

LOCAL.

A Chinese boy, who was employed at the works on the new Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, was fatally injured by falling from the upper scaffolding, yesterday afternoon.

The Chinese gunboat *Chingyune* left her anchorage down river on Wednesday, and went alongside the China Navigation Company's Wharf, to take on board 7 Vavasour rifled guns, and 2,000 shot and shell, for Foochow. 978

The steamer *Haiching* arrived in port from Chinkiang yesterday. She was sent there to convey troops to Formosa, but orders were issued for her return to Shanghai without embarking any or even landing the arms and ammunition she had on board. It was reported that there were a large number of troops in the neighbourhood of Chinkiang, but so much discontent was manifested among them, on account of arrears of pay and squeezing by the mandarins and subordinate officers, that they could not be induced to march to the point of embarkation.

978

We have heard another cause assigned for the refusal of the Chinese troops at Chinkiang to embark in the *Haiching*, when she went up for them the other day. It is said they objected that it was unreasonable to expect them to ship in a steamer which was to run all alone the gauntlet of the Japanese cruizers; they were quite willing to go if several steamers sailed in company. The Chinese brave is probably impressed with the notion that the

Japanese are even now off the coast, ready to pounce on him and give him the benefit of the humane treatment of prisoners which the Chinese understand so well. Three French drill instructors went up by the *Haiching* to Chinkiang, returning again with her when she failed in her mission. They have been engaged to drill troops at Taiwan, but their agreements will cease should war be declared. 972

右
文
は
C 977
中
の
と
同
じ

It is characteristic of the Chinese that, after all the money they have spent in the various Arsenals, and after all the parade of warlike material they have displayed, they should at the last moment have been found utterly unprepared to cope with so small a Power as Japan. The want of system and of ability to found one is nowhere more conspicuous than in the military preparations of the last few years. The war material in the possession of the Chinese Government must be something enormous, yet, as it has been collected together on no settled system, it is far more likely to prove an incumbrance than to turn out of any practical use. Armstrong guns, Whitworth guns, Woolwich guns, have all been purchased and made the plaything of an hour, and now enormous sums are being spent on Krupp's, to go through the same process. Again, one official gets his troops drilled in French style, another in English, though indeed it seemed for a time as if the English drill were really making some progress amongst the Chinese troops. Germany, however, conquered France in the actual conflict, and as the Chinese had always hitherto looked up to France as *par excellence* a military nation, it followed according to their minds that the Germans must be the most military nation on the earth. Accordingly, troops half drilled in French or English style have now to undergo a transformation to the Prussian drill, and it will be a

between all, any remains of discipline eventually be left. Much the same may be said of the ships, the officers and men of which seem to have been chosen on some occult system. Men of war commanded by old pilots and manned by sailors who have earned the title by services on board foreign house-boats, or equally favourable schools, are not likely to turn out very efficient in action. Again, of the officers, they are either of the men themselves, and therefore exercise no influence, or they are of the body of officials of the country, and therefore too proud to learn such mean things as drill or military science. The system of military instruction was admirably adapted to produce an army warranted to break up in the first brush. The men were sent regularly to drill, and many of them took an interest in it. They were able to perceive how superior it was to their original style of manœuvring, and altogether would have made a body of admirable troops. The foreign instructor was, and is, merely a dummy. Native officers of low class, and without command, are employed to teach the rudiments of drill, nominally under the direction of the instructor. In command of the men are the regular officers—men brought up to despise everything foreign. They stand by and see their men drilled, but themselves take neither part nor interest in it. If requested to attend drill, they refuse; perhaps the instructors complain to the higher officials, but the reply is that these are officers, and are not to be ordered about like common men. So officers lose all knowledge of their men, and the latter thoroughly despise their officers. The attempts made recently to get rid of foreigners at the various Arsenals have, in most cases, resulted in a similar state of affairs. The Chinese are doubtless able to keep these running, and to turn out the work to which they have been accustomed. But there always exists a tendency to resort to old ways, and apart from foreign supervision it is sure to assert itself. So, day by day, the work degenerates; one machine is thrown out of work after another, and a few months or years is sufficient to convert the best managed machine shop into an ordinary Chinese forge. These things are inherent in Chinese character. Able individuals have occasionally succeeded for a time in impressing their own energy of character on their subordinates, but with their fall or decease, matters have rapidly relapsed into their old ways. There is no succession of genius in the empire. A step in advance

will eventually

wonder if,

3.

