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FREELAND, PA., JULY 16, 1900. Novel-Reading People. From the Phila. North American.

Never before were more novels being read than today. The latest success although published only two weeks ago, has already reached a sale of 70,000 copies.

One interesting fact about these books is that all but one are American in authorship, and American in scene and plot and character.

People can be judged by what they read, and according to that criterion the novel readers of the day make a fine showing for themselves.

Eleven political parties have made nominations for president and vice president. Two of them, the Democrats and the Silver Republicans, have the same men for the offices.

So far in this campaign there has not been much shifting around in the political parties. The Republicans have won over James M. Beck, of Philadelphia.

The Reading man who buried one wife on Tuesday and married a second on Thursday with the double honor of having celebrated the first funeral and first marriage in a new church edifice.

The doctor says that too much ice cream soda is injurious, but it's a mean man that will quote this to his best girl.

ALL MASSAGRED.

Chinese Admit Killing of Foreigners in Peking.

DEFENSE WAS HEROIC.

Fought Until Ammunition Was Exhausted at Daylight.

TUAN RALLIED THE BOXERS

Defeated Prince Ching's Troops, Who Tried in Vain to Save the Envoys, Tortured the Victims—Stories That Those Found Alive Were Roasted in the Ruins—Whites Killed Their Women and Children to Save Them From a Worse Fate.

London, July 16.—A dispatch from Shanghai, dated July 15, says: "An official telegram that was received tonight from the governor of Shantung states that a breach in the defenses of the Peking legations was made by the guns of the Chinese assailants and that after a gallant defense, during which the ammunition was exhausted, all the foreigners were killed."

The morning papers are unanimous in believing that the foreigners have been annihilated and in calling for retribution. The Daily Chronicle comments upon the statement of the United States government that it will not consider itself at war with China and says: "If the Americans are resolved to accept an apology and indemnity for Mr. Conger's murder, they may as well take these consolations without moving another man or gun."

"Emperor William can scarcely take the Washington view, for he is pledged himself to retribution, and he is a man of his word."

The Daily Telegraph, The Times and other papers applaud Lord Salisbury's policy of employing Japan as the only policy that might have saved the foreigners. The Daily Telegraph declares that a terrible responsibility rests upon those who delayed Japanese action.

The Times publishes a letter from its Peking correspondent, dated June 10, which contains an assertion made on seemingly good authority that the emperor had decreed that every foreigner was to be massacred that night. It also publishes the last message from its correspondent.

Mr. Howells and others have said that women make the success or the failure of the modern novel. To a large extent this is very true, but there are thousands of men who like to read a good story, and they have been among the buyers of the successful novels. They are fond of a rattling yarn with blood and muscle in it, and women undoubtedly like the same thing.

People can be judged by what they read, and according to that criterion the novel readers of the day make a fine showing for themselves. Of course, they also make comfortable profits for the authors, who no longer burn midnight oil in the garret, but have their country places and automobiles and all the comforts of a steady income. May their success continue!

AMERICAN MINISTER CONGER. respondent, dated June 14, when the Boxers had made two attempts to rush the foreign quarter.

Sir Halliday Macartney, secretary to the Chinese legation in London, who was interviewed yesterday, said the legation had no advice and no official news of any kind, but that he still fervently hoped the terrible reports were without foundation. He expressed the opinion that some definite information ought to be obtained almost immediately.

Canton dispatches say that Li Hung Chang had planned to start for the north on July 18, but he is much debilitated by catarrh of the stomach. He ordered the leader of the "Black Flags" to march with 50,000 men overland to Peking against the Boxers.

Among the numerous Shanghai rumors are reports that the governors of Shanxi and Ho-nan have joined the antiforeign movement and that 15 members of the Canadian Presbyterian mission and five engineers have been robbed near Nanyang in Hu-peh.

It is also reported from Shanghai that the allied fleets are concentrating off Shanghai-kwan and have been ordered to shell and capture the forts. A Tokyo telegram announces that 19,000 troops are now embarking at Hiroshima.

Details of the Massacre. The Shanghai correspondent of The Daily Mail says: "I can assert positively that the Chinese authorities had the dreadful news from Peking a week ago and that Sheng knew all the foreigners in Peking were dead when he asked the American consul to cable Washington a proposal to deliver the foreigners to retreat from Tientsin on condition that the allies would suspend their operations to the north of Peking."

