers engaged, but may contain minor inaccuracies. During the engagement guns were turned on the Monocacy, which was out of the line of fire. She was not (casualties) and was forced to withdraw up the river.

Very respectfully,
LOUIS KEMPF,
Rear Admiral, U. S. N.

To the Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

MONOCACY NOT IN IT.

Following is the report of the action made by Commander Wise of the Monocacy, to Rear Admiral Kempf:

U. S. S. Monocacy, Tong Ku, China, June 17, 1900.

Sir: I have the honor to report upon the occurrences since yesterday noon. I attended a meeting of officers at 2 p. m. on board the Hibernia. I was shown the protocol and ultimatum as to the Taku forts. The signatures to the document were not appended. I informed the senior officer that we would have to leave the Monocacy out of the plans and places for vessels of the attacking forces.

1. The first gun was fired at 12:45, and the simultaneous discharge followed that of the other ships, over the Monocacy, although she was out of the line of fire between the forts and vessels attacking.

2. The Hils did not leave her berth, which was a short distance from mine, until 10:30, and the Japanese did not leave hers during the bombardment.

AMERICAN BOAT STRUCK.

3. The fire was well sustained on both sides until about 1:30, at which time, at intervals to pass near me or burst short or beyond. I attributed it to a wild firing by the forts. About 2:30 I was standing on top of pilot house of the galling. I had mounted there when I heard the shot of a 4.2 inch gun, and immediately a crash. The second cutter hanging at her davit a few feet below and behind me had been struck by a shell. It entered her stern, tore out the bottom, and she was diagonally across the ship, out after fall of the steam launch, smashing port forecastle ladder and passed through the ship's side, in which it left a clear cut oval, two feet by ten inches. There were many men on the forecastle deck, and it must have gone as close to some of them as it did to me. I fortunately missed the launch's davit, as that would have caused it to explode.

MAGAZINE EXPLOSION.

4. It was difficult to make out how the allies were faring, but they were evidently closing, as after three a. m. discharges from guns like satellites or maxima were heard. A 4.2 inch gun was a tremendous explosion and a mass of flame, which I attributed to a magazine in one of the forts.

5. Towards four o'clock the bursting of shell in my vicinity increased to such an extent that it occurred to me that the forts might be directing some of the fire on the railroad station, as in this flat country it was a prominent mark and a number of Japanese and Russian troops were encamped around it. In such case the Monocacy might be in considerable danger from a fire which I had hitherto considered bad shooting. Acting upon the thought, I at once cast off everything. I steamed away from the bank and went two miles on the river, anchoring in the first bend. This move was made at 4:20 and 5:30 the shelling and a Japanese flag floating over one of the forts, I returned to my berth.

ASSISTANCE RENDERED.

7. I was able to render the following assistance: First, a party of 37 ladies and children, refugees from the mission at Taku, who had fled hurriedly on the notification of the bombardment. They came aboard last night at 9 p. m., and are still with me; also came two officers of the H. M. S. Barbou, who had come down from Tien Tsin too late to get to any English ship. As I was coming down the river Monday a. m., met in English torpedo boat towing a Chinese boat prize—I had no small boat to make a landing so I sent the launch to run her line ashore, for which thanks have been returned. I have taken on board and had surgical attendance for the following: A Japanese soldier with a gun shot wound, a Chinese coolie found close to the ship with arm torn off by fragment of shell, a Russian soldier with wound in the hand.

NO OBJECTION TO FIGHT.

8. Taku forts deserted by every one, no trains, no telegraphic communication from anywhere, but I had a telephone from Mr. Hettling, who reports all quiet since first disturbance.

9. I know nothing of the fight except that the forts were taken. I feel a natural regret, shared no doubt by the officers, that duty and orders prevented the old Monocacy from giving her ancient smooth bore a last chance.

Very respectfully,
F. M. WISE,
Commander U. S. N., Commanding.

BLOODY BATTLE IS RACING NOW

Conflict Near Panama Between Government Troops and Rebels.

THE FIGHT WAS INDECISIVE

Contest Still Continues—Hospitals Filled With Wounded and Dying—Panama in a Bad State.

New York, July 25.—A dispatch to the Herald from Panama, dated July 24th, says:

Fighting is now going on in the outskirts of this city. Large numbers of the revolutionary forces reached the suburbs early this morning and began a vigorous attack, which is still in progress. The rifle fire is sharp and continuous and at intervals the artillery fire is heavy and severe.

Government forces are making a strong resistance in the entrenched positions they have occupied for several days.

It is calculated that 200 men have been killed or wounded so far, among them being many well known young residents of this city.

The Red Cross hospital here is filled with wounded and dying soldiers. All available doctors and nurses and sisters of charity are caring for them.