九月二日上海
九月十一日接到

is not made the groundwork for further progress. By great good fortune it may become a permanent footing, but the fact of the advance contributes no *vis inertiae* for further movement. It has all been dissipated in friction, and the same obstacles and difficulties have to be met and overcome before another step is possible.



It is characteristic of the Chinese that, after all the money they have spent in the various Arsenals, and after all the parade of warlike material they have displayed, they should at the last moment have been found utterly unprepared to cope with so small a Power as Japan. The want of system and of ability to found one is nowhere more conspicuous than in the military preparations of the last few years. The war material in the possession of the Chinese Government must be something enormous, yet, as it has been collected together on no settled system, it is far more likely to prove an incumbrance than to turn out of any practical use. Armstrong guns, Whitworth guns, Woolwich guns, have all been purchased and made the plaything of an hour, and now enormous sums are being spent on Krupp's, to go through the same process. Again, one official gets his troops drilled in French style, another in English, though indeed it seemed for a time as if the English drill were really making some progress amongst the Chinese troops. Germany, however, conquered France in the actual conflict, and as the Chinese had always hitherto looked up to France as *par excellence* a military nation, it followed according to their minds that the Germans must be the most military nation on the earth. Accordingly, troops half drilled in French or English style have now to undergo a transformation to the Prussian drill, and it will be a

between all, any remains of discipline eventually be left. Much the same may be said of the ships, the officers and men of which seem to have been chosen on some occult system. Men of war commanded by old pilots and manned by sailors who have earned the title by services on board foreign house-boats, or equally favourable schools, are not likely to turn out very efficient in action. Again, of the officers, they are either of the men themselves, and therefore exercise no influence, or they are of the body of officials of the country, and therefore too proud to learn such mean things as drill or military science. The system of military instruction was admirably adapted to produce an army warranted to break up in the first brush. The men were sent regularly to drill, and many of them took an interest in it. They were able to perceive how superior it was to their original style of manœuvring, and altogether would have made a body of admirable troops. The foreign instructor was, and is, merely a dummy. Native officers of low class, and without command, are employed to teach the rudiments of drill.

will eventually

wonder if,

右
文
は
C 977
中
の
と
同
い

九月二日上海
同月十一日接到

will eventually

troops half drilled in French or English style have now to undergo a transformation to the Prussian drill, and it will be a

wonder if,

any remains of discipline eventually be left. Much the same may be said of the ships, the officers and men of which seem to have been chosen on some occult system. Men of war commanded by old pilots and manned by sailors who have earned the title by services on board foreign house-boats, or equally favourable schools, are not likely to turn out very efficient in action. Again, of the officers, they are either of the men themselves, and therefore exercise no influence, or they are of the body of officials of the country, and therefore too proud to learn such mean things as drill or military science. The system of military instruction was admirably adapted to produce an army warranted to break up in the first brush. The men were sent regularly to drill, and many of them took an interest in it. They were able to perceive how superior it was to their original style of manœuvring, and altogether would have made a body of admirable troops. The foreign instructor was, and is, merely a dummy. Native officers of low class, and without command, are employed to teach the rudiments of drill, nominally under the direction of the instructor. In command of the men are the regular officers—men brought up to despise everything foreign. They stand by and see their men drilled, but themselves take neither part nor interest in it. If requested to attend drill, they refuse; perhaps the instructors complain to the higher officials, but the reply is that these are officers, and are not to be ordered about like common men. So officers lose all knowledge of their men, and the latter thoroughly despise their officers. The attempts made recently to get rid of foreigners at the various Arsenals have, in most cases, resulted in a similar state of affairs. The Chinese are doubtless able to keep these running, and to turn out the work to which they have been accustomed. But there always exists a tendency to resort to old ways, and apart from foreign supervision it is sure to assert itself. So, day by day, the work degenerates; one machine is thrown out of work after another, and a few months or years is sufficient to convert the best managed machine shop into an ordinary Chinese forge. These things are inherent in Chinese character. Able individuals have occasionally succeeded for a time in impressing their own energy of character on their subordinates, but with their fall or decease, matters have rapidly relapsed into their old ways. There is no succession of genius in the empire. A step in advance

is not made the groundwork for further progress. By great good fortune it may become a permanent footing, but the fact of the advance contributes no *vis inertiae* for further movement. It has all been dissipated in friction, and the same obstacles and difficulties have to be met and overcome before another step is possible.

3.