The correspondent adds certain details of affairs at Peking after June 25. According to his story, the members of the legations made daily sorties, some times by night, and so successfully as to compel the Chinese to retreat from the immediate vicinity. These reverses had a disheartening effect upon the Chinese, and there soon began to be open signs of disaffection, followed by desertions to Prince Ching's army, which was endeavoring to co-operate with the besieged. Ultimately Prince Tuan decided to make a night attack in three powerful columns.

and wounded around the legation. They could not be rallied until they were out of the rifle range of the foreigners.

"Then Prince Tuan, making a desperate appeal, induced them to stand and return to the attack. Artillery fire was then resumed, and at the middle watch a second attack was attempted. But before the attackers could accomplish their object they were met by Prince Ching and General Wang Wen Shao, with their troops, who were going to the aid of the foreigners.

A desperate battle ensued between the various forces of Chinese and Manchosos.

"Unfortunately many of Prince Ching's troops deserted to Prince Tuan. Prince Ching fell and was supposed to have been killed, but as the search for his body was unsuccessful it is now believed that he was only wounded and was carrying

center of a hollow square formed by the troops, who were led by their officers and the other foreigners in civilian dress, who were armed with revolvers.

Many of the Boxers were killed because they did not expect an attack, and most of them were sleeping. The Boxers became like wild beasts when they learned that the foreigners were attacking them. They fought furiously, but fired wildly, shooting many of their own comrades in the darkness.

General Tung Fuh Siang ordered heavy guns turned on the foreigners and order-guards other guns turned on the walls where they were weakest, toward the gates, so that they might be breached and the Boxers could attack from the rear.

The foreigners also went mad and killed all their women and children, shooting them with their revolvers instead of firing on the Boxers.

When the heavy guns were loaded, they were fired simultaneously, and the foreigners were swept away like grass being cut down. The Boxers rushed upon them and hacked and stabbed at the dead and the survivors. Many foreigners when the heavy guns were fired went back into the buildings, hoping to escape.

The Boxers pursued them and were at last in the buildings when the guns were brought nearer and the buildings were destroyed and burned. The foreigners who had sought refuge there and their pursuers were all burned together.

Boxers Like Demons. The Boxers were like demons. When there were no more foreigners to kill, they fell upon the dead bodies in the courtyard and mutilated them. They cut off the heads of some and carried them through the streets on their rifles, shouting fiercely.

They then attacked the native Christian quarters and massacred all who would not join them. They outraged women and knocked out the brains of children with the butts of their rifles. The streets of the Tartar city were everywhere streaming with blood.

Part of the foregoing story is ascribed to a courier who brought the dispatch to Sheng, though it is asserted that the latter communicated the details verbally to the consuls.

All China Now Aflame. The correspondent of The Daily Express who sends details of the Peking massacre adds: "All China is now aflame with revolt against foreigners. Only in the extreme

west there is a quietude. Every port, even Shanghai, is menaced.

"In the provinces of Hu-pe and Hunan thousands of native Christians have been mutilated and tortured, the women being first outraged and then massacred."

"Among the numerous Shanghai rumors are reports that the governors of Shanxi and Ho-nan have joined the antiforeign movement."

"There has been serious rioting in Ning-po, where the Roman Catholic mission has been burned. No details have yet been received."

Two dispatches from Admiral Seymour were made public last evening: The first is dated Tientsin, July 9, and is as follows: "The enemy's position southwest of the settlement was attacked at 4 o'clock this morning. The Japanese by a flank movement drove the enemy out and captured four guns. Cavalry pursued and completed the rout of the enemy, killing large numbers of soldiers and officers."

New York city called "Hoch der Kaiser" have been attributed to Captain Myers. Captain Hall was a graduate of the United States Naval academy in the class of 1895. He was detailed for duty in China from the naval station at Cavite.

Dr. Lippitt was from Berryville, Va. He was appointed an assistant surgeon in the navy in 1898 and was assigned to the hospital ship Solace. He was attached to the Oregon when she went with the Asiatic squadron.

At the British legation were Sir Claude Macdonald, the minister, with a staff of seven; Lady Macdonald and her daughters and a guard of 70 men, with three officers. Besides Baron von Ketteler, who was murdered in the middle of June, there were at the German legation six attaches, a guard of 35 men and two officers.

The French legation was occupied by the minister, M. S. Pichon, a staff of six, a guard of 71 men and four officers. The Russian minister, Michael de Giers, had six attaches and a guard of 71 men and four officers.

Japan had one of the largest legations. Baron Nishii was the minister. He had nine attaches and a guard of 24 men with two officers. Belgium had a charge d'affaires, M. E. Cartier de Marchienne, and two attaches. Spain had a minister, Senor B. J. Coloman. The Dutch minister was M. F. M. Knobel, and the Portuguese minister was F. H. Galhardo. The latter had three attaches.

