

very loudly that he was a Shanghai Coolie and ought not to be put to death as a rebel, he had however very long hair; I asked a low Chinese officer present what they were, he told me they were old and well known rebels, two of them officers, and that they were about to be beheaded; he said that they had been exposed from mid-day (it was about half-past four or five o'clock, p.m., when I saw them). At the same time I saw an official approaching to superintend the execution, and not being anxious to witness the spectacle, which I had often seen before, I withdrew. From what other officers who remained informed me, I gathered that decapitation was performed at once in the usual manner, except that the sword employed was blunt, and the executioner inexperienced. I saw no other signs of torture whatever, and considered that these men were, taking into account Chinese law and customs, rather mercifully dealt with. A dead Changman lay some distance off, who had been treated in a similar manner to the other, in addition a slight incision had been made from his breast to his groin, but, from the absence of blood, I think this was done after death.

On my return to Waikong I reported what I had seen to Captain Murray, commanding, who desired me to visit the camp next morning, and to take notice of the occurrence, which I did by mentioning it to a fourth rank military field officer, the senior in the camp. I told him we English did not like such punishments; that if a man deserved death we executed him at once, and did not expose or mutilate him. I expressed general disapproval of what had been done, and said the English Commanding Officer was much displeased at it, and, if anything of the sort was attempted again, would march up and put a stop to it; and that I hoped it would not again occur during our stay. He replied that he did not himself approve of it, but that I must recollect that a large number of the rebel prisoners taken at Taitsan had been pardoned by the High Imperial Officers, permitted to shave their heads, and employed as soldiers or labourers; and that it was not possible to restrain the Imperial soldiers from taking some vengeance for the treatment which the rebels had inflicted on 300 or more of their comrades, who had been entrapped into Taitsan on a false promise of the surrender of the place. These men, he said, were almost all put to death, and very many of them had their "bodies wounded, and cotton put over their wounds and set on fire," and were otherwise badly tortured. (This I understand was really the case.) He added that the Chinese General Officer then in command at Waikongsum-Kwoh Ta jin was mercifully inclined, and anxious not to be severe with the rebel soldiers, many of whom had been carried away forcibly, and compelled to serve in the ranks of the Taepings.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ROBERT EMMET CANE,
Lieutenant, Royal Artillery.

*The Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-
General, Shanghai.*

N.B. 1100 men were sent up to take possession of Taitsan by the Foutai. They were entrapped, and out of the above number only some 300 were rescued by Major Gordon on the fall of Taitsan. 350 are known to have been beheaded a few days before the capture, and the remainder are still unaccounted for.

Foreign Office, September 22, 1863.

The Queen has been pleased to approve of Don Joaquin Gonzalez Huet as Consul at Cardiff for Her Majesty the Queen of Spain.

The Queen has also been pleased to approve of Mr. Thomas Ryan as Consul at Quebec for the Free Hanseatic City of Hamburg.

Downing Street, September 18, 1863.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Major Robert Miller Mundy to be Lieutenant-Governor of the Island of Grenada.

Her Majesty has also been pleased to appoint Benjamin Way, Esq., to be Chief Magistrate, and Thomas Mayne, Esq., to be Stipendiary Police Magistrate for Her Majesty's Settlement of Lagos.

Her Majesty has further been pleased to appoint T. Mildmay Shervington, Esq., to be Attorney-General for the Island of Grenada, and James Meagher, Esq., to be Superintendent of Public Works for the Island of Trinidad.

*War Office, Pall Mall,
22nd September, 1863.*

3rd Regiment of Dragoon Guards, Cornet Henry Howard Arthur, from the 18th Hussars, to be Cornet, vice George Coulson Childs, transferred to the 16th Lancers. Dated 22nd September, 1863.

11th Hussars, Herbert Wynne Apperley, Gent., to be Cornet, by purchase, vice Delacour, promoted. Dated 22nd September, 1863.

12th Hussars, Charles Ashton, Gent., to be Cornet, by purchase, vice Parker Raingill, who retires. Dated 22nd September, 1863.

15th Hussars, Thomas William Gill, Gent., to be Cornet, by purchase, vice Norton, promoted. Dated 22nd September, 1863.

Henson Bancroft, Gent., to be Cornet, by purchase, vice A. M. Edmiston, who has retired. Dated 23rd September, 1863.

16th Lancers, Captain Hugh D'Arcy P. Burnell to be Major, by purchase, vice Lancelot Halton, who retires. Dated 22nd September, 1863.

Lieutenant Henry Clement Wilkinson to be Captain, by purchase, vice Burnell. Dated 22nd September, 1863.

Cornet Augustus William Erskine to be Lieutenant, by purchase, vice Wilkinson. Dated 22nd September, 1863.

Cornet George Coulson Childs, from the 3rd Dragoon Guards, to be Cornet, vice Richard Tomkinson, retired. Dated 22nd September, 1863.

Roderick Grogan Mackenzie, Gent., to be Cornet, by purchase, vice Turner, promoted. Dated 22nd September, 1863.

George Schwabe, Gent., to be Cornet, by purchase, vice Erskine. Dated 23rd September, 1863.

Royal Artillery, Gentleman Cadet Henry Affleck Graves to be Lieutenant, vice Digby Willoughby George Fairfield, deceased. Dated 21st July, 1863.