The Chinese gun-boat *Ching-yune* will, we believe, sail for Foochow on Sunday. On account of her limited carrying capacity, and as she has already stowed a large quantity of ammunition, including breech-loading rifles, &c., four of the seven heavy guns she was to have taken are left behind. She takes with her about thirty instructors in the handling of breech-loading rifles, for the troops in Formosa, and several European passengers for Foochow. An interesting fact is that all words of command on board this vessel are given in English. All the officers have received a good English education, in addition to the tuition requisite for the naval service; and the crew are all trained men, and have undergone careful examination in seamanship and gunnery. None of them were ever in Shanghai before, and one, wishing to see the "lions" of the Settlement, took it into his head to absent himself from his vessel without leave, but through ignorance of the sanitary regulations of the French Settlement, he fell into the hands of the

Police authorities, and was sentenced to a day's imprisonment. This did not complete his punishment, however, for on being delivered over to his Captain, he was mast-headed for four hours.

A RUMOUR HAS BEEN CURRENT in the Settlement to-day that couriers have been despatched by the Government at Peking to all the provincial capitals, notifying the Futais that war is imminent, and ordering them to have their several contingents of troops prepared forthwith for active service. We have not been able to trace the rumour to any responsible source; but the news is inherently probable; the unpreparedness of the troops that have been shipped from Chinkiang being likely to suggest to the Government some such step as the above as a measure of precaution, in case the worst comes to the worst.

Foreigners have been interested in the movements of a small fleet of mandarin creek junks or gunboats, which yesterday took up a position near Pootung point. They are here as part of the retinue of the Futai or provincial governor, who is at present on a visit to Shanghai, with the object, it is understood, of concerting measures with the local authorities for the defence of the port. Forts at Woosung have been resolved on, and the taking of other steps of the same kind will probably depend upon the result of a reference recently made to the Consular Body, as to the possibility of giving Shanghai the status of a neutral port in the event of a war.

772



HONGKONG.

His Imperial Austrian Majesty's war steamer *Archduke Friedrich*, from Singapore 2nd August, arrived on Saturday morning and saluted the British flag, which was returned from the *Princess Charlotte* and the saluting battery.—The *Times* is asked by the Captain of the str. *Glenfinlas* to contradict the statement that his vessel was stopped loading by the Government Surveyor in London, on account of her being so deep.—The *Daily Press*, discussing the origin of the Japanese invasion of Formosa, says the permission to go there, asserted by the Japanese but denied by the supporters of the Chinese, appears to be fully admitted by the Chinese themselves. At least it is admitted impliedly, as in the proclamation which the Chinese Commissioner issued in Formosa, he only complains of the Japanese staying in the island after having chastised the guilty natives' It appears that the Japanese have made the payment of a million of dollars to cover the expense of the expedition, the terms of their quitting the island. To this demand the Chinese do not appear willing to accede, . . . and this question is apparently the only one upon which the event of the negotiation seemed likely to turn.

20

9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

10

JAPAN

It is asserted positively that the man who was lately executed in a barbarous manner, at Foochow, as a former Taiping rebel, had never been a rebel, but was an unfortunate Chinaman who, having been many years in Japan, became naturalised there and got some official employment. He was, it is said, attached to the Formosa expedition, and when he was seized at Amoy, was on a mission with despatches from the Japanese Commander, Saigo. It is further alleged that he went to Amoy by a Chinese gunboat, in the utmost good faith, but that the Chinese officials were indignant at his being selected to bear despatches, (he was probably chosen on account of his knowledge of Chinese), and were further enraged because he refused to *kotow*. A memorial from the Viceroy of Fokien, referred to in the Peking Gazette of 6th Aug., announces the capture of the man as a former noted leader among the Taiping rebels, and gives his name as Yang Fuh-t'sing. If the new version of the story prove to be true, and it is so consistent with the Chinese way of doing things that we are disposed to credit it, the Japanese will no doubt make the matter another cause of complaint against China.

We hear that the Chinese authorities are instituting some new regulations with regard to the local levies on sugar, of a nature to operate unjustly towards foreigners, as well as towards some classes of their own countrymen. The old system having probably been found capable of evasion, the authorities have established a guild or farm for the collection of the duties on the article. The guild promises, to those who give a bond that they will declare truly the amount of their imports, a reduction of nearly 50 per cent., but this privilege is to be restricted to Cantonese. Sugar which has been imported through foreigners or by northern Chinese will be charged at the old rate, and the emissaries of the guild will keep a sharp lookout for evasions, which when found out will entail confiscation. The arrangement, as it has been described to us, appears to be designed, doubtless through the powerful influence of the Cantonese, to give that class a monopoly of the trade; and if enquiry into the matter show this to be the case, it ought to be firmly resisted.

