

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

## By Telegraph.

Per WESTERN UNION Telegraph Line.

## GENERAL.

A special to the *Herald* dated Karlsruhe 21st, says Strasbourg is in flames. The French have fired the surrounding villages. They make frequent sorties, which are constantly repulsed. 8,000 Prussians have arrived with a train of heavy siege artillery. The city is surrounded by thirty thousand men, under Gen. Weider. The inhabitants are demoralized and disorder everywhere prevails. The surrender of the city is hourly expected. The Crown prince has won another victory, in a great battle before Chalons. The Prussians are victorious everywhere, and the French defeat complete.

Our special correspondent at Chalons on Thursday, 18, writes the Emperor has arrived here. McMahon and Canrobert are also here. In the affair at Longueville, on Sunday, the Emperor narrowly escaped being killed or captured; it was merely a reconnaissance on the Prussian side, but conducted with incredible daring. They pushed up to the imperial headquarters, and their presence was first announced by cannon shots. Prussian bullets were whistling past the end of the Emperor's escort, before they could get on horseback, and nothing but the most precipitate retreat saved him. Yesterday there was almost a panic in the camp. Distant cannonading was heard. In the forenoon the Garde Mobile, who imperfectly organized and not half armed, with inferior weapons, began demanding to be led back to Paris; finally even the officers joined in the request, and presently an officer came through camp announcing that their demand had been granted; but in the meantime they are consigned to barracks. Other troops were coming all the way from Chalons to the town of Monsemelon. The inhabitants of Metz are already on short rations of bread; meat is plentiful, the cattle from the whole country round being driven inside.

The *World's* London special of the 21st says the battle of Rezonville was without any decisive result; it was claimed by the Prussians, but the French fell back in good order without pursuit to Metz, their ammunition having given out. The losses of the Prussians greatly exceeded that of the French, the former alone, losing forty thousand on Thursday. Stienmetz' whole corps was cut to pieces, his magnificent cavalry no longer existing. Some say the Crown Prince is marching on Chalons, others that he has halted at Bar-le-duc. McMahon is at Chalons. Paris is defiant and the people are enlisting by thousands. It is reported that the Italian government has offered France troops to serve in Algeria. The Saint Alsatian peasantry have commenced a guerilla warfare in the Prussian rear. England and Russia are watching for an opportunity to interfere. Russia will not permit territorial aggrandizement on either part.

NEW YORK, 22.—T. Galliardet, in his dispatch to the *Courier des Etats Unis*, says: "It is with much difficulty that I can obtain positive information of the situation near Metz. Bazaine still insists on the necessity of silence. This is wrong in my opinion, for the anxiety, which prevails in spite of the declaration of the Minister of War, is prejudicial to the national cause. The bourgeois are timid and distrustful, and think there can be no motive to conceal other than bad news, and their discontent is fed by not receiving the dispatches which reach us from Brussels and London. I have, myself, seen the latest dispatches from Bazaine. He declares that he is the victor, and that his Strasbourg movement has been accomplished with success, but is attended with a serious loss. Why not give publicity to this dispatch and reassure the disquieted spirit of the people? Surely the enemy could not gain from them any useful information! To sum up I believe the incessant combats of the last seven days have been favorable to us, but they have not brought about the desired result. One fact is certain: The army of the Prince Royal of Prussia continues its march on Paris. Yesterday it was at Vitry-le-Francoise, and if we may believe the reports which have reached the Corps Legislatif, it has the appearance of moving to turn the camp at Chalons and fall upon the capital. The Emperor and McMahon are at Chalons; they have too great a revenge to take to permit any movement not likely to be successful. The armament of the national guard is complete. Yes,

terday more than 50,000 guns were distributed and Meeran declared to the Chambers that in a few days a hundred thousand national guards would be under arms. Grain arrives in great quantities; the city is provisioned for more than eight months. All this certainly indicates that if we are threatened with a siege we are prepared to sustain it. The people of Paris are in excellent spirits and full of patriotism; they will rise in this crisis to the height of the situation.

