

all our baggage. The return of the officers from Tangchow was anxiously looked for, should treachery be intended. All doubt was soon dissipated by their firing upon Colonel Walker, who had escaped from their hands, after witnessing the murder of a French commissariat officer.

The order for attack was immediately given: the French to turn the enemy's left and the English to attack to the front.

The movement succeeded admirably, the Tartars being completely routed, with great loss, the French killing great numbers in the village on the left, the cavalry cutting them up, as they were driven out into the plain beyond.

The English occupied the town of Chang ken Wang, the French encamping on this side of it.

Lord Elgin arrived yesterday morning and Baron Gros in the evening.

Great anxiety prevails respecting the fate of Mr. Parkes, officers, and men, who still remain in the hands of the enemy. The generals-in-chief have written to threaten the capture of Peking, should they be murdered or ill-used.

To-morrow we are to attack an entrenched camp, about three miles beyond Tang-chow.

Your Lordship will, I trust, excuse the shortness of detail in this despatch, owing to the little time I have had at my disposal, since the 18th, and the sudden departure of the mail.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ST. GEORGE FOLEY,  
Commissioner, French Head Quarters.

*The Lord John Russell,*  
&c. &c. &c.

No. 15.  
MY LORD,

*French Head Quarters,*  
*Pu Li Kao, Sept. 22, 1860.*

THE mail having been detained, I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that the French and English forces attacked and captured the

Tartar camps situated near the direct road to Peking, on the banks of the canal which runs from Tangchow to Peking.

The enemy met us in the open, their force composed of many thousand cavalry, large masses of infantry, and numerous guns. The Tartar cavalry charged up to within 100 yards of the guns and infantry, the fire from which drove them back. On the French left, the King's Dragoon Guards arrived just in time to charge and cut up a great number of them. The enemy, after much resistance, was gradually driven back to the canal, our artillery causing them great loss.

They made a last stand on the bridge crossing the canal, having ten guns placed there. The French 12 lb. guns soon silenced them, and the whole Tartar army retired towards Peking, leaving their camps in our possession.

Sir Hope Grant's force was engaged on our left at some distance off, and succeeded in inflicting great loss upon the enemy.

Singolinsin is said to have commanded in person. We captured upwards of 40 guns. Our loss was comparatively small, the exact detail of which has not yet been sent in. I am happy to say there is every reason to believe that the English and French officers, &c., detained prisoners by Singolinsin, have been sent to Peking.

Official letters have this morning arrived from Peking for Lord Elgin and Baron Gros.

The Commanders-in-chief propose stopping in our present encampment, about 11 miles from Peking, for some days, in order to receive reinforcements, ammunition, and supplies, the two latter to arrive in junks by the river Peiho, which has been found sufficiently deep for water communication.

I have, &c.,

ST. GEORGE FOLEY, Colonel,  
Commissioner, French Head Quarters.

*The Lord John Russell,*  
&c. &c. &c.