These are being aided by many private persons, both Colombian and foreign. Their assistance is invaluable and is worthy of highest encomiums.

The help of the ambulance corps of the British cruiser Leander has again been requested in caring for the wounded, and efforts are now being made to bring about a short armistice in order to bury the dead and pick up the wounded still in the trenches.

Among the wounded is Gen. Lozada, formerly in command of the government troops, who took refuge with others on the cruiser Leander on Saturday.

He returned to shore today and took the place of a private in the ranks, fighting with the bravest.

Every possible effort has been made by the foreign consuls here to prevent a disastrous conflict in the streets of the city, but they have not been successful.

Gen. Herrera, commander-in-chief of the revolutionists, is still at Corozal, but it is believed he will soon join his forces now in action. If he does so, the attacks will undoubtedly be still more vigorous, and the fighting more general with disastrous results in the city proper.

Panama's streets are almost deserted. Stray bullets are constantly dropping in the streets and several persons have been struck by them.

Railroad traffic has been interrupted. This morning's train from Colon, bringing passengers for New York, had great difficulty in passing under the bridge on account of the risk from bullets and shells. Passengers had to lie flat on the car floor to avoid bullets.

The Pacific Steam Navigation company's steamer Guatemala, which arrived this morning with several passengers for New York, and the French steamer Le Loez, their business because of the firing in the neighborhood of the wharf at the old station of the Panama railroad.

Today's fighting followed an indecisive battle which lasted most of yesterday afternoon at La Boca, between the revolutionists and rebels who were landed from warships in possession of the revolutionists.

The fighting was hard but both sides maintained their positions. The rebels held several points on the railroad, their purpose being to intercept the federal troops coming from Colon, numbering 150, under Gen. Sarria.

All business places in Panama are closed. Provisions and other necessities of life are growing scarce and are hard to get at high prices.

Public excitement is intense. Many families residing in upper parts of the city have taken refuge in the Grand Central hotel for safety in case of an outbreak of trouble in the city.

At the request of the foreign consuls, all foreigners here have placed their national flags on their business houses and dwellings. The resulting display of bunting gives the city a gay appearance.

The government has issued a decree calling to arms all Colombian citizens between the ages of 18 and 50 years. All public employees not complying with the decree will be heavily fined.

No American war vessel is at Panama or Colon. It is impossible to foresee what will be the outcome of the present fighting or the end of the struggle. Reinforcements expected by the government have not yet arrived.

The gunboat Boyan is supposed to be still outside of Buena Ventura.

With Transatlantic Liners.

Bremen, July 24.—Arrived: Barbarossa, New York.

Plymouth, July 24.—Arrived: Pennsylvania, from New York; Deutschland, New York. The Deutschland's time was 5 days, 14 hours and 6 minutes. Her biggest day's run was 336 miles, on July 19. This is the fastest eastward run, and is a record breaker for the Deutschland's maiden eastward voyage.

Damaging Drouth East.

New York, July 25.—The Tribune says: The drouth which has prevailed generally in the New England States and in New York, New Jersey and Delaware since March, has had a serious effect on many of the crops, the recent local showers affording little relief to the farmers.

In New York State the hop crop is seriously affected, and the yield will be less than it has been for many years; the farmers also report a great shortage in the hay crop and scarcity of food for cattle through the coming winter.

In middle and southern New England the continued lack of rain is threatening the later crops, and in Massachusetts the early corn crop is a failure.

Pants Makers Strike.

New York, July 25.—Most of the pants makers in Manhattan Borough, have struck for a ten hour work day and an advance of ten per cent in wages. There are five thousand pants makers in New York, Brooklyn and Newark. They belong to unions which are affiliated with the United Garment Workers, and the latter organization has used all its

influence to prevent a strike, believing the time inopportune. However, the pants makers of New York have called out the men in more than 300 shops. The leaders of the strike sent telegrams to the branches in Brooklyn and Newark, informing them of the strike and received replies saying that the branches would be guided by the action of the New Yorkers. It is said that there has been a gradual return to the task system, under which a man must make a certain number of garments to entitle him to a day's pay. The tasks, the men said, have been gradually increased, until one had to work a day and a half or two days to earn one day's pay.

Mrs. Janaschek Improving.

New York, July 25.—Mrs. Janaschek, the actress, who was stricken with paralysis a week ago, is improving steadily and will be out in two weeks, it is hoped. She is in her 71st year.

Cost of South African War.

London, July 24.—The supplementary estimates necessitated by the prolongation of the war in South Africa amount to £11,500,000, making a total of £24,500,000 voted for this purpose, and bringing the total army estimates up to £55,500,000.

CLARK AND CAMPAIGN FUND.

Will Not Say What He Gave the Democrats—Eight Hour Law.