Among the passengers by the *Appin* is R. A. Mowat, Esq., the Deputy Chief Judge of H. B. M. Supreme Court, who goes to Chefoo, we understand, in consequence of a summons from the Chief Judge. Mr. Mowat has delegated his functions to Mr. A. Myburgh, barrister-at-law. Our evening contemporaries have criticised both the legality of the step and the fitness of the appointment. The *Courier* gives its approval to the latter, but presents a strong argument

FOOCHOW.

The *Foochow Herald* of the 13th contains several interesting items. It is authentically informed that the Japanese fleet lately cruising in Formosan waters have disappeared for the present, but there still remains a force of about 3,000 Japanese troops on the island. It can but conjecture that the ships have gone to Japan for reinforcements. Pending the results of the Diplomatic interviews betwixt the Chinese and Japanese officials at Peking, the entire expedition may be said to be in abeyance.—A large number of troops left Foochow on the 9th inst. overland, for Amoy.—The Chinese Government are inviting tenders for the purchase of large quantities of gunpowder, and it is rumoured that the Arsenal will be re-opened very shortly.

978

THE WAR IN FORMOSA.

(*China Mail Correspondence.*)

Taiwanfoo, Aug. 12th 1784.

The landing at Amping was attended with great difficulty and a certain amount of risk, although the weather was very fine when we landed. The surf there is always great, owing to the sand bank formed by the siltings of the ocean. Amping is a very bad place for ships to anchor, being too exposed. Steamers anchoring there dare not have their fires banked, for fear of a sudden blow. The roaring of the waves at Amping can be heard for miles. I am living about four miles distant from the place, but I can hear the roaring distinctly at night.

Taiwanfoo is a very bad place to live in; it is very humid, and things get mildewed very fast. It is a wonder the inhabitants don't get mildewed. The streets are very dirty, worse than those in Amoy in one respect, but better in another. The presence of open sewers full of stagnant and very offensive matter is the worst feature, while the greater width of the streets is an improvement over those of Amoy. At night, walking is dangerous, owing to the existence of these sewers, which one may fall into, as the streets are not lighted. I cannot walk in the street without smoking a cigar or holding a scented handkerchief to my nose. To one who is accustomed to the luxuries of Hongkong, this place seems a horrible hole. To add to other

discomforts, I am cut off from the outer world, for communication with me is rather difficult; but from me to the outer world it is not quite so difficult, because I can always send my letters to Amoy in the Government despatch boats. The *Hailoong* does not call here, but at Takow; besides, her dates of arrival and departure are uncertain. I have been without news for nearly three weeks, and it will be quite a month before I can get any.

There is nothing new in reference to the Japanese question to inform you; everything is *in statu quo*, with the exception of the Chinese pushing ahead every preparation for a conflict. If China is forced to expel the Japanese by force, it is not at all improbable that she will follow up the movement by an invasion of Japan. The Emperor has, I hear, sanctioned the purchase of ten ironclads; and a foreign loan of \$30,000,000 or \$40,000,000 is mooted. This will probably receive the Imperial sanction too. As far as I can judge, the Chinese navy seems to be very efficient, the armament some of the ships carry is very powerful; for instance, the corvette *Yang Woo* carries 14 guns, most of which are 7 tons in weight, throwing shells of 120 or 150 lbs., I don't recollect which. The guns of the other ships of war have been changed for more powerful ones, even a moderate sized gunboat carries five 62-pounder Krupp guns, breech-loading, with two small brass guns; such is the armament of the *Chingyuen*, a vessel much smaller than the *Anlan* or the *Feiyuen*. The engines of most of the steamers are built below the water line. The steamers are mostly fast vessels; the *Yangwoo* can go about 14 knots in ordinary weather with steam alone, while others can average between 9 and 10 knots. Of the two frigates built at Shanghai, one is to be stationed here; she will arrive shortly.

李仙得号人书

三島之氏在接书

小島日中大使之使

小島日中大使之使

中九号
中十号
中十一号
中十二号

天氣日報

天氣日報

天氣日報

中十七号
中十八号
中十九号
中二十号

中二十一号



His Excellency
Okuma Shigenobu,
Minister of Finance,
Yokoi,
Japan.





口

英王命册
百

四