A special correspondent gives the details of the atrocious Chinese massacre of the French and Russians at Tientzin, China. It appears that the responsibility of the horrible butchery rests entirely with the Chinese authorities; that the mob was not only incited by the Chinese government but urged to commit the atrocities. Their ignorance and superstition were worked on by the most remarkable means and an official publication taught them to believe that foreigners were in Tientzin to kidnap women and children and to kill them. A mob held possession of the French consulate, mistreating all foreigners who were abroad, for days before any blood was shed, and the government not only did not restrain or disperse it, but even permitted the soldiers to encourage it, and it was not till the riot was three days old that the French consul was killed in the government palace, and the wholesale slaughter began. A number of Americans and English are missing, and their absence can only be accounted for by the belief that they suffered the same fate as the others, and that their bodies floated away in the river. It is reported that over 200 Chinese proselytes of the priests were massacred. It was charged that a mandarin of the government stood by and saw the massacre without trying to prevent it; also that J. A. T. Meadows, American consul at Tientzin, was in company with Chungfow all the time and did not try to prevent the outrage; and although he is not an officer of the Chinese government he had enough power and influence to prevent it. The Emperor of China has appointed Chungfow, special minister to Paris to satisfy the French Emperor in reference to this outrage, and has appointed Meadows as secretary and interpreter to accompany Chungfow. This, the Shanghai papers denounce as a gross insult, and they call on the French and Russian governments to resent it. The outrages to which the females were subjected before they were murdered are too sickening to relate. Every cruelty says the correspondent which it was possible for the most savage barbarians to conceive of, were perpetrated on these defenseless Christian ladies. A native Christian attempted to guard the door, and was torn limb from limb. Nine sisters were collected in a school room, beaten with sticks, their clothes torn from their bodies and placed on their heads and they were cut with knives in the most savage manner and outraged; their heads, lips and noses were cut off, their eyes scooped from their sockets, their breasts cut off and their abdomens ripped open with large cleavers; their limbs were broken and in ten minutes nought remained but their disfigured bodies. When there was no more to do fire was applied and the buildings burned. Sixty or seventy children, who had sought refuge from the mob in the cellar, were burned to death. The French cathedral, consulate, hospital and the buildings of all foreigners, were sacked and burned. The Shanghai *News Letter*, the only American journal in Shanghai, says J. A. L. Meadows, the American Consul, was the only one who seemed to view the whole affair with uncertainty. He was evidently under the protection of his friend and employer Chungfow. He did not turn out with the volunteers and rather sneered at the endeavors to protect their property. This fellow Meadows is an Englishman, and is consul for the United States, Hollanders and Danes, without a salary from either, but he holds a sinecure position from Chungfow. The foreign ministers and delegations are much exercised over the fact that he has been delegated to accompany Chungfow to Paris; but the Emperor will not allow any of them to leave Peking for the interior at present, and they complain that they are shut in as prisoners, but the Emperor says it is merely a precaution till the excitement is over.

NEW YORK.—The Prussians have issued a proclamation, that all persons not soldiers of the French army, found in arms against Prussia, shall be tried by a military court and, on conviction, shall be shot.

The *World's* cable special, dated London 22d, says the Crown Prince is believed to be marching on Paris, direct; and it is reported that McMahon and Canrobert are moving upon the road taken by him. His army is estimated at 200,000. The French marshals are supposed to have an equal number of troops of the line, but it is believed that only great good fortune can stop his advance much short of Paris. The English government is in constant communication with the great powers on the demands made by Prussia for the cession of Alsace and Lorraine. A cabinet minister said, to-day, those demands mean a European war, as neither England or Russia dare, for a moment, accede to them. Italy is putting her army on a war footing. A special envoy is expected at once in London; Business is at a standstill in Germany, the terrible losses of the army alarming the people.

A special Paris dispatch, to the *New York Times*, dated to-day, says the pretended victory of the Prussians at Thionville, on the 18th, finds little credence here, notwithstanding the dispatch of King William. It is believed that all is going well with the French army. I have, from unquestionably good authority, the following information: The series of battles which concluded on Thursday only resulted in giving the Prussians command of the roads to Verdun, which diverge at Gravelotte. Communication by Worth with Thionville still remains open. On Friday afternoon and early on Saturday morning the main body of Bazaine's command succeeded in effecting a withdrawal from Metz, by the gate of Thionville, between fort St. Quentin and the Monithels and Deletz highway, which follows the left bank of the Moselle, and runs due north till within five miles of Thionville, when it strikes off westerly, bearing towards Forguen and Lontillay on the Belgian frontier. The great railway following this line, and connecting Thionville with the fortress of Sedan and Mesers, from which latter point it proceeds due south to Rheims, was still intact. By latest accounts Bazaine was reported at Spitecourt near Montredon, a town on the river Cheers, a tributary of the Metz, about twenty-five miles north of Verdun and fifty miles north-east of Metz. It was presumed that his intention was to cross Argons to Rousces, and then strike down the valley of Adsence to St. Menhould, where he will be half way between Verdun and Chalons, when a junction could readily be effected with McMahon.

Private cable dispatches, dated London 23rd, 12 m., say special Paris telegrams say the armies of King William and Steinmetz are reported too severely crippled to assume the offensive, and it is given out on high authority that Bazaine was reinforced from Chalons on Sunday for the purpose of giving battle to the enemy, near Metz; he is confident of victory. He will then march on the army of the Crown Prince and rescue Paris. A report has reached London of another French victory. Another special dispatch from Paris says Bazaine was yesterday at Metz; he had the north and centre entirely open to him, either to retreat or to receive reinforcements. The appalling Prussian losses have sent a thrill of horror throughout Germany. Recruits are only to be had from among the country people and workmen, nearly all of whom are raw. Bazaine professes to be master of the situation.

