

A CHINESE CRISIS.

A CELESTIAL PROTEST TO THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT.

Consul Bee Says the Imperial Gov- ernment Is Able to Suppress Rebellion.

Special Dispatches to the CHRONICLE.

LONDON, August 19.—The Government of China has sent a telegram to the German Government complaining of the German Minister joining the Protestant powers, on the grounds that no German was injured in the recent riots, and that China is willing to negotiate with Germany alone in regard to indemnity to be paid Germans who suffered in the Shantung affair in 1890, and further that Germany is only slightly interested in the missions, and therefore there is no need to identify herself with the other powers in missionary questions.

PARIS, August 19.—Official information has been received to the effect that the combined action of the representatives of the powers in China is succeeding in bringing the Chinese Government to look upon matters in the proper light. The local authorities are becoming more conciliatory, and it begins to look as if it would not be necessary to make the proposed naval demonstration in which the war ships of all the powers represented in the Chinese waters were to take part.

INTEREST IN THIS CITY.

No Official Advice Received—What a Returned Merchant Says.

The crisis in China, caused by the demand of the Ministers of the foreign powers upon the Imperial Government for reparation for recent outrages upon foreign residents, attracts more than ordinary interest in this city because of its close commercial relations with the orient. Among the leading Chinese merchants of the city the subject is one of great interest.

At the office of the Chinese Consul-General it was stated that no intelligence had been received relating to the status of affairs, and in fact nothing was known except what had been learned by reading the newspaper dispatches.

Consul F. A. Bee, in reply to questions, said that while he could not give any official information he believed the imperial Government was well able to cope with and suppress any insurrection that might arise. The empire is divided into eighteen provinces, each under the control or governorship of a Viceroy, and these Viceroys are held directly responsible to the general Government for the conduct of affairs in their respective jurisdictions. While there have been many rumors of impending trouble, it is impossible at this distance to give an accurate opinion as to the true condition of affairs.

"Is it true," asked the reporter, "that the greater portion of the imperial army is composed of natives of Hunan?"

"That I cannot say," replied Consul Bee, "but it scarcely seems probable. China maintains an army commensurate with her needs, and I am inclined to the belief that its component parts are drawn from the various provinces nearly equally. I know the country has ample resources and the Government will do its utmost to protect foreign residents."

Young Hing Wo, for many years a Chinese merchant in this city, who returned from a visit to his native land a few months ago, talked quite freely concerning his observations while there. He said the secret societies, such as the Kolo and others, had been in existence for several centuries, in fact almost since the conquest of China by the Tartars. The present dynasty is Tartar and the Chinese would much prefer a Chinese for Emperor. During the last century several rebellions were started by these secret societies, but the revolt in each case was a failure. The present trouble he considered not so much an antagonism of the Chinese to foreign residents as it was an attempt to bring the imperial Government into conflict with foreign powers, hoping thereby to secure the downfall of the Tartar dynasty.

To the question as to whether any general rebellion had been planned to be inaugurated on the 1st of the eighth month of the Chinese year—that is, September 3d—he replied that it was barely possible, but that if any such extensive plan had been formed the Government would not be apprised of the date. He said he was in Hunan in April last, and, although he heard mutterings of impending trouble, he regarded them the same as similar rumors frequently heard before. The dynasty and the people, particularly in Hunan and adjacent provinces, have not been in accord for many years. He said that just before leaving Hunan early in May several detachments of Government troops were being massed there, and it was reported that several of the Viceroys were suspected.