Nearly all the ministers had their wives and families with them. The Baroness von Ketteler, wife of the German minister, was Miss Mand Ledyard, daughter of Henry D. Ledyard, president of the Michigan Central railroad, and sister of Lewis Cass Ledyard, commodore of the New York Yacht club.

Sir Robert Hart, at the head of the imperial customs department, was assisted by a number of Englishmen and Americans.

So far as is known there were about 60 American missionaries in Peking. Thirty-six of them were women.

WU HAS BAD NEWS. Imperial Telegrapher at Shanghai Confirms Current Rumors.

Washington, July 16.—The latest news from China is distinctly bad. It consists of a cablegram to Minister Wu from Sheng, the imperial director of posts and telegraphs at Shanghai, and, according to the minister, is in reply to the urgent message he himself had sent to that official asking him to try to secure some news from the Chinese capital.

This cablegram Minister Wu regarded as of sufficient importance to carry in person directly to Secretary Hay, who was waiting at his home for news. The message as resolved from the cipher is as follows:

The new motor fire engine of the Paris municipality is doing excellent work. It renders valuable assistance at the Theatre Theatre fire and at the St. Ouen spirit warehouse fire. The engine carries six men and travels at the rate of thirteen miles an hour.

A new burglar alarm has two telescoping tubes, with the end of one tube closed, and a piston mounted in the other tube which connects with a metallic contact spring to complete an electric circuit. A cord being run from the window or door to the closed tube, which moves the piston when the cord is disturbed.

Dressmakers will appreciate a newly patented pair of scissors, which is provided with a marking pencil set in a sleeve attached to one of the blades, with a tape measure secured to the opposite handle, designed to be used in line with the pencil point, to accurately mark the cloth for cutting.

Acetylene gas headlights were employed for a time on some locomotives of a western railway. The innovation was not considered altogether successful and the apparatus was removed. The chief objection to the acetylene headlights was that gas would burn out before the water could get from one compartment where the carbide had been exhausted to the next compartment in the generator, and the freezing of the water in winter.

LITERARY NOTES. The widow of R. L. Stevenson states that she has no intention of allowing her husband's grave in Samoa to be disturbed. It is a wise resolution. There is no good reason for changing the last and most impressive resting place.

Miss Mary E. Wilkins, the author of New England stories, will sail for Europe about July 1, accompanying the family of Mr. Willis Boyd Allen. Miss Wilkins never has crossed the ocean, and her reputation is very great in England and even on the continent, she is likely to meet with a distinguished reception unless she manages to avoid public notice altogether, which she will undoubtedly do if she can.

Not many authors have had, according to Collier's Weekly, a larger income from their books than even one brought him an average of \$4,000 a year. They must continue a valuable property, though the earlier writings will soon be released from copyright. A careful estimate shows that Ruskin's best selling book has been "Sesame and Lilies." After it would come "A Crown of Wild Olive," "The Seven Lamps of Architecture," and "Unto This Last."

The Princeton at Hongkong. Hongkong, July 16.—The United States gunboat cables that the Italian mission in Hunan has been destroyed and Bishop Fantosati and two missionaries killed. He also reports that the Italian missions in Ho-nan and Hu-pe have been assaulted.

A Russian Move Denied. St. Petersburg, July 16.—It is semi-officially denied that 30,000 Russian troops are marching to Peking from the north.

Italian Bishop Killed. Rome, July 16.—The Italian consul at Shanghai cables that the Italian mission in Hunan has been destroyed and Bishop Fantosati and two missionaries killed. He also reports that the Italian missions in Ho-nan and Hu-pe have been assaulted.

Captain Myers was born in Georgia and joined the marine corps in November, 1887. The verses which Captain Joseph Coghlan of Admiral Dewey's victorious fleet sang at the Union League club in

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RAILROAD TIMETABLES.

LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD. May 27, 1900.

Table with columns for 'ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS', 'LEAVE FREELAND', and 'ARRIVE AT FREELAND'. Lists train numbers, destinations, and departure/arrival times.

For further information inquire of Ticket Agents. WOLLEN H. WILBUR, General Superintendent, 26 Cortlandt Street, New York City.

THE DELAWARE, SUSQUEHANNA AND SCHUYLKILL RAILROAD. Time table in effect April 18, 1897.

Table with columns for 'Trains leave Drifton for Jeddo, Eckley, Hazle Brook, Stockton, Beaver Meadow Road, Chazy, and Hazlet Junction at 5:30, 6:00 a.m. daily except Sunday; and 7:05 a.m., 2:35 p.m. Sunday.'

LUTHER C. SMITH, Superintendent.

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