NEW YORK, 23.—A special to the *Courier des Etats Unis*, dated Paris 22, says preparations for a combat are being made all along the line, and Paris is virtually in a state of siege. Every one accepts this part of the situation, and the general feeling is that the issue of the campaign will be decided under our walls. If we are able to hold out for a week against an enemy destitute of the material for carrying on a siege, all France will come to the succor of the capital. As for a division in favor of the besiegers among the Faubourgs, they need not count upon it, for at this time it would be difficult to restrain the summary vengeance of the people on any individual convicted of treason. I visited, this morning, the line of the fortifications between Neuilly and Auteuil. An army of workmen, aided by the gardes mobile and men of the military classes, were at work cutting down the trees of the Bois de Boulogne, as far as the lakes. The bastions are supplied with mortars, and batteries of cannon of very large calibre are mounted on the ramparts. Across the roads drawbridges have been thrown. On the side of the city toward Poinsey and Auteuil a large number of houses have been demolished; in short, this

part of Paris, once so beautiful, is entirely unrecognizable. On the Vincennes side I am told that the work of defense is being pushed with still greater energy. An entrenched camp has been established on the plain of St. Maur, which commands the passage of all the surrounding localities. The inhabitants have abandoned their houses and taken refuge in Paris. The really effective force of the troops, to whom our defense is committed, is estimated upon authentic data, in the neighborhood of 150,000 soldiers of the regular army, 5,000 of the municipal guards and gendarmes, 100,000 sailors and marines, 100,000 gardes mobile, the reserve and battalion depot, and about 100,000 national guards, firemen, etc. With this effective force and provisions in abundance we can hold the enemy in check for some time. News from the army of the Moselle, such as I am permitted to send you, says Bazaine preserves intact his communication with Paris by the northern route. The last battle, delivered at Joumont, had no other result. Bazaine was also greatly strengthened by the vast fortifications of Metz. He is still master of the line of retreat, by way of Montiney, Stearn, Vauseare and the valley of the Rhine. He can doubtless, by the same route, receive reinforcements, and I have reason to believe that part of the forces, lately assembled at Chalons, set out for that place yesterday. The enemy's army around Metz has always been superior in numbers, but it has been decimated by the late battles, and is incapable for the present, at least, of resisting a violent attack. The reinforcements which it has received are composed of the Landwehr, and levies from the south, hastily gathered for the invasion of our country. The enormous losses which the Prussian army has sustained will hardly be encouraging to these new comers, and there is then a marked advantage in favor of our troops at Chalons, who defend the soil of their country from invaders. Indeed we are all awaiting a brilliant revenge for Worth and Forbach. The Prussians seem to provoke a war unworthy of the two nations, but one which self-preservation forces on the weaker party. She has inundated our country with her spies, and we have been compelled, as a measure of safety, to expel all suspected Germans, at the risk of injuring some innocent persons. In Alsace and Lorraine the necessities of the Prussians and the exorbitant demands of the commissioners have exasperated the unhappy people, who have been plundered, harassed and abused, until they have inaugurated a guerilla war against the invaders. Moreover King William has launched a proclamation, declaring that every individual not belonging to the French army taken in open hostility to the Prussians shall be shot. A rising of this people, *en masse*, will bring a day of justice for all these insults and injuries.

NEW YORK, 23.—The *World's* cable special, dated London 23, says creditable authority assures me that Steinmetz and Frederick Charles have lost over one hundred thousand men, leaving them no more than 150,000 to hold the line from the frontier to Metz. The feeling in Berlin is one of undeniable horror and depression; the war threatens to last, and already the flower of North Germany is decimated. The railways are taken up with the wounded so as to delay the movement of reinforcements. Boat service is organizing on the Rhine for the wounded, and three steamers have already been converted into national hospitals.

NEW YORK, 24.—The following detailed account of Thursday's battle at Gravelotte, Aug. 18th, was received this morning in London, from our special correspondent who witnessed the battle at headquarters, and stood by the side of Bismarck and the King:

The first realization we had at Poncelles, on the 15th of the extent to which the fighting had been going on Saturday and Sunday last at the front, was the coming in of the wounded. At first it was thought that they had been wounded in a skirmish, but on the 16th there were signs of the work being warm. On that evening, soldiers with ghastly wounds walked about the market place in Poncelles, surrounded by eager groups of their newly arrived comrades. They told a story of disaster to them, borne away as they had been from the field without having hardly any result. I stood among these groups, and the narratives of the men all amounted to their having been sent to confront a much larger force than their own, and that their division had been cut up. I was struck by the fact that though there was some dissatisfaction

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