New York, July 25.—Wm. A. Clark of Montana, who was interviewed by a Tribune reporter last night, declined to discuss the report that he had contributed a large sum of money to the Democratic campaign fund.

"What is your status as a representative at the present time?" he was asked.

"I am the duly appointed senator from the State of Montana. The best constitutional lawyers in the United States and elsewhere have pronounced my credentials to be legal and binding. They will be considered at the next session of the Senate, and I expect to take my seat."

Speaking of the eight hour system as adopted in western copper mines, Mr. Clark said:

"We put the eight hour day into effect on the 22nd anniversary of the organization of the labor union of Montana. It is a mistake to assume that I am not a large employer of labor in Montana. I employ about 3,500 and 4,000 miners in my employ. The eight hour day affects the underground workers."

"The eight hour schedule is also in force at the United Verde mine in Arizona. The men there appropriated it. They were denied when the order was given changing the hours."

WILL BEGIN AUGUST 20.

Date for Speechmaking in the Republican Campaign.

New York, July 25.—Senator N. R. Scott, who is in charge of the national committee in the Metropolitan Life building, has received a dispatch from Senator Hanna, the chairman of the committee, announcing that Senator Hanna will not be in this city before Friday. Senator Hanna, Senator Scott, Joseph H. Manly, Cornelius N. Bliss and Frederick S. Gibbs, will have a conference at the headquarters on Friday, it is expected, and will decide upon arrangements for campaign work in the eastern section of the country. Mr. Manly is expected to arrive from Maine today. Mr. Scott, who is to have charge of the arrangements for speakers in the campaign, says:

"Every mail brings applications from orators who want to take the stump for McKinley and Roosevelt. I think nearly all the Republican orators of the national Republican committee will be in the campaign of the country by the end of the campaign. I have talked with Secretary Root and Secretary Long, who are extremely busy just now, and I hope to get some speeches from them later. The plans for speeches have not been made, and the speaking probably will not begin before August 20."

Took Fight Out of Strikers.

Vancouver, B. C., July 25.—The trouble at Stevenson with the striking fishermen is practically settled. The presence of the militia has taken all the fight out of the strikers.

Benefit Building Associations.

Indianapolis, Ind., July 25.—The first session of the convention of the United States League of Building and Loan associations was held here today. Many men prominent in building and loan affairs in different parts of the country are in attendance. One of the prominent figures is Carroll D. Wright, United States commissioner of labor, who will address the league tomorrow. The first session was largely taken up by addresses dealing with building associations and their benefits.

With Transatlantic Liners.

New York, July 25.—Arrived: Majestic, from Liverpool.

Glasgow, July 25.—Arrived: Astoria, New York.

Hamburg, July 25.—Arrived: Deutschland, New York.

Robbed a Faro Bank.

Truckee, Cal., July 25.—A faro bank in the rear of Al Richardson's saloon, has been robbed by two masked men, who covered five players with revolvers and secured about \$750. After warning the men that the first one to move would be shot, the robbers made their escape.

FATAL CELLULOSE EXPLOSION.

Three Women Killed, One Fatally Injured and Others Hurt.

Chicago, July 25.—Shortly before noon today an explosion occurred in the chemical department of the Windsor Cellulose Collar Co., on the fourth floor of 125 Dearborn street, setting fire to the building and resulting in the death of three women, the fatal injury of another, and minor injuries to five other persons. The property loss is estimated at \$2,000, partially insured.

Dead: Mrs. Ellen McLaughlin. Two unknown girls.

Injured: Grace Peterson, fatally. Viola Ritter. Unknown man cut by falling glass. Two unknown women cut by falling glass.

Disastrous Railway Wreck.

St. Louis, July 25.—A special to the Post Dispatch from Benton, Ill., says:

A solid vestibule passenger train, southbound on the Chicago and Eastern Illinois railway was wrecked near here at 11 o'clock today. Otto Neinal was killed and twenty-five other passengers were injured.

No Gold Standard Ticket.

Indianapolis, Ind., July 25.—If the matter is left to the national committee of the Democrats, which meets here this afternoon, there will be no gold standard ticket in the field. While the committee cannot make any recommendation, it will have great weight.

BRITISH UNBELIEF IS BEING SHAKEN

One Story of Massacre Untrue, the Other May be—Foreign Legations Safe July 21.

Possibility of Legationers Being Alive Admitted in London—News of Chinese Denying the Legations—Trouble on the Yang Tse River—Russia's Claims in China Feared as a Cause of Delay and Trouble—European Press Displeased With Prest. McKinley's Efforts in Favor of Peace—British Criticism—Gen. Chaffee in Japan.

