

English and French are now in course of completion. The very useful corps of Chinese Coolies raised at Hong Kong by the military authorities, convey all the supplies to the front, a great saving of labour to the troops.

12. The future conduct of this question will now, unless hostile measures again become unnecessary, rest with the Ambassadors of the Allied Powers.

13. His Excellency Sir John Bowring, having obligingly on my application, attached Mr. Harry S. Parkes, Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, to my Staff, I have great pleasure in calling their Lordships' notice to the important services rendered by that gentleman. His zeal and ability, with his intimate knowledge of the manners, customs, and language of the Chinese, have been turned to most valuable account.

14. I am glad to report that the health of the forces afloat and on shore, continues satisfactory.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. SEYMOUR.
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty,
London.

Inclosure No. 1 to No. 17, of 1858.

PROCEEDINGS IN CAPTURING YEH, IMPERIAL
COMMISSIONER.

Head Quarters, Naval Brigade.

SIR, Canton, January 5, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you how it came to the share of 100 blue jackets, under Captain A. C. Key, C.B., to make the important capture of his Excellency Yeh, and the valuable documents found with him.

Captain Key was moving down at 8 A.M., this morning, with his party, to the position you had assigned to him, at the south-east corner of the Parade-ground, accompanied by me, when Mr. Consul Parkes informed us that the most important point, viz., the Yachua College, where, by information received, Yeh was supposed to be, had not been visited.

I offered to grant him an escort, which he gladly accepted, and we therefore accompanied him to the above named building.

We found it deserted, but Mr. Parkes there ascertained that Yeh had only left it on Thursday last, and he succeeded in picking up a guide, who pointed out on a map the position of Yeh's present abode.

From thence we proceeded to the Lieutenant-Governor's Yamun, which was already in the possession of Colonel Holloway, R.M., and Mr. Parkes having confirmed his previous information by the statement of two other men, we advanced without loss of time to the south-west corner of the city to take possession of the Lieutenant-General's Yamun, where the three guides we now had with us affirmed that Yeh then was; these men also knowing him by sight. We pushed on as rapidly as possible, and on arriving in front of the building burst open the doors and rushed in immediately.

Several pink button Mandarins were first seized, but at the further end of the house, on Captain Key bursting open a door, he perceived a stout Mandarin endeavouring to escape, and immediately secured him, assisted by my coxswain.

Mr. Parkes then brought in each guide separately, and, on being removed, each stated that the person seized was Yeh.

The attention of Mr. Parkes was then turned to securing the records and official correspondence, of which a large quantity was found.

In the performance of this search it was necessary to open every chest found in the building, as most of them contained papers; and every care was taken to prevent the destruction of clothes and a vast amount of valuable property, which was re-packed and left in the house.

I cannot speak too highly of the good behaviour and regularity of the seamen employed with our small party, which was much contributed to by my Aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Alfred Alston, and the officers commanding them, Commander Hood, Lieutenants Clutterbuck and Bogle.

It is not for me to represent the skill and ability displayed by Mr. Parkes, further than to observe that the success of the capture is due to him.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) CHARLES G. J. B. ELLIOT,
Commodore, Commanding Naval Brigade.

Major General Van Straubenzee, C.B.,
Commanding the Forces.

Enclosure No. 2 to No. 17, of 1858.

Submitted to Peking, the Governor.

NO Proclamation is on any account to be issued without submission to the Allies, and without their counter seal.

In all disturbances in which foreigners are concerned, the case is to be referred to the Allied Tribunal established at the Yamun of the Governor.

All questions between the Chinese, are to be decided by their own tribunals.

Chinese committing offences against foreigners, or vice versa, to be handed over to the tribunal established by the Allies, except when the offences are committed within the portion of the city occupied by the allied forces, when they will be dealt with according to martial law.

An allied tribunal will be appointed to act with the Governor, and will be supported by a military force to assist in maintaining order; and further, patrols, mounted or otherwise, will be sent out daily.

All depôts of arms and military stores, to be handed over to the allied Commanders.

Head Quarters, 7th January, 1858.

(Enclosure No. 3 to No. 17, of 1858.)

GENERAL ORDER.

Heights in Canton, Jan. 12, 1858.

THE Naval Brigade having been ordered by Rear-Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, K.C.B., to rejoin their respective ships, the Major-General cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing his warm admiration of their gallantry and conduct during the period they have co-operated on shore with Her Majesty's other forces and our allies the French.

The Major-General begs to return his sincere thanks to Rear-Admiral Sir M. Seymour, K.C.B., for his cordial and ready support on all occasions, and to assure him that he shall ever esteem it an high honour to have been associated with so distinguished an officer at the taking of Canton.