Washington, July 25.—The state department has received a cablegram from Consul McWade at Canton, saying that Viceroy Tak gives assurance that all foreign envoys at Peking were alive and well on July 21.

BRITISH GIVING IN.

London, July 25.—The tone of the European press with regard to the message, dated July 4, received here from the British minister at Peking, Sir Claude MacDonald, continues pessimistic and the endless and extraordinary succession of Chinese dispatches purporting to describe the situation at Peking only serves to bewilder.

However, the earlier unquestioning belief that a massacre took place has to some extent been shaken, and it is now admitted, despite the heavy load of evidence supporting the reports of the massacre, that as Sir Claude MacDonald's letter disposed of the first story alleging that the crime occurred June 20, so Minister Conger's dispatch and other stories reporting the legation safe July 10, 14 and 18, give some ground for assuming the possibility that the second reports were also unfounded.

DEFENDING THE LEGATIONS.

Another version of the story, which reached Gen. Li, commanding the Pei Tan forces, by a runner from Peking, who brought to him yesterday the report of anarchy in the Chinese capital, which Gen. Li communicated to the British officer commanding at Tong Ku, says the British legation was being bombarded when the messenger left Peking, July 14. Prince Ching, this report says, was assisting the ministers and his palace was protected by ten thousand Chinese troops.

Prince Ching, according to this report, considered himself able to cope with the situation.

According to a dispatch from the Pei Tan, received here today, Admiral Seymour has started for the Yang-Tze river to arrange for the protection of the local ports which are threatened with attack.

The Austrian warships Kaiserin Elizabeth and Aspern have sailed for China.

RUSSIA GIVING TROUBLE.

There is some fear in London that the Russian claim to control of the railway from Taku to Peking will delay the proposed advance of the allies to Peking. It is thought that this claim is in pursuance of Russia's alleged desire to prevent any power but herself from penetrating to Peking in sufficient force to be effective and to procure for herself sole occupation, either as conqueror or peacekeeper.

ANGRY AT AMERICA.

Special dispatches received here today from Berlin contrast the replies of President McKinley and the German minister of foreign affairs, Count Von Buelow, to the Chinese emperor's appeal from the standpoint obtaining at Berlin, that the object of all Chinese assurances is to gain time for military preparations and undermining the unity of the powers. The Morning Post's Berlin correspondent asserts that the attitude of the United States government is regarded as a decided triumph for Chinese diplomacy, while the Daily News says the attitude of the Washington authorities is regarded in Berlin as a regrettable error. Similarly the London morning papers regret "that

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It is not clear whether the supply train and 200 soldiers mentioned in the above dispatch are identical with the train and one hundred Cameron highlanders the capture of which was reported by Lord Roberts in his communication of July 22.

The following dispatch from Lord Roberts has been received at the war office:

"Breakfast, Spruit, Tuesday, July 24.—We marched here today. This is the place where the ninety-fourth was attacked Dec. 30, 1897. The graves of the officers and men are in fair preservation and will now be put in good order. The march was unopposed, but French cavalry and Hutton's mounted infantry, making a wide detour on our right, now back, leaving several dead and wounded. A good many were also captured. Our casualties were killed, one."

"Broadwood reports that he captured five of Dewet's wagons today. He was waiting at Vredfort until Little joined him."

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BRITISH ARE CHASING THE BOERS

Latter Get Away With 200 Welsh Fusiliers—Baden-Powell Reports Beating a Thousand Boers With Less Than Half Their Number—Graves of British Soldiers.

London, July 25, 12:45 p. m.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

"Vandermeer Station, July 24.—We made a general advance yesterday from the position we have been holding, east of Pretoria, since June 12. Ian Hamilton, from the north, reached Rustfontein, seven miles north of Bronkhorst Spruit, on July 23. This so completely surrounded the enemy's line of retreat that they abandoned the strong position they had been occupying in front of Poles-Carew. Stephenson's brigade advanced yesterday unopposed to Eland's River station. Our right was protected by the first and fourth brigades of cavalry under French and Hutton's mounted infantry. The former crossed east of Wilgeze river."

"Telegraph and railway communication were restored last night."

"In the supply train captured at Rooval were 200 Welsh fusiliers, most of whom had been prisoners."

"Dewet's force is continuing to move northwesterly. It was at Rooval on July 22, with Broadwood not far behind and Little's cavalry brigade following Broadwood."

"Baden-Powell reports as follows: 'Magda Farm, July 25.—Col. Arey and Lushington, with 400 men, drove 1,000 Boers from a very strong position and scattered them with considerable loss. Our casualties were six killed and 19 wounded.'"

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ANOTHER MESSAGE FROM CONGER.

This is Dated July 4, Two Weeks Before His Cipher Cable—Legationers Were Fighting for Their Lives Then, and Feared a Massacre.